

# Environmental Impact Statement Guidelines

*Woolnorth Renewables*

*Woolnorth Wind Farm Repowering,  
Studland Bay and Bluff Point*

*May 2025*



ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION AUTHORITY

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## Glossary and abbreviations

Term	Definition
Board	Board of the Environment Protection Authority
BUS	Bird utilisation surveys
Case for assessment	Information required for environmental impact assessment, prepared according to the Board's requirements.
Development footprint	Means all areas of land physically impacted (whether significant or not) within the Project site boundary, including any areas containing associated infrastructure, quarries, batching plants, and any other ancillary extractive activities such as access roads and tracks, parking, staff accommodation, material storage areas and areas to be impacted during construction.
Director	Means the Director, Environment Protection Authority holding office under Section 18 of <i>Environmental Management and Pollution Control Act 1994</i> and includes a delegate or person authorised in writing by the Director to exercise a power or function on the Director's behalf.
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
EMPCA	<i>Environmental Management and Pollution Control Act 1994</i>
EMPCS	Environmental Management and Pollution Control System. Objectives found in Schedule 1 of EMPCA.
Environmentally hazardous material	Any substance or mixture of substances of a nature or held in quantities which present a reasonably foreseeable risk of causing serious or material environmental harm if released to the environment and includes fuels, oils, waste and chemicals but excludes sewage.
EPA	Environment Protection Authority. Tasmania's independent principal environmental regulator which administers EMPCA and consists of a Board and a Director.
EPN	Environment Protection Notice
EPBC Act	<i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i> (Commonwealth)
Existing windfarm	The existing windfarms at Studland Bay and Bluff Point and associated transmission lines that are regulated under Permit PA10/00 as varied by Environment Protection Notice No. 7421/2, Permit PA10/00 as varied by Environment Protection Notice No. 7423/3 and EPBC 2000/12.
JAMBA/CAMBA	Japan-Australia and China-Australia Migratory Bird Agreements
LUPAA	<i>Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993</i>
MNES	Matters of National Environmental Significance
NCA	<i>Nature Conservation Act 2002</i>

Term	Definition
Noise sensitive premises	Residences and residential zones (whether occupied or not), schools, hospitals, caravan parks and similar land uses involving the presence of individual people for extended periods, except in the course of their employment or for recreation.
Planning Authority	Council for relevant local government area
Project Site	Means the project site as defined in the Woolnorth Wind Farm Repowering Notice of Intent prepared by Woolnorth Renewables 16 July 2024
RMPS	Resource Management and Planning System, Tasmania. Objectives found in Schedule 1 of EMPCA.
Suitably qualified person	Means suitably qualified person in the opinion of the Director
RFA	Tasmanian Regional Forest Agreement
TSPA	<i>Threatened Species Protection Act 1995</i>
TNVC	Threatened native vegetation communities
TEC	Threatened ecological communities
WTG	Wind turbine generator

## Part A. Introduction

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These Guidelines provide instructions for proponents on how to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for an activity being assessed in Tasmania by the Board of the Environment Protection Authority (the Board). The Board uses an EIS as a ‘case for assessment’, to assess the environmental impact of an activity, as required under the *Environmental Management and Pollution Control Act 1994* (EMPCA).

### The role of the EIS

An EIS is generally required for larger scale developments, classed as requiring 2B or 2C assessments under EMPCA. It is a document that provides information about a proposal, its potential impacts and proposed mitigation measures. As a publicly available document, an EIS should facilitate public consultation and informed comment and should contain sufficient information to establish the conditions of approval by authorities, if approved.

The EIS should demonstrate that the proposal is consistent with the objectives of relevant laws and policies, including the Tasmanian Resource Management and Planning System (RMPS) and the Environmental Management and Pollution Control System (EMPCS). These systems are designed to facilitate sustainable development.

Further information on the EPA Assessment Process is available on the [EPA website](#).<sup>1</sup>

Refer also to Appendix A General principles for assessing environmental impacts, for further information on EIS principles.

### How the Board uses the EIS

The Board uses the EIS to inform decision making as part of the environmental impact assessment process. The EIS must be prepared in accordance with guidance provided by the Board under section 74(4) of EMPCA. The staff of the EPA support the Board during the assessment process.

The EIS will be advertised publicly to allow for public consultation. The proponent may then be required to supply additional information in response to public and government agency submissions. This information is generally supplied in the form of a supplement to the EIS.

The Board considers the EIS as well as other relevant information in the context of the objectives of the RMPS and EMPCS. These objectives aim to sustain the environment and avoid or mitigate adverse effects, while considering the economic and social needs of people now and in the future. The Board will endeavour to make the decision which best furthers the objectives of the RMPS and EMPCS. It may approve the proposal with conditions, or in some cases may decide to reject the proposal if the objectives cannot be upheld.

The Environmental Impact Statement Guidelines are adapted for each specific proposal. In general, more detailed studies and information will be required where issues are considered by the Board to involve a higher level of environmental risk.

Other significant matters may emerge while preparing the EIS, from environmental studies, public comments, or other sources. These must also be considered in the EIS. Information collected or generated during the assessment process may also change the understanding of the level of risk associated with some issues. This must also be reflected in the EIS.

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<sup>1</sup> See <https://epa.tas.gov.au/Pages/Assessment-Process.aspx>

## Planning information

The relevant Planning Authority (local Council) will assess planning information if the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993* (LUPAA) applies. Information solely for the purpose of assessment under the relevant Planning Scheme should be supplied to the Planning Authority either:

- as required under section 54 of LUPAA where the planning application has started the environmental assessment process; or
- as a combined planning and environmental report where it is intended to submit an EIS (draft or final) with the planning application. Where this option is selected, the information required for the Board's assessment must be clearly distinguished from that supplied for the purposes of LUPAA.

## Australian Government environmental assessment

The proposal was determined to be a controlled action on 9 September 2024 under the Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (**EPBC Act**) (EPBC Reference 2024/09880) and will require assessment and approval under the EPBC Act, in addition to Tasmanian State and Local government requirements. It was determined that the proposed action will have, or is likely to have, a significant impact on matters of national environmental significance (**MNES**), protected under Part 3 of the EPBC Act including:

- Listed threatened species and communities (sections 18 & 18A of the EPBC Act); and
- Listed migratory species (sections 20 & 20A of the EPBC Act).

The Australian and Tasmanian Governments have signed a bilateral agreement for environmental impact assessment under section 45 of the EPBC Act, which accredits the Tasmanian assessment process. This allows a proposal that has been determined to be a controlled action under the EPBC Act to be assessed by the Board on behalf of the Australian Government.

As the proposal is being assessed under the bilateral agreement, the EIS should specifically describe the implications of the proposal for the relevant EPBC Act controlling provisions. It must also contain a summary table showing that it addresses the matters specified in Schedule 4 of the [Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Regulations 2000](#).<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> See [http://www8.austlii.edu.au/cgi-bin/viewdoc/au/legis/cth/consol\\_reg/epabcr2000697/sch4.html](http://www8.austlii.edu.au/cgi-bin/viewdoc/au/legis/cth/consol_reg/epabcr2000697/sch4.html)

## Part B. Instructions

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The EIS must present information in a way that can be easily understood. It should provide summaries in non-technical language to give readers a general understanding of the proposal. It must also provide technical detail to allow analysis and understanding of impacts and mitigation measures by technical specialists, regulatory bodies, and people with an interest in specific matters arising from the proposal.

Section C of these Guidelines sets out the structure and **minimum** content requirements of the EIS.

Proponents are advised to consult the EPA during preparation of the EIS, including in the case of any uncertainty in relation to the requirements set out in these Guidelines.

### General requirements

- Avoid technical terminology where possible in the main body of the EIS. It should be able to be read as an independent document which provides a general understanding of the proposal.
- Include any detailed technical data or supplementary reports as appendices.
- Consider document accessibility. The Australian Government Style Manual provides information about inclusion and accessibility.
- Use cross-referencing to prevent unnecessary duplication between sections.
- Reference all sources of information using a consistent style.
- Define all key terms and words used.
- Information in the EIS must be relevant.
  - Show reasoning for arguments. Support conclusions with referenced evidence.
  - Indicate how current information is, how reliability has been tested, and the degree of confidence attached to any predictions.
  - Sufficient technical detail must be provided to allow for environmental impact assessment, even when details are not final at the time of preparation.
  - If information is currently unavailable, estimates and alternative options should be provided, however the limitations of available information must be evaluated.
- Provide any sensitive commercial or corporate information in a confidential appendix. Provide a comment in the EIS if this has been done.

**The EIS must not include information that is known to be false or misleading, and nothing should be omitted if it is known that without it the EIS would be false or misleading (section 43A of EMPCA).**

### Spatial and visual information requirements

- Present information in maps, plans, diagrams, and photographs where necessary, to enhance understanding.
- Images must be high quality and reproducible in monochrome, with all text and relevant features clearly visible.
- Maps and plans should include a north arrow, legend and scale.

- Use a consistent base plan throughout the EIS where appropriate, to allow elements to be overlaid and compared. Ensure that detailed information is clear and visible, particularly when using satellite images as background layers. This is best achieved using a geographical information system (GIS).
- Specify the coordinate reference system when providing or referring to spatial information, including maps, plans, grid coordinates and heights. Further information on coordinate reference systems used in Tasmania can be found on the [Land Tasmania website](#)<sup>3</sup>.

Recommended systems are:

- Horizontal – Geocentric Datum of Australia 1994<sup>4</sup> Map Grid of Australia Zone 55 (GDA94 MGA55)
- Vertical – Australian Height Datum (Tasmania) (AHD83).

## Independent review

For large proposals, such as Class 2C activities, prior to submission to the EPA, the draft EIS should be independently reviewed by a suitably qualified person to confirm that it meets the requirements detailed in Guidelines issued for the proposal.

## Submission

It is strongly recommended that proponents submit a draft EIS to the EPA for review before formally lodging the EIS with the Board. The draft EIS submitted for review must meet the requirements of these Guidelines and be in accordance with Appendix A; incomplete documents will not be accepted for review.

The EIS (and any drafts submitted for review) may be submitted via email to [assessments@epa.tas.gov.au](mailto:assessments@epa.tas.gov.au) and your nominated contact officer. Proponents should contact the EPA if alternative submission methods are deemed necessary.

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<sup>3</sup> See <https://nre.tas.gov.au/land-tasmania/geospatial-infrastructure-surveying/geodetic-survey/coordinate-height-and-tide-datums-tasmania>

<sup>4</sup> Geocentric Datum of Australia 2020 (GDA2020) is the new official datum for recording the horizontal location of spatial information in Australia, but is not yet fully implemented in Tasmania.

## Part C. EIS structure and content

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The EIS must follow the structure set out below and must address all requirements unless otherwise agreed following consultation with the EPA. For clarity, organise content with further headings and subheadings as appropriate.

### Title page

The title page must include:

- Name of proponent (legal entity)
- Name of proposal (include “expansion” or “upgrade” where appropriate)
- Proposal address or location
- EIS version number
- Month and year of submission

### Executive summary

The executive summary must provide a clear and concise overview of the proposal, its environmental implications, and the function of the EIS in the context of the assessment process. For a larger EIS, the executive summary must be written as a stand-alone document for people who may not wish to read or acquire the full EIS.

### Table of contents

The EIS must include a table of contents and a list of figures and tables to allow the reader to easily locate information. The table of contents should include hyperlinks to allow documents to be navigated easily.

### Glossary and abbreviations

Provide a list of abbreviations and acronyms and a glossary which clearly defines any technical terms used in the EIS.

### Proponent information

#### Proponent details:

Name of proponent (legal entity)  
Name of proponent (trading name)  
Registered address of proponent  
Postal address of proponent  
ABN  
ACN (where relevant)

#### Contact person’s details:

Name  
Telephone  
Email address

Activity Operator details must be provided if the operator will be a different entity to the proponent.

## 1. Introduction

The introduction should provide:

- General background information on the proponent, including relevant development and operational experience.
- General background information on the proposal, including:
  - current status of the proposal;
  - an overview of the principal components of the proposal;
  - the proposal location;
  - likely markets for the product; and
  - possibilities for future expansion.
- If the proposal is associated with an existing activity, information on current permits, regulatory approvals and/or licences.
- A discussion about how the proposal relates to any other proposals that have been or are being developed in the same region as the proposal.
- Environmental legislation, standards and guidelines that will be applicable, such as policies, regulations, and industry codes of practice.
- Other relevant Commonwealth, State and Local Government policies, strategies, and management plans with which the proposal would be expected to comply.

## 2. Proposal description

The scope of the proposal must be clearly described, and must include:

- A summary table,
- A detailed description of proposal,
- Definition of the Land,
- Maps, plans and visual information,
- A summary of planning aspects,
- Socio-economic context, and
- Off-site infrastructure.

Where a proposal will require a permit application under LUPAA, the proposal description and specification of the site must be consistent with the intended or current permit application.

### 2.1 Summary table

The summary table provides an overview of the proposal and identifies the key characteristics, including:

- Location and planning context;
- Existing site information, including topography, local climate, geology, geomorphology, soils (e.g. erodibility and acid sulphate soils), vegetation, fauna, groundwater, and surface drainage (e.g. waterways, lakes, wetlands, coastal areas);
- Proposed infrastructure;
- Proposed timeline; and
- Inputs (e.g. water, materials, energy) and outputs (e.g. products, wastes and emissions).

Refer to Appendix B for an example of a project description summary table.

## 2.2 Detailed description of proposal

This section should include information that has not been included in the summary table, or that requires further explanation and should detail the construction, commissioning and operation of the new wind farm and transmission line infrastructure, including any ancillary works that are for the purpose of the proposal (e.g. access works).

