

APPENDICES

A

OVEN MOUNTAIN PUMPED HYDRO
ENERGY STORAGE EIS

SEARs compliance



OVEN MOUNTAIN
PUMPED HYDRO STORAGE



Table A.1 SEARs and where they are addressed

Requirement	Location in EIS
General requirements	
<p>The Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) must meet the minimum form and content requirements as prescribed by Part 8, Division 5 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2021 (EP&A Regulation) and must have regard to the State Significant Infrastructure Guidelines.</p> <p>In particular, the EIS must include:</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a stand-alone executive summary 	Executive summary
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a summary of the background to the project, including the alternatives that were considered to the project 	<p>Section 1.5.</p> <p>Further details regarding alternatives considered are provided in Section 2.5 and Section F.1.6 of Appendix F.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a full description of the project accompanied by suitable maps and plans, including the disturbance area <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – physical layout of the project over time, including sections of key components – key uses and activities to be carried out on site – likely timing of the project including any stages, the key phases within each stage (site preparation, construction, commissioning, operation, decommissioning and rehabilitation) and the sequencing of these stages and phases 	<p>Physical layout is addressed in Section 1.2 and Appendix G (Project description).</p> <p>Key project elements are listed in Section 3.2.3 with additional detail provided in Appendix B.</p> <p>Key uses and activities are addressed in Appendix G.</p> <p>Likely project timing is addressed in Section 3.3 and Appendix G.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the relevant strategic context for the project having regard to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – State and Commonwealth legislation, policies and guidelines, and current initiatives to improve energy security and reliability in the National Electricity Market – key features of the environment that could affect or be affected by the project (including National Parks and Reserves, World Heritage Areas and areas of declared wilderness under the NSW <i>Wilderness Act 1987</i>) – any other existing, approved or proposed projects that could result in cumulative impacts with the project 	<p>Section 2.2 addresses government strategies, policies and legislation.</p> <p>Section 2.3 covers key features of the environment.</p> <p>Cumulative impacts are briefly addressed in Section 2.4, with greater detail provided in Section 6.16.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the relevant statutory context for the project, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – the assessment pathway for the project under the <i>Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979</i> – the approvals required before the project may be carried out, including any approvals under the Commonwealth <i>Environment Protection & Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i> – any relevant matters for consideration 	<p>Section 4.2 addresses the relevant statutory context.</p> <p>Approvals required and relevant matters for consideration are included in Section 4.3 and Table 4.1.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a description of the engagement that was carried out during the preparation of the EIS, the key issues raised during this engagement and the proposed engagement strategy for the project if it is approved 	<p>An overview of the engagement is provided in Section 5.2, with further information provided throughout Chapter 5 and in Appendix D (community engagement).</p> <p>The proposed engagement strategy to be implemented if the project is approved is addressed in Sections 5.5–5.7.</p>

Table A.1 SEARs and where they are addressed

Requirement	Location in EIS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an assessment of the likely economic, social and environmental impacts of the project having regard to the requirements in any relevant Government legislation, policies and guidelines (see below), including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – the state of the existing environment – community views – the measures that would be implemented to avoid or minimise impacts, including a consolidated summary of the proposed mitigation measures for the project – the predicted impacts of the project, including any cumulative impacts of the site and existing or proposed developments in the region taking into consideration any relevant legislation, environmental planning instruments, guidelines, policies, plans and industry codes of practice including Cumulative Impact Assessment Guideline (DPIE, 2021) – actions proposed to deal with any uncertainties associated with the assessment 	<p>Economic, social and environmental impacts are summarised throughout Chapter 6, with full technical assessments provided in Appendices H to Z, and in Appendix AA.</p> <p>Section 5.5 addresses community views.</p> <p>A table of mitigation measures is provided for each impact assessed in Chapter 6.</p> <p>Section 6.16 addresses overarching cumulative impacts.</p> <p>The technical methodologies included in each section of Chapter 6 include measures undertaken to deal with any uncertainties. These include measures such as assessing a broader envelope to allow for any footprint uncertainties, and assuming presence where absence of surveyed species cannot be confirmed (see Appendix H). Strategies to specifically manage issues where certainty cannot be attained at this level of design are also included.</p> <p>Mitigation measures to avoid or minimise impacts (listed in Appendix E) are amplified where uncertainties exist that need to be managed.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a detailed evaluation of the merits of the project as a whole. 	<p>Section 7.6 provides an evaluation of the Project as a whole, while Sections 7.1 to 7.5 provide a more detailed breakdown of relevant considerations.</p>
<p>The EIS must also be accompanied by a report from a suitably qualified person providing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a detailed calculation of the capital investment value (CIV) (as defined in the Dictionary of the EP&A Regulation) of the proposal, including details of all assumptions and components from which the CIV calculation is derived • an estimate of jobs that will be created during the construction and operational phases of the proposed infrastructure • certification that the information provided is accurate at the date of preparation. 	<p>Appendix BB (CIV report) contains the CIV calculation.</p> <p>Economic considerations, including an estimate of employment opportunities to be generated by the Project and certification of accuracy, are included in Section 6.14 and Appendix Z.</p>

