New South Wales Archaeology Pty Ltd ACN 106044366

Addendum

Sapphire Wind Farm - Modification to Road Alignment

Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report

Date: 20 January 2016
Author: Dr Julie Dibden
Proponent: CWP Renewables

www.nswarchaeology.com.au

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1. INTRODUCTION

New South Wales Archaeology Pty Ltd conducted an Indigenous and Non-Indigenous cultural heritage assessment of the proposed Sapphire Wind Farm (SWF), as documented in Dibden (2011).

CWP Renewables (CWPR) is proposing to amend the SWF project through submission of a modification to the NSW Department of Planning and Environment (DPE).

In general, the proposed amendments involve:

- An overall reduction in wind turbines across the project, from 159 to 109 wind turbines;
- The consolidation of two project layouts into one; and
- An increase to the maximum tip height and rotor diameter for the project to accommodate current wind turbine technology, from 157m to approximately 200m, with a rotor diameter increase from 126m to 140m.

In addition, there are a small number of Landowner requested amendments to the current road layout which marginally fall outside of the corridor originally surveyed by NSW Archaeology. This addendum report documents the results of a desktop assessment made in respect of these minor road changes (Figure 1).

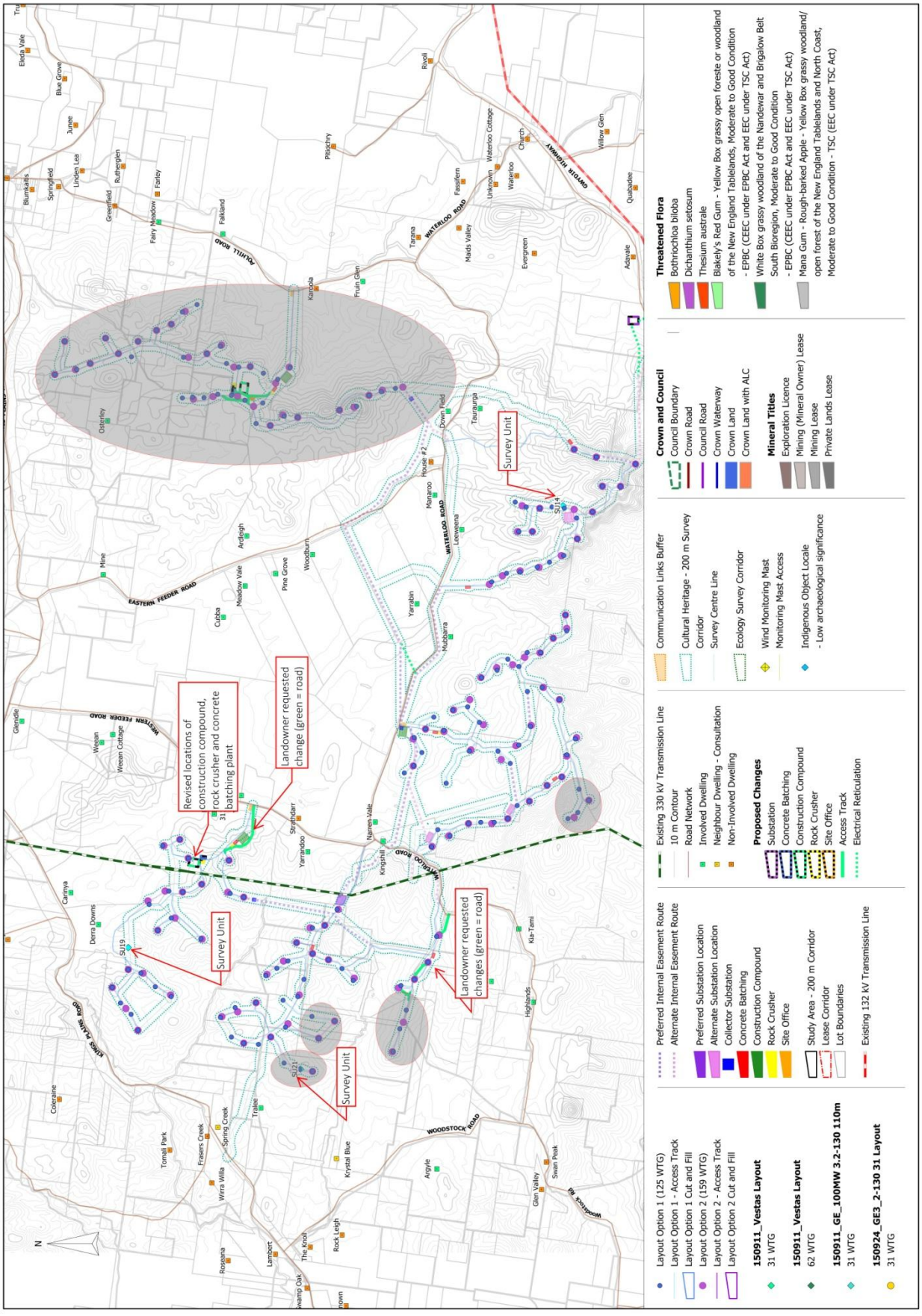

Figure 1 Amendments (supplied by client).

2. HERITAGE CONTEXT

A brief summary of the original cultural heritage assessment is provided below (see Dibden 2011).

The development area was divided into 21 Survey Units and approximately 2,515 hectares was subject to survey and assessment. It was estimated that approximately 1,196 hectares of that area was subject to actual survey inspection.

A total of three Aboriginal object locales, SU14/L1, SU19/L1 and SU21/L1 were recorded. All three sites are very low density stone artefact distributions located within Survey Units assessed to be of low archaeological potential and sensitivity. They were assessed to be of low archaeological significance.

Effective Survey Coverage encountered during the survey was low and it was predicted that additional stone artefacts were highly likely to be present in areas other than those identified, either on ground surfaces or in subsurface contexts. However, in all Survey Units artefact density was predicted to be either very low or low. Accordingly, all Survey Units were assessed to be of low archaeological sensitivity.

