

## Appendix A Cross-reference Table

Item	PER Guideline	Proponent Response Location
<b>1. General Information:</b>		
	<p>This should provide the background and context of the action including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) the title of the action</li> <li>b) the full name and postal address of the designated proponent</li> <li>c) a clear outline of the objective of the action</li> <li>d) the location of the action</li> <li>e) the background to the development of the action</li> <li>f) how the proposed action relates to any other actions (of which the proponent should reasonably be aware) that have been, or are being, taken or that have been approved in the region affected by the action</li> <li>g) the current status of the action</li> <li>h) consequences for not proceeding with the action.</li> </ul>	Sections 1.1.1 to 1.1.8
<b>2. Description of the Action:</b>		
	This section must describe the proposal in sufficient detail to allow an understanding of all components of the proposal, and to determine potential environmental impacts associated with the proposal.	Executive Summary and Section 1.2 Description of the Action
	All construction, operational, rehabilitation and decommissioning components of the action must be described in detail (including stages of development and their timing if applicable). This section must also include details on how the works are to be undertaken and design parameters for those aspects of the structures or elements of the action that may have relevant impacts. This should include, if known, the precise or the proposed location (including coordinates) of all works to be undertaken, structures to be built, upgrades to existing infrastructure on the site (i.e. roads, transmission towers) or elements of the action that may have impacts on MNES.	Section 1.2.3.1 Construction, Section 1.2.3.2 Operation, Section 1.2.3.3 Decommissioning, Section 6.0 Rehabilitation
	Provide the total size (in hectares) of the project boundary, proposed action area (planning corridor) and disturbance footprint (clearing footprint).	Executive Summary and Section 1.2.1 Project Site, Project Footprint and Staging
	The various elements of the proposed action must be described in the text and illustrated with maps, diagrams, plans (at a suitable scale) and other information as required to provide sufficient context and basis for the identification and assessment of impacts.	Section 1.2.2 Project Components and 1.2.3 Project Phases
	This section must include a map (or maps) which clearly identify all components of the action and boundaries of the proposed action's footprint including all infrastructure elements and development necessary for the proposed action area. The information must present all the key aspects including turbine locations, hardstand areas, meteorological masts,	Section 1.2.3 Project Phases (and Figure 1-2)

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	batching plant locations, services infrastructure, borrow pits, site compounds, access tracks, battery energy storage systems, substations, transport route and impacted areas outside of the main proposed action area associated with the proposed action. This section must further include discussion of any environmental design features of the key facilities.	
	Include updated information if any changes have been made to the proposed action since the referral documentation was submitted.	Section 1.2.4 Project Changes Since EPBC Act Referral
<b>3. Feasible Alternatives</b>		
	Describe any feasible alternatives to the action to the extent reasonably practicable, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) if relevant, the alternative of taking no action</li> <li>b) a comparative description of the impacts of each alternative on the MNES protected by controlling provisions of Part 3 of the EPBC Act for the action</li> <li>c) sufficient detail to make clear why any alternative is preferred to another.</li> </ul> Where relevant, short, medium and long-term advantages and disadvantages of the above options should be discussed	Section 1.3 Feasible Alternatives
<b>4. Description of the Environment</b>		
	Provide a description of the existing environment of the proposed action area and surrounding areas that may be affected by the action including; the topography and elevation, vegetation, hydrology, soil types, cultural heritage, sensitive receptors, proximity to existing neighbouring wind farms and any outstanding natural features. This may also include areas outside of the proposed action area, i.e. the transport route.  Include details of current and historical land uses, road networks and transmission lines intersecting the proposed action area. Describe how the land use may change and/or continue into the future with the introduction of wind turbine generators and associated infrastructure to the existing cattle farming operations.	Section 2.0 Description of the Environment
<b>5. Matters of National Environmental Significance</b>		
	The PER must include a detailed assessment of the presence, or likelihood of presence, of MNES in the proposed action area and in the adjacent area.	Appendix E – Supplement to the Assessment of Matters of National Environmental Significance Section 3.0 MNES
	Based on the information provided in your referral, the department considers that listed threatened species and ecological communities (section 18 and 18A) and listed migratory species (section 20 and 20A) may be significantly impacted by the proposed action.	Appendix E – Supplement to the Assessment of Matters of National Environmental Significance Section 3.0 MNES
	It is the proponent's responsibility to be aware of any changes to the distribution of listed threatened and migratory species and ecological communities and information available in the Species Profile and Threats (SPRAT) database. The proponent must ensure that a recent Protected Matters Search Tool (PMST) report has been generated and considered before	Appendix E – Supplement to the Assessment of Matters of National Environmental Significance

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	<p>finalising the draft PER. This PMST should be provided as an attachment to the PER. This can be accessed at the following website:  <a href="https://www.dcceew.gov.au/environment/epbc/protected-matters-search-tool">https://www.dcceew.gov.au/environment/epbc/protected-matters-search-tool</a></p>	<p>Section 3.2.1 Desktop Assessment  Appendix R – Ecology Desktop Searches</p>
	<p>The PER must address, at a minimum, the following MNES and any others listed under the EPBC Act at the time of the controlled action decision that may be impacted by the proposed action:</p> <p>a) <u>Listed threatened species and ecological communities (s18 &amp; s18A)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Koala (<i>Phascolarctos cinereus</i>) (Combined populations of Qld, NSW and the ACT) – Endangered</li> <li>• Corben's Long-eared Bat (<i>Nyctophilus corbeni</i>) – Vulnerable</li> <li>• Grey-headed Flying Fox (<i>Pteropus poliocephalus</i>) – Vulnerable</li> <li>• New Holland Mouse (<i>Pseudomys novaehollandiae</i>) – Vulnerable</li> <li>• Greater Glider (southern and central) (<i>Petauroides volans</i>) – Endangered</li> <li>• Yellow-bellied Glider (south-eastern) (<i>Petaurus australis australis</i>) – Vulnerable</li> <li>• Black-breasted Button-quail (<i>Turnix melanogaster</i>) – Vulnerable</li> <li>• Diamond Firetail (<i>Stagonopleura guttata</i>) – Vulnerable</li> <li>• South-eastern Glossy Black-Cockatoo (<i>Calyptorhynchus lathami lathami</i>) – Vulnerable</li> <li>• Red Goshawk (<i>Erythrotriorchis radiatus</i>) – Endangered</li> <li>• Regent Honeyeater (<i>Anthochaera phrygia</i>) – Critically Endangered</li> <li>• Squatter Pigeon (<i>Geophaps scripta scripta</i>) – Vulnerable</li> <li>• White-throated Needletail (<i>Hirundapus caudacutus</i>) – Vulnerable</li> <li>• Yakka Skink (<i>Egernia rugosa</i>) - Vulnerable</li> <li>• Austral Toadflax (<i>Thesium australe</i>) – Vulnerable</li> <li>• Coleus omissus listed as <i>Plectranthus omissus</i> – Endangered</li> <li>• Hawkweed (<i>Picris evae</i>) – Vulnerable</li> <li>• Helidon Ironbark (<i>Eucalyptus taurina</i>) – Endangered</li> <li>• A grass - <i>Paspalidium grandispiculatum</i> – Vulnerable</li> <li>• Polianthion minutiflorum – Vulnerable</li> <li>• Wandering Pepper-cress (<i>Lepidium peregrinum</i>) – Endangered</li> </ul> <p>b) <u>Listed migratory species (s20 &amp; s20A)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• White-throated Needletail (<i>Hirundapus caudacutus</i>)</li> <li>• Black-faced Monarch (<i>Monarcha melanopsis</i>)</li> <li>• Fork-tailed Swift (<i>Apus pacificus</i>)</li> <li>• Oriental Cuckoo (<i>Cuculus optatus</i>)</li> <li>• Rufous Fantail (<i>Rhipidura rufifrons</i>)</li> <li>• Satin Flycatcher (<i>Myiagra cyanoleuca</i>)</li> <li>• Spectacled Monarch (<i>Symphysichrus trivirgatus</i>)</li> </ul>	<p>Appendix E – Supplement to the Assessment of Matters of National Environmental Significance  Section 3.0 MNES  Section 4.6.3 Impacts to grey-headed flying-fox  Section 4.6.4 Impacts to south-eastern glossy black-cockatoo  Section 4.6.5 Impacts to Austral toadflax  Section 4.6.6 Impacts to wandering peppercress  Section 4.6.7 Impacts to yellow-bellied glider  Section 4.6.8 Impacts to koala  Section 4.6.9 Impacts to greater glider  Section 4.6.10 Impacts to white-throated needletail  Section 4.7.1 Guidelines and assessment definitions  Section 4.7.2 Fork-tailed swift</p>

