

Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
Ms Nicole Brewer
Director
Nicole.brewer@planning.nsw.gov.au
Via Major Projects Portal



30 August 2021

Dear Ms Brewer,

Re: SSD 6687 Ungula Wind Farm – update baseline mapping (Condition B21a)

For the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary, Ungula Wind Farm Pty Ltd (UWF) is providing updated baseline mapping of the vegetation and key habitat within the development corridor and evidence of consultation with the Departments Biodiversity, Conservation and Science Directorate (BCS) to meet the requirements of condition B21(a).

Condition B21 states:

'Unless the Planning Secretary agrees otherwise, prior to the commencement of construction, the Applicant must:

(a) update the baseline mapping of the vegetation and key habitat within the development corridor;

(b) calculate the biodiversity offset credit liabilities for the development in accordance with the Framework for Biodiversity Assessment under the NSW Biodiversity Offset Policy for Major Projects,

in consultation with BCS, and to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary.'

To meet the requirements of B21(a), additional targeted survey for the Eastern Pygmy Possum and Squirrel Glider have been undertaken. These surveys identified an absence of both Eastern Pygmy Possum and Squirrel Glider. Accordingly, the baseline mapping was revised to remove these polygons.

Attachment 1 provides detail of the surveys undertaken and evidence of UWF consultation with BCS. Attachment 2 provides the response from BCS confirming the suitability of the baseline mapping.

Can you please confirm acceptance by the Planning Secretary of the updated baseline vegetation mapping?

If you would like to further discuss please contact me via leanne.cross@cwprenewables.com or 0477 056 801 or Matthew Flower via matthew.flower@cwprenewables.com or 0414 136 476.

Yours sincerely,

Leanne Cross

Leanne Cross
Environment Manager
CWP Renewables

Biodiversity Conservation and Sciences Directorate
Samantha Wynn
PO Box 2111
48-52 Wingewarra St
Dubbo NSW 2830



30 July 2021

Dear Ms Wynn,

Re: SSD 6687 | Uungula Wind Farm | Development Consent Condition B21(a)

This letter is provided in accordance with Development Consent condition B21(a) for the Uungula Wind Farm project (UWF; the Project) (SSD 6687) which requires UWF to consult with Biodiversity Conservation and Sciences Directorate (BCS) regarding baseline biodiversity mapping. Specifically, the condition requires UWF to:

- (a) update the baseline mapping of the vegetation and key habitat within the development corridor;

The current mapping approved for the Project is included in the Biodiversity Offset Report / Biodiversity Offset Strategy (BAR/BOS) in the Project's Amendment Report, Appendix B, Attachment 3 (ELA, dated November 2020). That BAR/BOS committed to targeted survey to further define the presence or absence of some threatened species; surveys which have now been completed. The table below describes the vegetation and key habitat mapping in the BAR/BOS, whether further surveys changed that mapping, and confirmation of the 'baseline mapping' to be agreed with BCS for the Project. A report on the targeted surveys supporting the change of mapping from the BAR/BOS is provided as an attachment to this letter. Digital spatial mapping files can be provided on request.

Common Name	Scientific Name	Original 'Baseline' Mapping Source	Change from Original 'Baseline' Mapping	Current Baseline Mapping
Vegetation Mapping	NA	Project Amendment Report, Appendix B, Attachment 3: Appendix A Map Books	No change	Project Amendment Report, Appendix B, Attachment 3: Appendix A Map Books
Eastern Pygmy-possum	<i>Cercartetus nanus</i>	Project Amendment Report, Appendix B, Attachment 3: Figure 4.4 (p37)	Targeted surveys confirmed absence of this species (refer to Attachment 1)	Species absent - no species polygons
Koala	<i>Phascolarctos cinereus</i>	Project Amendment Report, Appendix B, Attachment 3: Figure 4.5 (p39)	No change	Project Amendment Report, Appendix B, Attachment 3: Figure 4.5 (p39)
Regent Honeyeater	<i>Anthochaera phrygia</i>	Project Amendment Report, Appendix B, Attachment 3: Figure 4.7 (p43)	No change	Project Amendment Report, Appendix B, Attachment 3: Figure 4.7 (p43)

