

Planning Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements

Section 4.12 (8) of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* Schedule 2 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000*

Application Number	SSD 8220
Development	Granite Hills Wind Farm
Location	Steeple Flat, approximately 12 km south-east of Nimmitabel and 35 km west of Bega, within the Snowy Monaro Regional Council and Bega Valley Shire Council Local Government Areas
Proponent	Granite Hills Wind Farm Pty Ltd
Date of Issue	18 October 2019
General Requirements	<p>The Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the development must comply with the requirements in Schedule 2 of the <i>Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000</i>.</p> <p>In particular, the EIS must include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a stand-alone executive summary; • a full description of the development, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – details of construction, operation and decommissioning, including any proposed staging of the development or refurbishing of turbines over time; – all infrastructure and facilities, such as substations, transmission lines, construction compounds, concrete batching plants, internal access roads, and road upgrades (including any infrastructure that would be required for the development, but the subject of a separate approvals process); – plans for any buildings; – site plans and maps at an adequate scale with dimensions showing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ the location and dimensions of all project components including coordinates in latitude / longitude and maximum AHD heights of the turbines; ○ existing infrastructure, land use, and environmental features in the vicinity of the development, including nearby residences and approved residential developments or subdivisions within 3 km of a proposed turbine, and any other existing, approved or proposed wind farms in the region; and ○ the development corridor that has been assessed, including any allowance for micro-siting of turbines and identification of the key environmental constraints that have been considered in the design of the development; – details of the progressive rehabilitation of the site; • a list of any approvals that must be obtained before the development may commence; • the terms of any proposed voluntary planning agreement with the relevant local council; • an assessment of the likely impacts of the development on the environment, focusing on the specific issues identified below, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – a description of the existing environment likely to be affected by the development using sufficient baseline data; – an assessment of the likely impacts of all stages of the development, taking into consideration any relevant legislation, environmental planning instruments, guidelines, policies, plans and industry codes of practice and including the <i>NSW Wind Energy Guideline for State Significant Wind Energy Development (2016)</i>; – a description of the measures that would be implemented to avoid, mitigate and/or offset residual impacts of the development and the likely effectiveness of these measures, including details of consultation with any affected non-associated landowners in relation to the development of mitigation measures,

	<p>and any negotiated agreements with these landowners; and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – a description of the measures that would be implemented to monitor and report on the environmental performance of the development, including adaptive management strategies and contingency measures to address residual impacts; • a consolidated summary of all the proposed environmental management and monitoring measures, identifying all the commitments in the EIS; and • the reasons why the development should be approved having regard to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – relevant matters for consideration under the <i>Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979</i>, including the objects of the Act, evaluation of the merits of the project as a whole and how the principles of ecologically sustainable development have been incorporated in the design, construction and ongoing operations of the development; – the requirements of the <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i> (EPBC Act) and Schedule 4 of the <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Regulations 2000</i> (EPBC Regulations); – the environmental, economic and social costs and benefits of the development, having regard to the predicted electricity demand in NSW and the National Electricity Market, the Commonwealth’s Renewable Energy Target Scheme, and the greenhouse gas savings of the development; – a detailed consideration of the capability of the project to the security and reliability of the electricity system in the National Electricity Market, having regard to local system conditions and the Department’s guidance on the matter; – the suitability of the site with respect to potential land use conflicts with existing and future surrounding land uses, including rural villages, rural dwellings, subdivisions, land of high scenic value, conservation areas (including National Parks), strategic agricultural land, state forests, mineral resources, triangulation stations, tourism facilities, existing or proposed wind farms, and the capacity of the existing electricity transmission network to accommodate the development; and – feasible alternatives to the development (and its key components), including the consequences of not carrying out the development. <p>While not exhaustive, Appendix A contains a list of some of the environmental planning instruments, guidelines, policies, and plans that may be relevant to the environmental assessment of this development.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – In addition to the matters set out in Schedule 1 of the <i>Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000</i>, the development application must be accompanied by a signed report from a suitably qualified person that includes an accurate estimate of the capital investment value of the development (as defined in Clause 3 of the <i>Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000</i>).
<p>Key issues</p>	<p>The EIS must address the following specific issues for the wind farm and associated infrastructure:</p> <p>Landscape and Visual – the EIS must include a detailed assessment of the visual impacts of all components of the project (including turbines, transmission lines, substations, and any other ancillary infrastructure) in accordance with the NSW <i>Wind Energy: Visual Assessment Bulletin</i> (DPE, 2016), and taking into consideration the scenic protection corridor identified in the <i>Cooma-Monaro Local Environmental Plan 2013</i> and the objectives of the RU2 zone in the <i>Bega Valley Local Environmental Plan 2013</i>, which seek to maintain the rural landscape character of land in the zone.</p> <p>Noise and Vibration – the EIS must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • assess wind turbine noise in accordance with the <i>NSW Wind Energy: Noise Assessment Bulletin</i> (EPA/DPE, 2016); • assess noise generated by ancillary infrastructure in accordance with the <i>NSW Noise Policy for Industry</i> (EPA, 2017); • assess construction noise under the <i>Interim Construction Noise Guideline</i> (DECC,