### 2.2.1 Project Components

- Describe the physical components required for the proposal to function up to closure.
- Describe the major items of equipment (including pollution control equipment) and onsite facilities. Include detailed technical information on major items of equipment as appendices.
- Detail the total footprint of the proposal.

### 2.2.2 Repowering transition process

- Provide an indicative plan outlining the transition process for the proposed repowering period, demonstrating how decommissioning of existing wind farm and transmission line infrastructure (required under existing environmental approvals) will interact with construction of the new wind farm. This should describe:
  - the process of decommissioning the existing wind farm and transmission line regulated under Permit PA10/00 as varied by Environment Protection Notice (EPN) No. 7421/2, Permit PA10/00 as varied by EPN No. 7423/3 and EPBC 2000/12;
  - any proposed staged areas/sectors for the decommissioning of the existing windfarm and construction of the proposed windfarm;
  - a timetable outlining the proposed timeframe(s) for construction, commissioning and commencement of operations;
  - significant milestones during the repowering period; and
  - reference to any Decommissioning and Rehabilitation Plans required under approvals for the existing wind farm and transmission line for context (as detailed above).

### 2.2.3 Construction of new infrastructure

- Provide a step-by-step description of significant activities that will occur during the construction phase of the proposal.
- Provide an indicative timetable for completing major stages of construction.
- Provide a figure, including calculated area of total construction footprint.
- Define the proposed hours within which construction activities will take place (hours per day and specific days per week).
- Describe the volume, composition, origin, destination, and route for vehicle movements (road, rail, shipping, and air) during construction. Specify what proportion of road usage and vehicle movements will involve over-dimension and heavy road vehicles. Compare the proposed vehicle movements with existing usage of relevant routes.

### 2.2.4 Commissioning of new infrastructure

- Provide a step-by-step description of significant commissioning activities that will occur following installation of equipment.
- Provide an indicative timetable for completing major stages of commissioning. Describe the point at which commissioning will be considered complete.

### 2.2.5 Operation of new infrastructure

- Describe the process(es) of operation in a step-by-step manner, using explanatory diagrams and flow charts where appropriate.

- Outline all raw materials (including water) required for operation. Detail sources, quantities, and characteristics.
- Identify and quantify all products, emissions and/or wastes produced.
- Outline all energy requirements for operation. Describe how energy demands will be met.
- Define the production capacity and rate for relevant processes. Include peak rates, daily average rates and annual production rates where applicable.
- Define the proposed hours of operation (hours per day and specific days per week). Specify any seasonal variations.
- Describe the volume, composition, origin, destination, and route for vehicle movements (road, rail, shipping, and air) likely to occur during operation, including timing of traffic flows. Specify what proportion of road usage and vehicle movements will involve over-dimension and heavy road vehicles. Compare the proposed vehicle movements with existing usage of relevant routes.
- If the proposal is associated with an existing activity, provide the following information:
  - a summary of environmental monitoring results;
  - a summary of public complaints regarding the activity (received by the activity operator and by regulatory authorities);
  - details of breaches of conditions of current regulatory approvals (if any); and
  - details of contraventions of environmental law (if any).

## 2.3 Maps, plans and figures

Spatial information should be presented in maps, plans, diagrams and imagery. These must be of high quality and reproducible in monochrome with all text and relevant features clearly visible. Maps and plans should include a north arrow, scale and legend. When spatial data (including maps, plans, coordinates and heights) are provided or referred to, the horizontal and vertical datum must be specified. At a minimum, provide the following:

### 2.3.1 General location maps

Provide general location maps of the existing environment and surrounding area (of a suitable scale), showing:

- The location of the proposal site;
- Boundaries of the property on which the proposal is located;
- Road access to and from the site;
- The distance(s) to any nearby sensitive uses and residences<sup>5</sup>;
- The applicable attenuation distance;<sup>6</sup>
- Topographical features, aspect, and direction of drainage;
- Location of waterways and drains (including ephemeral waterbodies and water courses);
- Electricity transmission lines;
- Surrounding land tenure;
- Surrounding land use (including areas of conservation or recreational significance); and
- Surrounding land zoning in the local government planning scheme.

### 2.3.2 Map of the Land

Provide a map of the Land as defined in the Development Application showing relevant Cadastral boundaries with title details, e.g. Volume/Folio 136529/1.

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<sup>5</sup> Defined in the State Planning Provisions as ‘a residential use or a use involving the presence of people for extended periods except in the course of their employment such as a caravan park, childcare centre, dwelling, hospital or school.’

<sup>6</sup> Refer to relevant planning scheme or the State Planning Provisions.

### 2.3.3 Map of the proposed activity area

Provide a map of the proposed activity area clearly showing the physical extent of the proposal. The activity area should encompass all works for construction and areas used for operation, including earthworks, land clearing, existing or proposed structures, stockpiles, laydown areas, parking, amenities and sediment management and other infrastructure.

The map should include a sufficient number of coordinates at corner points for the activity area boundary; and the activity area boundary should also be provided in a geospatial vector format (shapefile or DXF).

Where works are proposed in key stages over time, include descriptions or definitions and show the boundaries of each stage on a site plan/s.

### 2.3.4 Site plan

Provide site plan(s) showing the detail of the proposed works and operation, including: cadastral boundaries and mining lease boundaries (if relevant);

- The boundary of the activity area;
- The location of existing and proposed buildings/structures and plant and machinery;
- Relevant topographic features, including contours and waterways;
- Proposed buildings, structures, major earthworks, major items of equipment, storage areas, loading/unloading areas;
- The locations and extent of areas for that may used for any extraction or materials handling that are included as part of the proposal (e.g. crushing of concrete or rock to reuse material from the existing wind farm sites or on-site quarries to extract material for construction of roads and hardstands);
- Site water management (drains, settling ponds, bunding and monitoring points, as relevant); and
- Vegetation types, clearly marking areas to be cleared, and records of any threatened species/vegetation communities.

### 2.3.5 Figures and flowcharts

Present figures such as process flowcharts and images where they are likely to improve readers' understanding of the site and proposal. Any images and photos used must be high-quality, with an accurate description and date.

## 2.4 Offsite infrastructure

Describe any new offsite infrastructure and ancillary facilities required to enable the proposal to proceed, such as water supply, electricity supply, roads or other infrastructure.

## 3. Planning and socio-economic context

The planning aspects description should include any additional planning information and data not included in the summary table.

- If a permit is required under LUPAA provide Use Class and Permissibility of the proposed activity under the applicable Planning Scheme.
- Detail land tenure and property boundaries of the proposed site, with certificate of title details (i.e. provide a table stating the CT and PID numbers).
- Detail land zonings for the proposed site and surrounding areas.
- Describe any rights of way, easements and covenants affecting the site.

- Discuss land use and planning history of the site, including the potential for site contamination<sup>7</sup>, present use and any existing buildings and significant structures.
- Describe land use and ownership in the vicinity of the site and those areas which may be affected by the proposal.
- Provide the location and nature of any industrial facilities.
- Detail sensitive uses<sup>8</sup> and residential zones within applicable attenuation distances including the location of individual residences, schools, hospitals, caravan parks and similar sensitive uses, and the location of any tourist or recreation facilities or routes (such as camping areas, picnic areas, walking tracks, historic routes).

Briefly describe the existing social and economic environment that may be affected by the proposal. This may include:

- A summary of the social or demographic characteristics of the population living in the vicinity of the proposal site, identifying any special characteristics which may make people more sensitive to impacts from the proposal than might otherwise be expected.
- A summary of the characteristics of the local and regional economy.

#### 4. Project alternatives

Proponents should provide the rationale for the proposal. Alternatives should consider best practice environmental management, including measures listed under section 4(2) of [EMPCA](#).<sup>9</sup> The rationale should:

- Describe the site selection process and criteria.
- Evaluate the alternative of taking no action to repower the existing windfarm.
- Evaluate any alternative sites considered. Justify the choice of the proposed site in terms of clearly defined environmental, social, economic, and technical considerations, including avoidance of environmental impacts.
- Describe the effect of any community consultation on the selection process.
- Identify and provide an assessment of other available technologies, materials, design options or management practices, where relevant, including how environmental impacts will be avoided. Evaluate the environmental performance of identified alternatives and provide justification for the preferred option.

#### 5. Public consultation

Describe any public consultation that has taken place during project planning and preparation of the EIS and summarise the results of this consultation. Describe any proposed future public consultation that will take place during project implementation and operation. The Board encourages early community engagement, as it often leads to better outcomes for all parties. Guidance on effective community engagement is available on the [EPA website](#).<sup>10</sup>

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<sup>7</sup> Information on potentially contaminating activities and contaminated site assessment can be found online at <https://epa.tas.gov.au/Pages/Land.aspx>

<sup>8</sup> Defined in the State Planning Provisions as 'a residential use or a use involving the presence of people for extended periods except in the course of their employment such as a caravan park, childcare centre, dwelling, hospital or school.'

<sup>9</sup> See: <https://www.legislation.tas.gov.au/view/html/inforce/current/act-1994-044#GS4@EN>

<sup>10</sup> See [https://epa.tas.gov.au/Documents/Guidance\\_on\\_Community\\_Engagement.pdf](https://epa.tas.gov.au/Documents/Guidance_on_Community_Engagement.pdf)

Consider available guidance on culturally appropriate consultation approaches under the EPBC Act <sup>11</sup>

## 6. Potential impacts and management

Identify all potential environmental impacts and describe the proposed measures to avoid, mitigate or offset adverse consequences. The detail provided on each issue should reflect its significance. While key issues are identified for the proposal, other issues that emerge as significant while preparing the EIS, through environmental studies, public comments or otherwise, must be considered and addressed.

Address each discrete issue separately, using headings and subheadings where necessary to organise and separate discussions.

Use scientific data to support predictions and evaluate impacts and provide references to the data used. Where specialist reports have been required for key issues, summarise them within the body of the EIS where relevant, and attach the reports as appendices. Detail the qualifications of the authors of any specialist reports. Make sure that the information in the body of the EIS is consistent with the information in the appendices.

General information requirements for each potential impact are described below and are in addition to any specific information requirements detailed later in this section.

### Existing environment

- Describe the existing environment in relation to the impact, including the vulnerability of the potentially affected environment.
- Analyse the issue in relation to the existing environment.

### Methodology

- Describe how the assessment of the impact has been undertaken, such as by survey or desktop study.
- Identify any relevant guidelines and standards used.
- Discuss any choice of methodology over alternatives where relevant.

### Assessment

- Clearly articulate potential impacts, using tables and figures to aid communication where possible.
- Support assertions and assumptions with adequate argument and/or evidence.
- Identify plausible worst-case scenarios and the reversibility of the impact.
- Summarise the proposal's contribution to any cumulative impacts, where appropriate.

### Avoidance and mitigation measures

- Describe the measures proposed to avoid, mitigate or offset potential adverse impacts.
- Detail any specialist recommendations which have been/will be implemented. Where specialist recommendations are not to be implemented, justify why. All recommendations made in specialist reports should be addressed.
- Analyse the effectiveness of the mitigation measures. Describe how and to what degree the impacts will have been avoided, minimised or offset.
- Discuss any residual impacts, referring to relevant guidelines or standards.

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<sup>11</sup> See <https://www.dcceew.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/interim-engaging-with-first-nations-people-and-communities-assessments-and-approvals-under-epbc-act.pdf>

- Discuss any contingency measures related to pollution control equipment.

Refer to Appendix A: General principles for assessing environmental impacts.

### **Key issues**

The key issues identified for this proposal, which should be the focus of the EIS, are:

1. Potential impacts on avian fauna and bats associated with the construction and/or operation of the proposal.
2. Potential impacts on non-avian fauna associated with the construction and/or operation of the proposal.
3. Potential impacts on vegetation communities and flora associated with the construction and/or operational of the proposal.

## 6.1 Key issue 1: Avian fauna and bats

Discuss the potential impacts of construction and operation of the proposal and any associated infrastructure on avian fauna and bats, with particular reference to Matters of National Environmental Significance (MNES), and species that have statutory protection under the Tasmanian *Nature Conservation Act 2002* (NCA)<sup>12</sup>, or are listed as threatened and/or, migratory under the Tasmanian *Threatened Species Protection Act 1995* (TSPA), and/or the EPBC Act.

- Tasmanian wedge-tailed eagles (*Aquila audax fleay*) (WTE);
- white-bellied sea eagle (*Haliaeetus leucogaster*) (WBSE);
- swift parrot (*Lathamus discolor*);
- blue-winged parrot (*Neophema chrysostoma*);
- Tasmanian masked owl (*Tyto novaehollandiae castanops*) (TMO);
- grey goshawk (*Accipiter novaehollandiae*);
- white-throated needletail (*Hirundapus caudacutus*); and
- orange-bellied parrot (*Neophema chryogaster*) (OBP).

When discussing impacts on species, note whether the assessment has been made against Tasmanian or Commonwealth legislation.

With respect to MNES, the EIS should reference the [Significant Impact Guidelines 1.1 – Matters of National Environmental Significance](#). Specifically, the EIS should discuss the significant impact criteria for each species noting the significant impact criteria is different for each MNES, and each species' listing status (critically endangered, endangered, vulnerable and migratory). Reference should also be made to the [Commonwealth's Onshore Wind Farm Guidance - best practice approaches when seeking approval under Australia's national environment law](#).