Table A.1 SEARs and where they are addressed

Requirement	Location in EIS
Key matters	
<p>The level of assessment of key matters must be proportionate to the likely significance of the impacts on the matter.</p> <p>In particular, the EIS must include the following:</p>	
Biodiversity	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an assessment of the biodiversity impacts of the project on terrestrial, aquatic and groundwater-dependent ecosystems, including listed Commonwealth and State threatened species and communities and listed Commonwealth migratory species, and impacts on National Parks and Reserves and World Heritage Areas), and Attachment A and: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – an assessment of the biodiversity values and the likely biodiversity impacts of the project, in accordance the <i>Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016</i> (NSW), the Biodiversity Assessment Method (BAM) 2020 and documented in a Biodiversity Development Assessment Report (BDAR), including a detailed description of the proposed regime for avoiding, minimising, managing and reporting on the biodiversity impacts – an assessment of the likely impacts on listed aquatic threatened species, populations or ecological communities, scheduled under the <i>Fisheries Management Act 1994</i>, and a description of the measures to minimise and rehabilitate impacts 	<p>Section 6.2, Section 6.3, and Section 6.11 provide summaries of terrestrial ecology, aquatic ecology, and national heritage values respectively.</p> <p>Appendix H, Appendix I, Appendix J, and Appendix V (biodiversity development assessment report, groundwater dependent ecosystems assessment, aquatic ecology impact assessment, and world and national heritage impact assessment) provide further detail.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a strategy to offset the residual impacts of the project on these ecosystems. 	<p>Management and mitigation measures for terrestrial and aquatic ecology are covered in Section 6.2.4 and 6.3.5 respectively.</p> <p>Additional detail is provided in Appendix H and Appendix J (biodiversity development assessment report and aquatic ecology impact assessment).</p> <p>A strategy of biodiversity offsets is covered in Section 6.2.5 and in further detail in Appendix H.</p>
Heritage	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • assess the impact to Aboriginal cultural heritage items (archaeological and cultural) in accordance with the <i>Guide to Investigating, Assessing and Reporting on Aboriginal Cultural Heritage in NSW</i> (OEH, 2011) and the <i>Code of Practice for the Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in NSW</i> (DECCW, 2010) 	<p>Aboriginal cultural heritage impacts are assessed in Section 6.4 and in Appendix K (Aboriginal cultural heritage assessment report), with conclusions summarised in Section 6.4.4.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 <i>Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents</i> (DECCW, 2010) 	<p>Aboriginal stakeholder engagement is addressed in Section 5.4.3.</p> <p>Appendix D (community engagement) provides further detail.</p> <p>A full Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment is also provided in Appendix K and summarised in Section 6.4.</p>

