

Cattle Hill Wind Farm

EPBC 2009/4839

13 August 2018 to 13 August 2019

Annual Compliance Report 2019



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Prepared by: Goldwind Australia (GWA)

For: Wild Cattle Hill Pty Ltd



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<i>Draft for Review</i>	<i>8/11/2019</i>	<i>Jeff Bembrick (GWA)</i>	<i>Sue Marsh (Joule Logic)</i>
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Distribution

Name	Organisation	Project Role	
WCHPL			
<i>John Titchen</i>	<i>GWA</i>	<i>Managing Director</i>	
<i>Ning Chen</i>	<i>GWA</i>	<i>VP Investment and GM GWCA</i>	
<i>Leigh Walters</i>	<i>GWTC</i>	<i>Head of Investment Delivery</i>	
<i>Aidan O'Mahony</i>	<i>GWTC</i>	<i>Delivery Implementation Assistant PM</i>	
<i>Junior Corneelsen</i>	<i>GWTC</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	
<i>Leigh Denton</i>	<i>GWTC</i>	<i>Site HSEQ Supervisor</i>	
<i>Leo Holmes</i>	<i>GWA</i>	<i>HSEQ Manager</i>	

Delivery Address for Annual Compliance Report	
Post	Audit and Assurance Section Compliance and Enforcement Branch Environment Assessment and Compliance Division Department of the Environment GPO Box 787, Canberra ACT 2601
Email	post.approvals@environment.gov.au Copy direct: Peter Blackwell, Assistant Director, Post Approvals Section

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ABBREVIATIONS

Cattle Hill Wind Farm	Comprising 48 wind turbines and up to 150 MW capacity
CEMP	Construction Environmental Management Plan (approved by EPA under Condition CN2 of EPN 10105/1)
Central Highlands Region	Is that described as the area north of Bothwell, east of Bronte Park and surrounds, south of Liawenee, and west of the Great Western Tiers
CHC	Central Highlands Council
CHWF	Cattle Hill Wind Farm
Commission(ed/ing) (EPBC)	the date the wind farm commences the generation of electricity for sale
Commissioning (EPN)	EPN 10105/1 defines commissioning as the testing of turbines and is taken to be completed when 90% of the turbines are being operated in the course of normal commercial operations.
Director	Director of the Tasmanian Environment Protection Authority, holding office under Section 18 of EMPCA and includes a person authorised in writing by the Director to exercise a power or function on the Director's behalf.
DoEE or Department	Department of Energy and Environment
DPEMP	Development Proposal and Environmental Management Plan
DPIPWE	Tasmanian Department of Primary Industry, Parks, Water and Environment
EMOP	Eagle Mortality Offset Plan
EMPCA	Environmental Management and Pollution Control Act 1994
EPA	Tasmanian Environment Protection Authority
EPBC	Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999
EPBC 2009/4839	EPBC Approval No. 2009/4839
EPC	Engineer, Procure and Construct
EPN	Environment Protection Notice 10105/1 (issued by Tasmanian EPA on 13 March 2019)
ERP	Emergency Response Plan
FOMP	Flora Offset Management Plan
HB	Hazell Brothers
GWA	Goldwind Australia Pty Ltd (ACN 140 108 390)
Ha	Hectare
IDF	IdentiFlight System
kV	Kilovolt
MW	Megawatt
NVA	Natural Values Atlas
O&M	Operations and Maintenance (Phase of Development)
OEMP	Operations Environmental Management Plan (approved by EPA under Condition G11 of EPN 10105/1)
SCADA	Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition
TasNetworks	Own, operate and maintain the electricity transmission and distribution network in Tasmania.
TFS	Tasmanian Fire Services
The Land	Project land, Central Tasmania, east of Lake Echo and off Bashan Rd, approximately 3km southwest of Waddamana, including part or all of titles 135246/1; 29897/1; 29897/3; 29897/5; 248810/1; 135247/1; 135247/2; 29888/4; and 29897/6
The Proponent	Wild Cattle Hill Pty Ltd (WCHPL) ACN 610 777 369
VDC	Van Diemen Consulting
WTE	Tasmanian Wedge-tailed Eagle (<i>Aquila audax fleayi</i>)
WBSE	White-bellied Sea-eagle (<i>Haliaeetus leucogaster</i>)
WCHPL	Wild Cattle Hill Pty Ltd ACN 610 777 369 Level 25, Tower 1, 100 Barangaroo Avenue, Barangaroo NSW 2000

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Declaration of Accuracy

This Annual Compliance Report relates to the Cattle Hill Wind Farm located in Central Highlands of Tasmania.

The Annual Compliance Report has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Condition 27 of the Approval issued under the Environment Protection Biodiversity and Conservation Act 1999,

Cattle Hill Wind Farm, Tasmania - EPBC 2009/4839

This Report:

- *has been prepared for submission to the Department of Energy and Environment in accordance with the submission date specified in the Department's email of 17 May 2019.*
- *addresses each of the Conditions of the Approval and management plans to describe the status of compliance with the respective requirements*
- *provides an accurate account of the respective matters for the Approval and does not intentionally misrepresent circumstances*
- *Is made publicly available through publication on the Cattle Hill Wind Farm website (www.cattlehillwindfarm.com).*

Jeff Bembrick

Development Compliance Manager, Goldwind Australia, on behalf of Wild Cattle Hill Pty Ltd.

11 November 2019

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Purpose of this document

This Annual Compliance Report describes the activities undertaken and relevant performance in respect of:

- **Project:** Cattle Hill Wind Farm
- **Proponent:** Wild Cattle Hill Pty Ltd (ACN 610 777 369)
- **EPBC Approval:** EPBC 2009/4839
- **Condition no. 27** – First report under requirements of Condition 27
- **Report period:** 13 August 2018 to 13 August 2019
- **Project phase:** Construction phase for all of reporting period

The report has been prepared by Goldwind Australia on behalf of Wild Cattle Hill Pty Ltd.

The report has been prepared in accordance with Condition 27 of EPBC Approval, EPBC 2009/4839, to fulfil the requirements of Condition 27. Table 1.1 lists the requirements of Condition 27 and the sections of this report where each requirement is addressed.

Table 1.1: EPBC Condition 27 - Annual Compliance Reporting Requirements

EPBC Approval Condition 27 Reporting Requirements	Report Section
Within 90 days of each anniversary of the commencement of the action, the person taking the action must:	Due for submission by 11 Nov 2019
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • publish a report on its website addressing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ compliance with each of the conditions of this approval, including ○ implementation of any management plans as specified in the conditions. 	This report in Section 4 and Appendix A
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Documentary evidence providing proof of the date of publication and non-compliance with any of the conditions of this approval must be provided to the Department at the same time as the compliance report is published. 	Submission of this report to DoEE and accessibility on CHWF Website
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unless otherwise directed in writing by the Minister the report must include a chapter that outlines how each injured or sick wedge-tailed eagle was rehabilitated in accordance with the requirements of condition 19. This must include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. how the injured or sick wedge-tailed eagle was identified for rehabilitation b. the nature of injuries and/or sickness at the commencement of rehabilitation c. the actions taken to rehabilitate the wedge-tailed eagle including the location and costs of rehabilitation and qualification and experience of persons involved in rehabilitation; and d. potential survival in the wild. 	Not required this report period No sick or injured WTE

A summary of compliance status for the Approval Conditions and management plans is shown in Table

Table 1.2 – Summary of Compliance for Conditions of Approval and Management Plans

Condition	Compliance Status	Management Plan	Date Approved	Compliance
1	Compliant			
2	Compliant			
3	Compliant	Record keeping	Not applicable	Complies
4	Not applicable			
5	Not applicable			
6	Revoked			
6A	Compliant	CAD Plan	28 May 2018	Complies
6B	Compliant			
6C	Not applicable			
7	Revoked			
8	Revoked			
9	Revoked			
10	Not applicable			
11	Not applicable			
12	Not applicable			
13	Compliant			
14	Compliant			
15	Not applicable			
16	Compliant			
17	Not applicable	Research Funding	29 Oct 2019	Complies
18	Not applicable			
19	Not applicable			
20	Not applicable			
21	Revoked			
22	Compliant	Weed Management Plan	14 Dec 2017	Complies
23	Compliant	Flora Offset Strategy Flora Offset Management Plan	15 Mar 2018 10 Aug 2018	Complies Complies
24	Not applicable			
25	Compliant	Notification		
26	Compliant			
27	Compliant	Annual Compliance Report	11 Nov 2019 *	Complies
28	Not applicable			
29	Not applicable			
30	Not applicable			
31	Not applicable			
32	Compliant			
33	Not applicable			
		Management Plan compliance is as relevant to the report period		

2 SUMMARY DETAILS OF CHWF PROJECT, LOCATION AND CONTEXT

2.1 Project Context

Cattle Hill Wind farm (CHWF) is being developed in the Central Highlands of Tasmania to the east of Lake Echo and to the southwest of the Village of Waddamana. Construction commenced in 2018 and is now well advanced with the wind farm scheduled to be operational in early 2020.

The wind farm will comprise 48 Goldwind wind turbines that will collectively produce 148.5 MW of electricity sourced from the wind energy resources available at the site.

Once operational, CHWF will power approximately 63,500 Tasmanian homes, increasing Tasmania's renewable energy generation capacity by approximately 5 per cent, and providing a significant contribution to Tasmania's target of becoming fully self-sufficient with renewable energy by 2022.

