

# 2023 INDEPENDENT ENVIRONMENTAL AUDIT

Biala Wind Farm



11 December 2023

## REPORT

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### Document status

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### Approval for issue

Dianne Munro



11 December 2023

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## LIMITATIONS OF REPORT

In preparing this IEA report, RPS has assessed all activities appropriate and necessary to evaluate the environmental status of the site and operations undertaken within the audit period. RPS has addressed all technical matters which might reasonably be considered to be relevant to such an assessment conducted to standards which apply in NSW. Based on observations of the site, interviews with appropriate staff and a review of available documentation, it is RPS's opinion that the potential critical environmental issues associated with the site and operations are those discussed in this report. However, RPS can only advise on the basis of the information available to them and therefore cannot dismiss absolutely the possibility that parts of the site, or adjacent properties, may give rise to additional issues. The conclusions presented in this report are professional opinions based solely upon RPS's visual observations of the site and the immediate site vicinity, and review of available documentation, interviews and conversations with personnel knowledgeable about the site and other available information, as referenced in this report. These conclusions are intended exclusively for the purposes stated herein, at the site listed, and for the project indicated.

Opinions presented in this report apply to the site's conditions and features as they existed at the time of RPS' site inspections on 12 - 13 September 2023, and those areas accessible. They necessarily cannot apply to conditions and features which RPS is unaware of and has not had the opportunity to evaluate.

This report does not, and does not purport to, give legal advice on the actual or potential environmental liabilities of any individual or organisation, or to draw conclusions as to whether any circumstances constitute a breach of relevant legislation.

# 1 INTRODUCTION

## 1.1 BACKGROUND

RPS AAP Consulting (RPS) was commissioned by Beijing Energy International (Australia) Holding Pty Ltd (BJEI Australia) on behalf of Newtricity Developments Biala Pty Ltd (Applicant) to conduct an Independent Environmental Audit (IEA) of the Biala Wind Farm (Biala) as required by condition 6 of Schedule 4 of Development Consent SSD 6039. This IEA assesses compliance against Development Consent SSD 6039 and is the second IEA required.

This IEA consisted of a desktop review of documentation, interviews with key BJEI Australia staff and a site inspection of selected operational wind turbines and turbine hardstand areas, ancillary infrastructure (including the Operations and Maintenance Facility, access tracks and laydown areas) and selected waterway crossings.

The general IEA Itinerary is presented in **Appendix A**.

The auditing period for this IEA is from 5 August 2020 (being the end of the last IEA audit period) to 13 September 2023 last day of site inspection (the IEA period).

The IEA was conducted by Dianne Munro (Lead Auditor – Exemplar Global Certified Auditor 107622) (see **Appendix B**), and Jessica Robinson (Audit Assistant) from RPS.

The IEA was conducted generally consistent with 'ISO 19011 - Guidelines for Auditing Management Systems' and the 'Independent Audit Post Approval Requirements May 2020' (Audit Guidelines) (DPE, 2020). Key documents reviewed during the IEA included:

- SSD 6039 (as modified);
- Environment Impact Statement (EIS, ERM 2015); and
- Environmental Management Plans (EMP).

The field inspection was conducted on 12 and 13 September 2023 by Dianne Munro and Jessica Robinson. Observations from the site inspection and site interviews were noted in conjunction with evidence in **Appendix C**. Photos from the field inspection are shown in **Appendix D**.

The weather conditions at the time of the inspection) consisted of south-westerly winds, with maximum ground level wind speed of 3.75m/s on 12 September and 4.28 m/s on 13 September and a maximum temperature of 19.9 °C. 0.4 millimetres of rainfall occurred during the preceding week. These conditions were consistent with conditions experienced during the site inspection at Biala and field inspections were conducted at times of little to no wind.