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	<p>In order to undertake a robust assessment of the nature and scale of the likely impacts of the proposed action, the PER must include a detailed assessment of the presence of individuals and suitable habitat for each of the above listed threatened and migratory species within the proposed action area.</p> <p>The PER must also include a detailed presence and habitat assessment for any other listed threatened and migratory species and and/or ecological community which will or is likely to be impacted by the proposed action.</p>	Appendix E – Supplement to the Assessment of Matters of National Environmental Significance Section 3.3 MNES Habitat Assessment
<b>5.1</b>	<b>General information required</b>	
5.1.1	<p>Provide a habitat assessment for the relevant protected matters in the proposed action area.</p> <p>Habitat assessments must be informed by desktop (including the Atlas of Living Australia, Queensland's WildNet resources) and field surveys (in accordance with departmental guidelines or as defined by best practice surveys), and with reference to relevant departmental documents (e.g. approved Conservation Advices, Recovery Plans, draft referral guidelines and Listing Advices, and the SPRAT Database), including published research and other relevant sources.</p> <p>Please note, the department does not accept the consideration of only Queensland Regional Ecosystem (RE) mapping to determine habitat for protected matters. Further, habitat assessments must not only consider remnant vegetation, but also non-remnant and regrowth vegetation.</p> <p>Where habitat assessments depart from departmental information, adequate justification must be provided to substantiate their suitability to the assessment.</p>	Appendix E – Supplement to the Assessment of Matters of National Environmental Significance Section 3.3 MNES Habitat Assessment
5.1.2	Provide distinct, specific definitions (including any thresholds used) for each identified category of habitat (breeding, foraging, dispersal, etc).	Appendix E – Supplement to the Assessment of Matters of National Environmental Significance Section 3.3.1 Guidelines and assessment definitions
5.1.3	<p>Identify and describe known historical records of protected matters in the broader region.</p> <p>All known records must be supported by an appropriate source (i.e., Commonwealth and State databases, Queensland Government's WildNet, Atlas of Living Australia, published research, publicly available survey reports, etc.), and, where possible, include the year of the record and a description of the habitat in which the record was identified.</p>	Appendix E – Supplement to the Assessment of Matters of National Environmental Significance Details provided in appendices and content incorporated in Section 3 and Section 4 where appropriate.
5.1.4	Include details of the scope, methodology, timing and effort of field surveys to identify protected matters in the proposed action area, including:	Appendix E – Supplement to the Assessment of Matters of National Environmental Significance Section 3.2.2 Field survey

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• how surveys were undertaken in accordance with relevant Commonwealth, State and/or best practice survey guidelines, including departmental survey guidelines: <a href="https://www.dcceew.gov.au/environment/epbc/advice/surveys-and-data">https://www.dcceew.gov.au/environment/epbc/advice/surveys-and-data</a></li> <li>• evidence that surveys were undertaken over a sufficient scale and period to adequately determine the likely presence or absence of the targeted species or value, or confirmation that a precautionary approach was taken where this was not possible (i.e., assumed presence)</li> <li>• if relevant, the justification for divergence from relevant Commonwealth, State and/or best practice survey guidelines.</li> </ul> <p>Attach all referenced ecological surveys as supporting documents to the PER.</p>	
5.1.5	<p>Provide detailed mapping of habitat (within and adjacent to the proposed action area, where relevant) for all listed threatened species and ecological communities, and listed migratory species, that may be impacted by the proposed action, which:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• is specific to the habitat requirements for each listed species and community (i.e., does not only illustrate relevant Queensland Regional Ecosystems)</li> <li>• includes the total patch size of habitat which may include sections of the patch that fall outside the proposed action area (in hectares)</li> <li>• includes an overlay of the proposed action disturbance footprint</li> <li>• identifies any specific habitat requirements (e.g., breeding, foraging, dispersal, known important habitat, suitable habitats, roosting etc.)</li> <li>• includes the regional context, and illustrates connectivity of mapped habitat in the broader landscape</li> <li>• includes known records of individuals derived from desktop analysis and field surveys</li> <li>• is provided separately as attachments in JPEG format.</li> </ul>	Appendix E – Supplement to the Assessment of Matters of National Environmental Significance Section 3.0 MNES
5.1.6	<p>Include the total area of habitat (in hectares) for each relevant protected matter, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• total habitat within the proposed action area</li> <li>• where relevant, total habitat in the area adjacent to the proposed action area.</li> </ul>	Appendix E – Supplement to the Assessment of Matters of National Environmental Significance Section 3.3.2.5 Project Site habitat mapping, Section 3.3.3.5 Project Site habitat mapping, Section 3.3.4.4 Project Site habitat mapping, Section 3.3.7.5 Habitat mapping, Section 3.4.1.5 Habitat mapping, Section 3.4.2.7 Project Site habitat mapping, and Section 3.4.3.4 Project Site habitat mapping

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5.1.7	Where potential habitat for protected matters is identified in the proposed action area, an assessment must be undertaken regardless of whether the species was recorded. As such, the potential for occurrence of these species must also be considered and assessed.	Appendix E – Supplement to the Assessment of Matters of National Environmental Significance Section 4.0 Impact Assessment
5.1.8	<p>Include an appendix of occurrence records (both sightings and evidence of presence) for all listed threatened species and migratory species identified during field surveys for the proposed action. This data may be used by the department to update the relevant species distribution models that underpin the publicly available Protected Matters Search Tool (PMST).</p> <p>Species occurrence records must be provided in accordance with the department's <i>Guidelines for biological survey and mapped data</i> (2018) available at: <a href="https://www.dcceew.gov.au/environment/environmental-information-data/information-policy/guidelines-for-biological-survey-mapped-data">https://www.dcceew.gov.au/environment/environmental-information-data/information-policy/guidelines-for-biological-survey-mapped-data</a> and using the department's <i>Species observation data template</i> available at: <a href="https://www.dcceew.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/species-observation-data-template.xlsx">https://www.dcceew.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/species-observation-data-template.xlsx</a>. Sensitive ecological data must be identified and treated in accordance with the department's <i>Sensitive Ecological Data – Access and Management Policy V1.0</i> (2016) available at: <a href="https://www.environment.gov.au/system/files/resources/246e674a-feb1-4399-a678-be9f4b6a6800/files/sensitive-ecological-data-access-mgt-policy.pdf">https://www.environment.gov.au/system/files/resources/246e674a-feb1-4399-a678-be9f4b6a6800/files/sensitive-ecological-data-access-mgt-policy.pdf</a>.</p>	Appendix E – Supplement to the Assessment of Matters of National Environmental Significance Appendix R – Ecology Desktop Searches
5.2	Listed Threatened species and listed migratory species habitat assessment – specific consideration	
5.2.1	<p>Koala (<i>Phascolarctos cinereus</i>) (combined populations of Qld, NSW, and the ACT) – Endangered</p> <p>Habitat descriptions should consider habitat use requirements (e.g., foraging, survival, growth, reproduction and movement) across the proposed action area and align with the SPRAT database and relevant DCCEEW documents including Identifying habitat for the endangered Koala 2022, the Conservation Advice for <i>Phascolarctos cinereus</i> (Koala) combined populations of Queensland, New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory (2022), A review of koala habitat assessment criteria and methods (dcceew.gov.au), and the National Recovery Plan for the Koala <i>Phascolarctos cinereus</i> (combined populations of Queensland, New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory) (2022).</p> <p>Include a discussion of the vegetation composition and structure of the proposed action area and an assessment of koala habitat quality.</p> <p>Please note, the department considers Koala habitat to be any forest or woodland (including remnant and regrowth, and modified vegetation communities) containing species that are Koala food trees or any grassland with emergent Koala food trees or any shrubland with emergent Koala food trees. The department considers that this definition includes mixed Eucalypt regrowth.</p> <p>In addition, the Conservation Advice for the Koala considers habitat to include paddock trees (and the safe intervening matrix for traveling between trees) and any trees that are not food trees but are commonly used by the species for shelter or predator avoidance.</p>	Appendix E – Supplement to the Assessment of Matters of National Environmental Significance Section 3.4.1 Koala