Given the nature and density of the artefact locales recorded in the proposal area and the low scientific significance rating they were accorded, unmitigated impacts was recommended; a strategy of impact avoidance was not considered to be warranted.

3. ASSESSMENT METHODS AND RESULTS

A total of 2,515 hectares of proposed turbine alignments, access tracks, electrical connections and transmission lines was subject to survey and assessment during the original Aboriginal cultural heritage assessment, as discussed in Section 2 (Dibden 2011). The coverage achieved was considered sufficient to characterise the nature of Aboriginal object distribution in the local area.

Given the extensive survey coverage, the paucity of stone artefacts found was assessed to be an generally accurate reflection of the artefactual status of the proposal area. That is, the proposed impact areas inclusive of turbine alignments, tracks and so on, were assessed to contain very low density artefact distribution. Accordingly, undetected or subsurface stone artefacts were predicted to be present in extremely low density.

The road alignment changes traverses comparable landforms to those originally surveyed. The survey assessment and results can be extrapolated with confidence to be comparable to the archaeological potential of the new road alignments.

Accordingly, based on the relevant predictive model of site distribution the proposed minor changes to track alignments are assessed to be of generally low potential to cause harm to cultural and archaeological values. Further detail and discussion is provided below (see also Figure 2).

Survey Unit 6 - Two short c. 485 m sections of road realignment are proposed at the west end of SU6, a broad, amorphous, undulating crest. The landform is assessed to be of very low archaeological sensitivity.

Survey Unit 18 - A 1.2 km section of road realignment is proposed at the east end of SU18, a broad, undulating crest. The landform is assessed to be of very low archaeological sensitivity.

It is concluded that the proposed road changes have low potential to cause impacts to Aboriginal archaeological values.

Owing to the low archaeological significance of the impacts associated with this project modification, it is proposed that no changes to the current conditions of consent are required.

