



Planning & Infrastructure

Mining & Industry Projects

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Mr Stephen Ireland
Executive
Cobbora Holding Company Pty. Ltd.
134 King St
NEWCASTLE NSW 2300

Our Ref: 10/07579-2

Dear Mr Ireland,

Cobbora Coal Project (MP 10_0001) Revised Director-General's Requirements

The Department has revised the Director General's Requirements (DGRs) for the Cobbora Coal Project to incorporate the requirements of the Commonwealth Department of the Sustainability, Environment, Water, Populations and Communities (SEWPaC).

The revised DGRs are attached with SEWPaC's requirements included in Attachment A which must be addressed in any Environmental Assessment (EA) you submit for the project. Submissions on the DGRs have already been provided to you from other key state and local government agencies.

I would appreciate it if you would contact the Department at least two weeks before you propose to submit your EA for the project. This will enable the Department to:

- confirm the applicable fee (see Division 1A, Part 15 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000*); and
- determine the number of copies (hard-copy and CD-ROM) of the EA that will be required for exhibition purposes.

Once it receives the EA, the Department will review it in consultation with the relevant agencies to determine if it adequately addresses the Director-General's requirements, and may require you to revise it prior to public exhibition. The Department is required to make all the relevant information associated with the project publicly available on its website. Consequently, I would appreciate it if you would ensure that all the documents you subsequently submit to the Department are in a suitable format for the web, and arrange for an electronic version of the EA to be hosted on a suitable website.

If you have any enquiries about these requirements, please contact Stephen O'Donoghue at the details listed above.

Yours sincerely

David Kitto

Director

Mining & Industry Projects

As delegate for the Director-General

Director-General's Requirements

Section 75F of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*

Application Number	10_0001
Project	The Cobbora Coal Project, which includes: • developing a new open cut coal mine to produce up to 12 million tonnes of coal a year for 21 years • constructing and operating a range of associated infrastructure including a coal handling and preparation plant, rail spur line and loading facility, coal conveyor, coal locomotive provisioning facility, mine access roads, water supply pipeline and management, electricity supply, communications, administration and service infrastructure; • transporting coal from the mine by rail; and • rehabilitating the site.
Location	Cobbora (about 22 kilometres south west of Dunedoo)
Proponent	Cobbora Holding Company Pty Ltd.
Date of Issue	23 December 2011
General Requirements	The Environmental Assessment of the project must include: • an executive summary; • a detailed description of the project, including: – need for the project; – alternatives considered, including justification for the proposed mine plan; – likely staging of the project; – likely interactions between the project and existing, approved and proposed mining operations in the vicinity of the site; – plans of any proposed building works; and – the proposed rehabilitation strategy for the project area having regard to the key principles in the Strategic Framework for Mine Closure, including: ○ rehabilitation objectives, methodology, monitoring programs, performance standards and proposed completion criteria; ○ nominated final land use, having regard to any relevant strategic land use planning or resource management plans or policies; and ○ the potential for integrating this strategy with any other biodiversity offset and/or rehabilitation strategies in the region • a risk assessment of the potential environmental impacts of the project, identifying the key issues for further assessment; • a detailed assessment of the key issues specified below, and any other significant issues identified in the risk assessment (see above), which includes: – a description of the existing environment, <u>using sufficient baseline data</u>; – an assessment of the potential impacts of the project, including any cumulative impacts, taking into consideration any relevant guidelines, policies, plans and statutory provisions (see below); and – a description of the measures that would be implemented to avoid, minimise and if necessary, offset the potential impacts of the project, including detailed contingency plans for managing any significant risks to the environment; • a statement of commitments, outlining all the proposed environmental management and monitoring measures; • a conclusion justifying the project on economic, social and environmental