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5.2.2	<p>Greater Glider (southern and central) (<i>Petauroides volans</i>) – Endangered</p> <p>Habitat descriptions should align with those provided in the SPRAT database and be based on relevant DCCEEW documents, including the updated Conservation Advice for <i>Petauroides volans</i> (greater glider (southern and central)) (2022) available at:</p> <p><a href="https://www.environment.gov.au/biodiversity/threatened/species/pubs/254-conservation-advice-05072022.pdf">https://www.environment.gov.au/biodiversity/threatened/species/pubs/254-conservation-advice-05072022.pdf</a>, as well as the Guide to greater glider habitat in Queensland (2022) available at:</p> <p><a href="https://www.dcceew.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/guide-greater-glider-habitat-qld.pdf">https://www.dcceew.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/guide-greater-glider-habitat-qld.pdf</a>.</p> <p>Please note, the department considers Greater Glider habitat to be all areas of Eucalypt forests or woodlands (including remnant and regrowth vegetation) that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• contain trees with hollows (n.b. presence of trees with diameter at breast height &gt; 30cm can be used as a proxy for hollow-bearing trees suitable for this species)</li> <li>• contain habitat critical to the survival of the Greater Glider (as defined in current Greater Glider Conservation Advice).</li> </ul>	Appendix E – Supplement to the Assessment of Matters of National Environmental Significance Section 3.4.2 Greater glider (southern and central)
5.2.3	Identify key denning and foraging resources, including the presence and density of tree hollows across the proposed action area.	Appendix E – Supplement to the Assessment of Matters of National Environmental Significance Section 3.4.2.5 Denning and foraging resources
5.2.4	Include a map of potential and future denning and foraging habitat across the proposed action area.	Appendix E – Supplement to the Assessment of Matters of National Environmental Significance Section 3.4.3.4 Project Site habitat mapping
5.2.5	In areas that may potentially be fragmented by the proposed action, provide average tree height to inform an understanding of Greater Glider gliding distance.	Appendix E – Supplement to the Assessment of Matters of National Environmental Significance Section 3.4.2.6 Roads and fragmentation
5.2.6	Noting that road verges can support higher quality Greater Glider habitat in comparison to cleared or regrowth areas, include a discussion of the presence and density of hollow-bearing trees along road verges in the proposed action area.	Appendix E – Supplement to the Assessment of Matters of National Environmental Significance Section 3.4.2.7 Project Site habitat mapping

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5.2.7	Include a discussion regarding the width of existing roads and design of upgraded roads and proposed access tracks within the proposed action area, and the proximity of these roads and proposed access tracks to Greater Glider habitat. Describe the avoidance and mitigation measures in the design of upgraded roads and proposed access tracks and potential impacts due to habitat fragmentation from upgraded roads and proposed access tracks.	Appendix E – Supplement to the Assessment of Matters of National Environmental Significance Section 3.4.2.6 Roads and fragmentation
5.2.8	<p>White-throated Needletail (<i>Hirundapus caudacutus</i>) – Vulnerable, Migratory</p> <p>Provide a detailed discussion and map of potential foraging and roosting habitat.</p> <p>The department considers, as seen in the Conservation Advice for the White-throated Needletail, available at: <a href="https://www.environment.gov.au/biodiversity/threatened/species/pubs/682-conservation-advice-04072019.pdf">https://www.environment.gov.au/biodiversity/threatened/species/pubs/682-conservation-advice-04072019.pdf</a>, that the species forages on insects above wooded forests and when flying above farmland, they are more often recorded above partly cleared pasture, plantations or remnant vegetation at the edge of paddocks. The species is also found around coastal cliffs and other areas with prominent updrafts, such as ridges and sand-dunes. The species roosts in trees amongst dense foliage in the canopy or in hollows.</p> <p>The department also considers White-throated Needletail habitat to include any areas in which they were observed (as per section 5.2.10 of these PER Guidelines) foraging or roosting.</p>	Appendix E – Supplement to the Assessment of Matters of National Environmental Significance Section 3.4.3 White-throated needletail
5.2.9	Provide total area (in hectares) of each identified habitat type (e.g., roosting habitat, foraging habitats, etc.).	Appendix E – Supplement to the Assessment of Matters of National Environmental Significance Section 3.4.3.4 Project Site habitat mapping
5.2.10	<p>With regard to the detail on observations of White-throated Needletails from surveys undertaken in the proposed action area, including incidental observations, include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• location of observations</li> <li>• number of observations from each vantage point / incidental observation point (include number of times late afternoon/ early evening surveys conducted and no birds detected)</li> <li>• number of individuals per observation</li> <li>• detail on time period observed at each observation point</li> <li>• discussion on any individuals observed coming to roost.</li> </ul>	Appendix E – Supplement to the Assessment of Matters of National Environmental Significance Section 3.4.3.3 Observed habitat use
<b>6. Impact Assessment</b>		
6.1	The PER must include an assessment of all relevant impacts of the action (including direct and indirect impacts), including the magnitude, duration and frequency of the impacts, to MNES from all phases of the proposed action (including construction, operation and decommissioning).	Appendix E – Supplement to the Assessment of Matters of National Environmental Significance Section 4.0 Impact Assessment