Table A.1 SEARs and where they are addressed

Requirement	Location in EIS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> assess the impact to historic heritage (including East Kunderang Homestead) having regard to the <i>NSW Heritage Manual</i>. 	<p>Section 6.5.3 and Section 6.5.5, with additional detail provided in the Statement of Heritage Impact included in Appendix L.</p>
Water	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a detailed site water balance for the project, including the water take from each surface and ground water source, any licensing requirements, and determine whether an adequate and secure water supply is available for the development 	<p>Attachment D of Appendix M provides a site water balance.</p> <p>Water take details and impacts are explored in Section 6.6.3.</p> <p>Section 6.6.5 provides a summary and conclusion regarding the suitability of the water supply.</p> <p>Section 6.2, Section 7.2 and Chapter 10 of Appendix M, as well as Appendix N (surface water assessment and groundwater impact assessment respectively) provide further analysis.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> an assessment of the impacts of the project on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the quantity and quality of the region’s surface and ground water resources, including Macleay River and Fingerboard Crossing Creek water security for local downstream receivers hydrological flows on site, including any potential flooding impacts key water features on site, including potential impacts on riparian land type and extent of any dredging or reclamation activities within ‘water land’ water-related infrastructure, basic landholder rights and the entitlements of water users 	<p>Section 6.6.3, Appendix M Sections 6.3-6.9 and Appendix N Section 11.2 (surface water assessment and groundwater impact assessment).</p> <p>Detailed information relating to these points can respectively be found in the following sections of Appendix M:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chapter 6 and Chapter 7 Chapter 6 and Chapter 7 Section 6.6 and Section 7.6 Chapter 7 No dredging or reclamation is proposed.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a description of the likely changes to the hydrological regime of the Macleay River, and any associated biodiversity impacts 	<p>Hydrological changes are covered in Section 6.6.3.</p> <p>Biodiversity impacts relating to aquatic ecology are assessed in Section 6.3.3.</p> <p>Biodiversity impacts relating to terrestrial ecology are assessed in Section 6.2.3.</p> <p>Appendix M, Appendix H, and Appendix J (surface water assessment, biodiversity development assessment report, and aquatic ecology impact assessment) also address these issues. Section 6.3, Section 6.5, Section 7.5 and Section 7.3 of Appendix M provides further detail.</p>

Table A.1 SEARs and where they are addressed

Requirement	Location in EIS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> where the project involves works within 40 metres of the high bank of any river, lake or wetlands (collectively waterfront land), identify likely impacts to the waterfront land, and how the activities are to be designed and implemented in accordance with the <i>DPI Guidelines for Controlled Activities on Waterfront Land</i> (2018) and (if necessary) <i>Why Do Fish Need to Cross the Road? Fish Passage Requirements for Waterway Crossings</i> (DPI 2003); and <i>Policy & Guidelines for Fish Habitat Conservation & Management</i> (DPI, 2013) 	<p>Section 6.7.2 and Section 6.3.3. Appendix M and Section 8.2 of Appendix P.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a strategy to manage spoil and enhance any new landforms created. 	<p>Section 6.7.3. Further detail is provided in Appendix P and Appendix Q (land, soils and erosion assessment and rehabilitation strategy).</p>
Land	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> an assessment of impacts of the project on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> soils including potential impacts associated with the use of hydrocarbons and chemicals, dealing with the spoil generated by the project a soil survey to determine the soil characteristics and consider the potential for erosion to occur the topography of the site, including the creation of any new landforms the geotechnical stability of the site consideration of agricultural land and Crown lands completion of a Land Use Conflict Risk Assessment in accordance with the Department of Industry's <i>Land Use Conflict Risk Assessment Guide</i> 	<p>Section 6.7.2 and Section 6.7.4. Additional assessment is present in Appendix P, Appendix O, and Appendix AA (land, soils and erosion assessment and geochemistry report, and land use conflict risk assessment). Topography of the site, including new landforms, is summarised in Section 6.7.2 of the EIS, and further detail provided in Appendix P (Chapter 6 and 8) and Appendix Q. Geotechnical stability of the site is summarised in Section 6.7.2 of the EIS and Appendix O.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a strategy to manage the progressive rehabilitation of the land disturbed by the project and enhance any new landforms created. 	<p>Appendix Q (rehabilitation strategy).</p>
Transport and access	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> an assessment of the impacts of the project on the: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> capacity, condition, safety and efficiency of the local and State road network, including a road safety audit of the proposed haulage route public access to recreational facilities (including rivers and trails) 	<p>Section 6.8.2, Section 6.8.4, Section 6.16.3, and Section 6.13.3. Appendix R and Appendix W (traffic impact assessment and social impact assessment) provide additional detail. Section 5.12 of Appendix R addresses impacts of the Project on public recreational access.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a strategy to enable regular and emergency management activities to be carried out on site during the project. 	<p>Sections 9.9-9.11 of Appendix R address emergency training and management procedures to be implemented. Appendix X (bushfire assessment) includes additional information.</p>