	grounds, taking into consideration whether the project is consistent with the objects of the <i>Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979</i>; and • a signed statement from the author of the Environmental Assessment, certifying that the information contained within the document is neither false nor misleading.
Key Issues	• Biodiversity – including: – accurate estimates of any vegetation clearing associated with the project; – a detailed assessment of the potential impacts of the project on any terrestrial and aquatic threatened species, populations, ecological communities or their habitats; – a detailed description of the measures that would be implemented to avoid or mitigate impacts on biodiversity; – a comprehensive offset strategy to ensure the project maintains or improves the biodiversity values of the region in the medium to long term (in accordance with NSW and Commonwealth policies); – consideration of how the proposal may impact upon lands covered by the <i>Brigalow and Nandewar Community Conservation Area Act 2005</i>; and the matters outlined in Attachment A. • Water Resources – including: – detailed modelling of the potential surface and groundwater impacts of the project; – a detailed site water balance, including a description of site water demands, water disposal methods (inclusive of the volume and frequency of any water discharges), water supply infrastructure and water storage structures; – a demonstration that water supplies for the construction and operation of the mine can be obtained from an appropriately authorised and reliable supply in accordance with the operating rules of any relevant Water Sharing Plan (WSP) and/or requirements of the <i>Water Act 1912</i> and NSW Inland Groundwater Shortage Zone Embargo for water sources outside of any relevant WSP; – a description of the measures proposed to ensure the project can operate in accordance with the proximity and water source protection criteria of the relevant Water Sharing Plan; – identification of any licensing requirements under the <i>Water Act 1912</i> or <i>Water Management Act 2000</i>; – a detailed assessment of potential impacts on: ○ the quality and quantity of existing surface and ground water resources; ○ affected licensed water users and basic landholder rights; ○ the riparian, ecological, geo-morphological and hydrological values of watercourses resulting from any proposed diversion works, including environmental flows; and ○ groundwater dependent ecosystems; – a detailed description of the proposed water management system and water monitoring program for the project and other measures to mitigate surface and groundwater impacts; and – a detailed flood impact assessment identifying the impact of the project on flooding and the measures proposed to mitigate potential flood impacts. • Land Resources – including a detailed assessment of the impacts of the project on: – National Park Estate; and – agricultural land and productivity, which includes: ○ a detailed assessment and mapping pre and post mining (including Land Capability and Agricultural Suitability mapping) of soil characteristics, across all proposed areas of surface

	disturbance and an assessment of their value and limitations for rehabilitation; ○ a description of the agricultural resources (especially soils and water resources used or capable of being used for agriculture) and agricultural enterprises of the locality; ○ identification of any regionally or state significant agricultural resources in the locality, with particular reference to higher productive alluvial soils and associated surface/ groundwater systems that may be impacted directly or indirectly by the proposal; ○ a detailed assessment of the potential impacts of the project on agricultural resources and/or enterprises of the locality including: - impacts as a result of re-allocation of licensed water extraction from irrigation to mining uses; - direct impacts on soil, groundwater and surface water resources as a result of mining activity; and - change in land use due to requirements for biodiversity offsets; ○ a detailed description of the measures that would be implemented to avoid, reduce or mitigate impacts of the project on agricultural resources and/or enterprises of the locality including; and ○ justification for any significant long term changes to agricultural resources, particularly if highly productive agricultural resources (eg. alluvial lands and associated groundwater resources) are proposed to be affected by the project; • Air Quality – including a quantitative assessment of potential: - construction and operational impacts, with a particular focus on dust emissions (including PM_{2.5} and PM₁₀ emissions, and dust generation from coal transport), as well as diesel and blast fume emissions; - spontaneous combustion properties of overburden or reject material; - reasonable and feasible mitigation measures to minimise dust, diesel and blast fume emissions, including evidence that there are no such measures available other than those proposed; and - monitoring and management measures, in particular real-time air quality monitoring and predictive meteorological forecasting. • Noise, Vibration & Blasting – including a quantitative assessment of potential: - construction, operational and off-site transport noise impacts; - blasting impacts on people, livestock and property; - reasonable and feasible mitigation measures (including assessment of restricted night time operations), including evidence that there are no such measures available other than those proposed; and - monitoring and management measures, in particular real-time, attended noise monitoring and predictive meteorological forecasting; • Traffic & Transport – including: - a detailed assessment of the potential impacts of the development on the capacity, safety and efficiency of the: ○ local and regional rail network, having regard to the strategic objectives and cumulative impacts for the passenger and freight rail network; and ○ local and regional road network, with particular regard to a cumulative traffic impact assessment; condition assessment of the existing network; proposed new road infrastructure; and impacts of coal trains on level crossing operations; - details of mine to port or other domestic customer transport movements, train path availability and any required rail infrastructure works; and - a detailed description of the measures that would be implemented to maintain and/or improve the capacity, efficiency and safety of the road and rail networks in the surrounding area over the life of the
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project;