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	<p>Impacts must be assessed in accordance with relevant departmental policies and guidelines, including the SPRAT Database and the <i>Significant Impact Guidelines 1.1</i>.</p> <p>The PER must include the following information:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a detailed assessment of the nature and extent of the likely short-term and long-term relevant impacts</li> <li>a statement whether any relevant impacts are likely to be unknown, unpredictable or irreversible</li> <li>which component/s and stage/s of the action are of relevance to impacts on each MNES</li> <li>analysis of the significance of the relevant impacts</li> <li>any technical data and other information used or needed to make a detailed assessment of the relevant impacts.</li> </ol>	
6.1	<p>The PER must include a summary table containing the following information:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>species or ecological community</li> <li>habitat description</li> <li>likelihood of occurrence</li> <li>direct and indirect impacts</li> <li>significance conclusion.</li> </ol> <p>The following table provides general guidance for the provision of information regarding impacts to MNES.</p>	Appendix E – Supplement to the Assessment of Matters of National Environmental Significance Section 4.1 Summary of Impact Assessment
6.1.1	<p>The PER must, at a minimum, assess the following potential impacts to MNES from the proposed action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• habitat loss and individual mortality from vegetation clearing</li> <li>• habitat degradation, fragmentation and patch isolation within the proposed action area, including consideration of, at a minimum: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ width of easements and any implications on habitat connectivity and the dispersal ability of threatened species</li> <li>○ species' movement patterns and site utilisation (including consideration of likely launch heights and gliding distances for the Greater Glider, supported by scientific literature)</li> <li>○ height of electricity infrastructure and risk of obstruction and entanglement of threatened species</li> </ul> </li> <li>• increased prevalence of invasive plants and animals and predation risks from introduced species</li> <li>• individual bird and bat mortality and injury from turbine collisions and barotrauma</li> <li>• increased vehicle collisions with fauna</li> <li>• altered fire regimes and increased risk of fire incursion</li> <li>• altered hydrology, including downstream areas adjacent to the proposed action area</li> <li>• environmental pollution, including light and noise pollution</li> <li>• site alienation resulting in fauna avoiding the proposed action area</li> </ul>	Appendix E – Supplement to the Assessment of Matters of National Environmental Significance Section 4.2 Potential impacts
6.1.2	<p>Assess the potential impacts to MNES within and downstream areas adjacent to the proposed action area, with consideration of the site hydrology and topography, including during the construction, operation and decommissioning phases of the proposed action.</p> <p>The PER must, at a minimum, assess the following potential impacts to MNES from the proposed action:</p>	Section 4.2 Potential impacts Section 4.3.7 Altered hydrology Section 4.3.8 Flooding

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• increased sediment and erosion run-off associated with vegetation clearing, earthworks, altered surface runoff, steep terrain and relatively high flow velocities.</li> <li>• changes in the hydrology of stream beds and banks, and changes to hydrological regimes within and downstream of the proposed action area</li> <li>• changes to water quality in the watercourses within and downstream of the proposed action area</li> <li>• increased rates of nutrient enrichment and eutrophication</li> <li>• concrete pollution into water bodies</li> <li>• changes in pH due to the use of concrete in the construction of turbine foundations and associated infrastructure or other activities</li> <li>• effect of turbine construction on underground water systems and natural seepage in the area during the wet season.</li> </ul> <p>The PER should include flood modelling for the proposed action area, with information on the hydrology of the proposed action area, the intensity and quantum of water over single flood events, and the intensity of slope angles detailed.</p>	Appendix E – Supplement to the Assessment of Matters of National Environmental Significance
6.1.3	<p>Where potential impacts are in addition to existing impacts of other activities in the region, an assessment of cumulative impacts should be undertaken over appropriate temporal and geographical scales. Consider, with reasonably available information, the proposed action's cumulative impacts with regards to the neighbouring windfarms Wambo Wind Farm (EPBC 2020/8727) and Coopers Gap Wind Farm (EPBC 2008/4237, EPBC 2008/4559, EPBC 2011/5976) including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• habitat loss</li> <li>• habitat fragmentation</li> <li>• bird and bat turbine strike, including the potential barrier effect of multiple wind farms</li> <li>• sedimentation and run-off downstream.</li> </ul>	Appendix E – Supplement to the Assessment of Matters of National Environmental Significance Section 4.9 Cumulative Impacts
6.1.4	<p>Where relevant, consider predicted future climatic conditions at the proposed action area in the assessment of impacts on MNES, and how changes in climate and the frequency and severity of weather events may interact with, exacerbate or reduce the impacts of the action on MNES over time. This should include, but may not be limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• increased erosion and run-off associated with predicted increases in high rainfall events and how this may compound the impacts of vegetation clearance along ridgelines</li> <li>• loss, fragmentation, or drying of potential climate refugia for MNES as a result of the proposed action – consider the potential impacts of removing or otherwise impacting this climate refugia for the long-term survival of MNES in the region</li> <li>• increased risk of fire as a result of the proposed action under drier conditions and periods of extreme heat or prolonged drought</li> <li>• changes in the frequency and intensity of extreme weather events that may exacerbate impacts to MNES within the proposed action area and downstream</li> <li>• inclusion of different climate scenarios in any hydrological modelling.</li> </ul>	Appendix E – Supplement to the Assessment of Matters of National Environmental Significance Section 4.4.7 Climate change
6.1.5	Where relevant, consider facilitated impacts which result from further actions (including actions by third parties) which are made possible by the action.	Not Applicable – Nil facilitated impacts identified.

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6.1.6	An assessment of the likely duration of impacts to MNES as a result of the proposed action.	Appendix E – Supplement to the Assessment of Matters of National Environmental Significance Section 4.6.3 Impacts to grey-headed flying-fox, Section 4.6.8 Impacts to koala, Section 4.6.9.1 Fragmentation and gliding distance and Section 4.7.2 Fork-tailed swift
6.1.7	Assess the impacts, including but not limited to, noise, vibration, dust, blade vibration frequency and vehicle strike resulting from the construction and operation of the proposed action to habitat and species in the proposed action area and surrounding areas.	Appendix E – Supplement to the Assessment of Matters of National Environmental Significance
<b>6.2</b>	<b>Impacts to listed threatened species and ecological communities</b>	
6.2.1	An assessment of the likely impacts associated with the construction (including vegetation clearing), operation and decommissioning stages of the proposed action.	Appendix E – Supplement to the Assessment of Matters of National Environmental Significance Section 4.2 Potential impacts
6.2.2	Include the direct and indirect loss and/or disturbance of individuals and habitat as a result of the proposed action. This must include the quality and extent (in hectares) of the habitat impacted and, to the extent possible, quantification of the individuals to be impacted.	Appendix E – Supplement to the Assessment of Matters of National Environmental Significance Section 4.2 Potential impacts
6.2.3	A discussion of whether the impacts are likely to be repeated, for example as part of maintenance or during decommissioning.	Appendix E – Supplement to the Assessment of Matters of National Environmental Significance Section 4.2 Potential impacts
6.2.4	A discussion of whether any impacts are likely to be unknown, unpredictable or irreversible.	Appendix E – Supplement to the Assessment of Matters of National Environmental Significance Section 4.0 Impact Assessment
6.2.5	Justification, with supporting evidence, as to how the proposed action will not be inconsistent with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Australia’s obligations under the Biodiversity Convention, the Convention on Conservation of Nature in the South Pacific (Apia Convention), and the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES); and</li> <li>• a recovery plan or threat abatement plan.</li> </ul>	Appendix E – Supplement to the Assessment of Matters of National Environmental Significance Section 4.6.11.2 Convention on International Trade in Endangered

