

# Spicers Creek Wind Project

## IPC Public Meeting

**Elong Elong, Gollan, Goolma, Ballimore  
& Districts**



**Sally Edwards - [REDACTED]**

**E. [REDACTED]**



## **Spicers Creek Wind Project Assessment**

### **Primary Concerns:**

- 1. Consultation**
- 2. Cumulative Impacts**
- 3. Biodiversity Loss/SAIL**
- 4. Community Impacts**
- 5. Risk - Bushfire, Water & Soil**
- 6. Public Interest**

**Spicers Creek**





**A total of 275HA of native vegetation is to be cleared**  
(Note. Royal Botanic Gardens, Sydney spans 30HA)

**13 candidate Flora Species**  
**1 Threatened/Vulnerable**

**40 Threatened Fauna Species**

**Box Gum Woodland loss**

**Potential Serious and Irreversible Impacts (3 entities)**

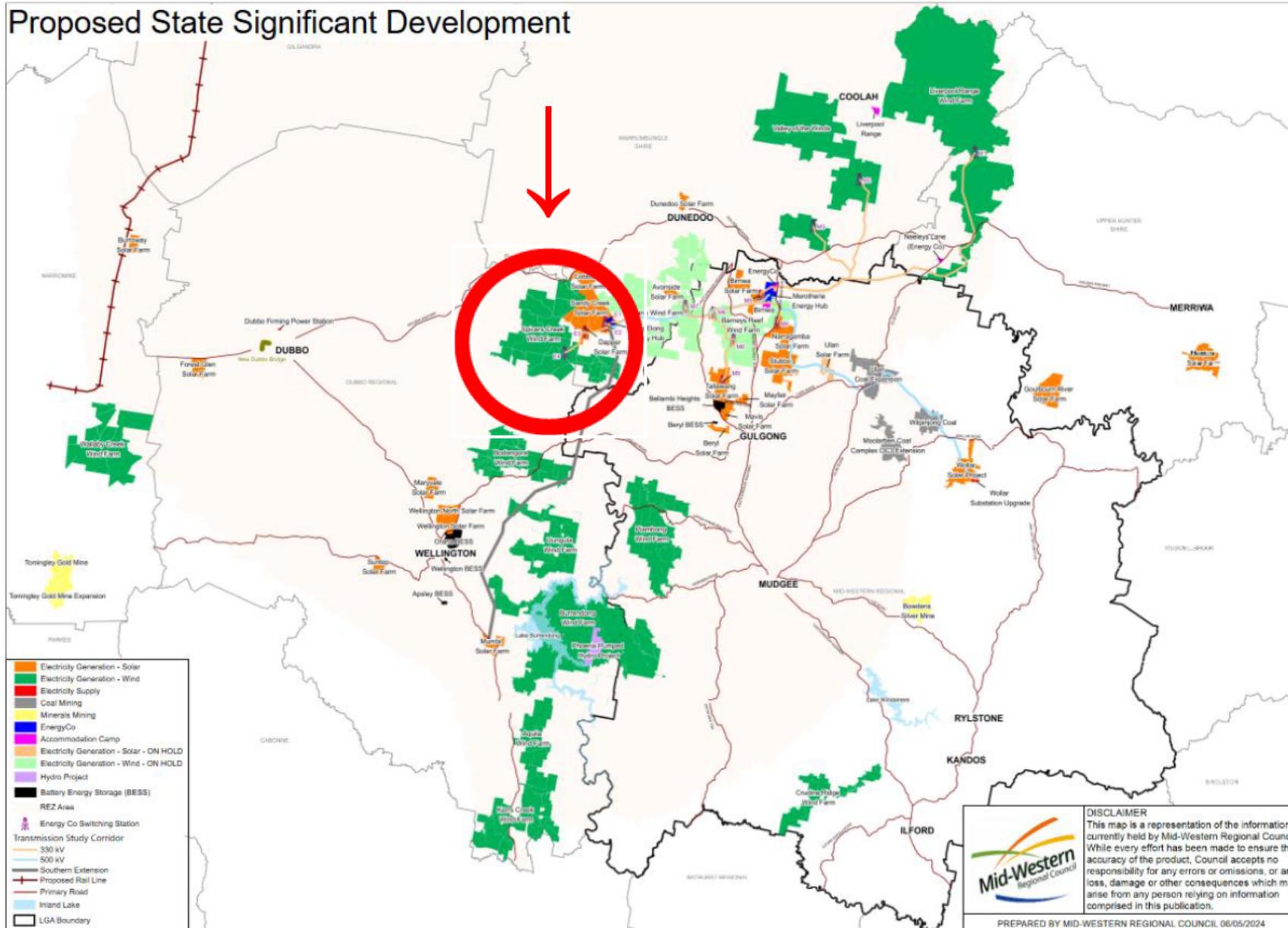
**35 non-associated residences within 5km**