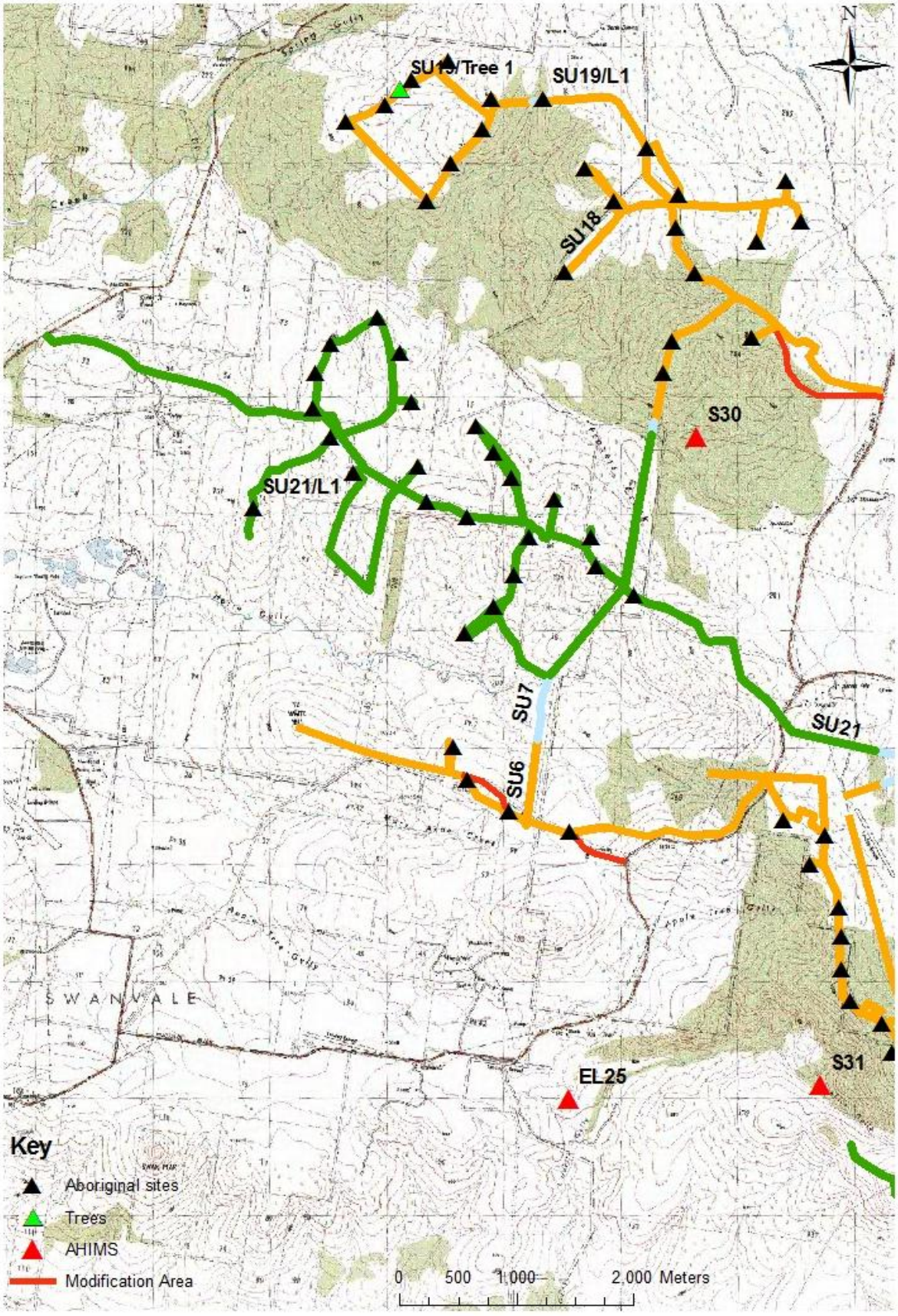

Figure 2 Location of Survey Units and previously recorded sites as per Dibden (2011) and changes to road alignment.

4. REFERENCES

Dibden, J. 2011 Proposed Sapphire Wind Farm Archaeological and Cultural Heritage Assessment A report to Wind Prospect CWP Pty Ltd.