Item	PER Guideline	Proponent Response Location
	Justification, with supporting evidence, as to how the proposed action has taken into account any relevant approved conservation advice.	Species of Wild Fauna and Flora and Section 4.6.13 Recovery plans and threat abatement plans for threatened species
6.2.6	Assess the impacts of clearing for upgraded roads and/or access tracks with 70-100 m widths on species and habitat. This should include including, but not be limited to, consideration of habitat fragmentation and fauna movement including of Greater Glider and Yellow-bellied Glider gliding distance.	Appendix E – Supplement to the Assessment of Matters of National Environmental Significance Section 3.4.2.6 Roads and fragmentation, Section 4.0 Impact Assessment
<b>6.3</b>	<b>Impacts to listed migratory species</b>	
6.3.1	Justification, with supporting evidence, as to how the proposed action will not be inconsistent with Australia's obligations under: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Bonn Convention;</li> <li>• China-Australia Migratory Bird Agreement;</li> <li>• Japan-Australia Migratory Bird Agreement;</li> <li>• International Agreement – Republic of Korea-Australia Migratory Bird Agreement; and</li> <li>• Any international agreement approved under subsection 209(4) of the EPBC Act.</li> </ul>	Appendix E – Supplement to the Assessment of Matters of National Environmental Significance, Section 4.7.3.2 The Bonn Convention, Section 4.7.3.5 China-Australia Migratory Bird Agreement, Section 4.7.3.6 Japan-Australia Migratory Bird Agreement, Section 4.7.3.7 Republic of Korea-Australia Migratory Bird Agreement
6.4	Impacts associated with turbine strike and site utilisation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The PER must include the information in section 6.1 in addition to the following information listed in Table 6.4 for relevant listed threatened and migratory bird and bat species. Please note, these requirements are also set out in <a href="#">Appendix C</a> in relation to the preparation of a draft Bird and Bat Management Plan (BBMP). This information is required to enable a robust assessment of potential impacts associated with individual mortality from turbine collision and barotrauma, and potential changes to species utilisation of the proposed action area as a result of the proposed action.</li> </ul>	Appendix I – Bird and Bat Management Plan Appendix J – Bird and Bat Utilisation Study Section 4.8 Impacts associated with turbine strike and site utilisation
6.4.1	<i>Desktop assessment</i>  To predict the potential for at risk threatened and migratory bird and bat species to use the proposed action area and its surrounds, the PER must include the process and outcomes of a preliminary site characterisation (desktop and/or initial site	Appendix I – Bird and Bat Management Plan Appendix J – Bird and Bat Utilisation Study

Item	PER Guideline	Proponent Response Location
	<p>visit) for each species to identify all drivers of presence on the proposed action area and utilisation of the proposed action area. This characterisation must include, at a minimum, the consideration of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Site characteristics</u>: focal habitat features, topography, prevailing wind and weather patterns, wetlands (including adjacent to proposed action area), and distance to potential nesting, roosting and foraging areas.</li> <li>• <u>Species characteristics</u>: behaviour, flight or demographic factors (e.g. species presence [ongoing, transitory/migratory]), site use (e.g. transit, roosting, breeding and/or foraging), flight paths (including migratory flight paths), flight heights, soaring, flocking, and population numbers.</li> </ul>	Section 4.8 Impacts associated with turbine strike and site utilisation
6.4.2	<p><i>Site-specific assessment</i></p> <p>To validate the outcomes of the desktop assessment, the PER must include a site-specific assessment of how at-risk listed threatened and migratory bird and bat species are using, or likely to use, the proposed action area. This assessment must be informed by site-specific and species-specific site utilisation surveys (undertaken by a suitably qualified expert) and supported by other relevant scientific evidence.</p> <p>At least 24 months of site utilisation surveys must be undertaken to provide sufficient baseline data on a relevant species' potential to utilise the proposed action area and its surrounds. This means that site utilisation surveys must be undertaken for each relevant season over a minimum two years (up to 8 survey events).</p> <p>Each site utilisation survey must be of an appropriate duration and spatial coverage (including taking into consideration the potential turbine layout and visibility) to adequately evaluate site utilisation.</p> <p>At a minimum, each site utilisation survey must record the relevant information specified in 'Species characteristics' of the 'Desktop Assessment' requirements (6.4.1) for each relevant species.</p> <p>The proposed site utilisation survey methodology for each relevant species must be included as an appendix to the PER.</p> <p>Discussion must be provided that includes detailed information on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How the design of the site utilisation surveys for each relevant species has been informed by its drivers of presence on the proposed action area and utilisation of the proposed action area and the area adjacent to the proposed action).</li> <li>• How site utilisation surveys for each relevant species have been designed to improve understanding of site utilisation of the proposed action area and the area adjacent to the proposed action, and support an ongoing Before-After, Control Impact (BACI) framework for an adaptive BBMP.</li> </ul>	Appendix I – Bird and Bat Management Plan Appendix J – Bird and Bat Utilisation Study Section 4.8 Impacts associated with turbine strike and site utilisation
6.4.3	<p><i>Long-term impact risk assessment</i></p> <p>The PER must include, at a minimum:</p>	Appendix I – Bird and Bat Management Plan Appendix J – Bird and Bat Utilisation Study

Item	PER Guideline	Proponent Response Location
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An assessment of the potential impact pathways on each relevant species (based on the desktop assessment and site utilisation surveys) including, at a minimum:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ direct mortality from turbine collision and barotrauma</li> <li>○ potential changes to species utilisation of the proposed action area and surrounds during construction and operation of the proposed action.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Identification of potential impacts to each relevant species from direct mortality, including but not limited to:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ analysis and mapping of suitable habitat, territories and activity/utilisation patterns/rates (e.g., 'heat maps') in the proposed action area and the area adjacent to the proposed action</li> <li>○ flight path analysis of relevant birds and bats including heights and speeds</li> <li>○ estimation of the quantity of individuals to be impacted.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• a collision risk assessment, which must incorporate:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ an assessment of the proposed action area and the area adjacent to the proposed action area to identify any high risk turbines</li> <li>○ baseline data collected during the minimum 24 months of site utilisation surveys</li> <li>○ a statement of all assumptions and uncertainties.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>The PER must include a map for each relevant species that identifies area/s in the proposed action area determined to be 'high risk' based on the collision risk assessment.</p> <p>The PER must clearly demonstrate how relevant departmental policies and guidelines, and the SPRAT Database, have been used to assess the above potential impacts on listed threatened and migratory bird and bat species.</p>	Section 4.8 Impacts associated with turbine strike and site utilisation
<b>7. Proposed avoidance, minimisation and mitigation management measures</b>		
	Avoidance, minimisation, and mitigation measures are the primary methods of eliminating and reducing impacts on MNES. Where possible and practicable, it is best to avoid impacts. Even if it is not possible to completely avoid a protected matter there may be ways to reduce the impact. If impacts cannot be avoided, then they should be minimised or mitigated as much as possible. Residual impacts should then be managed. Avoidance, minimisation and mitigation measures must be investigated thoroughly as a part of the assessment and be supported by evidence to demonstrate likely success.	Appendix E – Supplement to the Assessment of Matters of National Environmental Significance Section 5.0 Proposed avoidance, minimisation and mitigation management measures
	The PER must demonstrate how the mitigation hierarchy has been applied and all options exhausted to avoid and mitigate harm to protected matters, before resorting to environmental offsets.	Appendix E – Supplement to the Assessment of Matters of National Environmental Significance Section 5.0 Proposed avoidance, minimisation and mitigation management measures
	The department encourages the proponent to establish, test, and monitor novel methods for avoiding, minimising and mitigating impacts of the proposed action on MNES. The department also encourages the development of scientifically rigorous monitoring programs to measure impacts and assess the effectiveness of mitigation.	Appendix E – Supplement to the Assessment of Matters of National Environmental Significance