- **Heritage** – including an assessment of impacts on both Aboriginal and historic heritage, as follows:
 - *Aboriginal heritage* (including both cultural and archaeological significance): the assessment must be undertaken by suitably qualified heritage consultants and demonstrate effective consultation with Aboriginal communities in determining and assessing impacts, and developing and selecting options and mitigation measures (including the final proposed measures). Where impacts on heritage are proposed, the EA must outline proposed mitigation and management measures (including an evaluation of the effectiveness and reliability of the measures); and
 - *Historic heritage* (including archaeology): the assessment must be undertaken by suitably qualified heritage consultants. Where impacts to State or locally significant historic heritage items are proposed, the EA must include a statement of heritage impact (including significance assessment) and outline proposed mitigation and management measures (including an evaluation of the effectiveness and reliability of the measures);
- **Greenhouse Gases** – including:
 - a qualitative assessment of the potential scope 1, 2 and 3 greenhouse gas emissions of the project;
 - a qualitative assessment of the potential impacts of these emissions on the environment; and
 - an assessment of all reasonable and feasible measures that could be implemented on site to minimise the greenhouse gas emissions of the project and ensure it is energy efficient;
- **Visual** – including:
 - a detailed assessment of the:
 - o changing landforms on the site during the various stages of the project; and
 - o potential visual impacts of the project on private landowners in the surrounding area as well as key vantage points in the public domain, including lighting impacts; and
 - a detailed description of the measures that would be implemented to minimise the visual impacts of the project;
- **Waste** - including:
 - accurate estimates of the quantity and nature of the potential waste streams of the project, including tailings and coarse reject; and
 - a detailed description of the measures that would be implemented to minimise the production of waste on site, and ensure that any waste produced is appropriately handled and disposed of;
- **Hazards** - including bushfires;
- **Social & Economic** – including an assessment of the:
 - potential direct and indirect economic benefits of the project for local and regional communities and the State;
 - potential impacts on local and regional communities, including:
 - o increased demand for local and regional infrastructure and services (such as housing, childcare, health, education and emergency services); and
 - o impacts on social amenity;
 - a detailed description of the measures that would be implemented to minimise the adverse social and economic impacts of the project, including any infrastructure improvements or contributions and/or voluntary planning agreement or similar mechanism; and
 - a detailed assessment of the costs and benefits of the development as a whole, and whether it would result in a net benefit for the NSW community.

References	The environmental assessment of the key issues listed above must take into account relevant guidelines, policies, and plans. While not exhaustive, the following attachment contains a list of some of the guidelines, policies, and plans that may be relevant to the environmental assessment of this project.
Consultation	During the preparation of the Environmental Assessment, you should consult with the relevant local, State or Commonwealth Government authorities, service providers, community groups and affected landowners. In particular you must consult with the: • Commonwealth Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities; • Office of Environment and Heritage (including the Heritage Branch); • Division of Resources and Energy within DTIRIS; • Department of Primary Industries, including the NSW Office of Water; • Warrumbungle Shire Council; • Mid-Western Regional Council; • Wellington Shire Council; • relevant Catchment Management Authorities; • Roads and Maritime Services; • ARTC; • Transport for NSW; and • Essential Energy; The consultation process and the issues raised must be described in the Environmental Assessment.
Deemed Refusal Period	90 days

Policies, Guidelines & Plans

Risk Assessment

AS/NZS 4360:2004 Risk Management (Standards Australia)
 HB 203: 203:2006 Environmental Risk Management – Principles & Process (Standards Australia)

Biodiversity

Draft Guidelines for Threatened Species Assessment under Part 3A of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act) (DEC)
 NSW State Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem Policy (DLWC)
 Policy & Guidelines - Aquatic Habitat Management and Fish Conservation (NSW Fisheries)
 Policy & Guidelines - Fish Friendly Waterway Crossings (NSW Fisheries)
 State Environmental Planning Policy No. 44 – Koala Habitat Protection