2.2 Project Locality and Setting

CHWF is located in Tasmania's Central Highlands, approximately 93 kilometres north-west of Hobart and 110 kilometres from Launceston (Figure 2.1). The site is within a sparsely populated and relatively isolated part of the Central Highlands Council municipal area, on land which ranges approximately from 700-900 metres above sea level (Figure 2.1).

The site is approximately 35 kilometres south of the township of Miena and is bordered geographically by Lake Echo to the West, and the Ouse River valley to the east, where the former Waddamana Power Station remains as a heritage site and museum. Waddamana village is about 3km to the northeast and contains a collection of vacant residences that in the past provided accommodation for the Waddamana power station workforce. The Waddamana Power Station and associated infrastructure, penstocks, canals, pipelines and access network are part of the local area heritage and receive low level of visitation by tourists to the region.

The CHWF site is accessible by unsealed roads from the northeast, east and south, normally associated with very low traffic levels.

The wind farm occupies an area of approximately 4,121 hectares of privately-owned land (Section 2.3).

Lake Echo to the west is Hydro Tasmania asset and together with Ouse River also provides recreational fishing opportunities for the community and sporting groups.

Grazing and forestry land are located to the north, east and south and are associated with scattered rural housing. The project area itself comprises ten lots, owned by two landowners, and has been historically used for cattle grazing, forestry and hunting.

Parts of the biodiversity values for the project area are protected under existing Tasmanian Conservation Covenant. Additional parts of the project area are also being set aside for conservation purposes as part of biodiversity offset provisions arising from the project's unavoidable impacts on biodiversity.

An existing TasNetworks high voltage electricity transmission easement crosses the site and allows the wind farm to connect to the transmission network with the addition of only minor new overhead line infrastructure between the wind farm substation and the existing 220 kV line easement. Operation and maintenance of the TasNetworks transmission lines requires occasional visitation by TasNetworks and its contractors to the project locality.



Figure 2.1 – Cattle Hill Wind Farm Project Layout as amended at 01 April 2019

2.3 Associated Planning Approvals

In addition to the EPBC approval for the CHWF Project, the development has required approvals from Tasmanian State and Local regulators as shown in Table 2.1.

Table 2.1 – Details of planning and environmental approvals for CHWF

Jurisdiction	Regulator	Approval No.	Infrastructure
Commonwealth	Department of Energy and Environment	EPB 2009/4839	CHWF
State	Environment Protection Authority	EPN 10105/1	CHWF
Local	Central Highlands Council	DA 2010/19, as amended	CHWF
Local	Central Highlands Council	DA 2017/56	Identiflight
Local	Central Highlands Council	DA 2017/57	Met Masts
Local	Central Highlands Council	DA 2018/09	Roadworks permit
Local	Central Highlands Council	DA 2018/31	Off Site Road Upgrades
State	DPIPWE – Covenant Authorisation	Authorisation Date	Allows specified impacts
State	DPIPWE – Permits to Take (PTT) in relation to Threatened Species or Products of Wildlife.	Various	Allows specific impacts under the Terms and Conditions of the PTT.

The planning permit for CHWF, DA 2010/19, was obtained from Central Highlands Council under the Tasmanian *Land Use and Planning Approvals Act 1993*.

Environment Protection Notice (EPN) 10105/1 was issued by the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) on 13 March 2019 under the Tasmanian *Environmental Management and Pollution Control Act 1994*. The EPN varies the environmental conditions of Permit No. DA 2010/19.

2.4 CHWF Project Land

The land on which the CHWF is located is situated immediately to the east of Lake Echo and accessed from Bashan Rd, approximately 3km southwest of Waddamana, and includes part or all of the following land titles (defined in approvals DA2010/19, EPN 10105/1, and EPBC 2009/4839). These titles are held by two landowners (Landowner 1 and Landowner 2), as follows:

- Landowner 1 - 135246/1; 29897/1; 29897/3; 29897/5; 135247/1; 135247/2; 29888/4, 29897/6.
- Landowner 2 - 248810/1.

Figure 2.2 shows the project area and land titles relative to the project as listed above (collectively referred to as “the Land”).

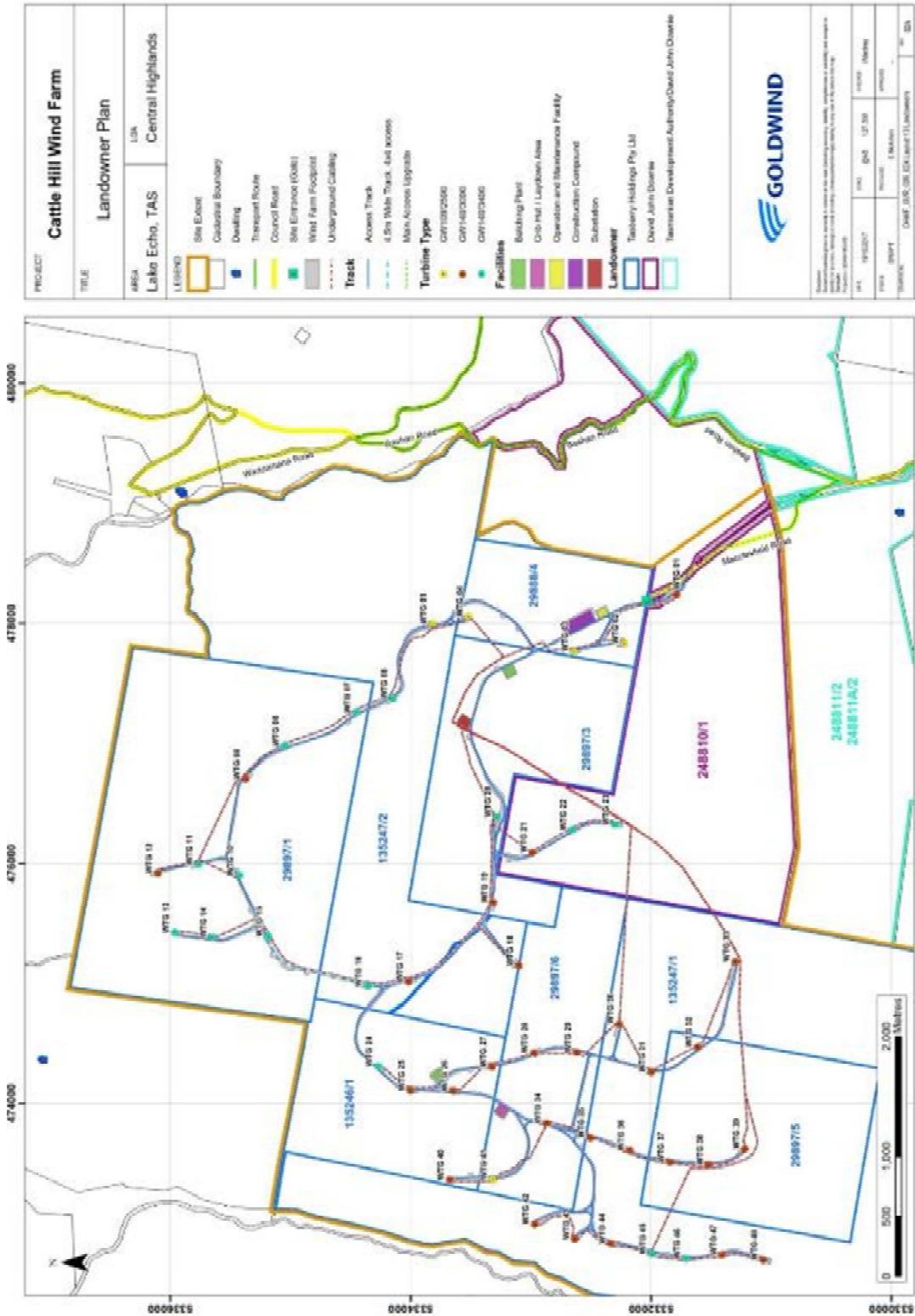


Figure 2.2 – Cattle Hill Wind Farm – Property Map for the Project Area

3 DETAILS OF CHWF PROJECT AND DEVELOPMENT STATUS

3.1 Approved Action

The EPBC Approval allows the following Approved Action:

To develop a wind farm consisting of up to 100 wind turbine generators and associated infrastructure east of Lake Echo in Tasmania's Central Highlands as described in the referral received on 7 April 2009 and request for variation to proposal received 30 August 2010.

Appendix B of the EPBC Approval (EPBC 2009/4839) shows the extent of the CHWF project area.

Appendix A of the EPBC Approval (EPBC 2009/4839) shows the project layout based on the Design Report Layout December 2017 and showing exclusion zones from Eagle Nests known at that time.

The CHWF layout currently being installed is consistent with the Tasmanian planning approvals and the Design Report December 2017 approved by EPA 01 March 2018. The layout for the Design Report addressed all the relevant Commonwealth, State and Local planning matters.

The CHWF project comprises a lesser number of wind turbines, 48 instead of the 100 originally considered by the EPBC referral. The CHWF project has a reduced footprint but the installed turbines are larger than originally proposed enabling the project to take advantage of advances in technology and greater wind turbine efficiency to deliver an improved wind farm performance but with reduced environmental impact.

The details of the CHWF project being implemented are outlined below. The proponent has kept the Department aware of the EPA approved Final Design for the project and subsequent minor variations required for the project that have been approved by the EPA. Changes to the project have simplified underground cabling arrangements, removing some parts of the cable routes and micro-siting other infrastructure to reduce impacts and/or to improve practicality of implementation.

