

## MEMORANDUM

TO Cédric Bergé – Project Development Manager (ACEN Australia, formerly known as UPC\AC Renewables)

FROM Tom Schmidt – Senior Ecologist and BAM Accredited Assessor (Eco Logical Australia Pty Ltd)

DATE 31 May 2022

PURPOSE For Information

SUBJECT Stubbo Solar Farm – Staging of development and Biodiversity Credits

The Stubbo Solar Farm (SSD10452) (the Project) was approved by the NSW Department of Planning and Environment on 30 June 2021. The Project was approved as a single-phase development with a requirement to retire a total of 528 ecosystem credits and 195 species credits in accordance with the NSW *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016* (BC Act).

The Proponent is requesting to stage the construction of the Project into separate development phases and propose to retire the required biodiversity credit for the main site access (Stage 1) at the same time as the biodiversity credits required for Blue Springs Road upgrade as per Condition 14, Schedule 3 of the Development Consent. The remaining biodiversity credit for the development will be retired prior to commencement of construction of future stage(s), commensurate to the area of impact of each of these phases (Figure 1).

This memorandum provides a summary of the biodiversity offset requirements for impacts associated with the Stage 1 of the Project – construction of the main site access. This information is based on pro rata calculations of the area of impact and credits required and did not involve re-operation of the BAM Credit Calculator (BAMCC). Stage 1 intersects native vegetation in one location at the crossing of a drainage line (Figure 1 inset). Other areas of Stage 1 are located within cleared paddock areas of Category 1 Land containing highly disturbed/non-native vegetation.

The Proponent has also requested a revision of biodiversity offset requirements for Blue Springs Road in a separate report.

Impacts and associated credit requirements for Stage 1 are summarised in Table 1 below.

**Table 1: Biodiversity credit summary for staged development of the Project**

Credit Type	Area (ha) (Project total)	Credits (Project total)	Area (ha) in Stage 1	Credits for Stage 1	Remaining credits in future stage/s
Ecosystem / PCT 281: Rough-Barked Apple - red gum - Yellow Box woodland on alluvial clay to loam soils on valley flats in the northern NSW South Western Slopes Bioregion and Brigalow Belt South Bioregion	206.11 ha	354	0.09	1	353
Ecosystem / PCT1770: Narrow-leaved Ironbark - Red Stringybark - Black Pine woodlands on sandstone substrates of the Brigalow Belt South	0.24 ha	2	0	0	2
Species / Barking Owl ( <i>Ninox connivens</i> )	8.87 ha	195	0	0	195

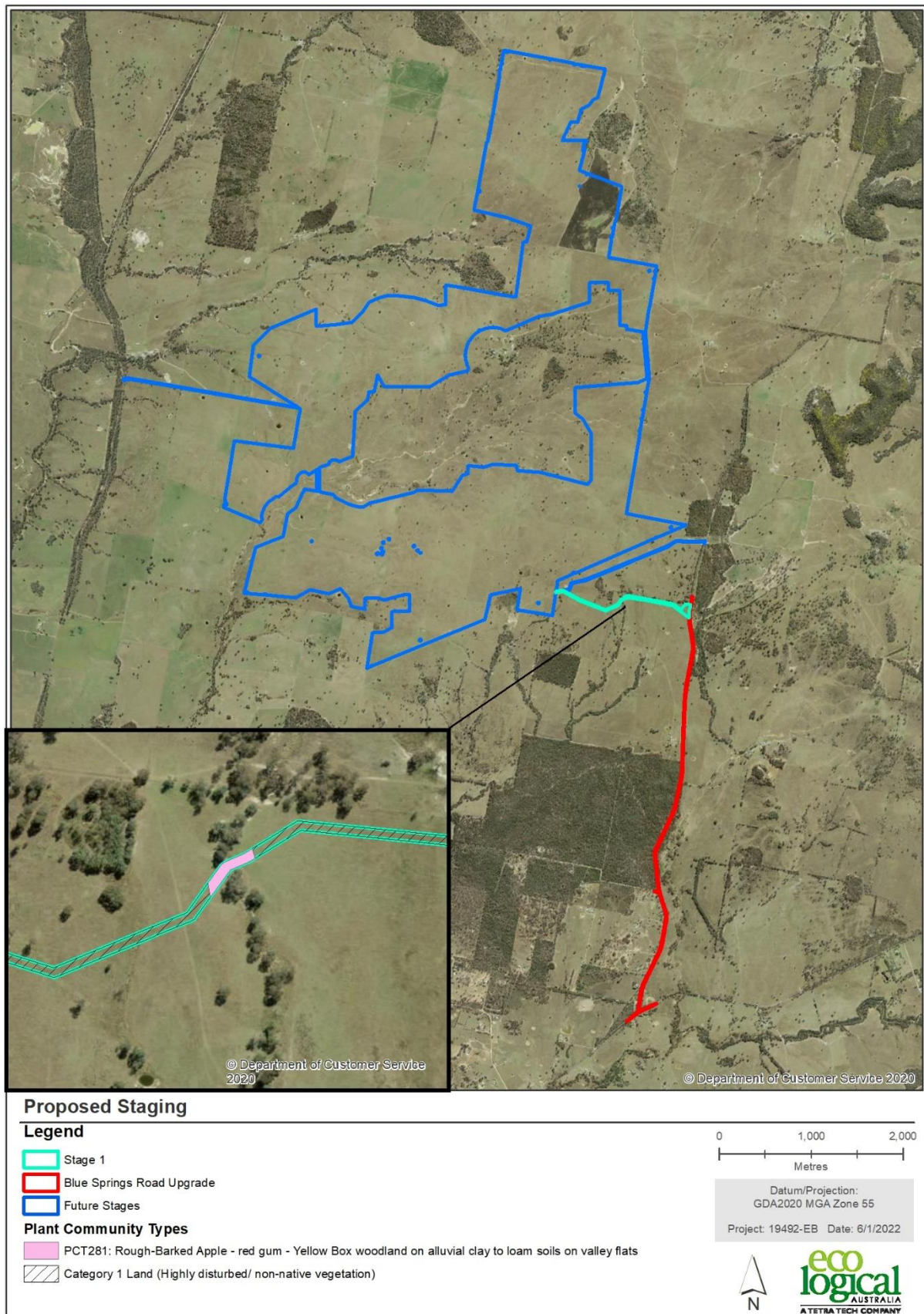


Figure 1: Proposed staging of the Project