**Adjacent to Dapper Nature Reserve**



# Central West Orana Renewable Energy Zone

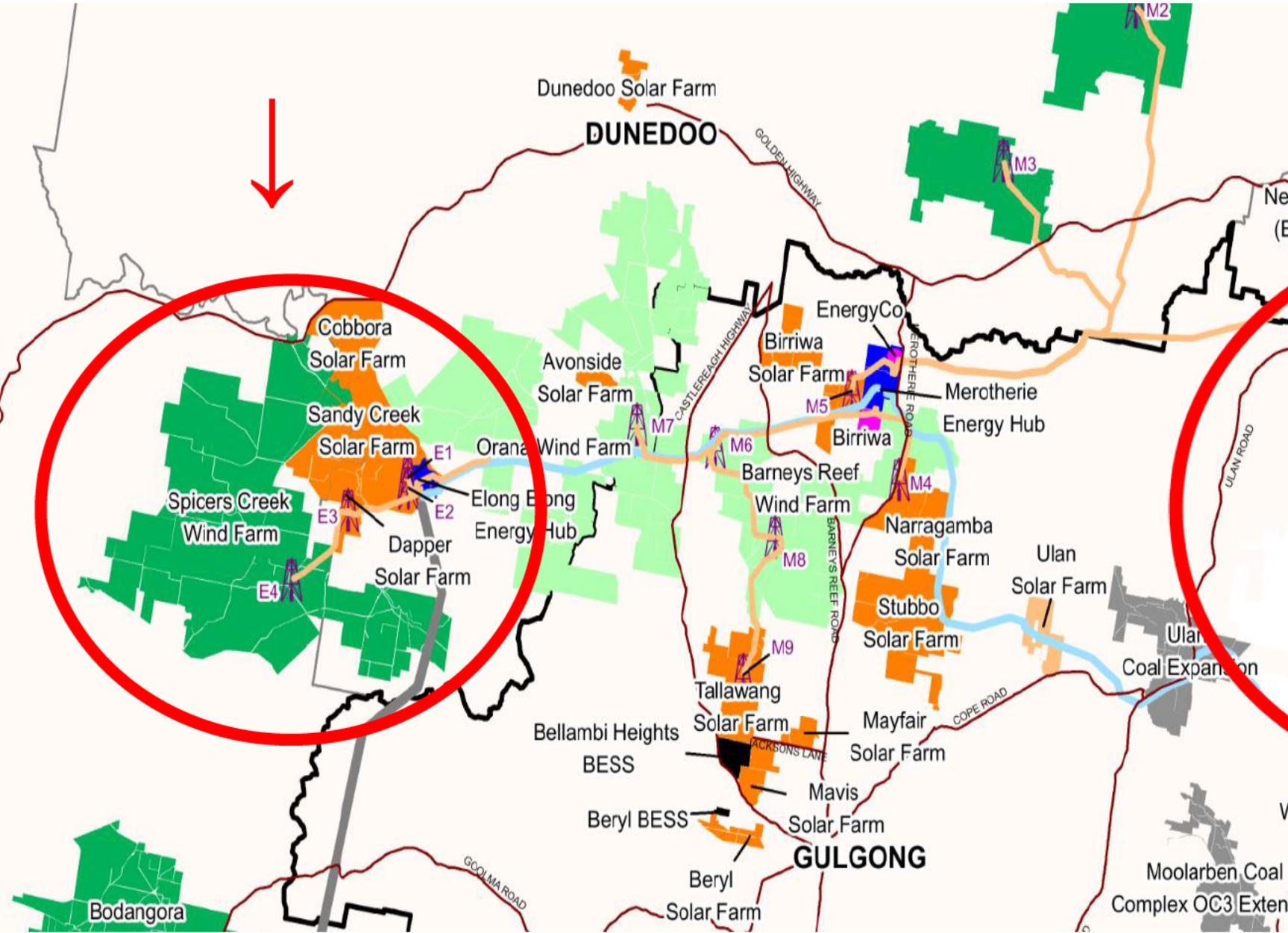
## Proposed State Significant Development



“The Commission Panels appointed to determine each **State Significant Development** project must consider each development application separately.”

Source: IPC Website





**Project land size :**

**Site area:**  
17,645HA

**Development  
Footprint:**  
1,470HA



# State Significant Development

Recommendation

# Spicers Creek Wind ~~Farm~~

Dubbo Regional

Current Status: Recommendation

Interact with the stages for their names ?



Want to stay updated on this project?

Notify me

Assessment Submissions

Development of a wind energy generation project with up to 117 wind turbines, with energy storage and associated infrastructure.

## Project Details

Application Number



SSD-41134610

**REZ level saturation of State Significant Developments demands a proportionate level of consideration including neighbour, community, regional and state concerns**



# Executive Summary

This report details the Department's assessment of the State significant development application SSD-41134610 for the Spicers Creek Wind Farm and will be provided to the Independent Planning Commission (the Commission) for their consideration when deciding whether to grant consent to the SSD.

Spicers Creek Wind Farm Pty Ltd, a project entity owned by the Squadron Energy group of companies (Squadron) proposes to develop a 700 megawatt (MW) wind farm, located approximately 25 kilometres north-west of Gulgong in the declared **Central West Orana Renewable Energy Zone (CWO REZ)**. The project is within the Dubbo Regional and Warrumbungle Shire local government areas. The proposed project involves the development of up to 117 turbines with a maximum tip height of 256 metres (m) high, a 400 MW battery energy storage system (BESS), connection to the proposed CWO REZ transmission line and other ancillary infrastructure. The project has a capital investment value of approximately \$2 billion and is expected to generate 590 construction jobs and 12 operational jobs. If approved, construction of the project would take about 40 months.

## Strategic Context



## Part 4 Renewable energy zones and access schemes

### Division 1 Renewable energy zones

#### 19 Minister may declare renewable energy zone

- (4) The Minister may make a declaration only if the Minister—
- (a) is satisfied that it is consistent with the objects of this Act, and
  - (b) has considered the following—
    - (i) existing network infrastructure in the renewable energy zone and the rest of the State,
    - (ii) land use planning, environmental and heritage matters,
    - (iii) the views of the local community in the renewable energy zone,
    - (iv) other matters prescribed by the regulations.

# Community Consultation





# Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Heritage Portfolios

## Portfolio Committee No. 7 – Planning and Environment

### Answers to Supplementary Questions

Hearing: 7 March 2024

#### PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT

#### Climate Change, Energy, the Environment, Heritage

1	The Renewable Energy Zone (Central-West Orana) Order 2021 was published in the Government Gazette of the State of New South Wales on 5th November 2021. The Energy Infrastructure Investment Bill 2020 states in Part 4, Division 1, Section 19 (4) The Minister may make a declaration only if the Minister (b) has considered the following (iii) the views of the local community in the renewable energy zone.
(a)	Where was the CWO REZ draft declaration document exhibited?
(b)	How many submissions were received during the CWO REZ draft declaration exhibition period?
i.	How many objections were made by members of the public?
ii.	How many objections were made by organisations?
iii.	How many objections were made by public authorities?
iv.	How many objections were made by renewable energy developers?
v.	How many submissions in support were made by members of the public?
vi.	How many submissions in support were made by organisations?
vii.	How many submissions in support were made by public authorities?
viii.	How many submissions in support were made by renewable energy developers?
ix.	How many comments were made by members of the public?
x.	How many comments were made by organisations?
xi.	How many comments were made by public authorities?
xii.	How many comments were made by renewable energy developers?
(c)	Are all submissions received throughout the CWO REZ draft declaration exhibition period available publicly? If they are publicly available, where are they located?
(d)	Were there any meetings held, within the then proposed CWO REZ boundary, to consult with stakeholders and/or community regarding the CWO REZ draft declaration? If yes, please provide all:

# CWO REZ - Community Views



## Answer

1	
(a)	In accordance with the Minister's statutory obligations under section 20(e) of the <i>Electricity Infrastructure Investment Act 2020</i> , the Central-West Orana Renewable Energy Zone (REZ) draft declaration was exhibited on the former Department of Planning, Industry and Environment's website for public consultation for 28 days from 17 September 2021 to 15 October 2021.
(b)	Six submissions were received from stakeholders during the draft consultation period. All submissions were in support of the exhibited draft (three from renewable energy developers, two from public authorities, and one from an organisation). No submissions were received from members of the general public, and no objections were received from any stakeholders.
i.	See answer to question 1 (b).
ii.	See answer to question 1 (b).

4 of 51

(b)	Submissions were provided on the grounds that they would be confidential. Submissions will not be published.
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**SIX (6)** submissions were received from stakeholders –

**THREE (3)** from Renewable Energy Developers (Conflict of interest?)

**ZERO (0)** submissions from the general public.

Submissions remain **confidential**.



# Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Heritage Portfolios

Portfolio Committee No. 7 – Planning and Environment

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(d) Consistent with the Minister for Energy's statutory obligations under section 19(4)(b)(iii) of the *Electricity Infrastructure Investment Act 2020*, the declaration was made in consideration of the views of the local community in the REZ. This included through landowner meetings, direct engagement with local councils, mailouts, and establishment of a Central-West Orana REZ Regional Reference Group with local community representatives. The proposed scale and scope of the Central-West Orana REZ identified in the declaration had been publicly available since the NSW Government's submission on AEMO's Integrated System Plan in March 2018.

<https://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/lcdocs/other/19347/Answers%20to%20supplementary%20questions%20-%207%20March%202024%20-%20Budget%20Estimates%20SHARPE.PDF>

Hi Sal,

Furthermore, to your request the Central-West Orana Renewable Energy Zone Regional Reference Group standing membership comprised of councils in the Central-West region, select electricity transmission providers and the then Department of Regional NSW. The forum concluded in 2022.

Kind regards,

[Redacted]  
[Redacted] Central-West Orana REZ  
Energy Corporation of NSW (EnergyCo)  
Office of Energy and Climate Change

W [energyco.nsw.gov.au](http://energyco.nsw.gov.au)



EnergyCo

## Regional Reference Group with Local Community Representatives?

**Standing M'Ship:**

- Councils
- Select Electricity Transmission Providers
- Dept of Reg NSW (the then)



Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure

[dphi.nsw.gov.au](http://dphi.nsw.gov.au)



# Spicers Creek Wind Farm

State Significant Development Assessment Report (SSD 41134610)

The project is classified as State significant development (SSD) under the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act). The Independent Planning Commission is the consent authority for the project as the project has received more than 50 unique public submissions by way of objection, Warrumbungle Shire Council objects to the project and Squadron has made a reportable political donations disclosure.

The Department publicly exhibited the Environmental Impact Statement for the project from 28 July until 24 August 2023 and received 67 unique public submissions (57 objections, seven in support and three comments on the project). Key reasons for objections from the community include impacts to amenity, biodiversity, transport and cumulative impacts.

The Department received advice from 15 government agencies and two host councils, Dubbo Regional Council and Warrumbungle Shire Council. Warrumbungle Shire Council objected to the project and comments were also received from Mid-Western Regional Council.

**SIXTY SEVEN (67)**  
submissions were  
received

**FIFTY SEVEN (57)**  
**objections (85%)**

**SEVEN (7)** support

**ZERO (0)** confidential

Warrumbungle Shire  
Council **objected**



# Cumulative Impact Assessment Guidelines for State Significant Projects



October 2022

dpie.nsw.gov.au

The Department's State Significant Development Guidelines and State Significant Infrastructure Guidelines provide advice on the categories of assessment matters that should be considered when assessing the impacts of a project (see Appendix B "Categories of assessment matters" in the State Significant Development Guidelines and State Significant Infrastructure Guidelines –Preparing a Scoping Report). The proponent should use these categories to scope the assessment of the impacts of the project.

Following the review, the proponent must identify the key matters requiring detailed cumulative impact assessment for the project and document the reasons for selecting these matters in the scoping document.

Note: A standard assessment will be undertaken on the identified assessment matters or issues. More detailed assessment of cumulative impacts (issue-specific CIA and combined CIA) will be required for matters identified as key matters during scoping (see section 4.1).

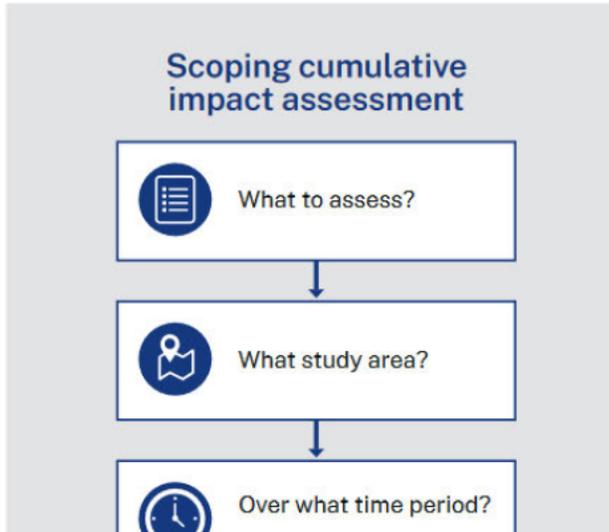
## 3.2 What study area?

The study area selected for the cumulative impact assessment of each matter will vary depending on the specific characteristics of the assessment matter and the scale and nature of the potential impacts on the matter resulting from the project with other relevant future projects.

For example, the study area selected for the cumulative

Once the proponent has selected the study area for each matter requiring cumulative assessment in the EIS, it must clearly define the study area in the scoping document for the project and explain why the boundaries were selected.