3.2 Details of Wind Turbines

The project comprises 48 wind turbines. These are a combination of Goldwind's Permanent Magnet Direct Drive design (models GW140/3200 and GW140/3400) with a total wind farm generating capacity of 148.5MW.

The wind turbines have key dimensions as follows:

- a maximum height (to highest point of rotor swept area) of 170 meters above ground level,
- a hub height of approximately 100 metres.
- The three bladed rotors are approximately 140 metres in diameter.

Near the base of each wind turbine tower are:

- an external kiosk-style 33kV transformer
- two banks of cooling fans. Cooling fluid circulates between the cooling fan units and the internal areas of the tower and turbine.
- A compacted hardstand area has been formed at each wind turbine site, during construction, for use by large cranes and for component laydown. These hardstands are retained for the operations phase in case large cranes are required for maintenance activities.

No aviation safety lighting is required on the wind turbines. Lighting is provided at the entry to each wind turbine tower. The wind turbines are off-white/grey with non-reflective finish as approved by CHC.

3.3 Substation details

A substation is located near to the TasNetworks transmission easement that crosses the project area. The Substation includes:

- a 33-kV switch room that receives 33 kV cables from each of the wind farm's collector groups
- a 33kV/220 kV transformer in concrete bund
- landing gantry for conductors from substation to cut-in poles for the 220-kV transmission line.
- Various electrical protection and power quality equipment
- Security fencing around the substation
- Earthing grid below gravel cover for substation compound

3.4 Other permanent infrastructure

The wind farm design also includes:

- Access track network from the site entry to all turbine sites and the substation site (Figure 2.1)
- Five 33kV collections circuits comprising 33kV underground cables between groups of turbines and the substation. Communications and control cables are co-located with the 33kV cables.
- An Operations and Maintenance facility near the site entry and adjacent Macclesfield Road comprising:
 - a compound surrounded by security fencing
 - a building providing office desks, computer and communications facilities and amenities
 - a workshop and storeroom
- 16 Identiflight units located throughout the wind turbine layout in locations that provide optical coverage of all turbine sites and their surrounding areas.

Minor variations were made to the locations of access tracks and routes of 33kV cables

3.5 Temporary construction infrastructure

The wind farm design also allowed for temporary construction infrastructure including:

- Construction compound – to be removed when construction activities are completed
- Two batch plant sites (eastern and western sites) – Now removed from site
- Water Supply point for extraction from Lake Echo

3.6 Status of CHWF Works

Preparatory works occurred in early 2018 to prepare for construction that commenced on 13 August 2018. The project layout is shown in Figure 2.1. The full access network has been established now but some of those works were still in progress at the end of the reporting period.

For the full reporting period, the project has been in the construction phase. Commissioning of wind turbines had not commenced by the end of the reporting period and had not commenced at the time of submission of this report.

Operations will not commence until at least the end of the year and most likely in the first quarter of 2020.

4 EPBC APPROVAL CONDITIONS AND PROPONENT RESPONSES

4.1 Overview of the EPBC Approval requirements

Since issue of EPBC Approval 2009/4839, the conditions of approval have been subject to a number of variations including the revocation of Conditions 6 to 9 and 21. In the case of Condition 6, three Conditions 6A, 6B and 6C were added in place of the revoked Condition 6.

A number of conditions are not applicable to the current reporting period as the development phase has not been reached or they are set in the future.

The following sections provide further details of the proponent's response to requirements of conditions that are applicable for this reporting period and describe the status of compliance requirements. Where relevant, implementation of management plans is also described. Details of the Compliance Status for each condition is also provided in Appendix A.

4.2 Condition 1 – Wind Turbines no closer than 1,000m to a known eagle nest

Condition 1 requires that wind turbine generators are not constructed closer than 1,000 metres of an eagle nest.

The CHWF Final Design is described in the CHWF Design Report, dated December 2017. The design incorporated setbacks of more than 1,000 metres from eagle nests that were known at that time the Design Report was finalized. The setbacks satisfied the requirement of Condition 1 of the EPBC Approval (see Figure 3.1).

During 2018 and after significant contractual commitments were made for the CHWF project implementation, it became evident that new eagle nests had been established. The presence of the new nests was discussed with both DoEE and Tasmanian EPA and it was acknowledged that the occurrence of the new nests, or any subsequent new nests in respect of the original form of the conditions, could have made the project unviable.

Subsequently, both the EPBC Approval and EPN were varied to distinguish 'existing nests' that were considered by the final design in 2017. New nests identified after the Final Design was established and significant project commitments were locked in, have been subject to further consideration by regulators, separately from the Condition requirements for 'Known Nests'.

4.3 Condition 2 – Construction activities within 500m or 1000m of active nest

Condition 2 requires that construction activities do not occur within 500 metres of an active eagle nest during the breeding season or within 1,000 metres line of site of an active eagle nest during the breeding season.

Due to the Final design taking into account known nests, no construction activities were required within 1,000m of an active known eagle nest whether in the breeding season or at other times.

There are two new nests within 1,000m of a turbine location (RND 2467 and Additional Nest 3 – See Figure 3.2) that were identified after the Final Design was confirmed). EPN 10105/1, Condition FF2 has been amended to require that an Active Nest Construction Environmental Management Plan and Eagle Nest Utilisation Monitoring Plan (ANCEMP and ENUMP) be prepared and submitted to EPA by 1 May 2019. The ANCEMP and ENUMP was submitted to EPA and approved by EPA on 24 May 2019. Construction activities in relation to the two new nests RND 2467 and Additional Nest 3 have been conducted in accordance with the Plan. The requirements of the ANCEMP and ENUMP were first applied from July 2019 including monthly reporting to the EPA on construction activities and nest monitoring results.

The project has complied with EPBC Condition 2, EPN Condition FF2 and the management plan ANCEMP and ENUMP.

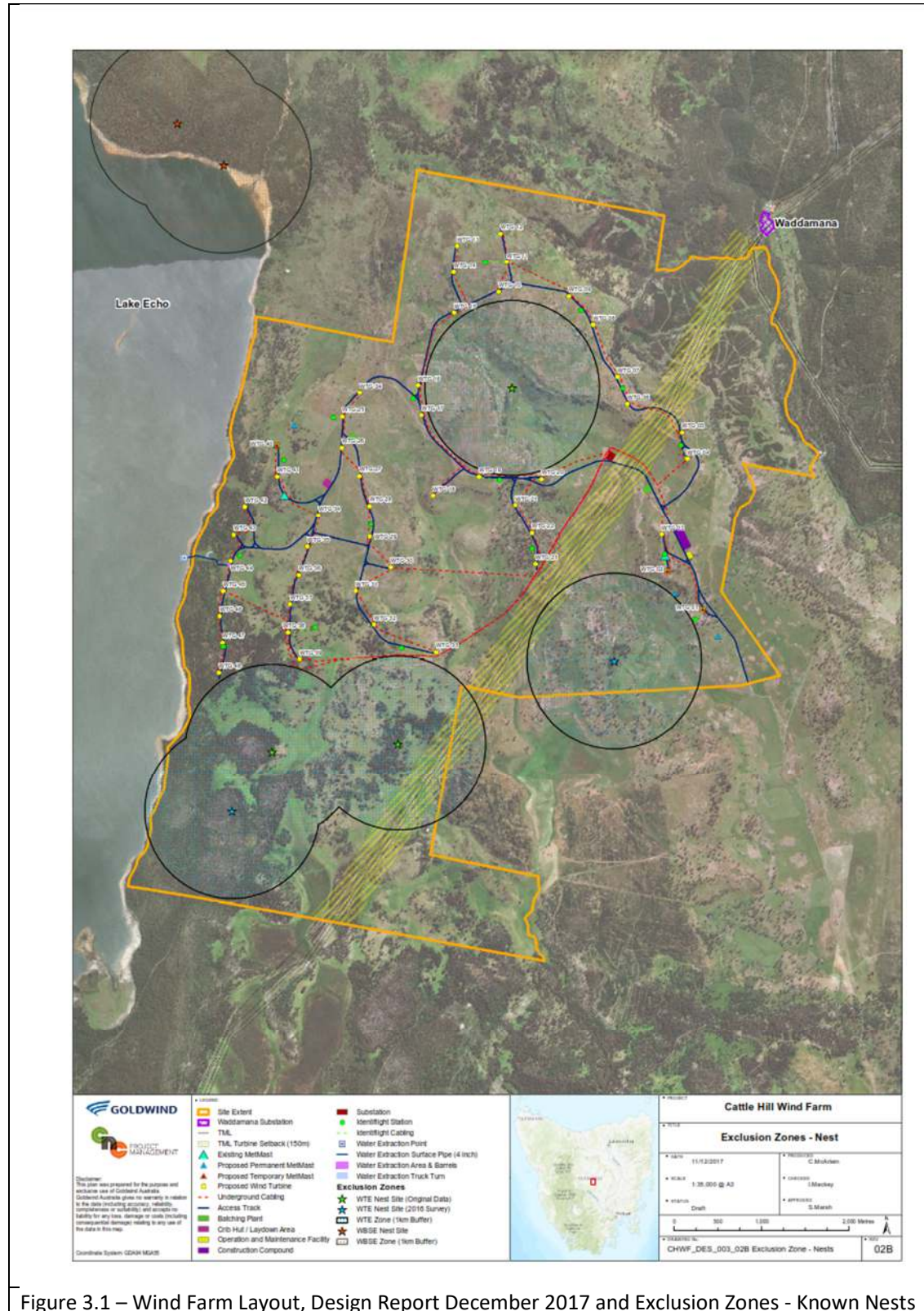


Figure 3.1 – Wind Farm Layout, Design Report December 2017 and Exclusion Zones - Known Nests