2009);

- assess traffic noise under the *NSW Road Noise Policy* (DECCW, 2011); and
- assess vibration under the *Assessing Vibration: A Technical Guideline* (DECC, 2006).

Biodiversity – the EIS must:

- assess biodiversity values and the likely:
 - terrestrial and aquatic biodiversity impacts of the development in accordance with the *NSW Biodiversity Offsets Policy for Major Projects* (OEH, 2014) and *Framework for Biodiversity Assessment* (OEH, 2014);
 - impacts on koalas or their habitat in accordance with the requirements in *State Environmental Planning Policy No. 44 – Koala Habitat Protection*;
 - aquatic ecology assessment requirements under the *Fisheries Management Act 1994* unless otherwise agreed by the Department of Primary Industries (DPI) - Fisheries; and
 - impacts to Commonwealth listed species and ecological communities;
- assess the impact of the development on the National Estate in accordance with the *Guidelines for Developments Adjoining Land and Water Managed by DECCW* (OEH 2010);
- assess the impact of the project on birds and bats, including blade strike, low air pressure zones at the blade tips (barotrauma), alteration to movement patterns, and cumulative impacts of other wind farms in the vicinity in accordance with the methodology outlined in Appendix B;
- assess the impact of the development on Matters of National Environmental Significance (MNES) in accordance with the EPBC Act, EPBC Regulations and the requirements included in Appendix C.

Traffic and Transport – the EIS must:

- assess the construction, operational and decommissioning traffic impacts of the development, including impacts on Steeple Flat Road, the Snowy Mountains Highway and the Monaro Highway);
- provide details of traffic volumes (both light and heavy vehicles) and transport and haulage routes during construction, operation and decommissioning, including traffic associated with sourcing raw materials (water, sand and gravel);
- assess the potential traffic impacts of the project on road network function including intersection performance, site access arrangements, site access and haulage routes, and road safety, including school bus routes and school zones;
- assess the capacity of the existing road network to accommodate the type and volume of traffic generated by the project (including over-mass / over-dimensional traffic haulage routes from port) during construction, operation and decommissioning; and
- an assessment of the likely transport impacts to the site access and haulage routes, site access point, any rail safety issues, any Crown Land, particularly in relation to the capacity and conditions of the roads;
- provide details of measures to mitigate and / or manage potential impacts including a schedule of all required road upgrades (including resulting from over mass / over dimensional traffic haulage routes), road maintenance contributions, and any other traffic control measures, developed in consultation with the relevant road authority.