Water Resources

Surface Water

National Water Quality Management Strategy: Australian Guidelines for Fresh and Marine Water Quality (ANZECC/ARMCANZ)
 National Water Quality Management Strategy: Australian Guidelines for Water Quality Monitoring and Reporting (ANZECC/ARMCANZ)
 National Water Quality Management Strategy: Guidelines for Sewerage Systems – Effluent Management (ARMCANZ/ANZECC)
 National Water Quality Management Strategy: Guidelines for Sewerage Systems – Use of Reclaimed Water (ARMCANZ/ANZECC)
 Using the ANZECC Guideline and Water Quality Objectives in NSW (DEC)
 State Water Management Outcomes Plan
 Water Sharing Plan for the Macquarie and Cudgegong Regulated Rivers Water Source 2003
 NSW Government Water Quality and River Flow Objectives (DECC)
 Approved Methods for the Sampling and Analysis of Water Pollutants in NSW (DEC)
 Managing Urban Stormwater: Soils & Construction (Landcom)
 Managing Urban Stormwater: Treatment Techniques (DECC)
 Managing Urban Stormwater: Source Control (DECC)
 Floodplain Development Manual (DIPNR)
 Floodplain Risk Management Guideline (DECC)
 A Rehabilitation Manual for Australian Streams (LWRRDC and CRCCH)
 Technical Guidelines: Bunding & Spill Management (DECC)
 Environmental Guidelines: Use of Effluent by Irrigation (DECC)

Groundwater

National Water Quality Management Strategy Guidelines for Groundwater Protection in Australia (ARMCANZ/ANZECC)
 NSW State Groundwater Policy Framework Document (DLWC, 1997)
 NSW State Groundwater Quality Protection Policy (DLWC, 1998)
 NSW State Groundwater Quantity Management Policy (DLWC, 1998)
 Murray-Darling Basin Groundwater Quality. Sampling Guidelines. Technical Report No 3 (MDBC)
 Murray-Darling Basin Commission. Groundwater Flow Modelling Guideline (Aquaterra Consulting Pty Ltd)
 Guidelines for the Assessment & Management of Groundwater Contamination (DECC, 2007)
 Water Sharing Plan for the Lower Macquarie Groundwater Sources (2003)

Air Quality

Protection of the Environment Operations (Clean Air) Regulation 2002

	Approved Methods for the Modelling and Assessment of Air Pollutants in NSW (DEC)
	Approved Methods for the Sampling and Analysis of Air Pollutants in NSW (DEC)
Noise & Blasting	
	NSW Industrial Noise Policy (DECC)
	Environmental Noise Management – Assessing Vibration: a technical guide (DEC)
	NSW Road Noise Policy (DECCW)
	Interim Guidelines for the Assessment of Noise From Rail Infrastructure Projects (DECC)
	Technical basis for guidelines to minimise annoyance due to blasting overpressure and ground vibration (ANZECC)
Soil Resources and Agricultural Land	
	Australian and New Zealand Guidelines for the Assessment and Management of Contaminated Sites (ANZECC)
	Rural Land Capability Mapping (DLWC)
	Agricultural Land Classification (DPI)
Traffic & Transport	
	Guide to Traffic Generating Development (RTA)
	Road Design Guide (RTA)
National Park Estate	
	Guidelines for Developments Adjoining Land and Water Managed by the Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water (DECCW)
Heritage	
<i>Aboriginal</i>	Draft Guidelines for Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment and Community Consultation (DoP and DEC)
	The Burra Charter (The Australia ICOMOS charter for places of cultural significance)
<i>Non-Aboriginal</i>	NSW Heritage Manual (NSW Heritage Office)
	The Burra Charter (The Australia ICOMOS charter for places of cultural significance)
Greenhouse Gases	
	National Greenhouse Accounts Factors (Australian Department of Climate Change (DCC))
	Guidelines for Energy Savings Action Plans (DEUS)
Waste	
	Waste Classification Guidelines (DECC)
Hazards	
	State Environmental Planning Policy No. 33 – Hazardous and Offensive Development
	Applying SEPP 33 – Hazardous and Offensive Development Application Guidelines (DUAP)
	Hazardous Industry Planning Advisory Paper No. 6 – Guidelines for Hazard Analysis
Rehabilitation	
	Mine Rehabilitation – Leading Practice Sustainable Development Program for the Mining Industry (Commonwealth of Australia)
	Mine Closure and Completion – Leading Practice Sustainable Development Program for the Mining Industry (Commonwealth of Australia)
	Strategic Framework for Mine Closure (ANZMEC-MCA)
Social & Economic	
	Draft Economic Evaluation in Environmental Impact Assessment (DoP)
	Techniques for Effective Social Impact Assessment: A Practical Guide (Office of Social Policy, NSW Government Social Policy Directorate)