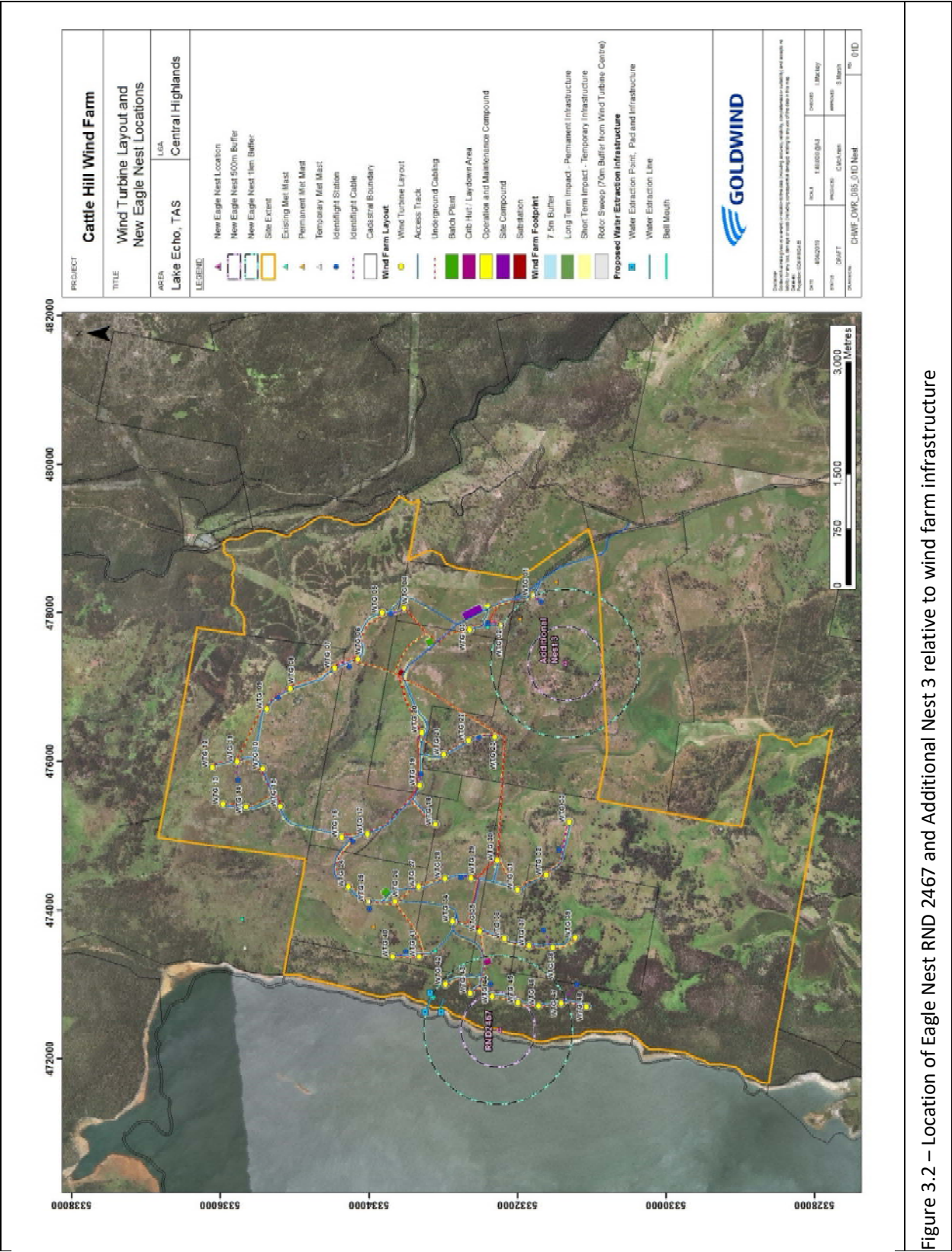


Figure 3.2 – Location of Eagle Nest RND 2467 and Additional Nest 3 relative to wind farm infrastructure

4.4 Condition 3 – Removal of carcasses from hunting and culling

Condition 3 requires, immediate removal of all animal carcasses from hunting and culling activities from within 500 metres of wind turbine generator locations from 12 months prior to commissioning and for the life of the wind farm.

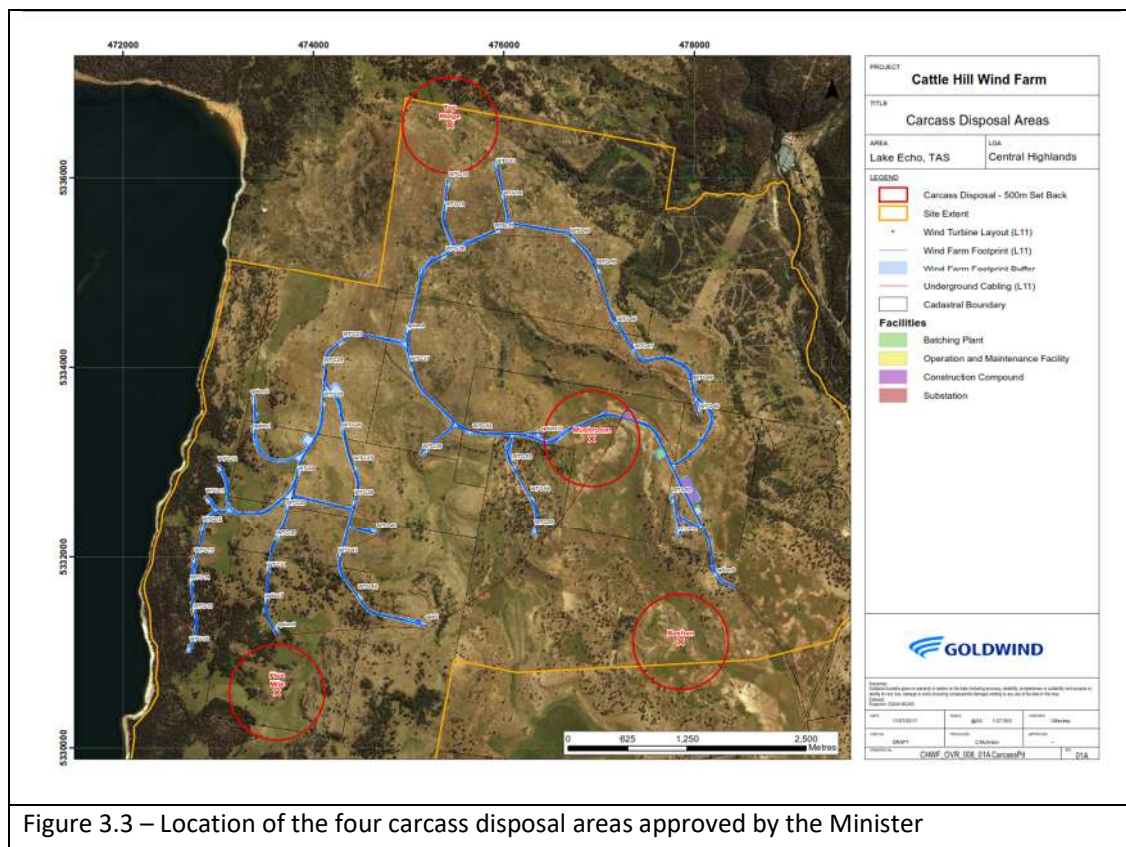
Hunting and Culling has been occurring on the two properties where CHWF is located from well before the development commenced and is continuing in similar form but with arrangements to ensure safe conduct in the vicinity of the development activities and with defined processes for record keeping in respect of numbers and types of carcasses and their disposal.

Records of animals shot are prepared by shooters (species and number shot, location shot, location disposed and person removing the animal or carcass). The records are periodically forwarded to WCHPL, records are available since 2 June 2017, more than two years before commissioning.

Separate from the EPBC requirements, EPN Condition FF7 requires the preparation and approval of a Hunting and Culling Management Plan. The Plan was prepared by Joule Logic (5 November 2018), on behalf of WCHPL and, in consultation with landowners, shooting groups and the construction contractors. The Final Plan was approved by EPA on 20 November 2018. It designates certain exclusion zones for shooting including the Conservation Covenant and within 200m of wind turbines.

Four Carcass Disposal Areas (see below) were approved by the Minister (Figure 3.3). The percentage disposed at each area for the report period is also shown, approx. 53.4% were removed from site.

- Top Ridge – Minor use (approx. 3.2% of carcasses for the report period disposed here)
- Mushroom – Initially established in wrong location, location now corrected (approx. 18.1%)
- Five Mile – Carcass material placed on ground at this location (approx. 25.3% disposal)
- Bashan – Not used as hunters on that property have historically removed the whole animals



4.5 Condition 4 – Operations – Removal of carcasses from collisions with wind turbines

Condition 4 requires that during wind farm operations, animal carcasses resulting from collisions with wind turbines generators, vehicles and/or other regular farming activities within the wind farm site are removed on the day they are discovered and are placed in locations, approved in writing by the Minister, no closer than 500 metres from the wind turbine generator locations.

The wind farm was not operational during the reporting period and this condition is not applicable for the reporting period. As indicated above, carcass area locations have been approved.