### 6.1.1 Required technical studies

The technical studies required to inform and support the assessment of avian fauna include:

- Bird utilisation surveys (BUS)
- Targeted surveys – nocturnally active fauna
- Targeted utilisation surveys – Orange Bellied Parrots
- Pre-construction OBP mortality monitoring
- Targeted utilisation surveys – TWE and WBSE
- Nest searches and condition assessments – TWTE and WBSE
- Targeted surveys for other avian species
- Bat surveys
- Bird and bat mortality monitoring
- Collision risk modelling

Requirements of these studies and plans are detailed in the below sections.

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<sup>12</sup> The Guidelines for Natural Values Surveys related to Development Proposals states that surveying for species of fauna that have statutory protection under the NCA (i.e. non-threatened fauna) is required where it has been identified that a proposal is likely to have a significant impact on those species.

### 6.1.2 Existing environment

- Describe and map known records within the proposal site and surrounding areas of avian fauna with reference to species that have statutory protection under the NCA<sup>13</sup> or are listed as threatened under the TSPA and EPBC Act overlain with the development footprint.
  - Provide information detailing known/recorded populations and known or potential habitat, including habitat in the area surrounding the proposed action.
  - Provide relevant results of natural values surveys undertaken by a suitably qualified person(s), in accordance with [Guidelines for Natural Values Surveys related to Development Proposals](#) and other relevant guidelines (detailed below).
  - Include details of surveys undertaken survey effort, timing and an assessment of the adequacy of surveys.
- Provide a description of MNES within the proposal site and surrounding areas.
- Describe the light environment at the existing windfarm, including sources and levels of light pollution caused by artificial light at night, using the results of a benchmark survey, as relevant.

#### Bird utilisation surveys (BUS)

- BUS should be carried out to determine utilisation of the area by avian fauna species and inform risk of collision.
- Surveys should be undertaken by suitably qualified persons, be statistically robust and representative of habitat types where infrastructure is likely to be located, species (including migratory), seasons and conditions across the site, for a minimum period of one year.
- Recommended minimum requirements for BUS have been included in Appendix C.
- The proposed BUS methodology must be developed by a suitably qualified person and submitted to the EPA for feedback before commencing surveys.

#### Targeted surveys – nocturnally active avian fauna

- Targeted surveys should be considered to understand the movement of nocturnally active avian fauna.
- Evaluate the feasibility and limitations of night-time surveys using evidence and supporting information, presenting any statistically robust methods.

#### Targeted surveys – OBP

- Contemporary targeted surveys are required to be designed and carried out to determine current utilisation of the site by OBP and to assess the level of risk presented by the proposal to OBPs in the current environment.<sup>14</sup> The survey design must take into account and/or address the following:
  - Consideration of appropriate alternatives to visual BUS and daytime surveys<sup>15</sup> such as VHF tracking and acoustic monitoring;
  - Demonstrate how the survey has been designed to maximise detectability, particularly during migratory movements that occur at night;
  - Where relevant, describe how observers will confidently distinguish OBPs from blue-winged parrots based on physical appearance and vocalisations;

<sup>13</sup> The [Guidelines for Natural Values Surveys related to Development Proposals](#) states that surveying for species of fauna that have statutory protection under the NCA (i.e. non-threatened fauna) is required where it has been identified that a proposal is likely to have a significant impact on those species.

<sup>14</sup> The [OBP Migration Tracking Interim Report](#) (2024) summarises current information and understanding about the population and movement of OBPs in north west Tasmania and at the existing windfarm.

<sup>15</sup> Visual BUS are likely to be inadequate for detecting OBPs given their low population size, low density, cryptic nature, high mobility, wide distribution during migration and night-time migratory movements (as shown by VHF tracking).

- Where historic data and additional information gathered during operation of the existing windfarm is used to inform the design of contemporary survey methodologies, sufficient evidence and justification must be provided with reference to the [Guidelines for Natural Values Surveys related to Development Proposals](#).<sup>16</sup>
- The proposed methodology must be developed by a suitably qualified person and submitted to the EPA for feedback prior to commencing surveys.

#### **Pre-construction OBP mortality monitoring**

- Contemporary mortality monitoring at the existing windfarm is required to provide up-to-date baseline data for informing assessment of the level of risk presented by the proposal to OBPs in the current environment<sup>17</sup>, noting that methodological mortality monitoring for OBPs ceased at the existing windfarm in 2014.
- Specific requirements for OBP mortality monitoring have been included in Appendix D including:
  - Detection/scavenging trials should be undertaken to demonstrate that the proposed mortality monitoring methodology is adequate.
  - Once the mortality monitoring methodology has been confirmed, data from a minimum of two years of mortality monitoring must be included in the EIS.
- Where historic data and additional information is used to inform the design of the contemporary mortality monitoring, sufficient evidence and justification must be provided. However, this data and information should not be relied upon to evaluate current risk.
- The OBP mortality monitoring methodology (including details in relation to any scavenger and detectability trials) must be developed by a suitably qualified person and submitted to the EPA for feedback prior to commencing monitoring.

#### **Targeted utilisation surveys – WTE and WBSE**

- Targeted utilisation surveys are required across the proposed project footprint to confirm contemporary utilisation of the area by WTE and WBSE. Undertake surveys in the manner outlined above for BUS and include:
  - Survey methodology such that spatial use of the site (any favoured areas, any common flight paths etc) can be determined.
  - Survey coverage should be sufficient to inform a robust understanding of site utilisation and support the application of collision risk modelling (CRM).
- Ensure utilisation surveys are representative of the range of any prevailing conditions, particularly if Wind Turbine Generators (WTGs) are to be located on ridge-tops where updrafts may be extensively used by WTE and WBSE.
- Consider incorporating the use of GPS harnessed WTEs (adults) to assess flight patterns. Consultation with relevant specialists/researchers is strongly recommended to design an appropriately informative study/approach, improve air-scape usage information, inform WTG micro-siting and collision risk models.
- Present survey data to represent the 3-dimensional nature of movement patterns (e.g., contour maps) for different seasonal activity periods and overlay with the proposed infrastructure locations for context.

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<sup>16</sup> In accordance with the [Guidelines for Natural Values Surveys related to Development Proposals](#), survey reports are generally regarded as current for up to two years from the date of the field survey, provided no significant changes have occurred on or around the survey area and no new, relevant information has become available. Beyond two years, the information provided may be out of date and will usually need to be re-verified on the site.

<sup>17</sup> The [OBP Migration Tracking Interim Report](#) (2024) summarises current information and understanding about the population and movement of OBPs including in north west Tasmania and at the existing windfarm.

## Nest searches and condition assessments – WTE and WBSE

Nest searches are required to understand use of the development footprint by WTE and WBSE.

Specifically:

- Searches for WTE and WBSE nests should be undertaken out to 1km from the boundary of the project area, including all areas to be disturbed as a result of the proposal. Demonstrate how the results have been used to inform development activities and infrastructure layout.
- Conduct WTE and WBSE nest searches between March and June, that is, outside the breeding season for these species in accordance with the [FPA Technical Note 1: Eagle Nest Searching, Activity Checking and Nest Management](#) and the [EPA Guide to Eagle Nest Searching and Nest Activity Checks](#).
- For previously recorded WTE and WBSE nests that are unable to be located during surveys, follow the reporting process outlined in the [FPA Technical Note 1: Eagle Nest Searching, Activity Checking and Nest Management](#) and the [EPA Guide to Eagle Nest Searching and Nest Activity Checks](#).
- It is recommended that nest searches for WTE and WBSE are undertaken annually until the proposal is fully commissioned.
- Ground-based nest condition assessments may be conducted using drones/Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs) if they are conducted between April and June and in accordance with the [FPA Technical Note 1: Eagle Nest Searching, Activity Checking and Nest Management](#).
- The EIS should:
  - Discuss the potential adverse impacts of the proposal on WTE and WBSE nests;
  - Outline how new WTE and WBSE nests will be detected, reported or managed post-commissioning.

## Targeted surveys for other bird and bat species

Targeted surveys may be required where potential habitat for species is likely to be present on or in the vicinity of the project site and/or a general BUS is unlikely to be sufficient to understand site utilisation by these species and therefore the risk presented by the proposal.

A proposal for targeted surveys of the below species must be developed by a suitably qualified person and submitted to the EPA for feedback before finalising the survey program. Alternatives to a targeted survey may be appropriate where supporting evidence can be provided, such as desktop analysis and mapping of known species records and potential habitat within the project site and surrounding areas. However, a precautionary approach may be applied where adequate information is not presented in the EIS to support arguments about significance of impacts.

### ***Tasmanian masked owl***

- Undertake a survey for TMO potential nesting habitat within the project site and surrounding areas. TMOs can be very discreet, and a combination of techniques should be used to minimise the risk of a nest being overlooked.
- Passive acoustic techniques should be utilised initially to determine the presence/absence of TMO in the landscape, using the method below:
  - Two deployments of acoustic recorders: three weeks for each deployment. The two deployments should be in different seasons (e.g., one in spring, one in summer).
  - The recording schedule should continue all night long (i.e., not just around sunset and sunrise).
  - The data analysis (i.e., detection of TMO calls) should be done either manually by a trained rater or by reliable software.
  - It is important to consider the detection range of recorders when drawing conclusions about the presence or absence of the species. For example, on steep terrain or in thick vegetation, recorders may need to be positioned closer together.
- If passive acoustic monitoring indicates that masked owls may be present in the landscape, please contact the EPA for further advice.

- It should be noted that a negative result for survey methods, apart from physical inspection, is not considered conclusive proof of lack of presence (but may indicate likely absence).

### **Grey goshawk**

- Undertake targeted surveys for grey goshawk and its nests in areas where development is likely to encroach on its habitat (i.e., areas where wind farm, transmission line and associated infrastructure will cross or encroach on riparian vegetation and waterways).

### **White throated needletail**

- The white-throated needletail is a migratory species that forages aerially prior to sunrise, during daytime and after sunset. Mortalities are recorded in Tasmania and on mainland Australia due to collisions with WTGs.
- Undertake targeted surveys to determine the use of the project area (movement, flight height) and adjacent areas for roosting, foraging, and transiting (e.g., as part of migration and/or between roosting sites) by white-throated needletails.
- Surveys should be appropriately timed to account for crepuscular foraging activity and migration, noting that the species occurs in Tasmania between December and March and as such, this will be when numbers of white-throated needletails are highest.
- Refer to the DCCEEW [Referral guideline for 14 birds listed as migratory species under the EPBC Act](#) where relevant.

### **Swift parrot**

- The existing and proposed transmission line corridor partially intersects with the western potential breeding range of the swift parrot and there is potential habitat for the species (*Eucalyptus brookeriana* wet forest) within the sites and nearby
- Undertake targeted surveys for this species to determine their use of the project area (where possible, movement, flight height) and adjacent areas for nesting, foraging, and transiting (e.g., as part of migration where possible and/or between foraging and nesting sites) and to assess potential impacts.

### **Blue-winged parrot**

- Blue-winged parrot mortalities caused by WTGs have been recorded at operational wind farms in Tasmania.
- Undertake targeted surveys for this species to determine their use of the project area (movement, flight height) and adjacent areas for nesting, foraging, and transiting (e.g., as part of migration and/or between foraging and nesting sites) and to assess impact and inform mitigation.
- Surveys should be undertaken during key migration times and should be spread more evenly across the seasons (not just during the first week of each season).

### **Bat spp surveys**

- Undertake bat surveys to determine the presence of native bat species at the locations of the existing and proposed wind farm and transmission line infrastructure. Where relevant, advice may be found in the DCCEEW [Survey guidelines for Australia's threatened bats](#).

### **Seabirds, shorebirds and migratory birds**

- Discuss the biology, ecology, migration patterns, and potential impacts of the proposal on seabirds and shorebirds which are known or likely to use the project site and surround areas.
- The shy albatross breeds at Albatross Island approximately 35km north of the existing windfarm (at Bluff Point) and produces naïve chicks with less flying skills. Consider potential impacts of the proposal on this species and any associated measures required to avoid or minimise adverse impacts (see section 6.1.3 below).

- Where relevant, additional advice may be found in the DCCEEW document, [Industry guidelines for avoiding, assessing and mitigating impacts on EPBC Act listed migratory shorebird species](#).

### 6.1.3 Assessment

Describe, assess and analyse the significance of the impacts of the proposal on avian fauna species, bats and their habitats, including consideration of:

- Any relevant threatened species Recovery Plans, Listing Statements or Conservation Advice and current literature for the species
- Collision risk, including a collision-risk model (CRM) (detailed below)
- Habitat removal
- Disturbance from movement, noise, or light pollution;
- In regard to light pollution and avian fauna and bats, the EIS should:
  - Detail proposed lighting infrastructure, lighting regimes, positioning and lighting type during different stages of the proposal;
  - Consider proximity to identified nests and breeding habitat;
  - Have regard to the [National Light Pollution Guidelines for Wildlife including Marine Turtles, Seabirds and Migratory Shorebirds \(2023\)](#) and AS/NZS 4282 Control of Obtrusive Outdoor Lighting.
- Cumulative impact with the Robbins Island Renewable Energy Park, Jims Plains Renewable Energy Park, Whaleback Ridge Renewable Energy Major Project, Granville Harbour Wind Farm and future transmission infrastructure associated with these proposals, including but not limited to the North West Transmission Development and the ACEN Renewables Transmission Line.