Common Name	Scientific Name	Original 'Baseline' Mapping Source	Change from Original 'Baseline' Mapping	Current Baseline Mapping
Squirrel Glider	<i>Petaurus norfolcensis</i>	Project Amendment Report, Appendix B, Attachment 3: Figure 4.6 (p41)	Targeted surveys confirmed absence of this species (refer to Attachment 1)	Species absent - no species polygons

To prove compliance with this condition the Project requests that a response from BCS includes reference to the baseline mapping files which BCS agrees to be considered the baseline vegetation and key habitat mapping.

Yours sincerely,



Matthew Flower
Project Manager
 CWP Renewables Pty Ltd

Attachment 1: Uungula Wind Farm - Targeted Eastern Pygmy Possum and Squirrel Glider surveys (ELA, January 2020)

20 January 2020

Our ref: 20MUD_17642

CWP Renewables

email: matthew.flower@cwprenewables.com

Dear Matthew,

RE: Ungula Wind Farm - Targeted Eastern Pygmy Possum and Squirrel Glider surveys

Eco Logical Australia (ELA) was engaged by CWP Renewables Pty Ltd to undertake targeted *Cercartetus nanus* (Eastern Pygmy Possum) and *Petaurus norfolcensis* (Squirrel Glider) surveys at the Ungula Wind Farm (UWF).

Both species are nocturnal arboreal mammals listed as Vulnerable under the NSW *Biodiversity Conservation Act* (BC Act) and are found in a broad range of habitats including sclerophyll forests and woodlands. Due to the presence of potential habitat for these species occurring within the UWF Development Footprint, these species were highlighted as requiring further assessment by the North West Biodiversity, Conservation and Science Directorate (BCS) of the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) in their submission to the UWF Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). Targeted surveys were undertaken for both species accordingly to confirm absence or presence.

Prior to undertaking the survey, ELA consulted with the BCS and with recognised Eastern Pygmy Possum expert Dr Martin Schultz to determine the optimal habitat to target survey efforts, shown in Figure 1 below. Areas containing hollow bearing trees and a shrubby understory were selected in the first instance (Areas 1 and 2) as optimal habitat for both species. An additional area (Area 3) was selected along a flowline that contained mature hollow bearing trees but lacked understory, although this area was not deemed optimal habitat.

METHODS

Thirty (30) Remote Infrared Cameras were installed on trees within Area 1 and Area 2 (**Figure 1**) on 6 November 2020 and removed on the 20 November (420 trap nights). Further habitat associated with Area 1 was identified in-field and cameras were distributed throughout the expanded area. Cameras were located approximately 50 - 100 m apart to saturate the area (M. Schultz pers comm 2020).

A second survey was undertaken within Area 3 along a flow line where an additional 12 cameras were installed for 14 days (168 trap nights).

Cameras were baited using a mix of honey, oats and peanut butter and covered with a diluted honey mix poured over the bait ball and on the tree. On day 7 of each survey period, all cameras were rebaited

and checked. To assist with fauna identification a 30 cm ruler was attached to the tree next to the bait bag. Squirrel gliders are very similar in appearance to sugar gliders, varying in size with squirrel gliders being up to twice the size (OEH 2020), therefore the rulers were essential for species identification. The camera and bait set-up is shown in **Figure 2**.

RESULTS

Eight species of fauna were recorded across all 42 cameras with the majority of species found in both Area 1 and 2, listed below.

Species	Common Name	Area 1	Area 2	Area 3
<i>Antechinus flavipes</i>	Yellow footed Antechinus	✓	✓	
<i>Rattus rattus</i>	Black Rat	✓	✓	✓
<i>Trichosurus vulpecula</i>	Common Brushtail Possum	✓	✓	✓
<i>Petaurus breviceps</i>	Sugar Glider	✓	✓	
<i>Macropus rufogriseus</i>	Red necked Wallaby	✓	✓	
<i>Macropus giganteus</i>	Eastern Grey Kangaroo	✓	✓	✓
<i>Varanus varius</i>	Lace Monitor	✓		
<i>Pseudocheirus peregrinus</i>	Ringtail possum		✓	

All images were reviewed by ELA ecologists and further clarification was gained from ELA mammal expert, Dr. Rodney Armistead. In addition, twelve images of small marsupials were also sent to Dr. Martin Shultz (approved BCS expert for Eastern Pygmy Possum) to confirm identity. Photo 1 to Photo 4 show images of small marsupials sent for further identification.