4.6 Condition 5 – Operations - Searches for Dead Calves during September each year

Condition 5 requires that daily searches are conducted for dead calves during September each year and any carcasses are removed from within 500 m of any wind turbines. Additionally, unless otherwise agreed to in writing by the Department, wind turbine generators must not operate during day light hours within 1,000 metres of paddocks where lambing is occurring. In the Department's letter of 14 February 2018, the Director agreed to operation of turbines no closer than 500 metres from any lambing activities but that does not yet appear to have been changed in Condition 5.

No turbines were operating during the reporting period and the condition is considered as not applicable for the reporting period.

4.7 Conditions 6A, 6B and 6C – Collision Avoidance and Detection Plan (CADP)

Condition 6 has been revoked and replaced with Conditions 6A, 6B and 6C.

Condition 6A requires the preparation and submission of a Collision Avoidance and Detection Plan (CADP) to the Minister for approval. The CADP has been submitted to the Department and approval obtained on 29 May 2018.

Condition 6B requires that the wind farm not be commissioned until the CADP has been approved by the Minister. The CADP has been approved prior to the reporting period and the wind farm commissioning had not commenced during the reporting period.

Condition 6C requires a detailed assessment of the effectiveness of the CAD system to be submitted to the Minister within 18 months after commissioning. This requirement is not yet applicable.

The project is compliant with all requirements of Conditions 6A, 6B and 6C.

Conditions 7, 8 and 9 have been revoked.

4.8 Condition 10 – Operations – Notification of collision of an Eagle and Wind Turbine

Condition 10 requires notification to: *"the Department by email within 24 hours of any collision between a wedge-tailed eagle or white bellied sea eagle and a wind turbine."*

While approximately 17% of turbines were erected during the reporting period, none had been energised or had commenced commissioning. As the turbines were not operating, there is a much lower likelihood of collision of eagles with the installed wind turbines. No collisions of eagles with wind turbines was detected for the CHWF site during the reporting period or in the time since August 2019.

As there were no collisions for the reporting period, the requirements of Condition 10 were not applicable for the reporting period.

4.9 Condition 11 – Revised CADP within two years following commissioning

Condition 11 requires that: *"Within 2 years following Commissioning, submit for the Minister's written approval a revised CADP containing details of the collision avoidance and detection system proposed"*

to be subsequently implemented (including technologies installed and practices undertaken) for monitoring WTE movements, preventing WTE collisions with turbines and recording collisions.”

The wind farm commissioning had not commenced during the reporting period and the requirements of Condition 11 are not yet applicable.

4.10 Condition 12 – Maintain records of searches required by Condition 11

Condition 12 requires: *“Keep and maintain accurate records of each physical search conducted as required by Condition 11, including date, time, turbine number and research findings”* and that: *“These records must be provided to the Department on request.”*

This is a future requirement and not applicable for this reporting period.

4.11 Condition 13 – All wind farm roads signposted with max 40kph speed limit

Condition 13 requires:

“Ensure that all roads within the wind farm site are clearly signposted requiring all vehicles to travel at no more than 40 kph and ensure that this is a requirement for all drivers within the site except in an emergency.”

The EPC Team has responded to the Condition 13 requirement by:

- Including the requirement for 40 kph speed limit in site induction material that all site personnel are required to undertake so that they are aware of requirements
- Placing signage around the site clearly showing the 40kph speed limit (Plate 3.1) and, in some places, requiring lesser speed limits.
- Reminders for speed restrictions is regularly provided as part of pre-start meetings
- Additionally, signage has also been established on-site requiring a speed limit of 30kph from dusk to dawn for the protection of native animals that are active at night-time (Plate 3.2).

The resultant low incidence of on-site road-kills is likely to be largely attributed to control of vehicle speeds.



Plate 3.1 – 40 kph site speed limit signage



Plate 3.2– 30kph signage Dusk to Dawn

4.12 Condition 14 – Daily checks on all wind farm roads for road-kills

Condition 14 requires that: *“Prior to construction commencing each day, ensure all roads proposed to be used that day are free of road kill and any animal carcasses are placed in locations approved in writing by the Minister no closer than 500 metres from wind turbine generator locations.”*

The construction phase of the CHWF development has been associated with a very low incidence of road-kills. This is likely due to the reduced speed limit for on-site roads. In contrast off-site roads that have higher speed limits appear to have regular occurrences of road-kills.

Overall, there have been very few instances of on-site road-kills. The disposal of the few carcasses arising from on-site road-kills have sometimes required investigation, particularly if the carcass was for a threatened species. For example, a quoll that was found deceased on an access track near the construction compound was forwarded to Bonorong Wildlife Centre for autopsy to determine the cause of death. Bonorong subsequently reported that the quoll had been attacked by another animal as evidenced by puncture marks and lack of evidence of impact injury.

In terms of the required checks, the Balance of Plant and Supply and Install contractors are required to review all work areas at/before commencement of works and report any occurrences of road-kills.

4.13 Condition 15 – WTE monitoring as required by Permit Conditions FF4 and FF 5

EPBC Condition 15 requires the completion of Wedge-tailed Eagle monitoring arrangements required by the amended Tasmanian planning permit DA 2019/19 Conditions FF4 and FF5.

Condition FF4 required that:

“Prior to commissioning the wind farm an eagle nest search of the Central Highlands Region must be conducted by a suitably qualified and experienced person and the results submitted for inclusion in the Natural Values Atlas.”

SFM was engaged to undertake the required WTE monitoring for the Central Highlands and completed the survey and report in February/March 2018. The report was submitted to EPA on 9 April 2018 and was subsequently approved by EPA on 8 June 2018.

Condition FF5(1) required that:

“Unless otherwise approved in writing by the Director, an Eagle Nest Productivity (in and around the wind farm site) Monitoring Plan must be submitted to the Director for approval 6 weeks prior to construction.”

Joule Logic was engaged to prepare the Eagle Nest Productivity Plan. The final version of the Plan was submitted to the EPA on 2 October 2017 (considerably more than the 6 weeks before construction) and it was approved by the EPA on 30 October 2017.

Requirements of EPBC Condition 15 have been addressed for the reporting period.

4.14 Conditions 16 and 17 – Funding of Research for long term conservation of WTE

Conditions 16 and 17 relate to arrangements for funding a research plan to inform the long-term conservation of WTE and commencement of funding for the research plan. Condition 16 requires the submission of the plan to the Minister for approval and the wind farm must not be commissioned until the plan is approved and implemented. Condition 17 requires commencement of implementation of the approved research plan.

Note 1 appended to Condition 16 states that:

“The Minister may determine that a plan, strategy or program approved by the Tasmanian Government in accordance with EPA conditions FF5, FF6, FF13, FF14 and FF15 satisfies the requirements for the Plan required under conditions 16 and 17.”

WCHPL has appointed NRM South to manage and implement a Wedge-tailed Eagle Research Fund to offset the impact of mortalities due to collisions with wind turbines at Cattle Hill Wind Farm. The Fund aims to support critical studies into the Tasmanian sub-species and is designed to allow other proponents or organisations to contribute to it.

Email advice was received from the Department on 29 October 2019, stating that based on the information provided to the Department that requirements of Condition 17 have been met.

As Condition 17 relates to the implementation of the Research Plan required by Condition 16 this indicates that requirements of both Condition 16 and 17 have been met.

4.15 Condition 18 – Review effectiveness of Research Plan five years after its approval

This is a future requirement and not applicable for this reporting period.

4.16 Condition 19 – Further funding in relation to WTE mortality or injury

Condition 19 requires that

“For each actual wedge-tailed eagle mortality or injured wedge-tailed eagle that cannot be released into the wild, occurring above 2 actual mortalities or injured wedge-tailed eagles that cannot be released in to the wild in any calendar year, fund a raptor or wildlife centre to rehabilitate an injured or sick wedge-tailed eagle and release that wedge-tailed eagle into the wild at an ecologically suitable location to the satisfaction of a suitably qualified expert”

No wedge-tailed eagle mortalities or injury occurred during the reporting period in relation to the wind farm operation and Condition 19 was not applicable for the reporting period.

Note 2 included with Condition 19 states that: *“The Minister may determine that satisfaction of Tasmanian EPA condition FF15 – 3.3 satisfies the requirements of the condition.”*

The Eagle Mortality Offset Plan prepared in response to Condition FF15 and approved by EPA on 21 December 2019, does include relevant provisions that address the requirements of the EPBC Condition 19.

4.17 Condition 20 –review of requirements after 10 years of operations

Condition 20 allows for the person taking the action, after 10 years of operation to demonstrate that the wind farm is not impacting the wedge-tailed eagle and to request approval from the Minister to cease implementing conditions 11 (if required) and 17. This is a future requirement (some 10 to 11 years from the reporting period and is not applicable for this reporting period.

Condition 21 has been revoked.

4.18 Condition 22 – Weed Management Strategy

Condition 22 requires that three months prior to commencement of construction, the approval holder must submit a Weed Management Strategy to the Minister for Approval and once approved, the Weed Management Strategy must be implemented.

The CHWF Weed Management Plan was approved by the Minister’s delegate on 14 December 2017 as satisfying the requirements of Condition 22 of the EPBC approval. In respect of implementation, the following elements have been applied for the project:

- Weed mapping and identification of relevant weeds for the site. Ecological mapping and reporting has noted and recorded weed presence.
- Employee site inductions include requirements for weed management
- Training in Weed identification and management was provided by VDC in Oct/Nov 2018

- Vehicle and Plant Inductions including weed free/cleanliness checks
- Weed identification posters on site notice boards and incentives for identifying weeds (Plate 3.5)
- Periodic Weed Control Treatments by Balance of Plant contractor (HB)
- Wash Down Bay establishment,
 - initial temporary facility at O&M Compound Plate 3.3, and
 - more robust facility at Construction Compound Plate 3.4.