During the preparation of the EIS, the proponent may need to adjust the boundaries of the study area to accommodate the findings of any further investigations or assessment. If this occurs, the proponent must explain the reasons why the boundaries were adjusted in the EIS.



# Cumulative Impact Assessment Guidelines

## Section 3.2

*What study area?  
"Clearly define"  
"Explain why"*



**Table 6.7 Cumulative Impact Assessment Considerations**

Scoping Cumulative Impact Assessment	Detail
What to assess?	<p>As outlined in <b>Appendix 3</b>, the following key matters will require consideration of CIA:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• visual amenity</li> <li>• noise and vibration</li> <li>• biodiversity</li> <li>• traffic and transport</li> <li>• socio-economic.</li> </ul>
What <b>study area</b> ?	<p><b>The study area will vary</b> depending on the specific characteristics of the assessment matter and the scale and nature of the potential impacts on the matter resulting from the Project with other relevant future projects. Each CIA will be undertaken in accordance with the relevant guidelines, where applicable, and broad enough to capture all relevant cumulative impacts.</p>

# Study Area Definition and Explanation of Boundaries

Scoping Report

EIS Main Report

Appendix 23.0 – Cumulative Impact Scoping Summary

DPHI Assessment Report



## Appendix 23 – Cumulative Impact Scoping Summary

The following provides an analysis of the potential for the Project to result in cumulative impacts, considering all relevant existing and future projects with the REZ and surrounding region. Where the summary has identified specific Projects resulting in potential cumulative impacts, these have been addressed in the relevant specialist assessments and the EIS (refer to Section 6.0). For some technical matters, where the Project will only result in minor impacts that can be effectively managed using standard management techniques and design features (e.g. risk and water/soils) and the risk associated with the Project is low and impact envelopes (where relevant) are contained within the Project Site, the Project has not been considered to materially contribute to potential cumulative impacts and therefore these issues have not been highlighted as requiring further assessment in the table below. This is not to infer that other Projects with a higher risk of impact may not contribute to cumulative impact, including some of those listed below, simply that this Project will not materially contribute to any such cumulative impact and therefore does not require further assessment.

Table 1 Potential Cumulative Impacts

<b>Key</b>	N/A – No potential overlap in impacts between Project and existing/future project that would warrant any consideration in the cumulative impact assessment
	Standard Assessment – Project and existing/future project unlikely to result in significant cumulative impacts
	Detailed Assessment – Project and existing/future project may result in cumulative impacts

Project/Client	Distance to Project (approx.)	Construction Workforce	Construction Period	Detail	Potential Overlap Between Impact of Project on Assessment Matter and Impact of Other Projects on the Same Assessment Matter									
					Visual	Noise/Vibration	Biodiversity & Heritage	Traffic/Transport	Land	Risk	Water/Soils	Waste	Social/Economic	Air Quality
<b>Renewable Projects – Operational</b>														
Bodangora Wind Farm	14 km	-	-	Material cumulative impacts are highly unlikely for most issues as the wind farm is operational, however, consideration of visual impacts due to turbine visibility is required. A cumulative visual assessment with Bodangora Wind Farm has been completed.										
Beryl Solar Farm	19 km	-	-	Material cumulative impacts are highly unlikely as the solar farm is operational and considering the distance.										
Suntop Solar Farm	42 km	-	-	Material cumulative impacts are highly unlikely as the solar farm is operational and considering the distance.										
<b>Renewable Projects – Under Construction</b>														
Wellington Solar Farm	30 km	200 peak	12 months, commenced in 2019	Material cumulative impacts are highly unlikely as construction commenced in 2019. Assumed no overlap with construction phase.										
Wollar Solar Farm	66 km	400 peak	18 months, commenced in 2022	Material cumulative impacts are unlikely as construction commenced in mid-2022 therefore an overlap in construction periods is unlikely.										

**KEY: N/A – No potential overlap in impacts between Project and existing/future project that would warrant any consideration in the cumulative impact assessment**

# Cumulative Impact Study Areas?

Noise/Vibration  
 Biodiversity & Heritage  
 Traffic/Transport  
 Land  
 Risk  
 Water/Soils  
 Accommodation  
 Telecommunications  
 Social  
 Air Quality



12. There are 22 State significant renewable energy projects within 30 km of the site, including three proposed solar farms located adjacent to the site. These projects are listed in Table 2 and shown in Figure 1.

## **22 Projects considered within 30kms in the DPHI Assessment Report**

### **30km Radius LGA**





Filter by

Status

- Any -

Local Council Area

Dubbo Regional

Development Type

- Any -

Industry Type

Energy

Assessment Type

- Any -

Apply filters

Reset filters

# State Significant Applications

You can apply filters to show State significant projects in a particular development or industry type, local council area or at a particular stage in the assessment process. To find a project that is currently on public exhibition, choose 'Exhibition' in the 'Status' filter.

Submissions on State significant project applications must be made online through the NSW Planning Portal. For more information, visit the [Have your say](#) page.

Showing: 43 results

<p>SSD-45242780-Mod-1 <b>Assessment</b></p> <p>SSD Modifications</p> <p>Dubbo Regional</p> <p><b>Modification 1 Orana BESS Modification</b></p> <p>The Project Site Is Located At 6945 Goolma Road, Montefiores Nsw 2080, Approximately 2Km North-East Of Wellington And Is Located Within The Dubbo Local Government Area (Lga), Nsw.</p>	<p>SSD-62199230 <b>Prepare EIS</b></p> <p>State Significant Development</p> <p>Dubbo Regional</p> <p><b>Kerrs Creek Wind Farm</b></p> <p>Burrendong Way, Kerrs Creek, Nsw</p>	<p>SSD-8950984 <b>Response to Submis</b></p> <p>State Significant Development</p> <p>Dubbo Regional, Mid-Western Regional</p> <p><b>Burrendong Wind Farm</b></p> <p>Burrendong Dam Road, Yarrabin</p>
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# Dubbo LGA 43 Energy Projects (Inc Mods)



Filter by

Status

- Any -

Local Council Area

Warrumbungle Shire

Development Type

- Any -

Industry Type

Energy

Assessment Type

- Any -

Apply filters Reset filters

# State Significant Applications

You can apply filters to show State significant projects in a particular development or industry type, local council area or at a particular stage in the assessment process. To find a project that is currently on public exhibition, choose 'Exhibition' in the 'Status' filter.