Table A.1 SEARs and where they are addressed

Requirement	Location in EIS
Amenity	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an assessment of the: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – construction, operational and road noise impacts of the project – blasting impacts of the project – visual impacts of the project, including lighting impacts and potential impacts on views of the project from key vantage points – including amenity impacts on National Parks and Reserves, Conservation Areas, World Heritage Areas and areas of declared wilderness under the <i>NSW Wilderness Act 1987</i>. 	<p>Section 6.9.2 includes an assessment of noise and blasting impacts.</p> <p>Section 6.11.2 addresses visual impacts from key vantage points and impacts on national heritage values identified.</p> <p>These sections are supported by Appendix S, Appendix V, and Appendix U (landscape and visual impact assessment, noise and vibration impact assessment, and world and national heritage impact assessment).</p>
Air	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an assessment of the particulate matter and greenhouse gas emissions of the project 	<p>Section 6.10.2 and Appendix T (air quality impact assessment).</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an assessment of the likely greenhouse gas impacts of the project including a breakdown of scope 1, 2 and 3 emissions as defined by the Greenhouse Gas Protocol and measures to minimise emissions and consideration of climate change adaptation related to the project. 	<p>Section 6.10.2 and Appendix T (air quality impact assessment).</p>
Hazards	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an assessment of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – any potentially hazardous impacts of the project – any public safety risks, including bushfire and flooding risks (including potential impacts on National Parks and Reserves, State Forests and Conservation Areas and downstream landholdings). 	<p>Section 6.12.2 and 6.11.2 addresses potential impacts to the high value areas listed.</p> <p>Sections 6.12.4 and 6.13.3 also address public safety risks.</p> <p>Additional detail is provided in Appendix X, Appendix Y and Appendix V (bushfire assessment, EMF and RFI baseline survey, and world and national heritage impact assessment).</p> <p>Impacts of the Project on flooding risks are addressed in Section 6.8 of Appendix W (surface water assessment).</p>
Social	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an assessment of the social impacts of the project in accordance with <i>Social Impact Assessment Guideline</i> (DPIE, 2021), including impacts on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – the locality – the demand for infrastructure and services in the Armidale Regional and Kempsey Shire local government areas – users of nearby National Parks and Reserves, Conservation Areas, World Heritage Areas, areas of declared wilderness under the <i>NSW Wilderness Act 1987</i>, Macleay River and Bicentennial National Trail. 	<p>Section 6.13.2 summarises which are provided in full in Appendix W (social impact assessment).</p>

Table A.1 SEARs and where they are addressed

Requirement	Location in EIS
Economic	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> an assessment of the economic impacts and benefits of the project on the locality and the State as a whole. 	Section 6.14.2 summarises findings which are provided in full in Appendix Z (economic assessment).
Waste	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> an assessment must identify, quantify and classify the likely waste stream to be generated during construction and operation, and describe the measures to be implemented to manage, reuse, recycle and safely dispose of this waste, taking into consideration capacity and availability of local landfills. 	Section 6.15.3.
Plans and documents	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The EIS must include all relevant plans, architectural drawings, diagrams and relevant documentation required under Part 3 of the Regulation. Provide these as part of the EIS rather than as separate documents. In addition, the EIS must include high quality files of maps and figures of the subject site, proposal, and proposed road upgrades. 	<p>Throughout the EIS.</p> <p>Detailed maps and figures are provided in Appendix B.</p> <p>Further detail relating to proposed road upgrades is included in Section 4.1 of Appendix R (traffic impact assessment).</p>
Consultation	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> During the preparation of the EIS, you should consult with the relevant local, State or Commonwealth Government authorities, service providers, community groups, affected landowners and any exploration licence and/or mineral, coal and petroleum title holders. The EIS must: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> detail how engagement undertaken was consistent with the Undertaking Engagement Guide: Guidance for State Significant Projects (DPIE, November 2021) describe the consultation process and the issues raised and identify where the design of the development has been amended in response to these issues. Where amendments have not been made to address an issue, an explanation should be provided. 	<p>Section 5.3 lays out the consultation approach, and Section 5.6 documents the community feedback received.</p> <p>Full detail is provided in Appendix D (community engagement).</p>
Expiry date	
If you do not lodge an EIS for the infrastructure within 2 years of the issue date of these requirements, your SEARs will expire. If an extension to these SEARs will be required, please consult with the Planning Secretary 3 months prior to the expiry date.	The EIS has been lodged within 2 years of the SEARs issue date.