Plate 3.3 – Initial Weed Wash Down Bay, O&M Compound, Superseded by Construction Compound



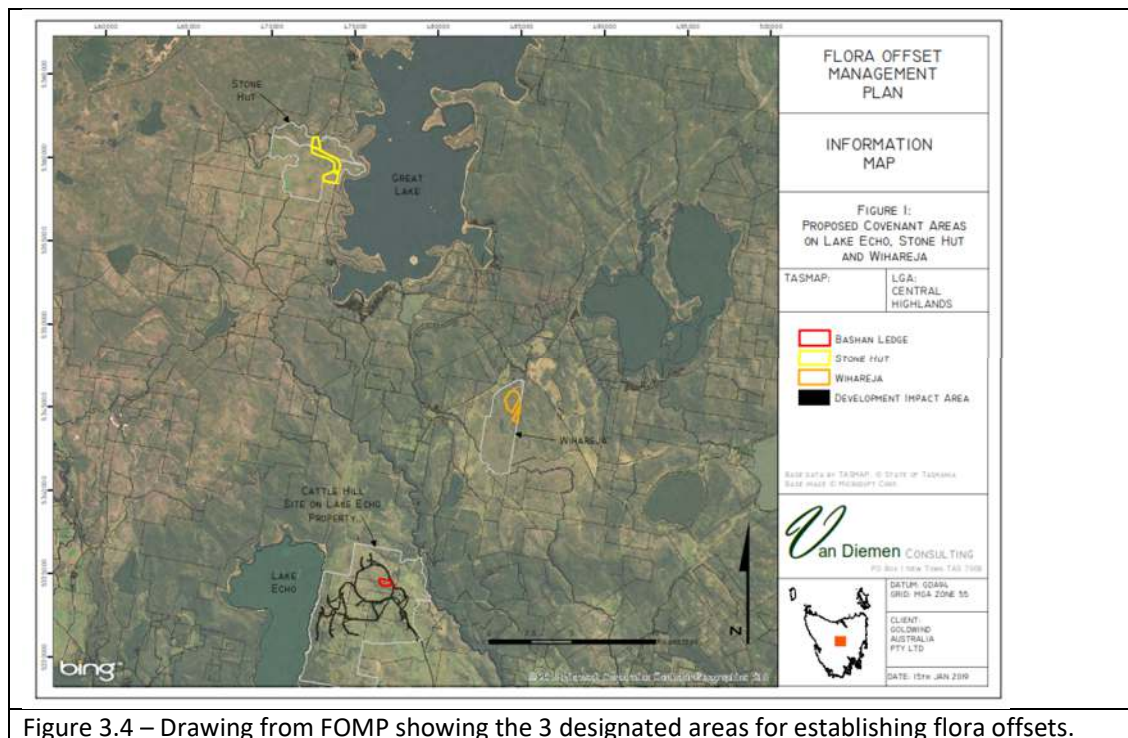
Plate 3.4 – Wash Down Bay at Construction Compound replaces that at the O&M Compound



4.19 Condition 23 –Flora Offset Strategy and Flora Offset Management Plan

Condition 23 requires that, prior to construction, the approval holder must submit a Flora Offset Strategy to the Department for Approval. The Flora Offset Strategy was approved on 15 March 2018 prior to construction commencing. The Flora Offset is to compensate for unavoidable impacts to the Liawenee Greenhood and Crowded Leek Orchids.

Condition 23(c) further requires the approval holder to submit a Flora Offset Management Plan (FOMP) to the Department within 10 months of the Department having approved the Flora Offset Strategy. While the best endeavours were made to achieve the required timeframe, some details required for the FOMP required an extension of the time frame for completion of the FOMP. An extension was agreed to by the Department and the FOMP was submitted to the Department and was approved by the Department on 10 August 2019. The FOMP comprises three areas to offset the project's unavoidable impacts on orchid species at the CHWF Site. The three areas are shown in Figure 3.3 and comprise one offset area on the CHWF site, referred to as Bashan Ledge and, two offset areas external to the CHWF site, referred to as Whiareja and Stone Hut. The Flora Offset Management Plan that was approved on 10 August 2019 must now be implemented and details of implementation will be addressed for the next reporting period.



4.20 Condition 24 – requirement if previously unrecorded species is found

Condition 24 requires that if during pre-construction or construction activities a previously unrecorded threatened species is encountered, the person taking the action must immediately cease activities at the affected area.

No previously unrecorded species were found during pre-construction or construction activities despite substantial additional survey work and hence there were no requirements for cessation of works and reporting in relation to Condition 24. The requirements of Condition 24 were not applicable for the reporting period.

4.21 Condition 25 – Notification of Commencement of Action and Commissioning

Condition 25 requires that the person taking the action within three days of the commencement of the action must advise the Department in writing of the actual day of commencement of the action.

The Department has been periodically kept aware of the project activities at key stages of the development.

An initial letter was submitted to the Department on 19 March 2018 advising details of early works in advance of the main construction works.

A further letter was submitted to the Department on 7 August 2018 in regards to commencement of construction works on 13 August 2018.

Commencement of commissioning had not occurred during the report period and there was no requirement to report the commencement of commissioning.

4.22 Condition 26 – Records for activities in relation to EPBC Approval Conditions

Condition 26 requires that the person taking the action must maintain accurate records substantiating all activities associated with or relevant to the conditions of approval, including measures taken to implement all management plans, report and strategies required by this approval, and make them available upon request to the Department.

Records are maintained for the required activities.

4.23 Condition 27 – Annual Compliance Report

Condition 27 requires that within 90 days of the anniversary of commencement of the action the approval holder must:

- Publish a report on website as per link here: <https://cattlehillwindfarm.com/>
- Provide evidence to the Department of proof of publication (email direct to Department).

Advice obtained from the Department in email 17 May 2019 was “that the first annual compliance report required under condition 27 should be on or before 11 November 2019.

This report provides the first of the annual compliance reports required by Condition 27.

4.24 Condition 28 – Independent audit of compliance with EPBC Approval Conditions

Condition 28 requires that, the person taking the action must ensure that an independent audit of compliance with the conditions of the approval is conducted and a report submitted to the Minister, if that is required by the Minister.

No such request has been received from the Minister and the Condition is not applicable for the reporting period.

4.25 Condition 29 – Activities other than in accordance with EPBC Approval Conditions

Condition 29 requires that, if the person taking the action wishes to carry out the activity otherwise than in accordance with the management plans, reports and strategies required by this approval, as specified in the conditions, the person taking the action must submit to the Department for the Minister's written approval a revised version of that management plan, report or strategy required by the approval. The varied activity must not commence until the Minister has given written approval for the varied management plan, report or strategy.

There has been no such instance for the reporting period and the Condition is not applicable for the report period.

4.26 Condition 30 – Request by Minister for revised Plan, Report or strategy

Condition 30 requires that the person taking the action must comply with any request by the Minister to make specified revisions to the management plan, report or strategy specified in the conditions (if the Minister believes it necessary or convenient for the better protection of listed threatened species) and that revised document(s) are submitted for the Minister's approval.

No such requests have been received and the Condition is not applicable for the reporting period.

4.27 Condition 31 – Commencement of Action within 5 years of approval

Condition 31 requires that, if the person taking the action has not substantially commenced the action within 5 years of the date of the EPBC approval, then the person must not substantially commence the action without the written agreement of the Minister.

The project commencement occurred within 5 years of the approval and there are no further requirements of the Condition that are applicable to the project.

4.28 Condition 32 – Publish Records of approved Plans for the EPBC Approval Conditions

Condition 32 requires that, unless agreed to in writing by the Minister, the person taking the action must publish all management plans, reports and strategies referred to in these conditions of approval on its website, except as otherwise specified in Condition 32.

In response to this Condition, the person taking the action has published the following documents on the project website (<https://cattlehillwindfarm.com/>).

- Cond 6A – Collision Avoidance and Detection Plan
- Cond 22 – Weed Management Plan
- Condition 23 - Flora Offset Strategy and Flora Offset Management Plan
- Conditions 16 and 17
 - FF 5 - Eagle Nest Productivity Plan
 - FF 6 - Post Commissioning Eagle Utilisation Monitoring Plan
 - FF15 - Eagle Mortality Offset Plan

4.29 Condition 33 – Availability of Plans, Reports and Strategies

Condition 33 requires that, the person taking the action, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Minister, must provide a copy of each approved management plan, report or strategy referred to in the conditions of approval to members of the public on request, except as for the exceptions described in Condition 33.

No requests were received during the reporting period and the requirements of the Condition are not applicable for the reporting period.

5 CONCLUSIONS

This report provides the relevant details required for satisfying requirements of Condition 27 of the EPBC Approval 2009/4839.

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6 REFERENCES

CHC	Permit DA 2010/19 as amended 25 October 2017
DoEE	EPBC Approval 2009/4839 as varied on 25 January 2019.
EPA	Environment Protection Notice - EPN 10105/1, Issued on 13 March 2019

Other references are referred to in the text in relation to specific aspects addressed by this report.