### OBP impact assessment

Discuss the OBP's broader biology, ecology, migration patterns, potential impacts of the proposal on this species, and associated measures to avoid or minimise adverse impacts with regard to the following:

- Review and consideration of the [National Recovery Plan for the Orange-bellied Parrot](#) for current information on species foraging habitat requirements, known and potential threats to species recovery, evidence for impact, and risk ratings, and comprehensive review of current literature for the species.
- Review of the intersection between NVA records and TasVEG 4.0 vegetation communities, with a focus on the variety of habitats utilised by OBPs in Tasmania, including Bass Strait Islands.
- Review of current OBP migratory periods, including NVA data that shows the arrivals and departures of OBPs to and from Melaleuca.
- Any available details of the OBP VHF tracking program conducted by NRE Tas and Zoos Victoria, including tracking program methodology and results.
- The limitations of any OBP surveys and monitoring undertaken, including temporal limitations (e.g., number of survey days, surveys for both northward and southward migration periods, whether surveys captured the hours OBPs are most likely to be active), and visual limitations (e.g., surveys during southward migration are unlikely to yield results due to the fast rate of movement, and the recording of OBPs migrating at night, when birds would not be detected through visual surveys).
- Consider and discuss the impacts of the proposal (including decommissioning of the existing infrastructure, transition period, and construction of new infrastructure) on OBPs during the migration period.

### Collision-risk model

Provide a CRM and use the results in conjunction with other survey and assessment results/data, such as BUS and targeted surveys, to identify potential impacts from the proposed development to WTE, WBSE, and where sufficient data is available, white-throated needletail (*Hirundapus caudacutus*), blue-winged parrot (*Neophema chrysostoma*), and swift parrot (*Lathamus discolor*).

The CRM analysis should be based on and include justification against up-to-date scientific literature and be supported by an appropriate level of contemporary site utilisation data, provide a robust assessment of any uncertainties, assumptions or limitations and provide clear discussion of the outcomes.

Where data exists about WTE and WBSE site utilisation at the existing windfarm, this may be included in the CRM where valid, but the CRM must also be appropriately supported by contemporary site utilisation data (see section 6.1.2 above).

A proposal outlining how the CRM analysis will be undertaken must be prepared, independently peer reviewed by suitably qualified persons and submitted to the EPA for feedback and approval prior to finalisation of the methodology.

#### 6.1.4 Avoidance and mitigation measures

- Describe the measures that will be implemented to avoid adverse impacts to avian fauna from the proposal. Where impacts cannot be avoided, present proposed measures to minimise and mitigate adverse impacts on avian fauna.
- Outline how impacts will be avoided and minimised through the design of the proposal and the construction methodology (as relevant), including consideration of the outcomes of the surveys described above.
- Discuss any design mitigation and avoidance strategies (e.g. black blades on WTGs; best practice design principles, management measures and mitigation strategies for project-related lighting impacts).
- Describe the avoidance and mitigation measures that will be implemented to reduce disturbance to the migrating OBP population. Where practical, the option of decommissioning/construction outside the OBP migration period should be considered and discussed.
- Where technology-based mitigation or avoidance approaches are proposed (e.g. automated avifauna tracking, and WTG curtailment systems such as IdentiFlight etc.), include an assessment of their effectiveness at the site. It is recommended that this is informed by results from their use at existing wind farms, particularly in the Tasmanian context.
- Describe how food resources (e.g. carcasses) for avian species such as WTE and WBSE will be managed across the site to address collision risk with WTGs, transmission lines, vehicles or associated infrastructure, including:
  - current carcass management practices at the existing operation
  - potential monitoring along roadsides, around WTGs and beneath transmission lines.
  - potential implications of changes to land use prior to, during and after construction.
- Identify potential residual impact<sup>18</sup> after full implementation of the avoidance and mitigation steps of the mitigation hierarchy.

#### Bird and bat mortality monitoring

- Provide a bird and bat mortality monitoring program which outlines how collisions (injuries and mortalities) will be detected and reported, and how appropriate management responses will be implemented.
- Refer to avian mortality monitoring plan guidelines in Appendix E for guidance. Additional guidance may also be found in the [Onshore Wind Farm Guidance - best practice approaches when seeking approval under Australia's national environment law](#).
- When assessing impact, discuss how non-detections (i.e., birds that collide with WTGs which are not detected during collision monitoring) are accounted for.

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<sup>18</sup> See Appendix A of these Guidelines under Residual Impacts.

### Offset strategy

- Detail measures to offset any residual, adverse impacts on threatened species after full implementation of the avoidance and mitigation steps of the mitigation hierarchy.
- Where offsets are required, provide an offset strategy that details likely benefits from proposed offsets including consideration of effectiveness. Note that offset actions proposed must have a measurable and relevant benefit which would otherwise not have occurred. Include details of how the offsets were determined, and will be secured, managed and monitored. Include management actions, responsibility, timing, performance measures and the specific environmental outcomes to be achieved. Proposed offsets must be consistent with the following documents as relevant, or any amendments or substitutions to these documents:
  - [EPBC Act Environmental Offsets Policy](#)
  - [Tasmanian Offset Guidelines for Impacts to Threatened Eagles from Wind Farm Developments](#)
  - [Guidelines for Terrestrial Natural Values Surveys related to Development Proposals](#)

## 6.2 Key issue 2: Non-avian fauna

The EIS must discuss the potential impacts of construction and operation of the proposal and any associated infrastructure on non-avian fauna, with particular reference to MNES, and species that have statutory protection under the NCA<sup>19</sup>, and/or are listed as threatened and/or, migratory under the Tasmanian TSPA and/or the EPBC Act.

When discussing impacts on species please note whether the assessment has been made against Tasmanian or Commonwealth legislation.

With respect to MNES, the EIS should reference the [Significant Impact Guidelines 1.1 – Matters of National Environmental Significance](#). Specifically, the EIS should discuss the significant impact criteria for each species noting the significant impact criteria is different for each MNES, and each species' listing status (critically endangered, endangered, vulnerable and migratory). Reference should also be made to the [Onshore Wind Farm Guidance - best practice approaches when seeking approval under Australia's national environment law](#).

### 6.2.1 Existing environment

- Specify and map known records of non-avian fauna as relevant with reference to species that have statutory protection under the NCA<sup>20</sup> or are listed as threatened under the TSPA and EPBC Act overlain with the development footprint.
- Provide a description of MNES within the proposal site and surrounding areas.
- Provide the results of natural values surveys undertaken by a suitably qualified person(s), in accordance with relevant survey guidelines,<sup>21</sup> for non-avian fauna species including but not limited to:
  - Tasmanian devil (*Sarcophilus harrisii*);
  - eastern quoll (*Dasyurus viverrinus*);
  - spotted-tail quoll (*Dasyurus maculatus maculatus*);
  - dwarf galaxias (*Galaxiella pusilla*);
  - Australian grayling (*Prototroctes maraena*);
  - striped marsh frog (*Limnodynastes peronii*);
  - green and gold frog (*Litoria raniformis*);
  - giant freshwater crayfish (*Astacopsis gouldi*);
  - keeled carnivorous snail (*Austrorhytida lamproides*); and
  - eastern barred bandicoot (*Perameles gunnii gunnii*).
- Describe the light environment at the existing windfarm, including sources and levels of light pollution caused by artificial light at night, using the results of a benchmark survey, as relevant.

### **Specific guidance for Tasmanian devil (*Sarcophilus harrisii*), eastern quoll (*Dasyurus viverrinus*), and spotted-tail quoll (*Dasyurus maculatus maculatus*)**

Surveys to inform potential impacts on the Tasmanian devil are required in accordance with the [Tasmanian Devil Survey Guidelines and Management Advice](#). In the absence of specific guidelines for the eastern quoll and spotted-tailed quoll, the [Tasmanian Devil Survey Guidelines and Management Advice](#) can be applied, given that they have similar habitat requirements and are susceptible to a similar range of threats.

Surveys should identify and map suitable denning habitat in relation to the position of proposed infrastructure, including WTGs, transmission lines and roads.

<sup>19</sup> The [Guidelines for Natural Values Surveys related to Development Proposals](#) states that surveying for species of fauna that have statutory protection under the NCA (i.e. non-threatened fauna) is required where it has been identified that a proposal is likely to have a significant impact on those species.

<sup>20</sup> The [Guidelines for Natural Values Surveys related to Development Proposals](#) states that surveying for species of fauna that have statutory protection under the NCA (i.e. non-threatened fauna) is required where it has been identified that a proposal is likely to have a significant impact on those species.

<sup>21</sup> See <https://nre.tas.gov.au/conservation/development-planning-conservation-assessment/survey-guidelines-for-development-assessments>

Transport of required machinery and WTG parts may increase the amount of traffic, particularly on Woolnorth Road and during construction. Provide:

- A summary (e.g., table and/or site plan) detailing the existing internal roads to be retained and the new roads/tracks proposed, including their length (in m or km).
- An analysis of the expected vehicle movements during both construction and operational phases and a comparison to existing vehicle movements.
- The results of a devil and quoll roadkill survey to understand current background levels of roadkill and whether it is likely to increase during the construction and operational phases, particularly at night.

Note that an increase in night-time (between one hour before sunset and one hour after sunrise as defined by the Bureau of Meteorology) traffic on internal and nearby roads of more than 10% combined with a high abundance of Tasmanian devils and quoll and/or Tasmanian devil and quoll roadkill records in the NVA is considered significant regarding likely impacts on Tasmanian devils and quolls. See the [Tasmanian Devil Survey Guidelines and Management Advice](#) for further information.

### **Schayer's grasshopper (*Schayera baiulus*) and Marrawah skipper (*Oreisplanus munionga ssp. larana*)**

Provide the results of natural values surveys undertaken by a suitably qualified person(s), in accordance with relevant survey guidelines,<sup>22</sup> for Schayer's grasshopper (*Schayera baiulus*) and Marrawah skipper (*Oreisplanus munionga ssp. larana*). It is noted that the range of both of these species has recently been extended in the north-west of Tasmania, including the areas in and around Woolnorth.

#### **6.2.2 Assessment**

- Describe the potential impacts of the construction and operation of the proposal on non-avian fauna, with particular reference to MNES, and species that have statutory protection under the NCA, and/or are listed as threatened and/or, migratory under the Tasmanian TSPA and/or the EPBC Act, including consideration of:
  - any relevant threatened species Recovery Plans, Listing Statements or Conservation Advice and current literature for the species;
  - how the results of surveys that identified and mapped suitable denning habitat for Tasmanian devils and quolls have been used to inform a site layout that minimises impacts on these species;
  - direct impacts, such as collision risks from both vehicles and infrastructure, clearing or other physical changes to breeding and hunting or foraging habitat and impacts to nests dens or burrows (e.g. Tasmanian wombat);
  - indirect impacts, such as changes in disturbances to nesting, impacts of noise, changes in prey or food availability or introduction of pests or diseases;
  - in regard to light pollution and non-avian fauna, the assessment should:
    - Detail proposed lighting infrastructure, lighting regimes, positioning and lighting type during different stages of the proposal;
    - Consider proximity to identified breeding habitat;
    - Have regard to the [National Light Pollution Guidelines for Wildlife including Marine Turtles, Seabirds and Migratory Shorebirds \(2023\)](#) and AS/NZS 4282 *Control of Obtrusive Outdoor Lighting*.
  - cumulative impacts with other human activity.

#### **6.2.3 Avoidance and mitigation measures**

- Describe management measures that will be implemented to avoid adverse impacts to threatened non-avian fauna. Management measures should address all potential impacts to the species, including

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<sup>22</sup> See <https://nre.tas.gov.au/conservation/development-planning-conservation-assessment/survey-guidelines-for-development-assessments>

vegetation clearance/ground disturbance, increased habitat fragmentation, impacts to dens, changes to food resources, roadkill management, changes in land use and the impacts of weeds, pests and diseases.

- Include any roadkill management measures as required in the [Tasmanian Devil Survey Guidelines and Management Advice](#).
- Where impacts cannot be avoided, present proposed measures to minimise and mitigate adverse impacts on biodiversity and nature conservation values.
- Where offsets are required, provide an offset strategy (below)
- Where relevant, consideration should be given to the implementation of best practice design principles, management measures and mitigation strategies for project-related lighting impacts
- Mitigation measures and offset strategies for the Tasmanian devil, eastern quoll and spotted-tailed quoll should be informed by the identification of high-risk roadkill areas.

### **Offset strategy**

- Detail measures to offset any residual<sup>23</sup>, adverse impacts on threatened species after full implementation of the avoidance and mitigation steps of the mitigation hierarchy.
- Where offsets are required, provide an offset strategy that details likely benefits from proposed offsets including consideration of effectiveness. Note that offset actions proposed must have a measurable and relevant benefit which would otherwise not have occurred. Include details of how the offsets were determined, and will be secured, managed and monitored. Include management actions, responsibility, timing, performance measures and the specific environmental outcomes to be achieved. Proposed offsets must be consistent with the following documents as relevant, or any amendments or substitutions to these documents:
  - [EPBC Act Environmental Offsets Policy](#)
  - [Guidelines for Terrestrial Natural Values Surveys related to Development Proposals](#)
  - [Tasmanian Devil Survey Guidelines and Management Advice](#)

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<sup>23</sup> See Appendix A of these Guidelines under Residual Impacts.

### 6.3 Key issue 3: Vegetation communities and flora

Discuss the impacts of the proposal on vegetation communities and flora with particular reference to MNES, threatened flora species, threatened ecological communities (TECs) and threatened native vegetation communities (TNVCs) including those listed under the TSPA, NCA and EPBC Act.

When discussing impacts on species please note whether the assessment has been made against Tasmanian or Commonwealth legislation.

With respect to MNES, the EIS should reference the [Significant Impact Guidelines 1.1 – Matters of National Environmental Significance](#). Specifically, the EIS should discuss the significant impact criteria for each species noting the significant impact criteria is different for each MNES, and each species' listing status (critically endangered, endangered, vulnerable and migratory). Reference should also be made to the [Onshore Wind Farm Guidance - best practice approaches when seeking approval under Australia's national environment law](#).