Hazard / Risks – the EIS must include an assessment of the following:

- *Aviation Safety*:
 - assess the impact of the development under the *National Airports Safeguarding Framework Guideline D: Managing Wind Turbine Risk to Aircraft*;
 - provide associated height and co-ordinates for each turbine assessed;
 - assess potential impacts on aviation safety, including cumulative effects of wind farms in the vicinity, potential wake / turbulence issues, the need for aviation hazard lighting, considering, defined air traffic routes, aircraft operating heights, approach / departure procedures, radar interference, communication systems, navigation aids;

- identify aerodromes within 30 nautical miles of the turbines and consider the impact to nearby aerodromes and aircraft landing areas;
- address impacts on obstacle limitation surfaces; and
- assess the impact of the turbines on the safe and efficient aerial application of agricultural fertilisers and pesticides in the vicinity of the turbines and transmission line;
- *Telecommunications* – identify possible effects on telecommunications systems, assess impacts and mitigation measures including undertaking a detailed assessment to examine the potential impacts as well as analysis and agreement on the implementation of suitable options to avoid potential disruptions to radio communication services, which may include the installation and maintenance of alternative sites;
- *Health* – consider and document any health issues having regard to the latest advice of the National Health and Medical Research Council, and identify potential hazards and risks associated with electric and magnetic fields (EMF) and demonstrate the application of the principles of prudent avoidance;
- *Bushfire* – identify potential hazards and risks associated with bushfires / use of bushfire prone land, including the risks that a wind farm would cause bush fire and any potential impacts on the aerial fighting of bush fires and demonstrate compliance with *Planning for Bush Fire Protection 2006* (if located on bushfire prone land); and
- *Blade Throw* – assess blade throw risks.

Heritage – the EIS must:

- assess the impact to Aboriginal cultural heritage (archaeological and cultural) in accordance with the *Guide to Investigating, Assessing and Reporting on Aboriginal Cultural Heritage in NSW* (OEH, 2011) and the *Code of Practice for the Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in NSW* (DECCW, 2010);
- provide evidence of consultation with Aboriginal communities in determining and assessing impacts, developing options and selecting options and mitigation measures (including the final proposed measures), having regard to the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents* (DECCW, 2010); and
- assess the impact to historic heritage having regard to the *NSW Heritage Manual*.

Water and Soils – the EIS must:

- quantify water demand, identify water sources (surface and groundwater), including any licensing requirements, and determine whether an adequate and secure water supply is available for the development;
- assess potential impacts on the quantity and quality of surface and groundwater resources, including impacts on other water users and watercourses (including Creams Creek, Greens Creek, Rutherford Creek and Georges Creek);
- where the project involves works within 40 metres of the high bank of any river, lake (including wetlands) or estuary (collectively waterfront land), identify likely impacts to the waterfront land, and how the activities are to be designed and implemented in accordance with the *DPI Water Guidelines for Controlled Activities* (2012) and (if necessary) *Why Do Fish Need to Cross the Road? Fish Passage Requirements for Waterway Crossings* (DPI 2003); and
- describe the measures to minimise soil erosion, slope instability or landslips, soil salinity, and surface and groundwater impacts, including how works on steep gradient land or erodible (sodic) soils types would be managed and any contingency requirements to address residual impacts.

Waste – the EIS must:

- identify, quantify and classify the likely waste streams to be generated during construction and operation, and describe the measures to be implemented to manage, reuse, recycle and safely dispose of this waste.

Social & Economic – the EIS must:

- include an assessment of the social and economic impacts and benefits of the project for the region and the State as a whole, including consideration of any

	increase in demand for community infrastructure services and impacts to tourism.
Consultation	<p>During the preparation of the EIS, you should consult with relevant local, State and Commonwealth Government authorities, service providers, community groups and affected landowners (including holders or applicants of mineral exploration licences).</p> <p>However, you must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • establish a Community Consultative Committee for the project in accordance with the <i>Community Consultative Committee Guidelines for State Significant Projects</i>, and consult with the committee during the preparation of the EIS; and • carry out detailed consultation with the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Snowy Monaro Regional Council; – Bega Valley Shire Council; – Office of Environment and Heritage; – Environment Protection Authority; – Division of Resources and Geoscience; – Department of Industry; – Roads and Maritime Services - Southern Region; – Transgrid; – Department of Finance, Services and Innovation – Telco Authority; – South East Local Land Services; – Forestry Corporation; – NSW Rural Fire Service; – Department of Defence; – Civil Aviation Safety Authority; and – Airservices Australia. <p>The EIS must include a description of what consultation was carried out during the preparation of the EIS, identify the issues raised during this consultation, and explain how these issues have been addressed in the EIS.</p>
Further consultation after 2 years	If you do not lodge a development application and EIS for the development within 2 years of the issue date of these EARs, you must consult further with the Secretary in relation to the preparation of the EIS.