7 APPENDICES

Appendix A – Table setting out compliance status for each of the Conditions of EPBC Approval

Cond No.	Condition Description	Is project compliant with condition	Evidence / Comments
	For the protection of the wedge-tailed eagle, the person taking the action must:		
1	Ensure wind turbine generators are not constructed closer than 1000 metres of an eagle nest. The Approval definitions refer to a nest, constructed or used by a WTE or WBSE, known at the time of submission of the final layout (CHWF Design Report, December 2017) as shown at Appendix A (of the Approval).	Compliant	Design complies - see Figure 3.1, Design Report Drawing <i>CHWF_DES_003_02B Exclusion Zone - Nests</i> . No infrastructure is located within 1,000m of a (Known) Nest. New nests found post Design Report and within 1,000m of turbine sites are not relevant to this Condition.
2	Ensure construction activities do not occur within 500 metres of an active eagle nest during the breeding season or within 1000 metres line of sight of an active eagle nest during the breeding season. As indicated above, definition of Nest refers to those known at time of final layout December 2017.	Compliant	Design complies - see Figure 3.1, Design Report Drawing <i>CHWF_DES_003_02B Exclusion Zone - Nests</i> . No infrastructure within 1,000m of (Known) Nest. New nests found post Design Report within 1,000m of turbine sites are not relevant to this Condition.
3	Commencing twelve months prior to the commissioning of wind turbine generators at the wind farm site and for the life of wind farm operations, immediately remove all animal carcasses resulting from hunting or culling activities from within 500 metres of wind turbine generator locations and ensure they are placed in locations approved in writing by the Minister.	Compliant (with exception of the initial Mushroom location - this has now been corrected)	The two landowners for the CHWF project area arrange for shooters to undertake hunting and culling on their properties. A system was established for the shooters to keep records of the animals shot and disposal locations. These records are periodically forwarded to WCHPL. Disposal locations were also identified and approved by the Minister. (Note Mushroom area was initially established at an incorrect location and has since been closed and relocated to the approved location)
4	During wind farm operations ensure animal carcasses resulting from collisions with wind turbine generators, vehicles and/or other regular farming activities within the wind farm site are removed on the day they are discovered and are placed in locations approved in writing by the Minister no closer than 500 metres from wind turbine generator locations.	Not applicable Relevant for Operations	Not applicable reporting period - not operational. Several animals found on access tracks and recorded in project incident recording system. If involving a threatened species then investigation and reporting undertaken.

5	Conduct daily searches for dead calves during September each year and remove any carcasses from within 500 m of any wind turbine generator and ensure they are placed in locations approved in writing by the Minister. Unless otherwise agreed to in writing by the Department wind turbine generators may operate during day light hours within 1000 metres of paddocks where lambing is occurring.	Not applicable Relevant for Operations	Not applicable for reporting period and turbines not operating during this period. The wording of Condition 5 does not yet appear to address the change advised by the Director on 14 February 2018 (change from 1,000 metres to 500 metres).
6A	Within three months following the commencement of construction, submit to the Minister for approval a Collision Avoidance and Detection Plan (CADP) containing details of the collision avoidance and detection system to be implemented (including technologies installed and practices undertaken) for monitoring WTE movements, preventing WTE collisions with turbines and recording collisions. The CADP must conform with Guidelines for its preparation which the Department must confirm at least three months prior to the commencement of construction. The CADP must include information about and comparison of relevant available technologies and practices.	Compliant	Submitted to DoEE on 01 February 2018 Resubmitted to DoEE on 28 March 2018 addressing DoEE comments Approved by DoEE on 29 May 2018 and has been placed on project web-site. Identiflight set up July-August 2019 but not yet operational.
6B	Not commission until the CADP has been approved by the Minister. The Minister will not unreasonably withhold or delay approval of the CADP.	Compliant	CADP Approval on 29 May 2018 well before commissioning
6C	Within 18 months after commissioning submit to the Minister a detailed assessment of the effectiveness of the collision avoidance and detection system, including complete records of detected WTE collisions at the wind farm site and <u>information about and</u> comparison of relevant technologies and practices available at the time of preparing the report.	Not applicable	Not due yet Not commissioned during reporting period Reporting for CADP - Due by approx. Mid-2021
7	Revoked on 10 May 2017	Not applicable	
8	Revoked on 10 May 2017	Not applicable	

9	Revoked on 10 May 2017	Not applicable	
10	<p>Notify the Department by email within 24 hours of any collision between a wedge-tailed eagle or white-bellied sea eagle and a wind turbine. Within one week of the initial notification, the person taking the action must submit to the Department a detailed collision report, that at a minimum includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. the species of eagle, the sex and estimated age; b. the nature of injuries or mortality and cause as reported by a veterinarian; c. the nearest turbine to where the injured eagle or carcass was found (if detected by physical search); d. details of how the injury or mortality was caused and proposed response to prevent further mortalities occurring; and e. if the eagle was injured, information about its condition, including if and how the eagle will be rehabilitated and re-released. 	Not applicable	<p>Turbines not operating during reporting period</p> <p>No collisions for reporting period and hence no requirement for notification and reporting under Condition 10 requirements for eagle collisions</p>
11	<p>Within 2 years following Commissioning, submit for the Minister's written approval a revised CADP containing details of the collision avoidance and detection system proposed to be subsequently implemented (including technologies installed and practices undertaken) for monitoring WTE movements, preventing WTE collisions with turbines and recording collisions. The CADP must include the results of scavenger trials required under Commitment 70 of the Tasmanian EPA Permit and information about and comparison of relevant available technologies and practices. The revised CADP must include a collision monitoring programme for eagles based on a statistically valid sampling regime which applies current best practice and satisfies the</p>	Not applicable	<p>This requirement is not due yet.</p> <p>Due approximately 2021 H2.</p>

	requirements of EPA permit condition FF10. The Minister will not unreasonably withhold or delay approval of the revised CADP. The person taking the action must implement the approved revised CADP.		
12	Keep and maintain accurate records of each physical search conducted as required by condition 11, including date, time, turbine number and search findings. These records must be provided to the Department on request.	Not applicable	Turbines not operating during reporting period. Separately, reporting of scavenger trials has occurred as part of monitoring management plan development.
13	Ensure that all roads within the wind farm site are clearly signposted requiring all vehicles to travel at no more than 40 kph and ensure that this is a requirement for all drivers within the site except in an emergency.	Compliant	Site rules require max 40 kph - In some places signage specifies 10 or 25 kph. Signs also require max 30kph from dusk to dawn to minimise risks to nocturnal species.
14	Prior to construction activities commencing each day, ensure that all roads proposed to be used that day are free of road kill and any animal carcasses are placed in locations approved in writing by the Minister no closer than 500 metres from wind turbine generator locations.	Compliant	Addressed in CEMP Table 6.11, Very few instances of on-site road kill or carcasses on access tracks.
15	Complete the wedge-tailed eagle monitoring arrangements required by the amended Tasmanian planning permit DA 2010/19 conditions FF 4 and FF 5.	Not applicable	FF4 and FF5 are conditions under EPN 10105/1 FF4 complete and reported to EPA - EPA approval letter dated 8 June 2018 FF5 Schedule - post commissioning nest surveys 2nd week November up to 3yrs, first due November 2020. FF5 provided to DoEE for information on 23 Nov 2017.
16	No less than 6 months prior to the expected commissioning of the wind farm, provide to the Minister for approval, a plan to conduct or fund research to inform the long-term conservation of the wedge-tailed eagle for example, funding research, nest productivity monitoring and mortality rates. The wind farm must not be commissioned until the plan is approved and implemented. The research plan must include but not be limited to: a. a detailed outline of proposed research activities to be undertaken or funded including, aims, methods, effort,	Compliant	DoEE has advised that Condition 16 is satisfied by Management Plans approved by EPA under the EPN 10105/1 (Plans under FF5, FF6 and EMOP under FF15) Letter from DoEE on 8 Jan 2019 advises that Conditions 16 and 17 satisfied - (This is greater than 6 months prior to commissioning) Funding (under EPN) See Condition 17 is being established through NRM South (under EPN FF15 EMOP)

	<p>milestones, key deliverables, reporting style, publication format and location and public accessibility of completed research;</p> <p>b. a demonstration that proposed research is consistent with published recovery objectives and will inform the long term management and conservation of the species;</p> <p>c. an outline of how research will be conducted in a manner which compliments or is collaborative with other research being undertaken by species experts, government, research and educational bodies;</p> <p>d. a breakdown of research components to be funded in annual \$75 000 equivalent increments;</p> <p>e. funding arrangements and responsibilities;</p> <p>f. the qualifications and experience of persons undertaking the research or minimum qualifications and experiences required of persons proposed to undertake research;</p> <p>g. how research will be published and made publically available within the life of the plan; and</p> <p>h. a peer review conducted by a suitably qualified expert demonstrating that the proposed research plan is consistent with the objectives at condition 16(b) and (c) and is achievable within identified timeframes and resources.</p> <p>Note 1: The Minister may determine that a plan, strategy or program approved by the Tasmanian Government in accordance with EPA conditions FF5, FF6, FF13, FF14 and FF15 satisfies the requirements for the Plan required under conditions 16 and 17.</p>		
17	Commence the implementation of the approved research plan prior to the commissioning of the wind farm. The person taking the action must ensure that no less than \$75 000 equivalent in funding is expended annually on implementing the research plan, with the first \$75 000 equivalent committed prior to commissioning of the wind farm.	Not applicable	<p>EMOP prepared under EPN Condition FF15 addresses this requirement as agreed with DoEE. EMOP approval obtained from EPA.</p> <p>Letter dated 8 Jan 2019 from DoEE advises that Conditions 16 and 17 satisfied, Funding arrangements commenced. Wind Farm not commissioned during report period</p>