Submissions on State significant project applications must be made online through the NSW Planning Portal. For more information, visit the [Have your say](#) page.

Showing: 13 results

<p>SSD-58260958 <a href="#">Prepare EIS</a></p> <p>State Significant Development</p> <p>Warrumbungle Shire, Mid-Western Regional</p> <p><b>Orana Wind Farm</b></p> <p> Approximately 3 Km South Of Dunedoo</p> <p><a href="#">→</a></p>	<p>SSD-29508870 <b>Recommendation</b></p> <p>State Significant Development</p> <p>Mid-Western Regional, Warrumbungle Shire</p> <p><b>Birriwa Solar Farm</b></p> <p> Barneys Reef Rd, Birriwa</p> <p><a href="#">→</a></p>	<p>SSD-29491142 <a href="#">Prepare EIS</a></p> <p>State Significant Development</p> <p>Dubbo Regional, Warrumbungle Shire</p> <p><b>Cobbora Solar farm</b></p> <p> 1050 Spring Ridge Road Cobbora Nsw</p> <p><a href="#">→</a></p>
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# Warrumbungle LGA

## 13 Energy Projects (Inc Mods)



Filter by

Status

- Any -

Local Council Area

Mid-Western Regional

Development Type

- Any -

Industry Type

Energy

Showing: 32 results

Assessment Type

- Any -

Apply filters

Reset filters

# State Significant Applications

You can apply filters to show State significant projects in a particular development or industry type, local council area or at a particular stage in the assessment process. To find a project that is currently on public exhibition, choose 'Exhibition' in the 'Status' filter.

Submissions on State significant project applications must be made online through the NSW Planning Portal. For more information, visit the [Have your say](#) page.

<b>SSD-58260958</b> <span>Prepare EIS</span>	<b>SSD-61460977</b> <span>Prepare EIS</span>	<b>SSD-8950984</b> <span>Response to Submis</span>
<span>State Significant Development</span>	<span>State Significant Development</span>	<span>State Significant Development</span>
Warrumbungle Shire, Mid-Western Regional	Mid-Western Regional	Dubbo Regional, Mid-Western Regional
<b>Orana Wind Farm</b>	<b>Beryl Battery Energy Storage System</b>	<b>Burrendong Wind Farm</b>
<span>Approximately 3 Km South Of Dunedoo</span>	<span>5 Holleys Lane, Gulgong, Nsw</span>	<span>Burrendong Dam Road, Yarrabin</span>
<a href="#">→</a>	<a href="#">→</a>	<a href="#">→</a>

# Mid-Western LGA 32 Energy Projects (Inc Mods)



## Box Gum Woodland

104. The Department notes that in 2006, the Threatened Species Scientific Committee estimated that the extent of Box Gum Woodland was 250,729 ha, and the Committee's more recent 2020 advice also refers to that figure. Based on that figure, recent assessments (including the BDAR for the Central West Orana REZ Transmission line) estimate that current extent would now be 234,694 ha when combined with estimated annual losses since then.
105. There is also a more recent Commonwealth Conservation Advice (AG DCCEEW, 2023), however it is not directly relevant and more conservative, as it is aimed at protecting higher condition remnants listed under the EPBC Act, and it excludes many areas that are included in the NSW listing under the BC Act.
106. The Department understands that many ecologists consider that the numbers derived from 2006 are out-of-date and likely to substantially underestimate the actual extent of Box Gum Woodland, as listed in NSW. Using the recent State-wide Vegetation Type Map (SVTM) released in 2022, there have been numerous efforts to provide a more up-to-date and accurate estimate of the extent of Box Gum Woodland under the NSW listing.
107. In particular, Dr Col Driscoll recently provided relevant information in relation to the Moolarben Coal Project, which is based on the recent NSW SVTM and estimates that the *"there is approximately 1,788,703 ha of extant Box-Gum Woodland CEEC within the SVTM in woodland form"*. Dr Driscoll also estimated that there is approximately 5,315,040 ha of DNG form, which results in a total of 7,103,743 ha of Box Gum Woodland in NSW.

# Box Gum Woodland Assessment methodology

# Cumulative Assessment





Topics > Animals and plants > Threatened species > NSW Threatened Species Scientific Committee  
> Determinations > Final determinations > 2020  
> White Box – Yellow Box – Blakely’s Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland in the NSW Nor



## **White Box – Yellow Box – Blakely’s Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland in the NSW North Coast, New England Tableland, Nandewar, Brigalow Belt South, Sydney Basin, South Eastern Highlands, NSW South Western Slopes, South East Corner and Riverina Bioregions – Critically Endangered Ecological Community listing**

**Concerning assessment methodology, cherry-picking of estimation figures of existing Box-Gum Woodland to lower the assessed risk of Serious and Irreversible Impacts**



# NSW Threatened Species Scientific Committee

## Conservation Assessment of White Box – Yellow Box – Blakely’s Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland

Mark Tozer and Christopher Simpson 22/06/2020  
NSW Threatened Species Scientific Committee

Name: White Box – Yellow Box – Blakely’s Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland

Short Name: Box – Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived Grassland

Distribution: Victoria, New South Wales, Queensland and Australian Capital Territory

Bioregions: NSW North Coast, New England Tableland, Nandewar, Brigalow Belt South, Sydney Basin, South Eastern Highlands, NSW South Western Slopes Bioregions, South East Queensland and Victorian Midlands Bioregions

Current EPBC Act Status: Critically Endangered

Current NSW BC Act Status: Endangered

Proposed listing on NSW BC Act and EPBC Act: Critically Endangered

### Summary of Conservation Assessment

White Box – Yellow Box – Blakely’s Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland was found to be eligible for listing as Critically Endangered under Criteria A3 and D3. The main reasons for this Ecological Community being eligible are that it has undergone a very large historical reduction in geographic distribution (since approximately 1750) and has experienced disruption of biotic processes of relative severity >90% over more than 90% of its distribution since 1750.