Table 1.2 Compliance with assessment requirements issued under the EPBC Act (Appendix A to the SEARs)

Requirement	Location in EIS
<p>Based on the information available in the referral, the proposed action is likely to have a significant impact on the following matters of national environmental significance, including but not limited to:</p>	
<p>Spotted-tailed Quoll (<i>Dasyurus maculatus maculatus</i> (SE mainland population)) – Endangered</p> <p>The proposed action is likely to have a significant impact on the Spotted-tailed Quoll as there is a real chance or possibility that it will reduce the area of occupancy of the species, fragment an existing population into two or more populations, and decrease the availability of habitat to the extent that the species is likely to decline.</p> <p>Callistemon pungens – Vulnerable</p> <p>The proposed action is likely to have a significant impact on Callistemon pungens because there is a real chance or possibility that it will reduce the area of occupancy of an important population and decrease the availability or quality of habitat to the extent that the species is likely to decline.</p>	<p>Sections 6.2.2 and 6.2.3 identify the existing environment and the potential impacts on biodiversity.</p> <p>Appendix H (biodiversity development assessment report) provides further detail.</p>
<p>In addition, without further detailed assessment of potential impacts of the proposed action, the Department considers that there is a real chance or possibility that the proposed action will also significantly impact the following protected matters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Koala (combined populations of Queensland, New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory) (<i>Phascolarctos cinereus</i>) - Vulnerable • White-flowered Wax Plant (<i>Cynanchum elegans</i>) - Endangered • <i>Diuris eborensis</i> - Endangered • <i>Euphrasia arguta</i> - Critically Endangered • <i>Tylophora woollsii</i> - Endangered • Small Snake Orchid (<i>Diuris pedunculata</i>) - Endangered • <i>Grevillea guthrieana</i> - Endangered • Tall Velvet Sea-berry (<i>Haloragis exalata</i> subsp. <i>Velutina</i>) - Vulnerable • Clear Milkvine (<i>Marsdenia longiloba</i>) - Vulnerable • Scrub Turpentine (<i>Rhodamnia rubescens</i>) - Critically Endangered • Ravine Orchid (<i>Sarcochilus fitzgeraldii</i>) - Vulnerable • Regent Honeyeater (<i>Anthochaera phrygia</i>) - Critically Endangered • Rufous Scrub-bird (<i>Atrichornis rufescens</i>) - Endangered • Eastern Bristlebird (<i>Dasyornis brachypterus</i>) - Endangered • White-throated Needle-tail (<i>Hirundapus caudacutus</i>) - Vulnerable • Swift Parrot (<i>Lathamus discolor</i>) - Critically Endangered • Stuttering Frog (<i>Mixophyes balbus</i>) - Vulnerable • Three-toed Snake-tooth Skink (<i>Coeranoscincus reticulatus</i>) - Vulnerable • Large-eared Pied Bat (<i>Chalinolobus dwyeri</i>) - Vulnerable • Greater Glider (<i>Petauroides volans</i>) - Vulnerable • Grey-headed Flying-fox (<i>Pteropus poliocephalus</i>) - Vulnerable • Brush-tailed Rock-wallaby (<i>Petrogale penicillate</i>) - Vulnerable • Long-nosed Potoroo (SE Mainland) (<i>Potorous tridactylus tridactylus</i>) - Vulnerable • New Holland Mouse (<i>Pseudomys novaehollandiae</i>) - Vulnerable • Hastings River Mouse (<i>Pseudomys oralis</i>) - Endangered • Lowland Rainforest of Subtropical Australia - Critically Endangered • Alpine Sphagnum Bogs and Associated Fens - Endangered • White Box-Yellow Box-Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland - Critically Endangered. 	<p>Sections 6.2.2 and 6.2.3 identify the existing environment and the potential impacts on biodiversity.</p> <p>Appendix H (biodiversity development assessment report) provides further detail.</p>