18	On each fifth anniversary of the approval of the research plan, or at the direction of the Minister, the person taking the action must engage a suitably qualified expert to review the effectiveness and relevance of the research plan required by condition 16. Within 90 days of each five year anniversary, the person taking the action must provide a report to the Minister outlining any recommendations and alternative measures to offset impacts to the wedge-tailed eagle. The Minister may require the person taking the action to implement the recommendations and alternative offsetting arrangements.	Not applicable	Review not required yet, due after 5 years (approx. 2023)
19	For each actual wedge-tailed eagle mortality or injured wedge-tailed eagle that cannot be re-released into the wild, occurring above 2 actual mortalities or injured wedge-tailed eagles that cannot be re-released in to the wild in any calendar year, fund a raptor or wildlife centre to rehabilitate an injured or sick wedge-tailed eagle and re-release that wedge-tailed eagle into the wild at an ecologically suitable location to the satisfaction of a suitably qualified expert. If no wedge-tailed eagle can be rehabilitated for re-release into the wild, an extra \$25 000 equivalent per mortality or injury must be expended towards the implementation of the research required by conditions 16 and 17 in that calendar year. <i>Note 2: The Minister may determine that satisfaction of Tasmanian EPA condition FF15 – 3.3 satisfies the requirements of this condition.</i>	Not applicable	No WTE injury or mortality for reporting period. Arrangements included in EMOP that has been approved by EPA under requirements of the EPN Condition FF15
20	May, if it can be demonstrated that after 10 years of operation, that the wind farm is not impacting the wedge-tailed eagle, request approval from the Minister to cease implementing conditions 11 (if required) and 17.	Not applicable	Not due until approx. 2029/2030
21	Revoked on 10 May 2017		

22	For the protection of other nationally protected matters, specifically the Liawenee Greenhood, Crowded Leek Orchid and Clover Glycine the person taking the action must:	See below	
22	<p>Three months prior to the commencement of construction, submit a weed management strategy to the Minister for approval. The strategy must include but not be limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. details on how construction activities will be managed to minimise and prevent the establishment of new or spread of existing weed species, specifically where construction is to occur within or near habitat for the Liawenee Greenhood, Crowded Leek Orchid and Clover Glycine; b. weed management activities to be undertaken with reference to weed species that are known from and likely to occur at the wind farm site; c. vehicle and machine wash down protocols for all vehicles entering the site; d. weed identification programs and staff inductions; and e. measures to monitor, control and eradicate weed outbreaks that may occur on site. <p>The approved weed management strategy must be implemented.</p>	Compliant	<p>Weed Management Strategy - dated 4 December 2017. DoEE approval letter dated 14 December 2017</p> <p>Training by VDC in weed management issues for site staff was arranged in Nov 2018</p> <p>See section 4.18.</p>
23	The approved flora offset strategy must be implemented. If offsets additional to those in the approved flora offset strategy are required as a result of previously unrecorded threatened species encountered during construction and/or pre• construction activities (as required by condition 24), a revised version of the flora offset strategy must be submitted for the written approval of the Minister within 3 months of the completion of all ground breaking construction activities.	Compliant	Subject to whether additional species detected and requiring revised FOS
23	The approval holder must submit the offset management plan to the Department within ten (10) months of the Department having approved the flora offset strategy. The offset management plan must include:	Compliant	FOMP approved by DoEE on 10 August 2019. Implementation arrangements are being progressed

	<p>i. details of short and long term management measures to maintain and improve the condition of the offset(s), including timeframes, proposed for each offset site; and</p> <p>ii. the short and longer term arrangements and responsibilities of parties involved in the management of each offset site.</p>		
24	<p>If during construction and /or pre-construction activities a previously unrecorded threatened species is encountered, the person taking the action must immediately cease activities at the affected area.</p> <p>A report must be submitted to the Department that includes population characteristics, proposed avoidance and mitigation measures and, where applicable, proposed offsets to compensate for unavoidable impacts.</p> <p>Activities in that area can only recommence when directed to in writing by the Department.</p>	Not applicable	No new species found - No reporting required
25	<p>Within three business days of the commencement of the action and within 24 hours of commissioning, the person taking the action must advise the Department in writing of the actual date of commencement and commissioning</p>	Compliant	<p>DoEE periodically kept informed of project status.</p> <p>Letters to DoEE advised status - commencement and update on construction</p> <p>Commissioning not commenced within report period</p>
26	<p>The person taking the action must maintain accurate records substantiating all activities associated with or relevant to the conditions of approval, including measures taken to implement all management plans, reports and strategies required by this approval, and make them available upon request to the Department.</p> <p>Such records may be subject to audit by the Department or an independent auditor in accordance with section 458 of the EPBC Act, or used to verify compliance with the conditions of approval.</p> <p>Summaries of audits will be posted on the Department's website. The results of audits may also be publicised through the general media.</p>	Compliant	WCHPL has established a record keeping system for the project compliance matters

27	<p>Within 90 days of each anniversary of the commencement of the action, the person taking the action must publish a report on its website addressing compliance with each of the conditions of this approval, including implementation of any management plans as specified in the conditions. Documentary evidence providing proof of the date of publication and non-compliance with any of the conditions of this approval must be provided to the Department at the same time as the compliance report is published. Unless otherwise directed in writing by the Minister the report must include a chapter that outlines how each injured or sick wedge-tailed eagle was rehabilitated in accordance with the requirements of condition 19. This must include</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> how the injured or sick wedge-tailed eagle was identified for rehabilitation the nature of injuries and/or sickness at the commencement of rehabilitation the actions taken to rehabilitate the wedge-tailed eagle including the location and costs of rehabilitation and qualification and experience of persons involved in rehabilitation; and potential survival in the wild. 	Compliant	<p>This report provides the first of the annual compliance reports required by Condition 27.</p> <p>The report will be placed on the project website on the same day that it is submitted to the Department.</p>
28	<p>Upon the direction of the Minister, the person taking the action must ensure that an independent audit of compliance with the conditions of approval is conducted and a report submitted to the Minister. The independent auditor must be approved by the Minister prior to the commencement of the audit. Audit criteria must be agreed to by the Minister and the audit report must address the criteria to the satisfaction of the Minister.</p>	Not applicable	Audit as required by Minister - None required as yet
29	<p>If the person taking the action wishes to carry out any activity otherwise than in accordance with any management plans, reports and strategies required by this approval as specified in</p>	Not applicable	The project is being implemented in accordance with the requirements of the conditions and the management plans, reports and strategies required by the conditions of approval.

	<p>the conditions, the person taking the action must submit to the Department for the Minister's written approval a revised version of that management plan, report or strategy required by this approval.</p> <p>The varied activity shall not commence until the Minister has approved the varied management plan, report or strategy required by this approval in writing.</p> <p>The Minister will not approve a varied management plan, report or strategy, unless the revised management plan, report or strategy, would result in an equivalent or improved environmental outcome over time. If the Minister approves the revised management plan, report or strategy, that management plan, report or strategy must be implemented in place of the management plan, report or strategy originally approved.</p>		The Conditions of Approval have been varied on several occasions and the project complies with the most recent issue of the Project Approval.
30	<p>If the Minister believes that it is necessary or convenient for the better protection of listed threatened species to do so, the Minister may request that the person taking the action make specified revisions to the management plan, report or strategy specified in the conditions and submit the revised management plan, report or strategy, for the Minister's written approval. The person taking the action must comply with any such request. The revised approved management plan, report or strategy must be implemented. Unless the Minister has approved the revised management plan, report or strategy, then the person taking the action must continue to implement the management plan, report or strategy originally approved, as specified in the conditions.</p>	Not applicable	Minister has not required revisions to plans or strategies
31	<p>If, at any time after 5 years from the date of this approval, the person taking the action has not substantially commenced the action, then the person taking the action must not substantially commence the action without the written agreement of the Minister.</p>	Not applicable	Approved 15 December 2014 - Commencement from 23 March 2018 - complied - no further requirement

32	Unless otherwise agreed to in writing by the Minister, the person taking the action must publish all management plans, reports and strategies referred to in these conditions of approval on its website, except, for the period that the Minister agrees, those parts of these documents that the Minister agrees should not be published for commercial-in-confidence reasons. Each management plan or strategy must be published on the website within 1 month of being approved. Each report must be published on the website within 1 month of being submitted to the Minister.	Compliant	<p>The following plans have been published on the project website</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cond 6A – Collision Avoidance and Detection Plan • Cond 22 – Weed Management Plan • Condition 23 - Flora Offset Strategy and Flora Offset Management Plan • Conditions 16, 17 and 19 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ FF 5 - Eagle Nest Productivity Plan ○ FF 6 - Post Commissioning Eagle Utilisation Monitoring Plan ○ FF15 - Eagle Mortality Offset Plan
33	Unless otherwise agreed to in writing by the Minister, the person taking the action must provide a copy of each approved management plan, report or strategy referred to in these conditions of approval to members of the public upon request, except, for the period that the Minister agrees, those parts of these documents that the Minister agrees should not be published for commercial-in-confidence reasons. Copies must be provided within a reasonable time of the request.	Not applicable	<p>No requests received as yet.</p> <p>As per Condition 32, specific reports have been made available on the project website.</p>