**Conservation assessment report using the Common assessment method** <https://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/topics/animals-and-plants/threatened-species/nsw-threatened-species-scientific-committee/determinations/final-determinations/2020/white-box-yellow-box-critically-endangered-ecological-community-listing>

## Box Gum Woodland Loss

*...has undergone a very large historical reduction in geographical distribution...over more than 90% since 1750.*

## Risk of SAI



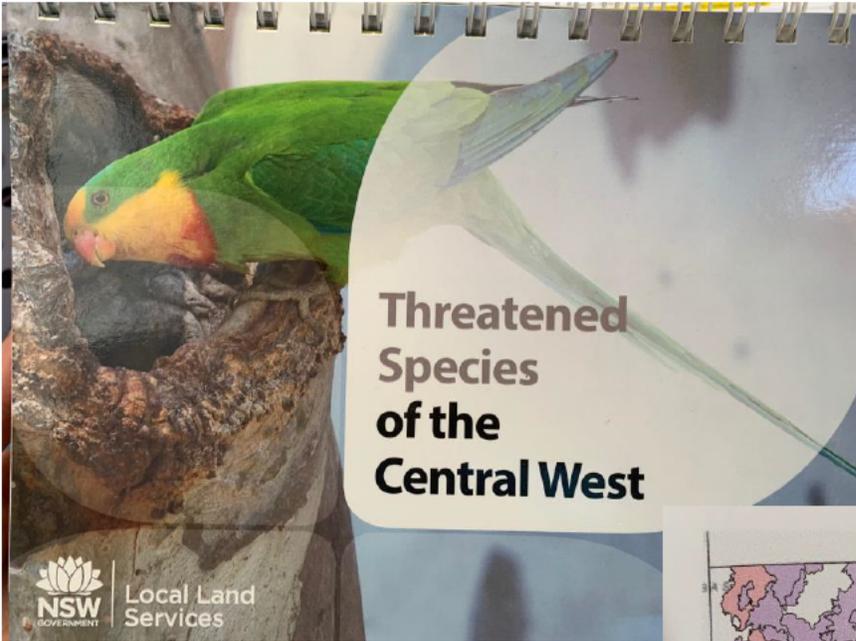
114. The Department considers that it would be reasonable to conclude that a cumulative impact of less than 1% using the most conservative assumptions is still unlikely to contribute significantly to extinction of Box Gum Woodland, and therefore unlikely to be SAI.
115. However, the Department acknowledges that a precautionary approach may be appropriate and has been advising proponents to seek 'nature positive' outcomes that may help to further protect the Box Gum Woodland community.
116. With this in mind, Squadron has offered additional measures to minimise the impacts on Box Gum Woodland, which involves securely conserving an area of approximately 53.8 ha of Box Gum Woodland comprising 31.3 ha of intact woodland, 9.9 ha of disturbed and modified woodland and 12.6 ha of DNG (i.e. equivalent to total clearing of this community required for the project) within a Biodiversity Stewardship Agreement (BSA) area for the purpose of rehabilitation, enhancement and protection, in perpetuity.
117. Importantly, the BSA area which has been identified for this purpose is located within the Inland Slopes Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation of Australia (IBRA) sub-region. Given the project also occurs within the Inland Slopes and Talbragar Valley IBRA sub-regions, use of the proposed BSA would be consistent with the like-for-like trading rules under section 6.3 (2)(a)(i) of the BC Regulation (i.e. it would occur within the same or an adjoining IBRA sub-region). This would further ensure there is a net benefit for the Box Gum Woodland community from this project within the same (or adjoining) IBRA subregion as the project.
118. Consequently, the Department is satisfied that the project's impacts would not contribute significantly to the risk of extinction, and would not constitute SAI.

## Cumulative Impact Scoping

## Quantity of remaining habitat

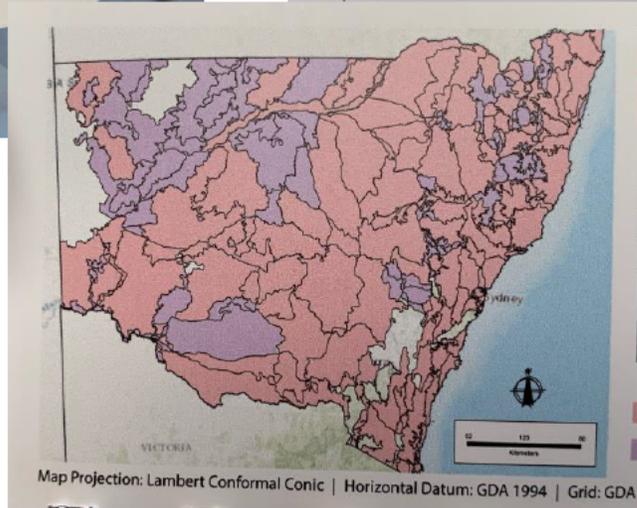
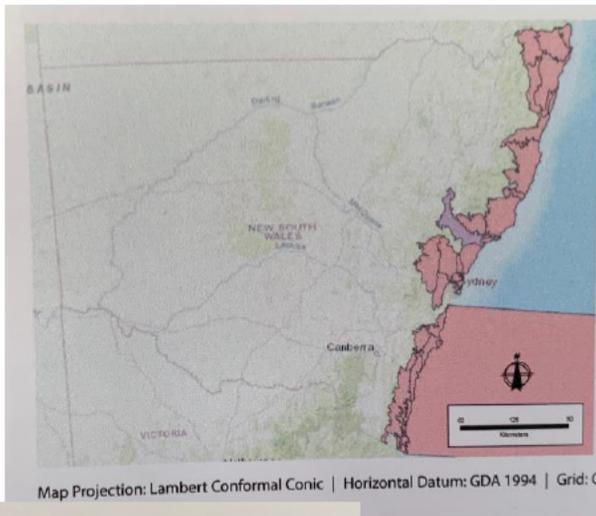
## Risk of SAI





## Threatened Species of the Central West

NSW GOVERNMENT  
Local Land Services



# Threatened Species habitat locations

# Cumulative assessment

## 6.3.4 Threatened fauna

### Ecosystem Credit Species

79. Vegetation clearing within the development footprint would result in the loss of habitat for 40 threatened species identified or predicted to occur as ecosystem credit species.
80. Potential impacts on these species would be offset via the ecosystem credit requirements detailed in Table 8.