APPENDIX A

Environmental Planning Instruments, Policies, Guidelines & Plans	
Consultation	
	Community Consultative Committee Guidelines for State Significant Projects (DPE)
Landscape and Visual	
	NSW Wind Energy: Visual Assessment Bulletin (DPE)
Noise and Vibration	
	NSW Wind Energy: Noise Assessment Bulletin (EPA/DPE)
	NSW Noise Policy for Industry (EPA)
	Interim Construction Noise Guidelines (EPA)
	NSW Road Noise Policy (EPA)
	Assessing Vibration: A Technical Guideline (EPA)
	Technical Basis for Guidelines to Minimise Annoyance Due to Blasting Overpressure and Ground Vibration (ANZEC)
Biodiversity	
	Framework for Biodiversity Assessment (OEH)
	NSW Biodiversity Offsets Policy for Major Projects (OEH)
	Guidelines for Developments Adjoining Land and Water Managed by DECCW (OEH)
	Why Do Fish Need to Cross the Road? Fish Passage Requirements for Waterway Crossings (DPI)
	Policy and Guidelines for Fish Habitat Conservation and Management (DPI)
	NSW State Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem Policy (DPI Water)
	Risk Assessment Guidelines for Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems (DPI Water)
Transport	
	Guide to Traffic Generating Developments (RMS)
	Road Design Guide (RMS) & relevant Austroads Standards
	Austroads Guide to Traffic Management Part 12: Traffic Impacts of Development
Hazard/Risks	
	National Airports Safeguarding Framework Guideline D: Managing Wind Turbine Risk to Aircraft (NASAG)
	Aviation Assessments for Wind Farm Developments (Airservices Australia)
	Guidelines for limiting exposure to Time-varying Electric, Magnetic and Electromagnetic Fields (ICNIRP)
	Planning for Bushfire Protection (NSW RFS)
	Hazardous Industry Planning Advisory Paper No. 6 – Guidelines for Hazard Analysis (DPE)
	Multi-Level Risk Assessment (DPE)
	Work Health and Safety (WHS) Act 2011
Heritage	
	Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents (OEH)
	Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigations of Objects in NSW (OEH)
	Guide to investigating, assessing and reporting on aboriginal cultural heritage in NSW (OEH)
	NSW Heritage Manual (OEH)
Soils	
	Soil and Landscape Issues in Environmental Impact Assessment (OEH)

Landslide Risk Management Guidelines (AGS)

Site Investigations for Urban Salinity (OEH)

Land Use Conflict Risk Assessment Guide (DPI)

The Land and Soil Capability Assessment Scheme (OEH)

Australian Soil and Land Survey Handbook (CSIRO)

Guidelines for Surveying Soil and Land Resources (CSIRO)

Water

Managing Urban Stormwater: Soils & Construction (Landcom)

Guidelines for Controlled Activities on Waterfront Land (DPI Water)

Water Sharing Plans (DPI Water)

Guidelines for Watercourse Crossings on Waterfront Land (DPI Water)

Waste

Waste Classification Guidelines (EPA)

Electromagnetic Interference

ICNIRP Guidelines for limiting exposure to Time-varying Electric, Magnetic and Electromagnetic Fields

Environmental Planning Instruments

State Environmental Planning Policy (State and Regional Development) 2011

State Environmental Planning Policy (Infrastructure) 2007

State Environmental Planning Policy (Primary Production and Rural Development) 2019

State Environmental Planning Policy No. 44 – Koala Habitat Protection

State Environmental Planning Policy No. 55 – Remediation of Land

Bega Valley Local Environmental Plan 2013

Cooma – Monaro Local Environmental Plan 2013

APPENDIX B

Assessment of Bird and Bat Strike

The EIS must identify:

- a. The suite of aerial and migratory species (listed as threatened or otherwise) likely to use habitat within 1000m of the project boundary or fly over the area.
 - b. Methods and results of targeted survey techniques for species likely occur, as identified in (a). Targeted survey must:
 - i. Use methods appropriate for the species being targeted (OEH can provide additional information on appropriate methods)
 - ii. Use methods to measure aerial movement (height, flight paths), for example ultrasonic bat detectors on monitoring masts or other structures of suitable height to reach and record within the Rotor Sweep area (RSA)
 - iii. Be performed at appropriate times of year, especially during the migratory periods of the appropriate species
 - iv. Be repeatable for ongoing monitoring post-approval
 - c. Actual or likely flight paths of those species, identified in (a) in the vicinity of the project
 - d. Actual or likely migratory paths of those species, identified in (a), in the vicinity of the project
 - e. An assessment of potential direct impacts on those species identified in (a), including bat/bird strike, barotrauma from low air pressure zones at blade tips.
 - f. An assessment of potential indirect impacts on those species identified in (a) including changes to movement patterns and impacts on use of adjacent habitat.
 - g. Mapping and an assessment of impacts on the use of hollow-bearing trees and nest-trees within 500m of the project, potentially used by aerial species that may be affected by turbines.
 - h. An assessment of the cumulative impacts of multiple wind farms on aerial species and migratory species mortality rates and movement patterns.
 - i. Measures proposed to avoid, minimise and manage the direct and indirect impacts identified in (d) - (h) including an evaluation of the effectiveness and reliability of the proposed measures.
 - j. Residual impacts on the species identified in (a).
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APPENDIX C

Guidelines for preparing assessment documentation relevant to the EPBC Act for proposals being assessed under the NSW Assessment Bilateral.

Granite Hills Wind Farm (EPBC 2018/8212; SSD 8220)

Introduction

1. These guidelines provide information on assessment requirements in relation to matters of national environmental significance (MNES) in accordance with the *New South Wales Bilateral Agreement relating to environmental assessment (February 2015)*. To meet requirements, the project must be assessed in the manner specified in Schedule 1 to that agreement including that the assessment documentation contains:
 - i. An assessment of all impacts that the action is likely to have on each matter protected by a provision of Part 3 of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act).
 - ii. Enough information about the proposal and its relevant impacts to allow the Commonwealth Minister to make an informed decision on whether or not to approve.
 - iii. Information addressing the matters outlined in Schedule 4 of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Regulations (2000)*.
2. In the circumstance that a proposal has been determined to be a 'controlled action' requiring full assessment, the decision will identify which MNES protected under the EPBC Act have triggered for assessment. These are called the controlling provisions. Proponents are only required to provide an assessment of protected matters under the controlling provisions that have been triggered. Following is the full list of possible controlling provisions:
 - listed threatened species and communities (sections 18 and 18A)
 - listed migratory species (sections 20 and 20A)
3. The proponent must consider each of the protected matters under the triggered controlling provisions that may be impacted by the action. The proponent will be informed in the assessment requirements issued by the Department of Planning and Environment, which protected matters i.e. species and communities, World Heritage values etc, are considered likely to be significantly impacted (see Attachment A). Note that this may not be a complete list and it is the responsibility of the proponent to undertake an analysis of the relevant impacts and ensure all protected matters that are likely to be impacted are assessed for the Commonwealth Minister's consideration.

Relevant Regulations

4. Assessment documentation prepared for the purposes of approval under the EPBC Act must, in addition to providing sufficient information for a decision, address the matters outlined in Schedule 4 of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Regulations 2000 (Cth)*. The following includes requirements that have been identified as additional to the requirements prescribed in Schedule 2 of the NSW *Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulations 2000*. Proponents are advised to check that requirements in Schedule 4 of the EPBC Regulations have been appropriately addressed. http://www.austlii.edu.au/au/legis/cth/consol_reg/epabcr2000697/

General Requirements

Project Description

5. The title of the action, background to the action of the action and current status.
6. The precise location and description of all works to be undertaken (including associated offsite works and infrastructure), structures to be built or elements of the action that may have impacts on MNES.
7. How the action relates to any other actions that have been, or are being taken in the region affected by the action.
8. 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 on MNES.