Table 1.2 Compliance with assessment requirements issued under the EPBC Act (Appendix A to the SEARs)

Requirement	Location in EIS
<p><i>World Heritage Values of a declared World Heritage Property and National Heritage Values of a National Heritage Place:</i> <u>Gondwana Rainforests of Australia World Heritage Property and National Heritage Place</u></p> <p>The proposed action is located adjacent to the World Heritage Property and National Heritage Place. The proposal is likely to have a significant impact on the listed values of the World Heritage Property as it could reduce the diversity or modify the composition of plant and animal species. The proposed action also could fragment, isolate or substantially damage habitat important for the conservation of biological diversity in the World Heritage property. The proposed action is also likely to significantly impact National Heritage Values as these are not separately described and are taken as equivalent to the World Heritage Values.</p>	<p>Heritage values are addressed in Sections 6.11 and 6.5, with biodiversity covered in Sections 6.2 and 6.3.</p> <p>Greater detail on these topics are provided in Appendices V, L, H, I, and J (world and national heritage, statement of heritage impact, biodiversity development assessment report, groundwater dependent ecosystems assessment, and aquatic ecology impact assessment respectively).</p>
<p>The assessment should also consider the impacts of the recent bushfires on the habitat and species which may be significantly impacted by your project. Based on the tangible impacts that the 2019 - 2020 bushfires had on listed threatened species of fauna and flora, the Department [The Commonwealth Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment] has undertaken work to identify the species that are the highest priorities for urgent management intervention and require strategic responses to support their recovery.</p>	<p>The impacts of recent bushfires on habitats and species are considered in Section 6.2 and Appendix H (biodiversity development assessment report), and in Section 3.4 of Appendix V (world and national heritage impact assessment).</p>
<p>Project Description</p> <p>The title of the action, background to the action and current status.</p> <p>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 Matters of National Environmental Significance (MNES).</p> <p>How the action relates to any other actions that have been, or are being taken in the region affected by the action.</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>Sections 1.1 and 1.2 address the title, background and current status of the action.</p> <p>Section 1.4 details the location of the project, while structures to be built are described in Section 3.2 and Appendix G (Project description).</p> <p>Cumulative impacts are explored in Section 6.16.</p> <p>The nature of the proposed works is covered in Section 3.3. MNES impacts are explored in Sections 6.3 and 6.11, and appendices H, I, and V (biodiversity development impact assessment, aquatic ecology impact assessment, and world and national heritage impact assessment).</p>
<p>Impacts</p> <p>The EIS must include an assessment of the relevant impacts of the action on the matters protected by the controlling provisions, including:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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 iv. any technical data and other information used or needed to make a detailed assessment of the relevant impacts. 	<p>Summaries of technical assessments undertaken are provided in Chapter 6 of the EIS, and in Appendices H–Z.</p>

Table 1.2 Compliance with assessment requirements issued under the EPBC Act (Appendix A to the SEARs)

