

Mr Ralph Northey  
Environment and Community Manager  
Bulga Coal Management Pty Limited  
19/06/2023

Dear Mr Northey

**Bulga Optimisation Project (SSD-4960)  
Extension of Time to Secure Remaining Biodiversity Offset Area**

I refer to your request dated 14 June 2023 requesting an extension of time to secure the final biodiversity offset area required by the Bulga Optimisation Project development consent (SSD-4960).

The Department understands that all other biodiversity offsets required by SSD-4960 have been secured, however additional time is required to finalise the Biodiversity Stewardship Agreement (BSA) for the Vere Biodiversity Offset Area, which is currently required to be secured prior to 30 June 2023.

The Department notes your consultation with the Credit Supply Taskforce (the Taskforce) in the correspondence provided, and acknowledges that all information required to finalise the BSA has been provided to the Taskforce. The Department also understands that there is a requirement to amalgamate relevant property identification numbers which has been in-train with the Valuer General since September 2022.

In consideration of the timeframes anticipated by the Taskforce to finalise the BSA, as nominee of the Planning Secretary I grant an extension of time until 31 December 2023 for the security of the Vere Biodiversity Offset Area required under SSD 4960.

Notwithstanding, the Department requests Bulga Coal provide an update on the progress of the BSA and relevant property amalgamation by 30 September 2023 in order to ensure security is on-track for December.

If you wish to discuss the matter further, please contact Joe Fittell on 02 4908 6896.

Yours sincerely



**Stephen O'Donoghue**  
**Director**  
**Resource Assessments**  
As nominee of the Planning Secretary