Item	PER Guideline	Proponent Response Location
		Section 5.0 Proposed avoidance, minimisation and mitigation management measures
7.1	The PER must provide information on proposed safeguards and mitigation measures to address the relevant impacts of the action. Specific details on avoidance, minimisation, mitigation and management measures, along with relevant monitoring, must be provided and substantiated, based on best available practices for all stages of the proposed action.	Appendix E – Supplement to the Assessment of Matters of National Environmental Significance Section 5.0 Proposed avoidance, minimisation and mitigation management measures
7.1	The department notes that the MNES report attached to the original referral contains some avoidance, minimisation and mitigation measures in accordance with the impact minimisation hierarchy to reduce the impacts to MNES. The department considers that the following information, in conjunction with the information provided in the MNES report, is required in the PER.	Appendix E – Supplement to the Assessment of Matters of National Environmental Significance Section 5.0 Proposed avoidance, minimisation and mitigation management measures
7.1.1	<p>Include details of specific and measurable environmental outcomes to be achieved for relevant MNES. All commitments must be drafted using committal language (e.g., 'will' and 'must') when describing the proposed measures.</p> <p>Any commitments by the person proposing to take the action must be clearly distinguished from recommendations or statements of best practice made by the document author or other technical expert.</p>	Appendix E – Supplement to the Assessment of Matters of National Environmental Significance Section 5.0 Proposed avoidance, minimisation and mitigation management measures
7.1.2	<p>All measures must be developed to meet the 'S.M.A.R.T' principle:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• S – Specific (what and how)</li> <li>• M – Measurable (supported by baseline information, number/value, quantifiable, auditable)</li> <li>• A – Achievable (with consideration of e.g., timeframe, money, personnel)</li> <li>• R – Relevant (consistent with conservation advices, recovery plans, threat abatement plans, scientific literature)</li> <li>• T – Time-bound (specific timeframe to complete, include timeframe and frequency).</li> </ul>	Appendix E – Supplement to the Assessment of Matters of National Environmental Significance Section 5.0 Proposed avoidance, minimisation and mitigation management measures
7.1.3	<p>A detailed summary of measures proposed to be undertaken by the proponent to avoid, minimise, mitigate and manage relevant impacts of the proposed action on MNES, for all stages of the proposed action.</p> <p>Include details of any relevant measures to avoid, mitigate and manage impacts required through other Commonwealth, State and local government approvals.</p>	Appendix E – Supplement to the Assessment of Matters of National Environmental Significance Section 5.0 Proposed avoidance, minimisation and mitigation management measures

Item	PER Guideline	Proponent Response Location
7.1.4	<p>Provide discussion on the measures employed to avoid, minimise and mitigate impacts to MNES from turbine strike, including but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• turbine placement</li> <li>• turbine design (e.g., blade design features)</li> <li>• acoustic and visual deterrents (e.g., ultrasound acoustic devices)</li> <li>• scheduling of activity (to avoid ecologically sensitive periods across construction, operation and decommissioning stages), which may include curtailment and consideration of appropriate cut-in speeds</li> <li>• detection systems (e.g., IdentiFlight®, Robin Radar Systems).</li> </ul>	Appendix E – Supplement to the Assessment of Matters of National Environmental Significance Section 5.0 Proposed avoidance, minimisation and mitigation management measures
7.1.5	<p>Provide discussion on the measures employed to avoid, minimise and mitigate impacts to MNES from habitat loss and fragmentation, including, for example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• micro-siting of infrastructure to utilise existing clearance areas and avoid habitat fragmentation and patch isolation, with consideration of whether avoidance areas would still be connected to habitat in the broader landscape</li> <li>• minimising clearance widths for access tracks</li> <li>• incorporating road pinch points to maintain habitat connectivity</li> <li>• innovative turbine blade transportation, including methods to minimise necessary clearance widths (e.g., ‘Blade Manipulator’ trucks)</li> <li>• installing fauna crossing infrastructure (e.g. glider poles or rope bridges) as supported by scientific literature, noting the Conservation Advice for Petauroides volans (greater glider (southern and central)) (2022) available at: <a href="https://www.environment.gov.au/biodiversity/threatened/species/pubs/254-conservation-advice-05072022.pdf">https://www.environment.gov.au/biodiversity/threatened/species/pubs/254-conservation-advice-05072022.pdf</a> states artificial structures (nest boxes, glide poles) have limited effectiveness as mitigation actions for loss, degradation or fragmentation of Greater Glider habitat</li> <li>• adjusting powerline heights to avoid fauna obstruction/entanglement and maximise canopy retention</li> <li>• where fencing is proposed, incorporating fauna friendly design where possible to avoid fauna obstruction/entanglement (for example, noting areas where barbed wire can be avoided).</li> </ul>	Appendix E – Supplement to the Assessment of Matters of National Environmental Significance Section 5.0 Proposed avoidance, minimisation and mitigation management measures
7.1.6	<p>Provide discussion on proposed pre-clearance and clearance procedures to ensure fauna are detected and managed to minimise mortality, stress, injury, or introduction of disease.</p> <p>Describe any statutory or policy basis for the proposed procedures (e.g. any state or local government requirements).</p>	Appendix E – Supplement to the Assessment of Matters of National Environmental Significance Section 5.0 Proposed avoidance, minimisation and mitigation management measures
7.1.7	<p>Provide discussion on the measures employed to avoid, minimise and mitigate impacts to MNES from short- and long-term erosion and sedimentation, including but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• identification of potentially affected wetlands, waterways, tributaries and drainage lines</li> <li>• scheduling of construction activities (e.g., avoiding construction during wet periods)</li> </ul>	Appendix E – Supplement to the Assessment of Matters of National Environmental Significance

Item	PER Guideline	Proponent Response Location
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>implementation of best-practice erosion and sediment control measures, including the details of the type and location of erosion and sediment control devices to be installed, based on the anticipated soil, weather and construction conditions</li> <li>minimising the extent and duration of soil disturbance</li> <li>prompt stabilisation of disturbed areas</li> <li>controlling water movement through the proposed action area, including the diversion of clean flows around disturbed areas</li> <li>the development of performance criteria</li> <li>regular monitoring during construction, operation and decommissioning to ensure performance criteria are being maintained, including a full inspection of erosion and sediment controls following a heavy rainfall event (&gt;25 mm in 24 hours) to identify and undertake any necessary rectification works.</li> </ul>	Section 5.0 Proposed avoidance, minimisation and mitigation management measures
7.1.8	Wind farm noise mitigation and management information in relation to disturbance of wildlife, including birds (Zwart et al 2015).	Not Applicable – Nil facilitated impacts identified.
7.1.9	<p>Proposed measures must be based on best available practices, appropriate standards, evidence of success for other similar actions and supported by published scientific evidence.</p> <p>The SPRAT Database, conservation advice, recovery plans and associated statutory and policy documents may provide a starting point for relevant mitigation and management measures.</p>	Not Applicable – Nil facilitated impacts identified.
7.1.10	Include an assessment of the expected or predicted effectiveness of the proposed measures.	Not Applicable – Nil facilitated impacts identified.
7.1.11	Include any statutory or policy basis for the proposed measures, including reference to the SPRAT Database and relevant approved conservation advice, recovery plan or threat abatement plan, and a discussion on how the proposed measures are not inconsistent with relevant plans.	Not Applicable – Nil facilitated impacts identified.
7.1.12	Provide bushfire mitigation and management measures, including information on preventing the spread of bushfires that may start as a result of the proposed action to areas outside of the proposed action area.	Appendix L – Bushfire Management Plan Section 5.2.8 Fire Management
7.1.13	<p>Provide details of ongoing management, including monitoring programs to support an adaptive management approach, that validate the effectiveness of the proposed measures and overall demonstrate that environmental outcomes will be achieved. Include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a scientifically robust monitoring program for the detection/quantification of impacts on protected matters, including as a result of turbine strike and barotrauma. The monitoring program must be able to accurately and in a timely manner detect when impact triggers are reached.</li> </ul> <p>Impact triggers, at suitable increments, should be informed by scientific literature and relevant departmental guidelines such as the Referral guideline for 14 birds listed as migratory species under the EPBC Act.</p>	Appendix I – Bird and Bat Management Plan Appendix J – Bird and Bat Utilisation Study