#### 6.3.1 Existing environment

- Specify and map known records of flora and vegetation communities including MNES, threatened species, TECs and TNVCs listed under the EPBC Act, TSPA and NCA.
- Provide a description of MNES that are within the proposal site and surrounding areas.
- Vegetation community ground surveys and vegetation mapping by a suitably qualified ecologist are required, to verify the distribution, condition and extent of TNVCs listed under the NCA.<sup>24</sup> Specifically:
  - the survey must include areas with temporary impacts (e.g., open cut trenching for underground power reticulation cables, material laydown areas) and permanent impacts (e.g., new hardstand areas, substations, access tracks, roads, and proposed extension of existing clearance around WTGs).
  - the survey methodology, data collection practices, data standards and reporting should follow the [Guidelines for Natural Values Surveys related to Development Proposals](#).
  - consultants undertaking vegetation surveys are encouraged to engage with NRE Tas's Natural Assets Spatial Intelligence Section (NASIS) to ensure vegetation survey and mapping efforts are of appropriate quality and capture sufficient metadata for their integration into TasVEG. Appropriate documents and protocols can be provided to consultants by NASIS before they commence vegetation surveys and mapping.
  - any discrepancies between field survey results and the existing TasVEG layer should be submitted directly to the NVA.
- Flora surveys are required in all areas likely to be impacted by vegetation clearing or soil disturbance associated with the proposal. Surveys should be conducted at appropriate times of the year to detect threatened flora that may occur in the area, particularly for orchids or ephemeral species (i.e., during the flowering periods of candidate species). Surveys should be done in accordance with the [Guidelines for Natural Values Surveys related to Development Proposals](#). A permit to take will be required under the TSPA if 'taking' (as defined under the TSPA) threatened flora for the purposes of surveying and identification is necessary.
- Specify and map known records of weeds, pests and diseases within the project site and surrounding areas.

#### 6.3.2 Assessment

Describe potential impacts of both construction and operation of the proposal on:

- Flora and vegetation communities with particular reference to MNES, threatened species, TECs and TNVCs listed under the EPBC Act, TSPA and NCA, including consideration of:
  - any relevant threatened species Recovery Plans, Listing Statements or Conservation Advice and current literature for the species or communities;

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<sup>24</sup> This is because the TasVEG vegetation mapping for the existing windfarm is dated and likely to be inaccurate.

- direct impacts, such as disturbance, clearing, excavation or burning;
- indirect impacts, such as changes in hydrogeological flows, fragmentation of populations or introduction of weeds, pests or diseases;
- cumulative impacts with other human activity.

### 6.3.3 Avoidance and mitigation measures

- Describe management measures that will be implemented to avoid adverse impacts to flora and vegetation communities including management of weeds, pests and diseases. Outline any current measures used on the site to control the spread of weeds, pests and diseases and whether these measures will continue to apply during the construction and operation of the proposed development. Information about controlling the introduction and spread of weeds and the development of weed and disease management plans can be found in the [Weed and Disease Planning and Hygiene Guidelines – Preventing the Spread of Weeds and Diseases in Tasmania](#).
- Where impacts cannot be avoided, present proposed measures to minimise and mitigate adverse impacts on flora and vegetation communities.
- Identify potential residual impacts<sup>25</sup>.
- Discuss any offset<sup>26</sup> proposed for residual impacts, including likely benefits from such an offset and consideration of effectiveness, having regard to the [Guidelines for Natural Values Surveys related to Development Proposals](#).
- Discuss rehabilitation of disturbed areas following the completion of construction activities and cessation of the activity including any proposed seed collection and progressive rehabilitation program.

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<sup>25</sup> As defined in Appendix A of these Guidelines.

<sup>26</sup> See Appendix A of these Guidelines under Residual Impacts.

## 6.4 Other natural values

The EIS must discuss the potential impacts of the construction and operation of the proposal on other natural values and processes that have not already been considered in sections 6.2, 6.3 and 6.4 of these guidelines including geoconservation sites, conservation areas and other reserved land, coastal features and wetlands.

When discussing impacts on other natural values please note whether the assessment has been made against Tasmanian or Commonwealth legislation.

With respect to MNES, the EIS should reference the [Significant Impact Guidelines 1.1 – Matters of National Environmental Significance](#). Specifically, the EIS should discuss the significant impact criteria for each MNES noting the significant impact criteria is different for each MNES. Reference should also be made to the [Onshore Wind Farm Guidance - best practice approaches when seeking approval under Australia's national environment law](#).

### 6.4.1 Existing environment

- Specify and map known sites of geoconservation significance or natural processes (such as fluvial or coastal features) within the project site and surrounding areas, including sites of geoconservation significance listed on the Tasmanian Geoconservation Database (e.g. Cape Grim volcanics geosite (2457), Mowbray Swamp megafauna fossil site (3113)).
- Identify areas of reserved land<sup>27</sup> or conservation significance within the project site and surrounding areas, including:
  - designated conservation areas and state reserves including the Welcome River State Reserve and Duck River Conservation Area where several sections of the easement for the existing transmission line occur;
  - MNES including areas relating to the requirements of international treaties (e.g. Japan-Australia and China-Australia Migratory Bird Agreements (JAMBA/CAMBA) and Ramsar (wetlands) Convention); and
  - wetlands listed in Directory of Important Wetlands in Australia.<sup>28</sup>
- Identify any freshwater ecosystems of high conservation management priority, including values, within the project site and surrounding areas using the Conservation of Freshwater Ecosystem Values (CFEV) database.<sup>29</sup> The specific CFEV information should be Conservation Management Priority Potential.

### 6.4.2 Assessment

Describe potential impacts of the construction and operation of the proposal on:

- Identified sites of geoconservation significance and natural processes.
- MNES including areas relating to the requirements of international treaties (e.g. Japan-Australia and China-Australia Migratory Bird Agreements (JAMBA/CAMBA) and Ramsar (wetlands) Convention).
- Reserved land that may be affected by the proposal, with reference to the management objectives of the reserved land and the reserve management plan(s) (if any). In particular, the assessment should demonstrate how the proposal is consistent with the existing easement title(s) and as relevant, the management objectives for reserved land (including the Welcome River State Reserve and Duck River Conservation Area) under Schedule 1 of the *National Parks and Reserves Management Act 2002* and any applicable management plans.
- Other sites or areas of special conservation significance, including areas of wilderness or scientific value.

<sup>27</sup> As defined in the *Nature Conservation Act 2002*.

<sup>28</sup> See <https://www.environment.gov.au/water/wetlands/australian-wetlands-database/directory-important-wetlands>.

<sup>29</sup> See <https://nre.tas.gov.au/water/water-monitoring-and-assessment/cfev-program>

- The reserve system identified as part of the Tasmanian RFA, including high-quality wilderness areas; maintenance of forest communities under the Permanent Native Forest Estate Policy<sup>30</sup>; wildlife habitat strips under the *Tasmanian Forest Practices Code 2015*<sup>31</sup>; and non-forest communities.<sup>32</sup>

#### 6.4.3 Avoidance and mitigation measures

- Describe management measures that will be implemented to avoid adverse impacts to MNES, sites of geoconservation significance, conservation areas, state reserves and other reserved land.
- Where impacts cannot be avoided, present proposed measures to minimise and mitigate adverse impacts on MNES, sites of geoconservation significance, Conservation Areas, State Reserves and other reserved land (e.g. best practice erosion and sediment control measures and an unanticipated discovery plan to minimise and mitigate impacts on the Cape Grim volcanics geosite (2457) and Mowbray Swamp megafauna fossil site (3113), respectively).
- Identify potential residual impacts<sup>33</sup>.
- Discuss any offset<sup>34</sup> proposed for residual impacts, including likely benefits from such an offset and consideration of effectiveness, having regard to the [Guidelines for Natural Values Surveys related to Development Proposals](#).
- Discuss rehabilitation of disturbed areas following the completion of construction activities and cessation of the activity, including any proposed seed collection and progressive rehabilitation program.

### 6.5 Air quality

This air quality assessment is required to detail potential impacts of the proposal on the local and regional air environment and provide evidence that the activity will not cause environmental nuisance or harm.

#### 6.5.1 Existing environment

- Provide a site map that includes the land boundary and the location of nearest sensitive receptors.
- Describe the existing environment. Include details on climatic/meteorological conditions, terrain, land use and air quality in the vicinity of the proposal.

#### 6.5.2 Assessment

- Provide a figure showing the locations and names of all potential sources of atmospheric emissions from the proposed activity.
- Describe all potential sources of atmospheric emissions (point and fugitive) and the composition of the atmospheric emissions that may arise from the proposed activities including but not limited to:
  - dust from construction phase activities, which include land clearing and excavation work, stockpiles, vehicle movements, concrete batch plants, quarrying activities (if applicable), and loading, unloading and transport of materials.
  - engine exhaust from construction equipment, vehicles and generators.
- Provide an assessment of emissions from the proposed activities regarding the likelihood of causing environmental nuisance or harm. This should include:
  - an assessment of the potential impacts of the atmospheric emissions from the proposed activity on nearby sensitive receptors and the impact on the local environment considering meteorology, terrain and land use;

<sup>30</sup> See [https://www.stategrowth.tas.gov.au/about/divisions/Renewables\\_Climate\\_and\\_Future\\_Industries\\_Tasmania\\_and\\_resources/forestry/legislative\\_and\\_policy\\_framework/permanent\\_native\\_forest\\_estate\\_policy](https://www.stategrowth.tas.gov.au/about/divisions/Renewables_Climate_and_Future_Industries_Tasmania_and_resources/forestry/legislative_and_policy_framework/permanent_native_forest_estate_policy)

<sup>31</sup> See <https://fpa.tas.gov.au/>

<sup>32</sup> See [https://www.stategrowth.tas.gov.au/about/divisions/Renewables\\_Climate\\_and\\_Future\\_Industries\\_Tasmania\\_and\\_resources/forestry/legislative\\_and\\_policy\\_framework/permanent\\_native\\_forest\\_estate\\_policy](https://www.stategrowth.tas.gov.au/about/divisions/Renewables_Climate_and_Future_Industries_Tasmania_and_resources/forestry/legislative_and_policy_framework/permanent_native_forest_estate_policy)

<sup>33</sup> As defined in Appendix A of these Guidelines.

<sup>34</sup> See Appendix A of these Guidelines under Residual Impacts.

- application of appropriate dust control management and mitigation measures described in section 7.5 of the *Quarry Code of Practice* (where applicable).
- where a potential for impact on sensitive receptors is identified, the deployment of suitably located dust deposition monitors should be considered to determine the extent of the impact and to inform the implementation of appropriate mitigation measures.
- a description of climate change projections relevant to the project area, and how the future climate may change the local meteorology and impact of air emissions from the proposal; and
- compliance with the requirements of the relevant NEPM standards, the [Tasmanian Environment Protection Policy \(Air Quality\) 2004](#)<sup>35</sup> and any supplementary documents including the [Board Statement Jan 2022](#).

### **6.5.3 Avoidance and mitigation measures**

- Provide information about management and mitigation strategies that will be deployed, if required, to mitigate the impact of any atmospheric emissions from the proposal that have the potential to cause environmental nuisance or harm at or beyond the boundary of the project site.

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<sup>35</sup> See [https://epa.tas.gov.au/Documents/EPP\\_Air\\_Quality\\_2004.pdf](https://epa.tas.gov.au/Documents/EPP_Air_Quality_2004.pdf)

## 6.6 Surface water

The water quality assessment is required to detail the potential impacts of the proposal on surface water during construction and operation, including methodology where appropriate.

For information about the water quality management framework and evaluation criteria in Tasmania, refer to [Technical Guidance for Water Quality Objectives \(WQOs\) Setting for Tasmania, August 2020](#).<sup>36</sup>

### 6.6.1 Existing environment

- Provide a description and map of the activity site with respect to topography and preferential surface water flow, existing surface water and stormwater drainage of the receiving environment including the following:
  - Surface water bodies and watercourses that may potentially be impacted by the proposal during construction and operation, consistent with the [State Policy on Water Quality Management 1997](#) and the [Australian and New Zealand Guidelines for Fresh and Marine Water Quality 2018](#) (ANZ 2018), including:
    - Protected Environmental Values (PEVs)<sup>37</sup>
    - sensitive uses and associated water quality considerations;
    - seasonal water quality, hydrological characteristics and biological condition of the receiving environment;
    - reference to the [Environmental Management Goals for Tasmanian Surface Waters Catchments Circular Head and Waratah Wynard Municipal Areas](#), [Environmental Management Goals for Tasmanian Surface Water Catchments West Coast Municipal Areas](#), the Tasmanian Conservation of Freshwater Ecosystem Values database, any conservation listings, and/or survey of community uses to determine receiving water community values
- Provide published or determined (site-specific) water quality guideline values for protection of receiving water bodies that may be impacted by the proposal, including:
  - As a minimum, reference to relevant default guidelines values published by the EPA, and ANZ 2018 toxicant guideline values.
  - Site specific information including any historical water quality data and site-specific monitoring should be used where ongoing impacts are possible.
- Where relevant, provide any relevant monitoring results at the existing windfarm to determine baseline, ecosystem condition, water quality and potential water quality impacts. Include the results of monitoring both in the EIS and provide separately as data. Provide metadata and monitoring data to the EPA following the instructions and using the Excel workbook templates or file formats provided on the [Water Quality Data Elements](#)<sup>38</sup> webpage.
- Map the location of any existing wastewater treatment systems and discharge points, and stormwater infrastructure, including drains and settlement ponds. Where available, provide an analysis of wastewater and/or stormwater quality as discharged from the existing activity.