ATTACHMENT A
COMMONWEALTH REQUIREMENTS

Department of the Sustainability, Environment, Water, Populations and Communities – requirements for environmental assessment

Section 75F(3) of the NSW *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*

The Commonwealth Minister for Sustainability, Environment, Water, Populations and Communities has determined the Cobbora Coal project (EPBC 2011/6158), involving the proposed construction and operation of an open cut coal mine approximately 5 km south of Cobbora in New South Wales, to be a controlled action under section 75 of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act).

The controlled action is likely to have a significant impact on the EPBC Act listed critically endangered ecological community White Box-Yellow Box-Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland (Box-Gum Woodland) and EPBC Act listed migratory and threatened species including *Tylophora linearis*, Ingram's zieria (*zieria ingrami*), *Homoranthus darwinioides*, Large-eared Pied Bat (*Chalinolobus dwyeri*), and the Regent Honeyeater (*Anthochaera phrygia*). Significant impacts are also considered possible for a number of other species and communities protected by the EPBC Act including, but not limited to, those listed in Appendix A.

In accordance with the one-off accredited assessment process for this project, the environmental assessment of the impacts of the controlled action must be assessed under the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act). Pursuant to section 75F(3) of part 3A of the EP&A Act the Director-General is required to notify the proponent of these requirements.

The assessment should include enough information about the controlled action and its relevant impacts to allow the Commonwealth Minister for Sustainability, Environment, Water, Populations and Communities to make an informed decision whether or not to approve the controlled action under the EPBC Act.

The following assessment requirements are to be integrated into the assessment requirements of the EP&A Act. The following matters in the EPBC Act and schedule 4 of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Regulations 2000* should be considered.

General information

1. The background of the action, including:
 - a. the title of the action;
 - b. the full name and postal address of the designated proponent;
 - c. a clear outline of the objective of the action;
 - d. the location of the action;
 - e. the background to the development of the action;
 - f. how the action relates to any other actions (of which the proponent should reasonably be aware) that have been, or are being, taken or that have been approved in the region affected by the action;
 - g. the current status of the action; and
 - h. the consequences of not proceeding with the action.

Description of the controlled action

2. A description of the action, including:
 - a. all the components of the action;
 - b. the precise location of any works to be undertaken, structures to be built or elements of the action that may have relevant impacts;
 - c. how the works are to be undertaken and design parameters for those aspects of the structures or elements of the action that may have relevant impacts;
 - d. the timing and duration of the works to be undertaken; and
 - e. to the extent reasonably practicable, a description of any feasible alternatives to the controlled action that have been identified through the assessment, and their likely impact, including:
 - i. if relevant, the alternative of taking no action;
 - ii. a comparative description of the impacts of each alternative on the matters protected by the controlling provisions for the action;
 - iii. sufficient detail to clarify why any alternative is preferred to another.

Description of the existing environment

3. A description of the existing environment of the proposal location and the surrounding areas that may be affected by the action, including:
 - a. surveys using accepted methodology for targeting listed threatened species, ecological communities and their respective habitat, including but not limited to OEH's *Survey and assessment guidelines* (2009), available at: <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/threatenedspecies/surveymethodsfauna.htm> and the Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Populations and Communities (DSEWPaC) species-specific survey guidelines for nationally threatened species, available at: <http://www.environment.gov.au/cgi-bin/sprat/public/sprat.pl>

In addition to the requirements outlined in OEH's *Survey and assessment guidelines* (2009) and DSEWPaC survey guidelines for relevant species, the following must also be included:

 - b. a description of the distribution and abundance of threatened species and ecological communities, as well as suitable habitat (including breeding, foraging, roosting habitat, habitat critical to the survival of threatened species) within the site and in surrounding areas that may be impacted by the proposal; and
 - c. the regional distribution and abundance of suitable and potential habitat surrounding the site.