Table G-1 | Consideration of community views

Issue	Consideration
<p>Socio-economic</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Community division</b></li> <li>• <b>Community health and wellbeing</b></li> <li>• Property devaluation</li> <li>• Reduced housing affordability</li> </ul>	<p>Impact assessment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Concerns about socio-economic impacts were raised in 23 public submissions, particularly regarding community division, health and property devaluation.</li> <li>• The project would generate up to 590 construction jobs of which approximately 10% will be sourced from the surrounding LGAs and 10 operational jobs.</li> <li>• The project's net economic stimulus is estimated at approximately \$410 million over 30 years of operation, relating to operational wages, host agreement and neighbourhood agreement payments, and community benefit sharing program payments and land tax revenue to Council;</li> <li>• The project's construction phase is likely to generate approximately \$310 million in wages, contracts and other service provision for the local area's economy over the 40-month construction period.</li> <li>• Squadron has committed to enter a Voluntary Planning Agreement (VPA) with Dubbo Regional Council and Warrumbungle Shire Council. The total contribution payable is 1.5% of the CIV of the final layout of the project based on the number of committed turbines within each Council's LGA;</li> <li>• The VPA will support the provision and maintenance of local infrastructure and community groups; and</li> <li>• The project will power approximately 370,000 homes per year, equivalent to approximately 12% of homes in NSW.</li> </ul>

# Departments Assessment of

## Community Division

## Community Health & Wellbeing





**“The greatest asset of any community is simply people who care”**

- Paul Born

*A large-scale community change facilitator. Author of four books including, Deepening Community and Community Conversations*

**Concerns about socio-economic impacts were raised in 23 public submissions, particularly regarding community division, health and property devaluation.**

1. Practices ongoing dialogue and broad-based community participation
2. Fosters commitment to place
3. Builds connections and collaboration
4. Knows itself and builds on existing assets
5. Shapes its future
6. Acts with idea and opportunity obsession
7. Embraces change and takes responsibility
8. Generates leadership

*“The best way to predict the future – is to create it” –*  
**Peter Kenyon, Bank of I.D.E.A.S.**

Since its creation in 1989, the Bank of I.D.E.A.S. has worked with over 2000 communities throughout Australia and overseas seeking to facilitate fresh and creative ways that stimulate community and local economic renewal. Bank of I.D.E.A.S. has undertaken assignments in 59 countries.

## **Eight Characteristics of a Healthy, Vibrant, Resilient & Enterprising Community**

### **CWO REZ & Spicers Creek Project**

### **Department Assessment**



## Appendix 23 – Cumulative Impact Scoping Summary

The following provides an analysis of the potential for the Project to result in cumulative impacts, considering all relevant existing and future projects with the REZ and surrounding region. Where the summary has identified specific Projects resulting in potential cumulative impacts, these have been addressed in the relevant specialist assessments and the EIS (refer to Section 6.0). For some technical matters, where the Project will only result in minor impacts that can be effectively managed using standard management techniques and design features (e.g. risk and water/soils) and the risk associated with the Project is low and impact envelopes (where relevant) are contained within the Project Site, the Project has not been considered to materially contribute to potential cumulative impacts and therefore these issues have not been highlighted as requiring further assessment in the table below. This is not to infer that other Projects with a higher risk of impact may not contribute to cumulative impact, including some of those listed below, simply that this Project will not materially contribute to any such cumulative impact and therefore does not require further assessment.

Table 1 Potential Cumulative Impacts

<b>Key</b>	N/A – No potential overlap in impacts between Project and existing/future project that would warrant any consideration in the cumulative impact assessment
	Standard Assessment – Project and existing/future project unlikely to result in significant cumulative impacts
	Detailed Assessment – Project and existing/future project may result in cumulative impacts

Project/Client	Distance to Project (approx.)	Construction Workforce	Construction Period	Detail	Potential Overlap Between Impact of Project on Assessment Matter and Impact of Other Projects on the Same Assessment Matter										
					Visual	Noise/Vibration	Biodiversity & Heritage	Traffic/Transport	Land	Risk	Water/Soils	Waste	Social/Economic	Air Quality	
<b>Renewable Projects – Operational</b>															
Bodangora Wind Farm	14 km	-	-	Material cumulative impacts are highly unlikely for most issues as the wind farm is operational, however, consideration of visual impacts due to turbine visibility is required. A cumulative visual assessment with Bodangora Wind Farm has been completed.											
Beryl Solar Farm	19 km	-	-	Material cumulative impacts are highly unlikely as the solar farm is operational and considering the distance.											
Suntop Solar Farm	42 km	-	-	Material cumulative impacts are highly unlikely as the solar farm is operational and considering the distance.											
<b>Renewable Projects – Under Construction</b>															
Wellington Solar Farm	30 km	200 peak	12 months, commenced in 2019	Material cumulative impacts are highly unlikely as construction commenced in 2019. Assumed no overlap with construction phase.											
Wollar Solar Farm	66 km	400 peak	18 months, commenced in 2022	Material cumulative impacts are unlikely as construction commenced in mid-2022 therefore an overlap in construction periods is unlikely.											

**KEY: N/A – No potential overlap in impacts between Project and existing/future project that would warrant any consideration in the cumulative impact assessment**

**Proponents Assessment & Department Assessment of Cumulative:**

**Land Risk**

**Water/Soils**

**Social Economic**

**Air Quality**



219. On balance, the Department considers that the project is **in the public interest** and is approvable, subject to the recommended conditions of consent (see **Appendix E**).
220. This assessment report is hereby presented to the Independent Planning Commission for determination.