None of the images recorded were identified as being Eastern Pygmy Possums or Squirrel Gliders. All the images of gliders were identified as *Petaurus breviceps* (sugar gliders) due to the shape of forehead and body size. Therefore, species credits are not required for either of these species. The credit obligation for the UWF will be updated during the detailed design in accordance with the Environmental Impact Statement and Response to Submissions.

Regards,



Cheryl O'Dwyer
Senior Ecologist

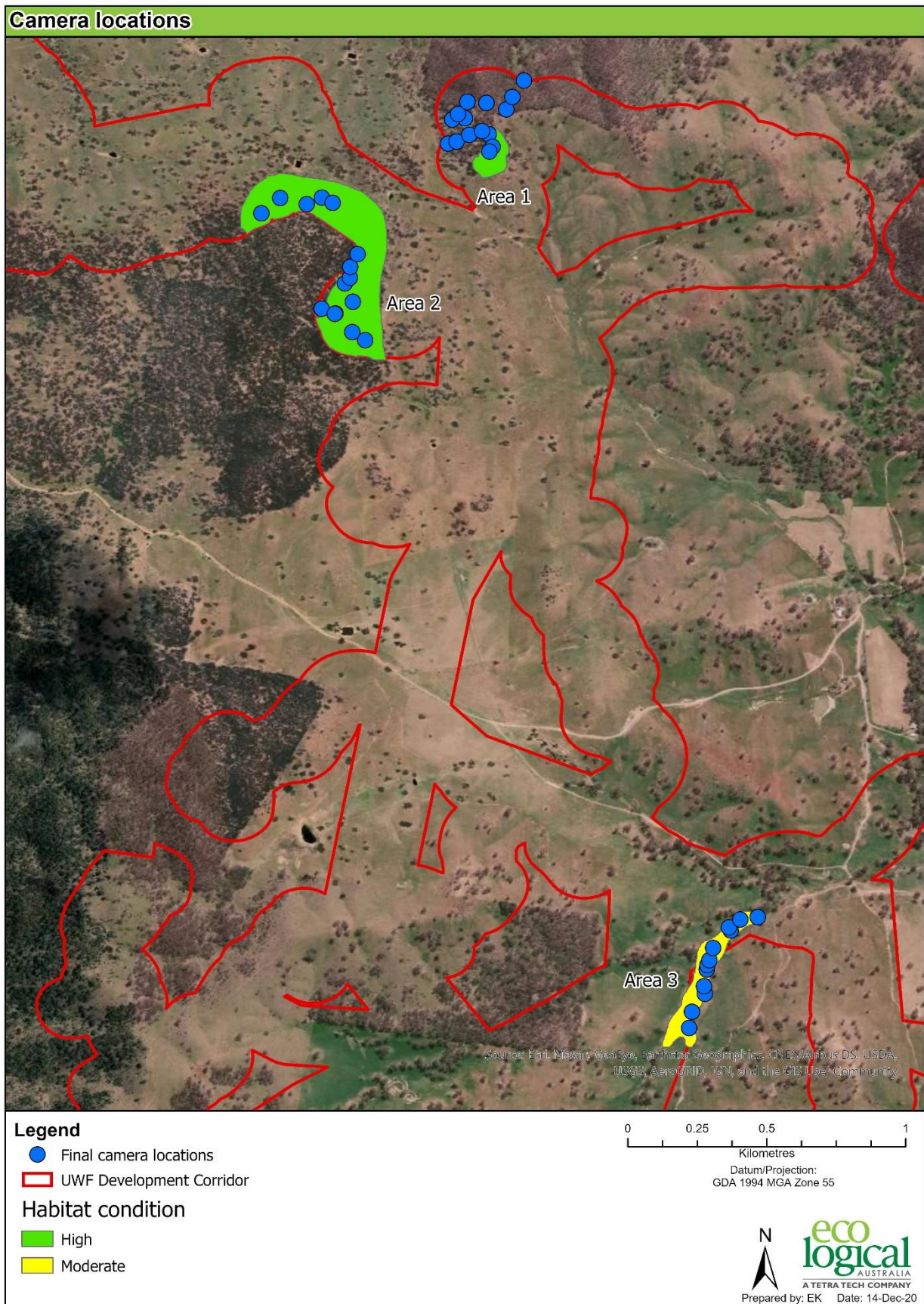


Figure 1: Survey effort



Figure 2: Camera set-up, showing bait and ruler



Photo 1: Sugar glider



Photo 2: Yellow footed antechinus



Photo 3: Black rat



Photo 4: Common brushtail possum



Planning,
Industry &
Environment

Our ref: DOC21/680043

Your ref: SSD6687

Matthew Flower
Project Manager
CWP Renewables Pty Ltd
Matthew.flower@cwprenewables.com

Dear Matthew

Uungula Wind Farm – Development Consent Condition B21(a)

Thank you for your e-mail dated 30 July 2021 to the Biodiversity, Conservation and Science Directorate (BCS) of the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment inviting comments on updated baseline mapping for Uungula Wind Farm.

BCS has reviewed the information provided including all spatial layers. BCS accepts the changes that have been made to the baseline mapping for the Eastern Pygmy Possum and the Squirrel Glider based on the targeted surveys that have been conducted. As such it is understood that the mapping no longer includes species polygons for these two species and therefore no species credits will be generated for these species.

If you require any further information regarding this matter, please contact Michelle Howarth, Conservation Planning Officer, via michelle.howarth@environment.nsw.gov.au or (02) 6883 5339.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Samantha Wynn'.

Samantha Wynn
Senior Team Leader Planning North West
Biodiversity, Conservation and Science Directorate

27 August 2021

Leanne Cross

Subject: FW: Uungula Wind Farm | Development Consent Condition B21(a)