Impacts

9. The EIS must include an assessment of the relevant impacts¹ of the action on the matters protected by the controlling provisions, including:
 - i. a description and detailed assessment of the nature and extent of the likely direct, indirect and consequential impacts, including short term and long term relevant impacts;
 - ii. a statement whether any relevant impacts are likely to be unknown, unpredictable or irreversible;
 - iii. analysis of the significance of the relevant impacts; and
 - iv. any technical data and other information used or needed to make a detailed assessment of the relevant impacts.

Avoidance, mitigation and offsetting

10. For each of the relevant matters protected that are likely to be significantly impacted by the action, the EIS must provide information on proposed avoidance and mitigation measures to manage the relevant impacts of the action including:
 - i. a description, and an assessment of the expected or predicted effectiveness of the mitigation measures,
 - ii. any statutory policy basis for the mitigation measures;
 - iii. the cost of the mitigation measures;
 - iv. an outline of an environmental management plan that sets out the framework for continuing management, mitigation and monitoring programs for the relevant impacts of the action, including any provisions for independent environmental auditing;
 - v. the name of the agency responsible for endorsing or approving each mitigation measure or monitoring program.
11. Where a significant residual adverse impact to a relevant protected matter is considered likely, the EIS must provide information on the proposed offset strategy, including discussion of the conservation benefit associated with the proposed offset strategy.
12. For each of the relevant matters likely to be impacted by the action the EIS must provide reference to, and consideration of, relevant Commonwealth guidelines and policy statements including any:

¹ Relevant impacts are those impacts likely to significantly impact on any matter protected under the EPBC Act

- i. conservation advice or recovery plan for the species or community,
- ii. relevant threat abatement plan for a process that threatens the species or community
- iii. wildlife conservation plan for the species
- iv. management plan for Ramsar wetland
- v. management plan for a World Heritage property or National Heritage place;
- vi. Marine Bioregional Plan;
- vii. any strategic assessment.

[Note: the relevant guidelines and policy statements for each species and community are available from the Department of the Environment Species Profiles and Threats Database.

<http://www.environment.gov.au/cgi-bin/sprat/public/sprat.pl>]

13. In addition to the general requirements described above, specific information is required with respect to each of the determined controlling provisions. These requirements are outlined in paragraphs 10-24.

Key Issues

Biodiversity (threatened species and communities and migratory species)

14. The EIS must identify each EPBC Act listed threatened species and community and migratory species likely to be impacted by the action. For any species and communities that are likely to be impacted, the proponent must provide a description of the nature, quantum and consequences of the impacts. For species and communities potentially located in the project area or in the vicinity that are not likely to be impacted, provide evidence why they are not likely to be impacted.
15. For each of the EPBC Act listed threatened species and communities and migratory species likely to be impacted by the action the EIS must provide a separate:
 - a. description of the habitat (including identification and mapping of suitable breeding habitat, suitable foraging habitat, important populations and habitat critical for survival), with consideration of, and reference to, any relevant Commonwealth guidelines and policy statements including listing advice, conservation advice and recovery plans;
 - b. details of the scope, timing and methodology for studies or surveys used and how they are consistent with (or justification for divergence from) published Australian Government guidelines and policy statements;
 - c. description of the relevant impacts of the action having regard to the full national extent of the species or community's range; and
 - d. description of the specific proposed avoidance and mitigation measures to deal with relevant impacts of the action;
 - e. identification of significant residual adverse impacts likely to occur after the proposed activities to avoid and mitigate all impacts are taken into account;
 - f. a description of any offsets proposed to address residual adverse significant impacts and how these offsets will be established.