Item	PER Guideline	Proponent Response Location
7.1.14	<p>Details of tangible, on-ground corrective actions that will be implemented in the event the monitoring programs indicate that the environmental outcomes have not or will not be achieved, and when these corrective actions would be triggered.</p> <p>Include corrective actions to be undertaken in the event that incremental impact triggers are reached or exceeded from impacts on protected matters from turbine strike and barotrauma, including the implementation of additional/alternative mitigation measures (for example, additional curtailment or deterrents or shutdown procedures of the wind turbine generator/s that contributed to reaching or exceeding an impact trigger to cease operation).</p> <p>Note that provision of environmental offsets will also be expected for any residual significant impact (see section 9).</p>	<p>Appendix I – Bird and Bat Management Plan</p> <p>Appendix J – Bird and Bat Utilisation Study</p>
<b>7.2</b>	<b>Management plans</b>	
	<p>Management plans describe how an action might impact on the natural environment in which it occurs and set out clear commitments from the person taking the action on how those impacts will be avoided, minimised and managed so that they are environmentally acceptable. Management plans should be designed to achieve the best possible environmental outcome for the relevant MNES.</p>	<p>A suite of management plans has been provided in the appendices.</p>
	<p>Any management plans relevant to the mitigation and management of impacts to MNES should be provided either as separate documents attached to the PER or provided as subsections in the PER. The department is likely to recommend to the Minister (or delegate) that the conditions of approval require that final versions of any relevant plans be approved and commenced prior to the of the proposed action. Relevant plans should be included prior to publication of the draft PER. A final version of each plan is likely to require approval prior to commencement of the action, should it be approved.</p> <p>The department's guidance on the preparation of management plans can be found at: <a href="https://www.dcceew.gov.au/environment/epbc/publications/environmental-management-plan-guidelines">https://www.dcceew.gov.au/environment/epbc/publications/environmental-management-plan-guidelines</a>.</p> <p>The table below includes likely requirements for management plans. Consideration should be given to outcomes-based commitments that can be proposed as an alternative to specific management commitments and management plans. Combining management plans to simplify management arrangements should be considered, where appropriate.</p>	<p>A suite of management plans has been provided in the appendices.</p>
7.2.1	<p>A detailed outline of an Environmental Management Plan (EMP) that sets out the framework for management, mitigation and monitoring of relevant impacts of the action, including any provisions for independent environmental auditing.</p> <p>The EMP needs to address the proposed action phases (construction, operation, decommission) separately. It must state the environmental objectives, performance criteria, monitoring, reporting, corrective action, responsibility and timing for each environmental issue.</p> <p>The EMP should also describe contingencies for events such as heavy or prolonged rainfall.</p> <p>In the construction phase of the EMP, include management measures such as dust suppression and enforcement of reduced construction zone vehicle speeds.</p>	<p>Appendix M - Environmental Management Plan</p>

Item	PER Guideline	Proponent Response Location
	<p>The EMP should incorporate weed and pest management plans, including, but not limited to, ongoing monitoring, specific triggers that will engage remediation actions, consideration to the effects of weeds and pests to the environment within and adjacent to the proposed action area, targets for the control of invasive or pest species and methodologies for the control of weeds and pest if triggers are met or exceeded. The weed and pest management plan may be submitted as a standalone management plan if desired,</p> <p>The Environmental Management Plan Guidelines provides general guidance to stakeholders preparing environmental management plans for environmental impact assessments and approvals under Chapter 4 of the EPBC Act. This is available at: <a href="https://www.dcceew.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/environmental-management-plan-guidelines.pdf">https://www.dcceew.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/environmental-management-plan-guidelines.pdf</a>.</p>	
7.2.2	An Erosion and Sediment Control Plan outlining avoidance, mitigation and monitoring of sediment loads (see section 7.1.7) and developed in accordance with the <i>International Erosion Control Association (IECA) Best Practice Erosion and Sediment Control Manual (2008)</i> .	Appendix N - Erosion and Sediment Control Plan
7.2.3	If dewatering is required during turbine foundation installation, a Dewatering Groundwater Management Plan should be provided in the PER that includes use of extracted groundwater and plans for groundwater disposal. Details from a numerical groundwater model, including hydrology and hydrogeology of the site, third-party users, surface water-groundwater interactions, and any potential impacts expected (particularly sedimentation impacts) should be provided.	Appendix M Environmental Management Plan Section 4.3.2.3
7.2.4	A Bird and Bat Management Plan (BBMP) in relation to risk of turbine collision and barotrauma. A framework for this plan is provided in <u>Appendix C</u> .	Appendix I – Bird and Bat Management Plan
7.2.5	An Offset Management Strategy (OMS) or an Offset Area Management Plan (OAMP). Requirements are set out in section 9 and in <u>Appendix D</u> .	Appendix O - Draft Offset Strategy Appendix D – Owner’s Consent Section 9
7.2.6	<p>A Decommissioning Management Plan describing the timing and methodology of removal of wind turbine generators and associated infrastructure (i.e. battery storage facility, substations/transformers, hard stands, buried cabling (if being recovered), etc.) and state commitments for recycling and disposal of materials.</p> <p>This plan should commit to rehabilitation measures to return impacted areas to either original condition or to a state agreed upon with the land holder.</p> <p>If relevant, a statement considering the potential to repower the wind farm at end of life should also be included.</p>	Appendix B - Decommissioning Management Plan
<b>8. Rehabilitation requirement</b>		

Item	PER Guideline	Proponent Response Location
8.1.1	Maps showing the areas that will be rehabilitated within the proposed action area and the size in hectares of these areas.	Appendix K – Rehabilitation Management Plan
8.1.2	A summary of the vegetation community/habitat that is being rehabilitated and the dominant species that will be included in the rehabilitation site.	Appendix K – Rehabilitation Management Plan
8.1.3	The details of any rehabilitation activities proposed to be undertaken as required by Commonwealth, State or Territory, and local government legislation.	Appendix K – Rehabilitation Management Plan
8.1.4	Provide details of rehabilitation methods and how they meet best practice standards, including for the restoration of habitat for relevant MNES and avoidance of sedimentation/erosion.	Appendix K – Rehabilitation Management Plan
8.1.5	Information on management of the rehabilitation locations, including, but not limited to, weed and pest management.	Appendix K – Rehabilitation Management Plan
8.1.6	Rehabilitation acceptance criteria relevant to MNES and the procedures, including contingency measures, that will be undertaken to achieve them.	Appendix K – Rehabilitation Management Plan
8.1.7	Details of a monitoring program to determine the success of rehabilitation activities implemented by the proponent, including any contingency measures and when they would be triggered.	Appendix K – Rehabilitation Management Plan
8.1.8	Include information on whether any post-construction rehabilitation sites will be subsequently cleared during the decommissioning stage.	Appendix K – Rehabilitation Management Plan
<b>9. Offsets</b>		
	Environmental offsets are measures that compensate for the residual significant impacts of an action on protected matters. Offsets provide environmental benefits to counterbalance the impacts that remain after consideration of avoidance and mitigation measures. Please note, offsets do not reduce the impacts of an action, and are not intended to make proposals with unacceptable impacts acceptable.	Appendix O - Draft Offset Strategy
	The PER must include an assessment of the likelihood of residual significant impacts occurring on listed threatened species and communities and listed migratory species after avoidance, mitigation and management measures relating to the proposed action have been applied. If it is considered that residual significant impacts are likely, then environmental offsets are required to be provided.	Appendix O – Draft Offset Strategy Section 4 Impact Assessment