### 6.6.2 Assessment

Assess the potential water quality impacts to identified receiving environments in relation to the selected water quality guideline values as a result of the release of contaminants entrained in stormwater, disturbance of acid sulfate soils (ASS), or the discharge of any other pollutants during construction and operation of the proposal. In particular:

<sup>36</sup> See [https://epa.tas.gov.au/Documents/Technical%20Guidance%20for%20Water%20Quality%20Objectives%20\(WQOs\)%20Setting%20for%20Tasmania.pdf](https://epa.tas.gov.au/Documents/Technical%20Guidance%20for%20Water%20Quality%20Objectives%20(WQOs)%20Setting%20for%20Tasmania.pdf)

<sup>37</sup> See <https://epa.tas.gov.au/environment/water/pevs-for-tasmanian-surface-waters>

<sup>38</sup> See <https://epa.tas.gov.au/environment/water/water-quality-data-elements>

- Identify and characterise all liquid emissions that could arise from the proposal, including from industrial processes, waste treatment processes, fuelling, domestic/office facilities, stormwater or other sources.
- Describe any proposed changes to wastewater and/or stormwater treatment for the development. Describe the selected treatment technology, the likely volume and quality of effluent/water that will be produced and its fate in the environment.
- If discharge of trade waste or sewage to the system is anticipated, provide details of any agreement with the operator of the municipal sewerage system.

### 6.6.3 Avoidance and mitigation measures

- Provide an initial Erosion and Sediment Control Plan (ESCP) detailing the potential for mobilisation of sediment for each significant construction element and/or environmental setting that is identified, and mitigation measures detailed in accordance with best practice erosion and sediment control principles (i.e., the International Erosion Control Association’s Best Practice Erosion and Sediment Control documents<sup>39</sup> or similar. As a minimum, the ESCP should include:
  - Classification of erosion potential for each land type and topography likely to be disturbed by construction activities such as roads, turbine pads, laydown areas and other works yards.
  - Details of measures to be employed to minimise erosion potential including, staging of works, temporary surface treatments, cut-off drains, temporary drainage controls and rehabilitation staging.
  - Design specification for temporary and permanent drainage control and sediment containment infrastructure i.e., design rainfall average recurrence interval and emission limits for sediment retention basins.
  - For works that are significant in scale or pose an erosion risk, plans detailing erosion and sediment control infrastructure to be installed at those locations should be provided. Where merited, plans for each significant work phase and the operational phase if controls require adjustment through the construction process, should also be provided. For other works, provide general plans of erosion and control measures sufficient to enable comparison between plans and constructed infrastructure.
  - Details of any measures incorporated into erosion and sediment control plans to mitigate impacts to blanket bog peat land, including direct impacts from physical works and indirect impacts from hydrological changes.
  - Where impacts cannot be avoided, proposed measures to mitigate adverse impacts on surface water quality, including consideration of effectiveness, should be discussed.
  - Justification for any proposed emission of contaminants to surface waters should be in accordance with the principles of the [State Policy on Water Quality Management 1997](#) and with application of a ‘weight of evidence approach’ consistent with the ANZG 2018.

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<sup>39</sup> See [Latest News / Events - International Erosion Control Association](#) under

## 6.7 Groundwater

Detail and discuss potential impacts of the proposal on groundwater (quality and quantity). Consider construction and operation phases and include methodology details where appropriate.

For information about the water quality management framework and evaluation criteria in Tasmania refer to [Technical Guidance for Water Quality Objectives \(WQOs\) Setting for Tasmania, August 2020](#).<sup>40</sup>

### 6.7.1 Existing environment

- Provide a map showing the location of existing groundwater extraction bores nearest to the area impacted by the proposal. Refer to [NRE's Groundwater Information Access Portal](#) where relevant.<sup>41</sup>
- Identify any surface water and groundwater dependent ecosystems that may receive groundwater from areas impacted by the proposal.
- Provide details of any baseline groundwater quality monitoring undertaken.

### 6.7.2 Assessment

- Discuss the potential impact of the proposal on groundwater (quality and quantity), including release of sediment and other pollutants during construction, with reference to groundwater assessments undertaken where appropriate.
- Include a map showing the location of any proposed groundwater bores.

### 6.7.3 Avoidance and mitigation measures

- Describe the measures proposed to avoid or mitigate potential adverse impacts to groundwater.
- Justification for any proposed emission of contaminants to surface waters should be in accordance with the principles under the [State Policy on Water Quality Management 1997](#)<sup>42</sup> and with reference to likely groundwater community values, associated guideline values, and guideline values for receiving surface waters.
- Provide the required yield, volumes, and process for bore establishment and management for any groundwater extraction that may be proposed.

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<sup>40</sup> See [https://epa.tas.gov.au/Documents/Technical%20Guidance%20for%20Water%20Quality%20Objectives%20\(WQOs\)%20Setting%20for%20Tasmania.pdf](https://epa.tas.gov.au/Documents/Technical%20Guidance%20for%20Water%20Quality%20Objectives%20(WQOs)%20Setting%20for%20Tasmania.pdf)

<sup>41</sup> See <https://wrt.tas.gov.au/groundwater-info/>

<sup>42</sup> See <https://epa.tas.gov.au/about-the-epa/policy-legislation-cooperative-arrangements/statutory-policies/state-policies-and-environment-protection-policies/state-policy-on-water-quality-management-1997>

## 6.8 Noise emissions

### 6.8.1 Existing environment

- Provide a map showing the location of all major sources of noise and the closest noise sensitive premises in the vicinity of the boundary of the proposal site.
- Provide a list of nearby identified residences and other noise sensitive premises in the vicinity of the boundary of the activity.
- Establish the existing background noise level in the area with particular focus on noise sensitive premises likely to be impacted by the activity.

### 6.8.2 Assessment

- Discuss the potential for noise and vibration emissions from construction and operation of the proposal to result in environmental nuisance or environmental harm to noise sensitive premises.
  - Identify, locate, and describe the potential noise sources (including associated sound power levels and 1/3 octave data to assess for low frequency and tonal noise);
  - Identify, locate, and describe the potential vibration sources;
  - Identify, locate and describe noise sensitive receptors in the vicinity of the proposal;
  - Based on the existing background noise levels and relevant guidelines, proposing appropriate noise level criteria for the construction phase of the proposal;
  - Propose appropriate vibration level criteria for the construction and operational phases of the proposal;
  - Predict noise and vibration emission levels at noise sensitive premises for the construction phase of the proposal;
- Predict noise emission levels (noise modelling is required, including contour maps) at sensitive receptors for the construction phase of the proposed proposal.
- Predict operational noise levels (noise modelling is required, including contour maps) from the proposal associated noise sources (i.e. wind turbines, substation and battery storage) and discuss whether cumulative noise impact will meet the project specific noise criteria. Wind turbine generator noise modelling must be based on maximum turbine sound power levels proposed for the site.
- Predicted results should consider the required adjustment factors to be applied for intrusive and dominant characteristics as discussed in the Tasmanian Noise Measurement Manual and identify areas where the predicted equivalent noise levels (LAeq,10minute) exceeds 35 dB(A).
- The assessment must reference relevant guidelines and standards, including:
  - The EPA Board's Policy on noise limits for wind energy projects is 35 dB, or background + 5 dB(A), whichever is greater, at sensitive receptors and/or land zoned for sensitive uses.
  - The South Australian [Wind farms environmental noise guidelines](#)
  - The [Tasmania Noise Measurement Procedures Manual](#).
  - [Tasmanian Environment Protection Policy \(Noise\) 2009](#).
- Discuss curtailment management options/scenarios to mitigate any unexpected failure (such as turbine mechanical issues) that generates intrusive or dominant characteristics or causes nuisance at noise sensitive premises.
- Discuss how impacts can be avoided and minimised through the proposal design.
- Discuss proposed construction noise management and mitigation measures, including management of noise complaints, options for noise and vibration monitoring and preparation of a Preliminary Construction Noise and Vibration Management Plan, if required.
- Discuss proposed operational noise monitoring, and operational management and mitigation strategies. **Error! Bookmark not defined.**

## 6.9 Waste management

Detail and discuss the impacts of waste generated by the proposal, during construction and operation.

### 6.9.1 Existing environment

- Describe the existing environment in relation to the impact of waste generated by the activity.

### 6.9.2 Assessment

- Describe the source, nature and quantities of all general likely to be generated by the proposal (liquid, gaseous, solid or other), including:
  - general refuse;
  - treated concrete production wash waters;
  - any other treated wastewater;
  - any byproducts from the various stages of construction, operation and decommissioning of the proposal.
- A description of the source, nature and quantities of waste likely to be generated during decommissioning of the existing windfarm and transmission line should be provided in any Decommissioning and Rehabilitation Plans required by Permit PA10/00 as varied by EPN No. 7421/2, Permit PA10/00 as varied by EPN No. 7423/3 and EPBC 2000/12 and summarised in the EIS.
- Describe the methods and facilities proposed to collect, store, reuse, treat or dispose of each waste stream. Describe collection or other maintenance requirements where relevant.
- Describe the source, nature, quantity, and method of treatment, storage and disposal for each controlled waste arising from the proposal.<sup>43</sup> Describe collection or other maintenance requirements where relevant.

### 6.9.3 Avoidance and mitigation measures

- Demonstrate that any waste management measures follow the following hierarchy of waste management, arranged in decreasing order of desirability:
  - Avoidance,
  - Reuse,
  - Treatment/stabilisation for reuse,
  - Recycling,
  - Energy recovery,
  - Repository storage (for future treatment/recovery),
  - Treatment/stabilisation for disposal,
  - Disposal/permanent containment.

For information on the landfill levy and reporting requirements for landfills or resource recovery facilities under the *Waste and Resource Recovery Act 2022* and Regulations, refer to [Waste and Resource Recovery, Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania website](#).<sup>44</sup>

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<sup>43</sup> Controlled waste is defined in EMPCA and associated regulations. A non-exhaustive listing of categories of controlled waste can be found at <https://epa.tas.gov.au/business-industry/regulation/waste-management/controlled-waste>

<sup>44</sup> See <https://nre.tas.gov.au/environment/waste-and-resource-recovery>

## 6.10 Potential acid sulfate soils (PASS) / Acid sulfate soils (ASS)

Identify and discuss potential acid sulfate soils (PASS) / acid sulfate soils (ASS) which may be disturbed by the proposal and/or any associated infrastructure.

### 6.10.1 Existing environment

- Provide an analysis as to whether PASS/ASS may be present and potentially disturbed by the proposal, including as a minimum a desktop assessment of the potential for disturbance of acid sulphate soils. The desktop assessment is required to consider:
  - soil profiles, including any test pit and bore log data; \
  - geology, hydrogeology, and geomorphology;
  - detail of development footprint, proposed construction methodology and the extent of disturbance;
  - the time period over which sub surface materials are likely to be exposed;
  - any proposed groundwater extraction and associated drawdown; and
  - initial geochemical testing in areas where PASS/ASS may be disturbed.

### 6.10.2 Assessment

- Outline the potential volumes of PASS/ASS that may require management and discuss:
  - whether the sequencing of geotechnical and geochemical testing is required prior to disturbance; and
  - how results will be used to make decisions regarding construction management and PASS/ASS impact mitigation.

### 6.10.3 Avoidance and mitigation measures

Determine whether an ASS Management Plan consistent with the [Tasmanian ASS Management Guidelines](#)<sup>45</sup> and the [Commonwealth ASS Guidelines](#)<sup>46</sup> is required. If significant disturbance of PASS/ASS is likely to occur, provide an ASS Management Plan for the proposal. The ASS Management Plan should contain as a minimum:

- identification of receptors and the risk to receptors from PASS/ASS disturbance with consideration of all proposal stages (e.g., from scouring of sediment due to altered flow patterns);
- discussion of potential consequences of disturbance (i.e., potential impacts/risks), and evaluation of their significance, including consideration of water quality, natural values, and karst systems; and
- proposed management and mitigation measures for minimising impacts of PASS/ASS during construction and long-term use/operation, including storage, monitoring, and disposal as relevant, including consideration of the following:
  - the management of excavated spoil which may contain PASS/ASS;
  - the management of intersected groundwater and groundwater ingress and associated groundwater drawdown where PASS/ASS may be present;
  - where treatment of excavated PASS/ASS is proposed at a specialised facility, detail potential locations, the size of the facility, pad design, and treated water management and discharge criteria; and
- details of the disposal options for excavated and treated PASS/ASS including any onsite or off-site disposal locations and the disposal method.

<sup>45</sup> See <https://nre.tas.gov.au/agriculture/land-management-and-soils/soil-management/acid-sulfate-soils>

<sup>46</sup> See <https://www.waterquality.gov.au/issues/acid-sulfate-soils>

## 6.11 Dangerous goods and environmentally hazardous materials

Dangerous goods and environmentally hazardous materials are any substance or mixture of substances of a nature or held in quantities which present a reasonably foreseeable risk of causing serious or material environmental harm if released to the environment. This includes fuels, oils, waste and chemicals. Discuss the potential impacts of dangerous goods and environmentally hazardous substances used in or generated by the proposal. The discussion should:

- Describe the nature, quantity and storage location of all environmentally hazardous materials including Dangerous Goods (as defined in the [Australian Code for the Transport of Dangerous Goods by Road and Rail](#))<sup>47</sup> that will be used during the construction and operation of the proposal.
- Provide a map showing the location of temporary and permanent storage areas for fuels, oils, and other dangerous goods or chemicals.
- Detail measures to be adopted to prevent or control any accidental releases of dangerous goods and environmentally hazardous materials. Examples include bunding or spill trays.
- Provide contingency plans for when control measures fail, equipment breaks down or accidental releases to the environment otherwise occur including:
  - detail on proposed emergency and clean-up measures and notification procedures; and
  - identification of any safety management requirements for the protection of human health and safety where incidents may affect the community.

