



Our ref: DOC26/129759
Your ref: SSD-58801472

Dave Auster
Senior Environmental Assessment Officer
Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure
By email: dave.auster@dpie.nsw.gov.au

Dear Dave

Tangaratta Feedmill (SSD-58801472) – Amendment Report

Thank you for your NSW Planning Portal request dated 23 February 2026 to the Conservation Programs, Heritage and Regulation Group (CPHR) of the NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (NSW DCCEEW) inviting comments on the amendment report for the Tangaratta Feedmill.

CPHR has reviewed the amendment report and amended Biodiversity Development Assessment Report (BDAR) against our recommendations made in response to the project's Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), dated 30 October 2024 (DOC24/827879). The proponent's response and amended BDAR satisfactorily address our recommendations.

CPHR's advice on potential serious and irreversible impact (SAIL) to White Box-Yellow Box-Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Box Woodland and Derived Native Grassland critically endangered ecological community (Box Gum CEEC) is provided in **Attachment A**. CPHR considers that **SAIL is unlikely**.

If you have any questions about this advice, please do not hesitate to contact the Conservation Planning and Assessment – North team at rog.nw@dcceew.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

Allison Treweek
Senior Manager North - Conservation Planning and Assessment
Conservation Programs, Heritage and Regulation Group

20 March 2026

Attachment A

Serious and Irreversible Impacts

SAIL Entity: White Box-Yellow Box-Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Box Woodland and Derived Native Grassland critically endangered ecological community (Box Gum CEEC)

	Steps	CPHR Recommendation
1	Identify relevant entities at risk of SAIL	The BDAR identifies the Box Gum CEEC at risk of SAIL against SAIL Principle 1 (reduction in geographic extent) and Principle 2 (environmental degradation or disruption of biotic processes). The BDAR has not assessed risk of SAIL to Box Gum CEEC against section 9.1.1 of the BAM. CPHR considers that SAIL is unlikely.
2	Evaluation of the current extinction risk of the impacted entities	The BDAR identifies the Box Gum CEEC at risk of SAIL against SAIL Principle 1 (reduction in geographic extent) and Principle 2 (environmental degradation or disruption of biotic processes). The Conservation Assessment for Box Gum CEEC¹ states that <i>"available data shows over 90% of the original extent of this ecological community has been cleared. Of the remaining area, a large proportion of it has been modified and occurs as trees over a predominantly exotic understorey. The Committee judge that less than 5% of the original extent of the ecological community remains of sufficient condition and size* to be included in the listed ecological community, having undergone a decline of 95% or more"</i>.
3	Detail measures taken to avoid impacts on the entity	The direct impact footprint within the additional lots is located appropriately on the DNG form of the CEEC, in low condition (VI score 9.3) and the planted woodland form of the CEEC, in low - moderate condition (VI score 36.2). 22.14 hectares of Box Gum CEEC have been avoided by the proposal.
4	Evaluate the impacts from the proposal	The BDAR reports that the proposal will impact 5.44ha of the Box Gum CEEC: • PCT 599 planted woodland – 2.7ha, VI score 36.2 • PCT 599 DNG – 2.74ha, VI score 9.3 Historically the study area has been cleared because of past agricultural activities. The area of planted woodland has been subject to re-vegetation plantings in 2001. These plantings were not publicly funded.

¹ NSW Threatened Species Scientific Committee (2020) *Conservation Assessment of White Box – Yellow Box – Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland*. NSW Government. <https://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/-/media/OEH/Corporate-Site/Documents/Animals-and-plants/Scientific-Committee/Determinations/2020/white-box-yellow-box-final-determination-conservation-assessment.pdf?la=en&hash=F8E09AABE537A9AB6CBBBD7A38BCEF44956C0D986#:~:text=Summary%20of%20Conservation%20Assessment,under%20Criteria%20A3%20and%20D3.>

	Steps	CPHR Recommendation
		The BDAR states the avoided 22.14 hectares of Box Gum CEEC on site will be enhanced under a Biodiversity Management Plan. CPHR considers that the project includes reasonable steps to avoid and minimise impacts to the CEEC within the proposal footprint.
5	Provide advice on whether the proposal is likely or unlikely to result in SAI	On the basis of the information set out in this table, CPHR considers that the project is unlikely to: • add to the reduction of the ecological function experienced by the Box Gum CEEC • contribute to further decline of a rapidly declining community. SAI is considered unlikely based on Principles 1 and 2.

^[1] Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (2019) *Guidance to assist a decision-maker to determine a serious and irreversible impact*. NSW Government. <https://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/-/media/OEH/Corporate-Site/Documents/Animals-and-plants/Biodiversity/guidance-decision-makers-determine-serious-irreversible-impact-190511.pdf>

^[2] NSW Threatened Species Scientific Committee (2020) *Conservation Assessment of White Box – Yellow Box – Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland*. NSW Government. <https://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/-/media/OEH/Corporate-Site/Documents/Animals-and-plants/Scientific-Committee/Determinations/2020/white-box-yellow-box-final-determination-conservation-assessment.pdf?la=en&hash=F8E09AABE537A9AB6CBBD7A38BCEF44956C0D986#:~:text=Summary%20of%20Conservation%20Assessment,under%20Criteria%20A3%20and%20D3.>