From: Michelle Howarth <Michelle.Howarth@environment.nsw.gov.au>
Sent: Friday, 3 September 2021 1:34 PM
To: Matthew Flower <Matthew.Flower@cwprenewables.com>
Subject: RE: Uungula Wind Farm | Development Consent Condition B21(a)

Hi Matthew

BCS acknowledges that no changes have been made to the baseline mapping for Regent Honeyeater, Koala and the Vegetation mapping. BCS accepts this mapping.

Thanks

Michelle Howarth
Senior Conservation Planning Officer, Planning North West
I work part time Monday, Tuesday and Friday
Biodiversity and Conservation Division | Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
T 02 6883 5339 | E michelle.howarth@environment.nsw.gov.au
48-52 Wingewarra St (PO Box 2111), Dubbo NSW 2830
www.dpie.nsw.gov.au



Our Vision: Together, we create thriving environments, communities and economies.

We work flexibly. I’m sending this message now because it’s a good time for me. I don’t expect that you will read, respond to, or action this message outside of your own regular hours.

The Department of Planning, Industry and Environment acknowledges that it stands on Aboriginal land. We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land and we show our respect for elders past, present and emerging through thoughtful and collaborative approaches to our work, seeking to demonstrate our ongoing commitment to providing places in which Aboriginal people are included socially, culturally and economically.

From: Matthew Flower <Matthew.Flower@cwprenewables.com>
Sent: Tuesday, 31 August 2021 12:38 PM
To: Michelle Howarth <Michelle.Howarth@environment.nsw.gov.au>
Cc: Leanne Cross <Leanne.Cross@cwprenewables.com>
Subject: RE: Uungula Wind Farm | Development Consent Condition B21(a)

Michelle,

We received the attached from BCS via the portal which confirms BCS’s agreement with the revised key habitat mapping for Squirrel Glider and Eastern Pygmy-possum. To cover off compliance with the condition we set out to satisfy (B21(a)) could you please confirm BCS agreement on the other baseline mapping (vegetation, Koala, Regent Honeyeater)?