Description of the relevant impacts of the controlled action

4. An assessment of all relevant impacts³ with reference to the *EPBC Act Policy Statement 1.1 Significant Impact Guidelines Matters of National Environmental Significance* (2009) that the controlled action has, will have or is likely to have on: relevant threatened species and/or threatened ecological communities listed under sections 18 and 18A of the EPBC Act, including but not limited to the Box-Gum Woodland, *Tylophora linearis*, Ingram's zieria

³ The term "relevant impact" is defined in section 82 of the EPBC Act.

(*Zieria ingrami*), *Homoranthus darwinioides*, Large-eared Pied Bat (*Chalinolobus dwyeri*), and the Regent Honeyeater (*Anthochaera phrygia*). Information must include:

- a. a description of the relevant impacts of the action on matters of national environmental significance;
 - b. a detailed assessment of the nature and extent of the likely short term and long term relevant impacts;
 - c. a statement whether any relevant impacts are likely to be unknown, unpredictable or irreversible;
 - d. analysis of the significance of the relevant impacts;
 - e. any technical data and other information used or needed to make a detailed assessment of the relevant impacts.
5. A description of the relevant impacts on the Box-Gum Woodland should include an analysis of the vegetation condition on the site, as well as the methods by which this was determined. It should also include direct, indirect, cumulative and facilitative impacts on the:
- a. extent of the Box-Gum Woodland, including connectivity with other areas of the ecological communities;
 - b. quality or integrity of the Box-gum Woodland including, but not limited to, assisting invasive species, that are harmful to the ecological communities, to become established; or causing regular mobilisation of fertilisers, herbicides or other chemicals or pollutants into the communities which kill or inhibit the growth of species in the ecological community);
 - c. EPBC Act listed species in, or in any way dependent upon, the Box-Gum Woodland;
 - d. composition of the Box-Gum Woodland;
 - e. habitat present on site critical to the survival of the Box-Gum Woodland⁴; and
 - f. abiotic (non-living) factors (such as water, nutrients or soil) necessary for the Box-Gum Woodland survival, for example increasing groundwater levels or making the site wetter, soil disturbance or substantial alteration of surface water drainage patterns.

These impacts should be described for the construction and operation phases of the controlled action.

This information should be provided with reference to the ecological community as it is defined and listed under the EPBC Act.

6. Where there is a potential habitat for EPBC Act listed species (Appendix A), surveys must be undertaken. These surveys must be timed appropriately and undertaken for a suitable period of time by a qualified person⁵. A subsequent description of the relevant impacts on such EPBC Act listed species should include, inter alia, direct, indirect, cumulative and facilitative impacts on the:

⁴ "habitat critical to the survival of a species or ecological community" refers to areas that are necessary:

- for activities such as foraging, breeding, roosting, or dispersal;
- for the long-term maintenance of the species or ecological community (including the maintenance of species essential to the survival of the species or ecological community, such as pollinators);
- to maintain genetic diversity and long term evolutionary development; or
- for the reintroduction of population or recovery of the species or ecological community.

Such habitat may be, but is not limited to: habitat identified in a recovery plan for the species or ecological community as habitat critical for that species or ecological community; and/or habitat listed on the register of Critical Habitat maintained by the Minister under the EPBC Act.

⁵ Where available, species-specific survey guidelines can be obtained on the department's *Species Profile and Threats Database*: <http://www.environment.gov.au/cgi-bin/sprat/public/sprat.pl>

- a. population of the species at the site;
- b. area of occupancy of the species;
- c. habitat critical to the survival of the species;
- d. breeding cycle of the population; and
- e. availability or quality of habitat for the species.

If an endangered ecological community or threatened species listed at Appendix A is not believed to be present on the proposed site, detailed information must be included in the Environmental Assessment Report to provide certainty that this community will not be impacted.

Proposed safeguards and mitigation measures

7. A description of feasible mitigation measures, changes to the controlled action or procedures, which have been proposed by the proponent or suggested in public submissions, and which are intended to prevent or minimise relevant impacts. Information must include:
 - a. a description of the mitigation measures that will be undertaken to prevent or minimise the relevant impacts of the action. These mitigation measure should be substantiated and based on best available practices;
 - b. an assessment of the expected or predicted effectiveness of the mitigation measures including the effect on abundance and condition of species, suitable habitat and ecological communities;
 - c. any statutory or policy basis for the mitigation measures;
 - d. the cost of the mitigation measures;
 - e. an environmental management plan that sets out the framework for continuing management, mitigation and monitoring programs (including any relevant thresholds for corrective actions) for the relevant impacts of the action. Include the person or agency responsible for implementing these programs and the effectiveness of all mitigation measures, including any provisions for independent environmental auditing;
 - f. the name of the agency responsible for endorsing or approving each mitigation measure or monitoring program;
 - g. identification of mitigation measures proposed to be undertaken by State governments, local governments or the proponent;
 - h. any changes to the controlled action which prevent or minimise relevant impacts on listed threatened species and communities.