- g. details of how the current published NSW Framework for Biodiversity Assessment (FBA) has been applied in accordance with the objects of the EPBC Act to offset significant residual adverse impacts; and
- h. details of the offset package to compensate for significant residual impacts including details of the credit profiles required to offset the action in accordance with the FBA and/or mapping and descriptions of the extent and condition of the relevant habitat and/or threatened communities occurring on proposed offset sites;

[Note: For the purposes of approval under the EPBC Act, it is a requirement that offsets directly contribute to the ongoing viability of the specific protected matter impacted by a proposed action and deliver an overall conservation outcome that improves or maintains the viability of the MNES i.e. 'like for like'. In applying the FBA, residual impacts on EPBC Act listed threatened ecological communities must be offset with Plant Community Type(s) (PCT) that are ascribed to the specific EPBC listed ecological community. PCTs from a different vegetation class will not generally be acceptable as offsets for EPBC listed communities.]

- 16. Any significant residual impacts not addressed by the FBA may need to be addressed in accordance with the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 Environmental Offset Policy. <http://www.environment.gov.au/epbc/publications/epbc-act-environmental-offsets-policy>.

Other approvals and conditions

- 17. Information in relation to any other approvals or conditions required must include the information prescribed in Schedule 4 Clause 5 (a) (b) (c) and (d) of the EPBC Regulations 2000.

Environmental Record of person proposing to take the action

- 18. Information in relation to the environmental record of a person proposing to take the action must include details as prescribed in Schedule 4 Clause 6 of the EPBC Regulations 2000.

Information Sources

- 19. For information given in an EIS, the EIS must state the source of the information, how recent the information is, how the reliability of the information was tested; and what uncertainties (if any) are in the information.

REFERENCES

- *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* - section 51-55, section 96A(3)(a)(b), 101A(3)(a)(b), section 136, section 527E
- *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Regulations 2000 Schedule 4*
- NSW Assessment Bilateral Agreement (2015) - Item 18.1, Item 18.5, Schedule 1
- *Matters of National Environmental Significance - Significant impact guidelines 1.1* (2013) EPBC Act
- *Environment Protect and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 Environmental Offsets Policy* October 2012
- *Information Guidelines for Independent Expert Scientific Committee advice on coal seam gas and large coal mining development proposals* (2014)

Attachment A

The Department of the Environment and Energy's Environment Reporting Tool (ERT) identifies threatened species and communities that may occur within 5 km of the proposed action. Based on the information in the referral documentation, the location of the action, species records and likely habitat present in the area, there are likely to be significant impacts to:

- Swift Parrot (*Lathamus discolor*) - critically endangered
- Parris' Pomaderris (*Pomaderris parrisiae*) - vulnerable
- Giant Burrowing Frog (*Heleioporus australiacus*) - vulnerable
- Littlejohn's Tree Frog (*Litoria littlejohni*) - vulnerable
- Alpine Tree Frog (*Litoria verreauxii alpina*) - vulnerable
- Stuttering Frog (*Mixophyes balbus*) - vulnerable
- White-throated Needletail (*Hirundapus caudacutus*) - migratory

In addition, there is some risk that there may be significant impacts on the following matters and levels of impact should be further investigated.

- Greater Glider (*Petauroides volans*) - vulnerable
- Grey-headed Flying-fox (*Pteropus poliocephalus*) - vulnerable
- Koala (combined populations of Queensland, New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory) (*Phascolarctos cinereus* (combined populations of Qld, NSW and the ACT)) - vulnerable
- Spotted-tailed Quoll (SE mainland population) (*Oasyurus maculatus maculatus*) - endangered
- Swamp Everlasting (*Xerochrysum palustre*) - vulnerable
- Natural Temperate Grassland of the South Eastern Highlands – critically endangered
- Pacific Swift (*Apus pacificus*) - migratory
- Latham's Snipe (*Gallinago hardwickii*) - migratory
- Black-faced Monarch (*Monarcha melanopsis*) - migratory
- Satin Flycatcher (*Myiagra cyanoleuca*) - migratory
- Rufous Fantail (*Rhipidura rufifrons*) - migratory