## 6.12 Potentially contaminated material

Discuss identification and management of contaminated land or material which may be present within and adjacent to the proposal site, including the following:

- Provide an analysis as to whether potentially contaminated material may be present. If required, an assessment of site contamination must be conducted in accordance with the [National Environment Protection \(Assessment of Site Contamination\) Measure 1999](#)<sup>48</sup> by a consultant who holds Site Contamination Specialist certification under the Certified Environmental Practitioner Scheme (CEnvP(SC)).
- Detail of proposed construction methodology, footprint, extent of disturbance and how this may interact with contaminated material.
- Analysis of receptors and risk to receptors due to disturbing potentially contaminated material, during and after construction (e.g., from scouring of sediment due to altered flow patterns).
- Potential consequences of disturbance (i.e., potential impact/risks), and evaluation of their significance.
- Describe proposed management and mitigation measures for minimising impacts of contaminated material during construction and long-term use/operation, including storage, monitoring and disposal as relevant.

For legislative and policy requirements refer to [National Environment Protection \(Assessment of Site Contamination\) Measure 1999](#)<sup>48</sup> and the [Environmental Management and Pollution Control \(Waste Management\) Regulations 2020](#).<sup>49</sup>

## 6.13 Marine and coastal

If not addressed in other sections, discuss impacts of the proposal on marine and coastal areas.

<sup>47</sup> See <https://www.ntc.gov.au/codes-and-guidelines/australian-dangerous-goods-code>

<sup>48</sup> See <https://www.legislation.gov.au/F2008B00713/latest/text>

<sup>49</sup> See <https://epa.tas.gov.au/about-the-epa/policy-legislation-cooperative-arrangements/acts-regulations/empca/waste-management-regulations>

- Provide measures to avoid and mitigate any possible adverse impacts.
- Assess the overall residual impacts on marine and coastal areas following implementation of the proposed avoidance and mitigation measures.
- Use cross-references to relevant sections dealing with conservation values (marine flora and fauna, geoconservation) and coastal impacts where relevant.
- Demonstrate that the proposal is consistent with the objectives and requirements of all relevant marine and coastal policies and legislation, including the [Living Marine Resources Management Act 1995](#)<sup>50</sup>, [State Policy on Water Quality Management 1997](#)<sup>51</sup> and the [Tasmanian State Coastal Policy 1996](#)<sup>52</sup>.

#### 6.14 Greenhouse gas emissions, ozone depleting substances and climate change

Discuss potential impacts of the proposal in relation to greenhouse gases, ozone-depleting substances and climate change. The discussion should be proportionate to the significance of the potential impacts.

- Describe the direct and indirect effects of the proposal on greenhouse gas production and ozone-depleting substances, as well as any associated benefits of the proposal.
- Provide an inventory of projected scope 1, scope 2 and total greenhouse gas emissions,<sup>53</sup> energy production, and energy consumption for a year of operation. Describe the methods used to develop the inventory<sup>54</sup>. Discuss potential annual variation that may occur.
- Provide an estimate of scope 3 emissions that may occur as a consequence of the proposal.
- Consider any carbon dioxide generated as a result of the use of lime products to treat ASS, both in production and transport as well as via spreading and neutralisation reactions. Refer to the [Tasmanian Acid Sulfate Soil Management Guidelines](#) for more information.<sup>55</sup>
- Demonstrate that the development will use cost-effective, best practice measures to minimise future greenhouse gas emissions.
- Detail measures proposed to minimise emissions and describe the anticipated effectiveness of these measures. Where less emissions-intensive options are not adopted, provide sufficient justification and/or mechanisms to offset greenhouse gas emissions.
- Estimate ‘whole of life’ greenhouse gas emissions for the proposed development. Include details of the methodology used.
- Describe the potential impacts of climate change upon the proposal. For example, it may be appropriate to plan for more intense storm events, more severe fire weather, and/or long-term sea level rise.

<sup>50</sup> See <https://www.legislation.tas.gov.au/view/html/inforce/current/act-1995-025>

<sup>51</sup> See <https://epa.tas.gov.au/about-the-epa/policy-legislation-cooperative-arrangements/statutory-policies/state-policies-and-environment-protection-policies/state-policy-on-water-quality-management-1997>

<sup>52</sup> See [https://www.dpac.tas.gov.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0010/11521/State\\_Coastal\\_Policy\\_1996.pdf](https://www.dpac.tas.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0010/11521/State_Coastal_Policy_1996.pdf)

<sup>53</sup> More information on categorising emissions can be found at <https://www.cleanenergyregulator.gov.au/NGER/About-the-National-Greenhouse-and-Energy-Reporting-scheme/Greenhouse-gases-and-energy>

<sup>54</sup> Calculators are available on the Australian Government Clean Energy Regulator website. See <http://www.cleanenergyregulator.gov.au/NGER/Forms-and-resources/Calculators#Emissions-and-Energy-Threshold-Calculator-202021-and-user-guide>

<sup>55</sup> See <https://nre.tas.gov.au/documents/ass-guidelines-final.pdf>

- Discuss impacts of the proposal in terms of the evolving national response to climate change and greenhouse gas emissions and the targets set in the [Climate Change \(State Action\) Act 2008](#) (Tas),<sup>56</sup> [Tasmania's Climate Change Action Plan 2023-25](#)<sup>57</sup> and the [Climate Change Act 2022](#) (Commonwealth).<sup>58</sup>

**Note:** Proponents must determine whether they are required to report to the Commonwealth under the [National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting Act 2007](#).<sup>59</sup>

## 6.15 Socio-economic issues

Discuss the social and economic impacts of the proposal. This discussion may:

- Include an estimate of total capital investment for the proposal and where that capital will be expended (particularly in relation to the source of large capital items of processing equipment).
- Provide a summary of operational expenditures and revenues.
- Describe impacts on local and state labour markets for both the construction and operational phases of the proposal. The number and nature of direct and indirect jobs arising from the proposal must be detailed. Skills and training opportunities should also be discussed.
- Describe impacts on upstream/downstream industries, both locally and for the State.
- Detail the extent to which raw materials, equipment, goods and services will be sourced locally.
- Provide a qualitative assessment of impacts on local social amenity and community infrastructure, including recreational, cultural, health and sporting facilities and services. Any proposals to enhance or provide additional community services or facilities should be described.
- Describe community demographic impacts (changes to cultural background, occupation and incomes).
- Describe impacts on land values, and demand for land and housing.
- Describe impacts on the local, regional, state and national economies.
- Detail any publicly funded subsidies or services to be relied upon for the construction or operation of the proposal.
- Detail any impacts on local, state and federal government rate, taxation and royalty revenues.

**The extent to which socio-economic considerations need to be described depends on the nature and extent of any negative impacts or risks to the environment from the proposal.**

Modest proposals with relatively low-level and localised environmental impacts or risks may be adequately supported by details of intended capital expenditure, operational expenditures, revenues and employment (distinguishing between direct and indirect employment) and a qualitative discussion of other socio-economic aspects of particular relevance.

Proposals with higher-level or broader-scale environmental impacts need more comprehensive analysis of economic and social benefits, to allow the Board to evaluate both the benefits and adverse impacts of the proposal. Methods used to model social and economic impacts should be described where relevant. A description of how the local community has been consulted to determine its needs and aspirations in relation to the proposal should also be included. A social impact assessment and/or economic impact assessment may be required.

## 6.16 Fire risk

Discuss the potential fire risk associated with the proposal, including:

<sup>56</sup> See <https://www.legislation.tas.gov.au/view/html/inforce/current/act-2008-036>

<sup>57</sup> See [https://recfit.tas.gov.au/climate/climate\\_change\\_action\\_plan](https://recfit.tas.gov.au/climate/climate_change_action_plan)

<sup>58</sup> See <https://www.legislation.gov.au/Details/C2022A00037>

<sup>59</sup> See <https://www.legislation.gov.au/Details/C2007A00175>

- Consideration of fire within the site, fire escaping from the site and the impact of wildfire originating outside the development and the environmental impacts that could result from such an event.
- The objectives and management principles to be adopted to prevent and respond to potential fire events.
- Where a fire response plan is appropriate, it should be fully integrated with other relevant documents, such as a Tasmania Fire Service Local Area Fire Management Plan, a Sustainable Timber Tasmania Fire Management Plan and a Parks and Wildlife Service Fire Action Plan for relevant districts.

### **6.17 Infrastructure and off-site ancillary facilities**

Discuss potential environmental impacts of the proposal on any significant off-site infrastructure or facilities (including increased use of existing infrastructure, such as roads, ports and quarries). Identify measures proposed to avoid and mitigate any possible adverse impacts. Assess the likely overall impacts after implementation of the proposed avoidance and mitigation measures.

Identify roads and other infrastructure to be used by vehicles for the proposal (during both construction and operation). Potential environmental impacts associated with construction and use of such infrastructure should be assessed. Cross-reference to other sections where relevant.

## **7. Monitoring and review**

Outline any proposed monitoring, review and reporting programs for the proposal. Include a table of proposed monitoring locations, parameters and frequencies, and a map showing the location of all monitoring sites.

Monitoring, review and reporting programs should be designed to:

- Assess compliance with the proposed management measures;
- Assess compliance with emission standards and other identified performance requirements;
- Assess the effectiveness of the performance requirements and environmental safeguards in achieving environmental quality objectives; and
- Assess the extent to which the potential impacts described in the EIS have eventuated.

## **8. Decommissioning and rehabilitation**

Describe any proposed rehabilitation of disturbed areas that will follow construction activities or occur upon cessation of the activity. Outline a preliminary Decommissioning and Rehabilitation Plan or Closure Plan for the proposal. If applicable, describe the stages of site decommissioning and rehabilitation, including any proposed seed collection and progressive rehabilitation.

## **9. Management measures table**

Provide a summary table listing all management measures detailed throughout the EIS. Each measure must include a reference number, must be an unambiguous statement of intent, must specify when it is to be implemented (including whether it is to be implemented during construction, operation, maintenance or other phases) and must include a cross-reference to where the measure is described in the EIS.

## **10. Conclusion**

Summarise the proposal and present a balanced overview of its net impacts. Draw together the critical environmental, social and economic impacts. Evaluate the extent to which negative impacts can be avoided, mitigated, remediated or compensated and positive impacts promoted and sustained.

Describe how the proposal meets and furthers the objectives of relevant legislation, policies, plans and strategies. Itemise the RMPS and EMPCS objectives and comment on how the proposal addresses each of the objectives.

## **11. References**

Provide details of authorities consulted, reference documents and other information sources, using a consistent referencing style.

## **12. Appendices**

Detailed technical information which supports the EIS should be included as appendices. The salient features of the appendices should be included in the main body of the EIS. Technical content of appendices must be consistent with information presented in the EIS itself, unless inconsistencies are carefully explained. The EIS may not be accepted where unexplained inconsistencies exist.

## Appendix A: General principles for assessing environmental impacts

This Appendix summarises general principles for assessing environmental impacts in EIS documents prepared in accordance with EMPCA.

### General Approach

When assessing environmental impacts in an EIS, the proponent should:

- Present information in a clear, well-structured manner appropriate to the audience of the EIS.
- Avoid duplication.
- Base assessments and evaluations on scientifically supportable, referenced data.
- Describe methodologies used and provide supporting research and information wherever relevant.
- State any scientific assumptions, simplifications, or judgements, and define uncertainties.
- Describe impacts and their mitigation to a level of detail that is proportionate to potential consequences and to what extent they can be controlled.

### Impact assessment

Impact assessment involves the identification and characterization of the effects of a proposal. When undertaking impact assessment, the proponent should:

- Explain methodologies used to identify and characterise impacts.
- Clearly state the impacts that are expected to result from the development in terms of the aspect of the proposal involved and the environmental receptor affected.
- Characterise those impacts in terms of:
  - The magnitude of impacts, quantified where possible, including spatial extent and timeframe;
  - The vulnerability of the affected environmental receptors to harm or nuisance;
  - Sources of the impacts and pathways by which the impact may occur;
  - Probability of occurrence (if not 100%);
  - The range of scenarios in which the impact may occur, including plausible worst-case consequences;
  - Reversibility of impacts;
  - Any predicted indirect effects; and
  - Any aspects of other proposals examined cumulatively.
- With reference to the project description and alternatives described in the EIS, state what measures to avoid or reduce impacts have been considered as part of this assessment, and which of these have been incorporated into the proposal.

### Impact evaluation

Impact evaluation is the determination of the significance of impacts. Proponents should support conclusions about the significance of impacts using a structured argument that clearly describes the magnitude of the impact, the sensitivity of the affected receptors, and how they relate.

### Mitigation and Monitoring

Mitigation (planning and design considerations, pollution control technology and management practices) and monitoring are measures additional to those considered during the impact assessment to reduce the impact of the proposal. In presenting mitigation and monitoring the proponent should:

- Describe the measures proposed;
- Describe how mitigation measures function to avoid or reduce the impacts;

- Explain how measures accord with existing guidance, accepted practice or best practice environmental management as defined in EMPCA;
- Discuss contingencies for the breakdown/malfunction of equipment or processes;
- Describe any anticipated impacts resulting from the mitigation actions and how these will be addressed; and
- Identify where control measures are to be carried out, operated and/or maintained by a third party, and how this will be achieved.