Offsets

8. Should any residual impact exist that cannot be mitigated it may be necessary for offset measures to be considered in order to ensure the protection of matters of national environmental significance in perpetuity. If required, the department may negotiate offsets with you during the assessment phase. Reference should be made to the Department's draft policy statement, including any revisions to this statement, at :
<http://www.environment.gov.au/epbc/publications/draft-environmental-offsets.html>
 - a. the description of any offset package should include how the offset compensates for the residual impacts, when the offset will be delivered and how the offset will be managed;

- b. an assessment of the impact of the offsets on other matters of environmental, economic, or social significance; and
- c. analysis of cost, both financial and other, related to offsets.

Other approvals and conditions

9. Any other requirements for approval or conditions that apply, or that the proponent reasonably believes are likely to apply, to the proposed action. Information must include:
- a. details of any local or State government planning scheme, or plan or policy under any local or State government planning system that deals with the proposed action, including:
 - i. what environmental assessment of the proposed action has been, or is being, carried out under the scheme, plan or policy; and
 - ii. how the scheme provides for the prevention, minimisation and management of any relevant impacts;
 - b. a description of any approval that has been obtained from a State, Territory or Commonwealth agency or authority (other than an approval under the Act), including any conditions that apply to the action;
 - c. a statement identifying any additional approval that is required;
 - d. a description of the monitoring, enforcement and review procedures that apply, or are proposed to apply, to the action.

Economic and social matters

10. A description of the short-term and long-term social and economic implications and/or impacts of the project.

Environmental record of person proposing to take the action

11. Details of any proceedings under a Commonwealth, State or Territory law for the protection of the environment or the conservation and sustainable use of natural resources against:
- a. the proponent; and
 - b. for an action for which a person has applied for a permit, the person making the application.
12. Details of the proponent's environmental policy and planning framework.

Information sources

13. For information given in an environment assessment, the draft must state:
- a. the source of the information;
 - b. how recent the information is;
 - c. how the reliability of the information was tested; and
 - d. what uncertainties (if any) are in the information.

Consultation

14. Any consultation about the action, including:
- a. any consultation that has already taken place;
 - b. proposed consultation about relevant impacts of the action;

- c. if there has been consultation about the proposed action — any documented response to, or result of, the consultation.

15. identification of affected parties, including a statement mentioning any communities that may be affected and describing their views.

Appendix A

Threatened Ecological Communities

- White Box-Yellow Box-Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland (Box-Gum Woodland)
- Natural grasslands on basalt and fine-textured alluvial plains of northern New South Wales and southern Queensland
- The Weeping Myall Woodlands
- Coolibah – Black Box Woodlands of the Darling Riverine Plains and the Brigalow Belt South Bioregions

Threatened Flora

- *Digitaria porrecta* (Finger Panic Grass)
- *Euphrasia arguta*
- *Philotheca ericifolia*
- *Rulingia procumbens*
- *Homoranthus darwinoides*
- *Tylophora linearis*
- *Zieria ingrami* (Ingram's zieria)

Threatened Fauna

- *Anthochaera phrygia* (Regent Honeyeater), also Migratory
- *Lathamus discolor* (Swift Parrot)
- *Polytelis swainsonii* (Superb Parrot)
- *Chalinolobus dwyeri* (Large-eared Pied Bat)
- *Petrogale penicillata* (Brush-tailed Rock-Wallaby)
- *Pseudomys novaehollandiae* (New Holland Mouse)
- *Pteropus poliocephalis* (Grey-headed Flying-fox)
- *Rostratula australis* (Painted Snipe), also Migratory
- *Maccullochella peelii peelii* (Murray Cod)
- *Nyctophilus corbeni* (South-eastern Long-eared Bat)