State Significant Development Assessment Report (SSD 41134610)

# Public Interest Test & Assessment



[REDACTED]

**Complaint Reference** [REDACTED]

Thank you for getting in touch with us on 8 July 2024 about a complaint relating to your Telstra account

[REDACTED]

I'm sorry we haven't been able to reach an agreement by offering the following:

- Congestion is detected affecting one or more primary serving cells at the specified address. Performance impacts may be experienced. Some congestion is detected on one or more cells the specified mobile service frequently accesses. Performance impacts may be experienced
- No tower upgrades are planned or have been recently completed at this address
- Advised that cases like this concerning a network congestion, only a tower upgrade can help with the network performance, however unfortunately, we are unable to provide a timeframe as to when this will commence
- Advised of external options, but you mentioned that the area is serviceable only by Telstra
- Offered to have fixed service to keep up with their means of communication, but you declined
- Set expectations that since we are unable to provide a timeframe for a tower upgrade, you can decide whether or not you will keep her service with Telstra. In line with that, as once off adjustment we can offer a 6-month plan adjustment to her account amounting to \$432.00. This is the last adjustment that we can offer, moving forward, You will be held liable for your monthly costs

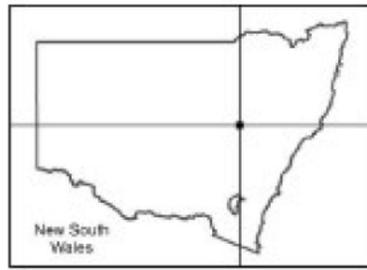
## Telecommunications impact assessment

### Feedback from Telstra concerning complaint, 8<sup>th</sup> July 2024 around service availability declining

### Assessment of Workforce population and associated impacts on service availability and congestion



# Statement of Management Intent



## Dapper Nature Reserve

### 1. Introduction

This statement outlines the main values, issues, management directions and priorities of the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) for managing Dapper Nature Reserve. This statement, together with relevant NPWS policies, will guide the management of the reserve until a plan of management has been prepared in accordance with the [National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 \(NPW Act\)](#). The NPWS [Managing Parks Prior to Plan of Management Policy](#) states that parks and reserves without a plan of management are to be managed in a manner consistent with the intent of the NPW Act and the 'precautionary principle' (see Principle 15).

### 2. Management principles

Nature reserves are reserved under the NPW Act to protect and conserve areas containing outstanding, unique or representative ecosystems, species, communities or natural phenomena. Under the NPW Act ([section 30J](#)), nature reserves are managed to:

- conserve biodiversity, maintain ecosystem functions, and protect geological and geomorphological features and natural phenomena
- conserve places, objects, features and landscapes of cultural value
- promote public appreciation, enjoyment and understanding of the reserve's natural and cultural values
- provide for appropriate research and monitoring.

The primary purpose of nature reserves is to conserve nature. Nature reserves differ from national parks in that they do not have the provision of visitor use as a management purpose or principle.

**Reservation details:** Dapper Nature Reserve was reserved on 18 September 1981.

**Size:** 998 hectares.

# Assessment of Impacts to Dapper Nature Reserve

## Setback distance

## Box Gum Woodland corridor

## Animal Displacement



Issue	Recommended conditions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The EPA did not raise any concerns with this approach, and the Department considers it to be consistent with the NPfl.</li> <li>The NIA predicts a combined total noise level at Dapper Nature Reserve, including the operation of wind turbines and ancillary infrastructure, of 48 dB(A). The NIA applies a correction factor for low frequency noise applicable to locations on the walking trail closest to the project, of 2 dB(A) and 5 dB(A) during the day period, and evening/night periods, respectively. Accordingly, the NIA concludes that the project would achieve the relevant criteria of 53 dB(A) during the day, evening and night periods.</li> <li>In consideration of the above, the Department considers the noise impacts associated with the project are acceptable.</li> </ul>	
<b>Heritage</b>	
<p><b>Aboriginal Heritage</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Squadron prepared an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHA) to assess the impacts of the project on Aboriginal heritage. The ACHA identified 64 Aboriginal heritage items (61 artefact scatters, two grinding groove sites and one potential stone procurement area) in addition to one previously recorded AHIMS site located within proximity of the project.</li> <li>All sites were determined to have low significance, with the exception of the following sites: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>three sites of high significance (one grinding groove and two artefact scatters);</li> <li>five sites of moderate significance (one grinding groove and four artefact scatters); and</li> <li>five sites of low/moderate significance (one potential stone procurement area and four artefact scatters).</li> </ul> </li> <li>Squadron has committed to avoiding impacts to two sites of high significance (SU20/L1 and SU33/L1), the grinding groove site of moderate significance (SU2/L1), and the potential stone procurement area (SU25/L1).</li> <li>Squadron would avoid impacts to the third site of high significance (SU12/L5 – stone artefact) if possible. If impacts are unavoidable, Squadron would salvage the artefact as recommended in the ACHA.</li> <li>Squadron has committed to undertaking management and impact mitigation measures (e.g. avoidance, collection and salvage, etc) for all 13 Aboriginal sites within the development corridor identified as having high, moderate or low/moderate significance as recommended in the ACHA.</li> <li>Accordingly, the Department has recommended Squadron prepare a Heritage Management Plan in consultation with Aboriginal stakeholders and Heritage NSW, which outlines measures proposed to be undertaken at each site.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure the development does not cause any direct or indirect impacts on any items located outside the development footprint.</li> <li>Salvage and relocate Aboriginal items to suitable alternative locations.</li> <li>Implement all reasonable and feasible measures to avoid and minimise harm to Aboriginal heritage items located within the development corridor.</li> <li>Undertake consultation with Aboriginal stakeholders prior to construction.</li> <li>Prepare and implement a Heritage Management Plan, in consultation with Aboriginal stakeholders and Heritage NSW including procedures for unexpected finds.</li> </ul>

# Assessment of Impacts to Aboriginal Heritage, AHIMS Sites and Items







## **CWO REZ Community**

### **Primary Concerns:**

- 1. Consultation**
- 2. Cumulative Impacts**
- 3. Impacts to Agriculture**
- 4. Community Divide - functionality**
- 5. Loss of capacity of rural people**

**Dapper Road**





The major problems in the world are the result of the difference between **how nature works** and the way people think.

**Sally Edwards**

P. [REDACTED]

E. [REDACTED]

*Thank you.*