Matthew Flower
Project Manager



CWP Renewables Pty Ltd
Level 2 | 2 Market Street | Newcastle | NSW 2300
PO Box 1708 | Newcastle | NSW 2300 | Australia
m: +61 414 136 476
www.cwprenewables.com

From: Michelle Howarth <Michelle.Howarth@environment.nsw.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 18 August 2021 1:04 PM
To: Matthew Flower <Matthew.Flower@cwprenewables.com>
Subject: Re: Uungula Wind Farm | Development Consent Condition B21(a)

Thanks Matthew. Much appreciated.

Michelle Howarth
Senior Conservation Planning Officer, Planning North West
I work part time Monday, Tuesday and Friday
Biodiversity and Conservation Division | Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
T 02 6883 5339 | E michelle.howarth@environment.nsw.gov.au
48-52 Wingewarra St (PO Box 2111), Dubbo NSW 2830
www.dpie.nsw.gov.au



From: Matthew Flower <Matthew.Flower@cwprenewables.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 18, 2021 12:57:36 PM
To: Michelle Howarth <Michelle.Howarth@environment.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Ungula Wind Farm | Development Consent Condition B21(a)

Hi Michelle,

My apologies in the delay coming back to you – I was on leave late last week and still trying to catch up.

I am attaching the files requested relevant to the letter sent by me to BCS dated 30 July 2021. A description of the files is provided below (note that unless otherwise specified the files are projected in GDA2020).

Common Name	Scientific Name	Original 'Baseline' Mapping Filename (UWF_SSD6687_Biodiv_Baseline Mapping.zip)	Change from Original 'Baseline' Mapping	Current Baseline Filename (UWF_SSD6687_Biodiv_Baseline Mapping.zip)
Vegetation Mapping	NA	GDA2020_UWF_RegionalVegMapping_v2.shp	No change	GDA2020_UWF_RegionalVegMapping_v2.shp
Eastern Pygmy-possum	<i>Cercartetus nanus</i>	PotentialHabitat_EasternPygmyPossum.shp	Targeted surveys confirmed absence of this species (refer to survey locations attached in 'UWF_SSD6687_Biodiv_EPP-SG camera locations.zip' [note projection GDA94])	Species absent - no species polygons
Koala	<i>Phascolarctos cinereus</i>	PotentialHabitat_Koala.shp	No change	PotentialHabitat_Koala.shp
Regent Honeyeater	<i>Anthochaera phrygia</i>	PotentialHabitat_RegentHoneyeater.shp	No change	PotentialHabitat_RegentHoneyeater.shp
Squirrel Glider	<i>Petaurus norfolcensis</i>	PotentialHabitat_SquirrelGlider.shp	Targeted surveys confirmed absence of this species (refer to survey locations attached in 'UWF_SSD6687_Biodiv_EPP-SG camera locations.zip' [note projection GDA94])	PotentialHabitat_SquirrelGlider.shp

Matthew Flower
Project Manager



CWP Renewables Pty Ltd
Level 2 | 2 Market Street | Newcastle | NSW 2300
PO Box 1708 | Newcastle | NSW 2300 | Australia
m: +61 414 136 476
www.cwprenewables.com

From: Michelle Howarth <Michelle.Howarth@environment.nsw.gov.au>
Sent: Friday, 13 August 2021 1:36 PM
To: Matthew Flower <Matthew.Flower@cwprenewables.com>
Subject: Ungula Wind Farm | Development Consent Condition B21(a)

Hi Matthew

I am currently reviewing the information you have provided regarding updating the baseline mapping of vegetation and key habitat for the Ungula Wind Farm site. Could you please provide all spatial files for the baseline mapping including targeted survey locations.

Thanks

Michelle Howarth
Senior Conservation Planning Officer, Planning North West
I work part time Monday, Tuesday and Friday
Biodiversity and Conservation Division | Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
T 02 6883 5339 | E michelle.howarth@environment.nsw.gov.au
48-52 Wingewarra St (PO Box 2111), Dubbo NSW 2830
www.dpie.nsw.gov.au