Item	PER Guideline	Proponent Response Location
	If it is considered that a residual significant impact is likely, the PER must include a draft Offset Area Management Plan (OAMP) or a draft Offset Management Strategy (OMS) consistent with the department's EPBC Act Environmental Offsets Policy (2012) available at: <a href="https://www.dcceew.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/offsets-policy_2.pdf">https://www.dcceew.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/offsets-policy_2.pdf</a> . If an offset area has been nominated, provide an OAMP. If no offset area has been identified, provide an OMS. Note that if there is a residual significant impact, the department is likely to recommend to the Minister (or delegate) that any conditions of approval require the environmental offset and associated OAMP be approved and implemented prior to the commencement of the proposed action.	Appendix O - Draft Offset Strategy
9.1.1	An assessment of the likelihood of residual significant impacts occurring on relevant MNES, after avoidance, mitigation and management measures have been applied.	Appendix O – Draft Offset Strategy Section 7 Offsets
9.1.2	A summary of the proposed environmental offset and key commitments to achieve a conservation gain for each protected matter.	Appendix O - Draft Offset Strategy
9.1.3	If an offset area has not been nominated, include a draft OMS as an appendix to the PER. The draft OMS must meet the information requirements set out in Attachment D1.	Appendix O - Draft Offset Strategy
9.1.4	Where offset area/s have been nominated, include a draft OAMP as an appendix to the PER. The draft OAMP must meet the information requirements set out in Attachment D2, and must be prepared by a suitably qualified ecologist and in accordance with the department's Environmental Management Plan Guidelines (2014), available at: <a href="https://www.dcceew.gov.au/environment/epbc/publications/environmental-management-plan-guidelines">https://www.dcceew.gov.au/environment/epbc/publications/environmental-management-plan-guidelines</a>	Appendix O - Draft Offset Strategy
9.1.5	The environmental offset/s proposed for the proposed action must meet the core principles of the Offset Policy.	Appendix O - Draft Offset Strategy
<b>10. Other Approvals and Conditions</b>		
	The PER must include information on any other requirements for approval or conditions that apply, or that the proponent reasonably believes are likely to apply, to the proposed action. This must include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) details of any local or State Government planning scheme, or plan or policy under any local or State Government planning system that deals with the proposed action, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• what environmental assessment of the proposed action has been, or is being, carried out under the scheme, plan or policy</li> <li>• how the scheme provides for the prevention, minimisation and management of any relevant impacts</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Section 1.4 Other Approvals

Item	PER Guideline	Proponent Response Location
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>b) a description of any approval that has been obtained from a State, Territory or Commonwealth agency or authority (other than an approval under the EPBC Act), including any conditions that apply to the action</li> <li>c) a statement identifying any additional approval that is required</li> <li>d) a description of the monitoring, enforcement and review procedures that apply, or are proposed to apply, to the action.</li> </ul>	
	Attach relevant Commonwealth, State or Territory, and local government approvals and permits as supporting documents to the PER.	Appendix C - State Assessment and Referral Agency Decision Notice
<b>11. Consultation</b>		
	<p>The PER must include information about relevant consultation about the action, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) any consultation that has already taken place, their outcomes, and details of management measures to address community concerns.</li> <li>b) proposed future consultation (including plans for future engagement) throughout life of the proposed action</li> <li>c) if there has been consultation about the proposed action, any documented response to, or result of, the consultation</li> <li>d) identification of affected parties, including a statement mentioning any communities that may be affected and describing their views</li> <li>e) signed documents or statements of consent from land holders or managers (including Registered Native Title Body Corporates).</li> </ul>	Section 1.5 Consultation
	Describe, as applicable, how consultation and engagement with First Nations Peoples was in accordance with the <i>Interim Engaging with First Nations People and Communities on Assessments and Approvals under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (2023)</i> available at: <a href="https://www.dcceew.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/interim-engaging-with-first-nations-people-and-communities-assessments-and-approvals-under-epbc-act.pdf">https://www.dcceew.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/interim-engaging-with-first-nations-people-and-communities-assessments-and-approvals-under-epbc-act.pdf</a> and guidelines developed by the First Nations Clean Energy Network, <i>Clean Energy Agreement Making on First Nations Land: What Do Strong Agreements Contain?</i> available at: <a href="https://openresearch-repository.anu.edu.au/handle/1885/242825">https://openresearch-repository.anu.edu.au/handle/1885/242825</a> .	Section 1.5.5 Indigenous Engagement
<b>12. Environmental Record of Person Proposing to Take The Action</b>		
	<p>The information provided must include details of any proceedings under a Commonwealth, State or Territory law for the protection of the environment or the conservation and sustainable use of natural resources against:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) the person proposing to take the action</li> </ul>	Section 1.6 Environmental Record of the Proponent

Item	PER Guideline	Proponent Response Location
	b) for an action for which a person has applied for a permit, the person making the application.	
	If the person proposing to take the action is a corporation, details of the corporation's environmental policy and planning framework must also be included.	Section 1.6 Environmental Record of the Proponent
<b>13. Economic and Social Matters</b>		
	<p>The economic and social impacts of the action, both positive and negative, must be analysed. Matters of interest may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) details of any public consultation activities undertaken, and their outcomes</li> <li>b) identification, assessment and mitigation measures to reduce any potential impacts to humans from the construction, operation and decommissioning of the proposed action including but not limited to blade erosion, blade vibration frequency and Bisphenol A contamination</li> <li>c) projected economic costs and benefits of the proposed action, including the basis for their estimation through cost/benefit analysis or similar studies</li> <li>d) estimated scope 1 and 2 greenhouse gas emissions contributions during construction and estimated direct greenhouse gas emissions reduction once operational, including time taken to displace the project's emissions.</li> <li>e) employment opportunities expected to be generated by the proposed action (including construction and operational phases) including opportunities to engage with indigenous employees and businesses and targets for employment of people local to the proposed action.</li> </ul>	Section 8.0 Economic and Social Matters
	Economic and social impacts should be considered at the local, regional and national levels. Details of the relevant cost and benefits of alternative options to the proposed action, as identified in section 3 above, should also be included.	Section 8.0 Economic and Social Matters
13.1	<p><i>Indigenous engagement</i></p> <p>Identify existing or potential native title rights and interests, including any areas and objects that are of particular significance to Indigenous peoples and communities, possibly impacted by the proposed action and the potential for managing those impacts.</p>	Section 8.2 Native Title and Cultural Heritage
	Describe any Indigenous consultation that has been undertaken, or will be undertaken, in relation to the proposed action and their outcomes.	Section 8.2 Native Title and Cultural Heritage
	The department considers that best practice consultation, in accordance with the Interim Engaging with First Nations People and Communities on Assessments and Approvals under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999	Section 8.2 Native Title and Cultural Heritage

Item	PER Guideline	Proponent Response Location
	<p>(2023) available at: <a href="https://www.dceew.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/interim-engaging-with-first-nations-people-and-communities-assessments-and-approvals-under-epbc-act.pdf">https://www.dceew.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/interim-engaging-with-first-nations-people-and-communities-assessments-and-approvals-under-epbc-act.pdf</a> includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• identifying and acknowledging all relevant affected Indigenous peoples and communities</li> <li>• committing to early engagement</li> <li>• building trust through early and ongoing communication for the duration of the proposed action, including approvals, implementation and future management</li> <li>• setting appropriate timeframes for consultation</li> <li>• demonstrating cultural awareness.</li> </ul> <p>Describe any state requirements for approval or conditions that apply, or that the proponent reasonably believes are likely to apply, to the proposed action with regards to Indigenous peoples and communities.</p>	Section 8.2 Native Title and Cultural Heritage
<b>14. Information Sources Provided in the PER</b>		
	<p>For information given in a draft Public Environment Report, the draft must state:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) the source of the information</li> <li>b) how recent the information is</li> <li>c) how the reliability of the information was tested</li> <li>d) what uncertainties (if any) are in the information</li> </ol>	PER Chapters and supporting technical reports comply with these requirements.
<b>15. Conclusion</b>		
	<p>An overall conclusion as to the environmental acceptability of the proposed action should be provided, including discussion on compliance with principles of ecologically sustainable development and the objects and requirements of the EPBC Act. Reasons justifying undertaking the proposal in the manner proposed should also be outlined.</p> <p>Key mitigation proposed, as well as any offsets proposed for any unavoidable residual significant impacts on MNES, should be summarised here.</p>	Section 9.1 Conclusion