### **Residual impacts**

Residual impacts are those that remain after all proposed avoidance and mitigation measures have been taken into account. When assessing residual impacts, the proponent should:

- Revisit the first evaluation of impact, taking into account the effects of the measures to reduce the magnitude of the impacts and present a revised statement of significance, and
- Where required, identify appropriate actions that will offset impacts, based on the relevant guidelines.<sup>60</sup> Offset actions must present a measurable, relevant and ongoing net benefit which would not otherwise have been realised, and which is not accounted for by any other project or proposal.

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<sup>60</sup> Guidelines include Appendix 4: General Offset Principles from the Guidelines for Natural Values Surveys – Terrestrial Development Proposals, see <https://nre.tas.gov.au/Documents/Guidelines%20for%20Natural%20Values%20Surveys%20related%20to%20Development%20Proposals.pdf> and Offset Guidelines for Impacts to Threatened Eagles from Wind Farm Developments, see <https://nre.tas.gov.au/conservation/development-planning-conservation-assessment/offset-guidelines-for-impacts-to-threatened-eagles-from-wind-farm-developments>

## Appendix B: Example of project description summary table

### Location and Planning Context

<b>Location</b>	State the address of the site, and CTs and PIDs (as applicable) for all titles on which the activity will take place.
<b>Land zoning</b>	Describe the land zoning of the site and surrounds. If rezoning of the site is required, provide details.
<b>Land tenure</b>	Provide the land tenure of the proposal.
<b>Use Class and Permissibility</b>	If a permit is required under LUPAA, provide the Use Class of the proposed activity and Permissibility of the activity with reference to the relevant Planning Scheme.

### *For extractive industries only, delete if not required*

<b>Mining lease</b>	
<b>Lease area</b>	
<b>Bond</b>	State the amount of any bond required by MRT (for extractive industries)

### Existing site

<b>Land Use</b>	Describe the existing land use of the site and surrounds.
<b>Topography</b>	Describe the topography of the site and surrounds.
<b>Geology</b>	Describe the geology of the site, including the likely presence of potentially acid forming (PAF) material. Describe any geoconservation values on or near the site, e.g. karst.
<b>Soils</b>	Describe the potential to encounter acid sulphate soils and or contaminated soil (from past activities, as relevant).
<b>Hydrology</b>	Describe groundwater and surface drainage (including waterways, lakes, wetlands and coastal areas) Describe the waterbodies and aquatic values on site and in the surrounding area. State the distance from the activity to the nearest waterbody.
<b>Natural Values</b>	List the threatened fauna, flora and vegetation communities, including potential habitat for any such species, that are known to occur on or near the site (use the Natural Values Atlas, TASVEG 4.0 or results of any relevant survey). State the vegetation types on and near the site.
<b>Potential Hazards</b>	Provide a brief assessment of the vulnerability of the site to natural hazards (e.g. flooding, seismic activity, fire, landslips or strong winds) or climate change.

### Local Region

<b>Climate</b>	State the annual rainfall and predominant wind direction.
<b>Surrounding land zoning, tenure and uses</b>	Describe the surrounding land use, distance to the nearest residences in other ownership, note any conservation reserves or recreation areas in the area, and provide a coastal description if the coast is nearby.
<b>Species, sites or areas of conservation significance</b>	Provide information on species, sites or areas of landscape, aesthetic, wilderness, scientific or otherwise special conservation significance which may be affected by the proposal. Relevant information resources include the LIST ( <a href="http://www.thelist.tas.gov.au">www.thelist.tas.gov.au</a> ) and the Natural Values Atlas ( <a href="https://www.naturalvaluesatlas.tas.gov.au">https://www.naturalvaluesatlas.tas.gov.au</a> ).

### Proposed Infrastructure

<b>Major equipment</b>	List all existing and proposed plant, machinery, or other major equipment (distinguish between existing and proposed).
<b>Other infrastructure</b>	List the existing and proposed buildings, structures, access roads, internal haul roads (can refer to the Site Plan) (distinguish between existing and proposed).

### Inputs

<b>Water</b>	Include quantities and characteristics.
<b>Energy</b>	Include quantities and characteristics.
<b>Other raw materials</b>	Include quantities and characteristics.

### Wastes and Emissions

<b>Liquid</b>	Include quantities and characteristics.
<b>Atmospheric</b>	Include quantities and characteristics.
<b>Solid</b>	Include quantities and characteristics.
<b>Controlled wastes</b>	Include quantities and characteristics.
<b>Noise</b>	Include major sources of noise emissions.
<b>Greenhouse gases</b>	Provide a brief description of changes to greenhouse gas emissions that will be caused by the proposal.

### Construction, Commissioning and Operations

<b>Proposal timetable</b>	Provide a brief timetable outlining the proposed timeframe(s) for construction, commissioning and commencement of operations. Include significant milestones if applicable.
<b>Construction hours</b>	e.g. xx-xx Monday to Friday xx-xx Saturday
<b>Operating hours (ongoing)</b>	e.g. xx-xx Monday to Friday xx-xx Saturday

### Other Key Characteristics

<b>Other</b>	Describe any additional characteristics relevant to the proposal/environment that are likely to provide important context as part of this summary.
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## Appendix C: Recommended minimum BUS requirements

- Surveys should be undertaken in all habitat types present.
- Surveys should be undertaken by suitably qualified persons.
- Multiple observers should be used for each survey.
- A minimum of five-day surveys at the mid-point of each season (summer, autumn, winter and spring), undertaken from dusk to dawn or an appropriately representative period depending on the time of year.
- Surveys should be representative of the full range of avian species using the proposal site across the year, noting that this is particularly important for migratory avian species which will be present, potentially for short periods although for some species longer, from late summer over autumn and during spring. Surveys should also be representative of local wind conditions.
- Surveys should be undertaken over a minimum period of one year.
- A minimum of five-day surveys should be conducted at the mid-point of each season (summer, autumn, winter and spring), undertaken from dusk to dawn or an appropriately representative period depending on the time of year.
- Surveys should be representative of the full range of avian species using the proposal site across the year, noting that this is particularly important for migratory avian species which will be present, potentially for short periods although for some species longer, from late summer over autumn and during spring. Surveys should also be representative of local wind conditions.

## Appendix D: Specific requirements for OBP mortality monitoring

### Pre-repowering mortality monitoring

Given the substantial increase in the OBP population since mortality monitoring for OBPs ceased at the existing windfarm, the results of previous mortality monitoring should not be used to evaluate current risk. Mortality monitoring should be re-commenced prior to proposed turbine replacement, so that up-to-date baseline data is available for assessing the subsequent impact of the proposal on OBPs. Once the mortality monitoring methodology has been confirmed, data from a minimum of two years of mortality monitoring must be included in the EIS.

### Scavenging of carcasses

There is a high likelihood of carcasses being scavenged at the existing windfarm, given the abundance of Tasmanian devils, spotted-tailed quolls and other scavengers. Removal of carcasses by scavengers could impact detection likelihood during mortality monitoring. In the absence of predator-proof fencing (as used during previous mortality monitoring at the existing windfarm), contemporary mortality monitoring should be undertaken at frequent intervals (one week maximum).

Scavenger trials should be undertaken to inform the required frequency of mortality monitoring. These trials could be based on trials undertaken at the Cattle Hill Wind Farm<sup>61</sup> and be undertaken in February and April to correspond with recommended mortality monitoring.

### Timing of mortality monitoring

Mortality monitoring should consist of standardised searches for OBP carcasses and feather spots conducted at weekly minimum intervals, in cleared areas around all WTGs during three periods:

1. 15 February – 1 March (2 weeks,  $\geq 3$  surveys), during the northward migration period for many adult OBPs;
2. 1 April – 29 April (4 weeks,  $\geq 5$  surveys), during the peak northward migration period for OBPs; and
3. 15 May – 29 May (2 weeks,  $\geq 3$  surveys), when some birds remain around north west Tasmania.

### Carcass detection likelihood

Given the small size of OBPs, and the likelihood of carcass scavenging, low detectability may represent a significant source of bias in OBP mortality monitoring. Detectability trials are recommended to evaluate the efficacy of the chosen survey methodology. These trials could be based on trials undertaken at the Cattle Hill Wind Farm<sup>62</sup> and be undertaken in February and April to correspond with recommended mortality monitoring.

The use of detection dogs is recommended to improve carcass detection likelihood, and/or to help evaluate detection likelihood by human searchers.

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<sup>61</sup> See [CHWF-CADP-and-Appendix-I-Approved-May-2018.pdf](#).

<sup>62</sup> See [CHWF-CADP-and-Appendix-I-Approved-May-2018.pdf](#).

## Appendix E: Avian mortality monitoring plan guidance

- Introduction, include:
  - Brief project description and site location;
  - Site layout plan; and
  - Information about the proponent, including the person responsible.
- Objectives of the plan.
- Survey methodology, a should comprise a structured and statistically designed survey program and assume searches by human observers or dogs:
- The search methodology, to be informed by the results of scavenging and detectability trials, should include:
  - The turbine area to be searched (i.e., distance from the base of turbine);
  - Spacing of circular transects (i.e., at what distance from the turbine base will each transect occur);
  - The number and location of turbines to be searched;
  - The frequency of searches (including frequency of each individual turbine);
  - The search strategy (i.e., whether the same search strategy will be suitable for all turbines based on terrain and surrounding vegetation);
  - How searches are undertaken and how many observers.
  - Management of searched areas (i.e., is vegetation clearance required to allow detections);
  - Commencement date of surveys;
  - Survey duration;
  - Inclusion of met masts search methodology, if present;
  - Estimation of the proportion of mortalities and injured birds and bats likely to be detected, based on the results of the observer detectability and scavenger trials;
  - Fatigue management plan; and
  - Who will conduct the searches (i.e., if informal searches will form part of the monitoring program how will the personnel be trained).
- If the monitoring program is supplemented by an alternative monitoring method such as an automated option (e.g., remote sensing, radar, or imaging) full details of the monitoring strategy should be provided, including:
  - Commencement date of surveys;
  - Comparative benefit of the method relative to using human observers or dogs; and
  - Survey duration.
- Incidental dead or injured bird and bat reporting, including actions taken.
- Reporting Requirements:
  - Detail the notification requirements to the Director, EPA of any evidence of dead or injured native birds or bats (verbal and written);
  - Provide a commitment to provide all results of the monitoring in an annual environmental report to the Director, EPA; and
  - Reports of any dead or injured threatened species should be reported to the Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania.
- Review of the mortality monitoring plan and adaptive management.

## Appendix F: Other issues and agency contacts

In addition to a permit under LUPAA and EMPCA, there may be other legal requirements to allow your proposal to proceed, including other permits, licences or landowner consent. You may also need to contact other Government agencies to obtain information for the purpose of assessment.

Your proposal may have been referred to other agencies by EPA. If assessments or approvals outside of the Board's responsibilities are required, you should engage with the respective agency to progress them. The following list identifies some of the agencies you may need to contact:

### Conservation Assessments

Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania  
Telephone: (03) 6165 4396  
Email: [conservationassessments@nre.tas.gov.au](mailto:conservationassessments@nre.tas.gov.au)  
Website: [www.nre.tas.gov.au/conservation](http://www.nre.tas.gov.au/conservation)

Purpose: Natural values including flora, fauna, and geoconservation values, or permits to deal with threatened species.

### Heritage Tasmania

Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania  
Telephone: (03) 6165 3700  
Email: [enquiries@heritage.tas.gov.au](mailto:enquiries@heritage.tas.gov.au)  
Website: [www.heritage.tas.gov.au](http://www.heritage.tas.gov.au)

Purpose: Historic cultural heritage, including State-level site listings, impacts and permits as required under the Historic Cultural Heritage Act 1995. Where works are proposed in or near a heritage place entered on the Tasmanian Heritage Register or likely to be of heritage significance to the whole of Tasmania, and a permit is required under the Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993, the proposal will be referred to Heritage Tasmania by the planning authority. There may also be additional sites listed under local planning schemes, impacts on which are assessed by the relevant planning authority.

### Aboriginal Heritage Tasmania

Department of Premier and Cabinet  
Telephone: 1300 487 045  
Email: [aboriginalheritage@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:aboriginalheritage@dpac.tas.gov.au)  
Website: [www.aboriginalheritage.tas.gov.au](http://www.aboriginalheritage.tas.gov.au)

Purpose: Aboriginal heritage, including desktop assessment, artefact survey requirements, permits and advice.

### Parks and Wildlife – Property Services

Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania  
Telephone: (03) 6169 9015  
Email: [PropertyServices@parks.tas.gov.au](mailto:PropertyServices@parks.tas.gov.au)  
Website: [www.parks.tas.gov.au](http://www.parks.tas.gov.au)

Purpose: Impacts on parks and reserves managed by Parks and Wildlife, or Crown land.

### **Agriculture and Water**

Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania

Telephone: 1300 368 550

Email: [Water.Enquiries@nre.tas.gov.au](mailto:Water.Enquiries@nre.tas.gov.au)

Website: [www.nre.tas.gov.au/water](http://www.nre.tas.gov.au/water)

Purpose: Water licences and works impacting natural waterway flow (e.g. dams or fords).

### **Transport Services**

Department of State Growth

Telephone: (03) 6166 3369

Email: [permits@stategrowth.tas.gov.au](mailto:permits@stategrowth.tas.gov.au)

Website: [www.transport.tas.gov.au](http://www.transport.tas.gov.au)

Purpose: State roads, including where any proposal requires works on or access from a State-managed road.

### **Mineral Resources Tasmania**

Department of State Growth

Telephone: (03) 6165 4800

Email: [info@mrt.tas.gov.au](mailto:info@mrt.tas.gov.au)

Website: [www.mrt.tas.gov.au](http://www.mrt.tas.gov.au)

Purpose: Mining Leases



ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION AUTHORITY