Requirement	Location in EIS
<p>Avoidance, mitigation and offsetting</p> <p>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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. 	<p>Sections 6.3.3 and 6.11.3.</p> <p>Summaries of technical assessments, including proposed mitigation measures, are provided in Chapter 6 of the EIS. Greater detail regarding mitigation measures is available in Appendices H–Z.</p>
<p>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.</p>	<p>Summaries of technical assessments, including offset strategies, are provided in Chapter 6 of the EIS. Greater detail regarding offset measures is available in Appendices H–Z.</p> <p>The biodiversity offset strategy is laid out in Chapter 12 of Appendix H (biodiversity development assessment report).</p>
<p>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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. conservation advice or recovery plan for the species or community ii. relevant threat abatement plan for the species or community iii. wildlife conservation plan for the species iv. any strategic assessment. 	<p>Section 6.2.2–6.2.6, 6.3.2–6.3.6, and 6.11.1. Greater detail is provided in Appendices H, I, and V (biodiversity development assessment report, aquatic ecology impact assessment and world and national heritage impact assessment).</p>
<p>Biodiversity (threatened species and communities and migratory species)</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>Section 6.2.2–6.2.6 and 6.3.2–6.2.6. Greater detail is provided in Appendices H and I.</p>
<p>Further analysis of the impacts of the 2019–2020 bushfires on EPBC Act listed threatened species and communities should be undertaken during the assessment. Further assessment will determine whether the remaining habitat within the proposed action area is of substantially greater importance to the survival of the listed threatened species following the fires and/or whether the population of the species in the area is considered an important population. This information, once obtained, can be considered when determining avoidance, mitigation and offset measures for these species.</p>	<p>Section 6.2.2 and Section 6.3.5 of Appendix H (biodiversity development assessment report).</p>

Table 1.2 Compliance with assessment requirements issued under the EPBC Act (Appendix A to the SEARs)

Requirement	Location in EIS
<p>For each of the EPBC Act listed threatened species and ecological communities and migratory species likely to be impacted by the proposed action the EIS must provide a separate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. 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 ii. 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 iii. description of the relevant impacts of the action having regard to the full national extent of the species or community's range iv. description of the specific proposed avoidance and mitigation measures to deal with relevant impacts of the action v. identification of significant residual adverse impacts likely to occur after the proposed activities to avoid and mitigate all impacts are taken into account vi. a description of any offsets proposed to address residual adverse significant impacts and how these offsets will be established vii. details of how the current published NSW Biodiversity Assessment Method (BAM) has been applied in accordance with the objects of the EPBC Act to offset significant residual adverse impacts viii. 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 BAM and/or mapping and descriptions of the extent and condition of the relevant habitat and/or threatened communities occurring on proposed offset sites; <p>Any significant residual impacts not addressed by the BAM may need to be addressed in accordance with the EPBC Act 1999 Environmental Offset Policy. http://www.environment.gov.au/epbc/publications/epbc-act-environmental-offsets-policy.</p>	<p>Sections 6.3.2 and 6.3.5 respectively address the existing habitat and the proposed offset strategy. Chapters 6 and 12 of Appendix H provide further detail.</p> <p>Information relating scope, timing and methodology is provided in Chapters 5 and 6 of Appendix H, with impacts explored in Chapters 8–10.</p>
<p>Heritage (World Heritage Property and National Heritage Place)</p> <p>The EIS must assess the project's potential impacts on the listed values of the World Heritage Property, particularly regarding potential impacts on the diversity or composition of plant and animal species. The assessment must consider whether the project may fragment, isolate or substantially damage habitat important for the conservation or biological diversity in the World Heritage Property. The EIS must also assess the project's potential impacts on the listed values of the National Heritage Place.</p>	<p>Section 6.11.2 and Chapter 9 of Appendix V (world and national heritage impact assessment).</p>
<p>For the World and National Heritage listed Gondwana Rainforests of Australia, the proponent should also consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Identification and assessment of impacts to downstream environments under a range of climate scenarios. ii. Assessment on the movement of species, that establish the biodiversity value of the World Heritage Property, from the adjacent World Heritage Property to the proposed action area. iii. A description of the recent 2019/2020 bushfire event and its impacts on the World Heritage Property. Further consideration should be given to remaining vegetation patches and their importance for the preservation of the property. 	<p>Section 6.11.1, and Chapter 9 of Appendix V (world and national heritage impact assessment).</p>

Table 1.2 Compliance with assessment requirements issued under the EPBC Act (Appendix A to the SEARs)

Requirement	Location in EIS
<p>Other approvals and conditions</p> <p>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.</p>	Section 4.3
<p>Environmental Record of person proposing to take the action</p> <p>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.</p>	Section 1.8
<p>Information Sources</p> <p>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.</p>	Information sources are disclosed and evaluated throughout the EIS.