Opening and closeout meetings held with key representatives of the Applicant (represented by personnel from AECOM, Goldwind and BJEI Australia) in attendance which generally included:

- Jochen Rasmussen (JR) – BJEI Australia, Asset Manager;
- Simon Zhao (ZH) – BJEI Australia, Site Manager;
- Karim Ali (KA) – BJEI Australia, HSEQ;
- Aaron Poole (AP) – SBL Solutions Services, Supervisor for Goldwind and BJEI;
- Roslyn Milne (RM) – Goldwind (NSW), HSEQ;
- Shani Walton (SW) – AECOM, Principal Environmental Consultant;
- Dianne Munro (DM) – RPS, Lead Auditor; and
- Jessica Robinson (JS) – RPS, Audit Assistant.

## 1.2 ACTIVITIES WITHIN THE AUDIT PERIOD

Goldwind's construction team handed over the last turbines to the commissioning team at the commencement of March 2021. Consolidated Power Projects Australia Pty Ltd (CPP) reached section completion of last Electrical Balance of Plant (EBoP) section on 28 August 2020, and Goldwind reached section completion of last section under the turbine supply and installation agreement on 10 June 2022.

As Goldwind's construction team transferred the last turbine at the beginning of March 2021, the end of construction period for auditing purposes is 1 March 2021.

During the audit period:

- No additional vegetation clearance occurred;
- No new infrastructure was constructed;
- No demolition works occurred;
- 17 turbines were erected: 1, 2, 4-8, 13-15, 24-31 (14 were erected in previous audit period); and
- 31 turbines were commissioned, tested and commenced operations.

This IEA largely covers the commissioning and operational phases which occurred from 2 March 2021 – 3 November 2022 and involved extensive commissioning and grid testing of WTGs. The operation of all WTGs commenced on 4 November 2022 as per DPE notification.

## 1.3 REPORT STRUCTURE

This report is generally structured as follows:

- **Section 1** provides an introduction, describes the requirement for the IEA, activities conducted during the audit period and provides a guide to the structure of this report;
- **Section 2** provides a description and layout of the site and a summary of environmental approvals and management documents;
- **Section 3** outlines the requirements for this IEA, where each has been addressed in this report and details regulatory consultation;
- **Section 4** lists any non-compliances identified; and
- **Section 5** provides a list of recommendations for any identified non-compliances and continuous improvement.

## 2 SITE DESCRIPTION

### 2.1 DEVELOPMENT CONSENT

SSD 6039 for Biala Wind Farm allows the development described in the environmental assessments specified as forming the 'EIS' under SSD 6039 including the 'Biala Wind Farm Environmental Impact Statement' (EIS) (ERM, 2015). The development includes:

- Up to 31 wind turbines generators (WTGs) with a tip height of up to 185 metres (m) and hub height of up to 110 m;
- Ancillary infrastructure, including three new intersections with the site off Grabben Gullen Road, internal access roads, an operations/maintenance facility, internal electricity transmission lines and a substation; and
- Upgrades to the local road network, including both Kialla Road and Range Road, to facilitate the delivery of wind turbines to and from the site; and

Employment of up to 74 personnel during construction and seven personnel during operation. SSD 6039 has been modified on two occasions as follows (before the current audit period):

- Modification one (MOD1) was approved 9 October 2018 and allowed for the construction of an additional meteorological monitoring mast (to bring the total number of monitoring masts to four); and
- Modification two (MOD2) was approved on 9 January 2020 and allowed for changes to the electrical reticulation network and micrositing of some of the WTGs.

**Figure 1** shows the general layout of Biala as approved in SSD 6039.

The underground transmission line which connects Biala with the existing substation at Gullen Range Wind Farm is separately approved under DA 122/2017 and dated 17 January 2019 and does not form part of this IEA.

### 2.2 MANAGEMENT PLANS, PROGRAMS AND STRATEGIES

SSD 6039 requires the preparation of a series of management plans. All currently approved management plans for the construction and operation (as relevant) phases were reviewed during this IEA, including the:

- 'Operational Environment Management Strategy' (revised 3 August 2023, awaiting DPE approval);
- 'Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management Plan' (revised March 2020);
- 'Biodiversity Management Plan' (revised March 2020);
- 'Stage 1 Traffic Management Plan' (revised October 2018);
- 'Stage 2 Traffic Management Plan' (revised February 2020); and
- 'Bird and Bat Adaptive Management Program' (revised May 2020).

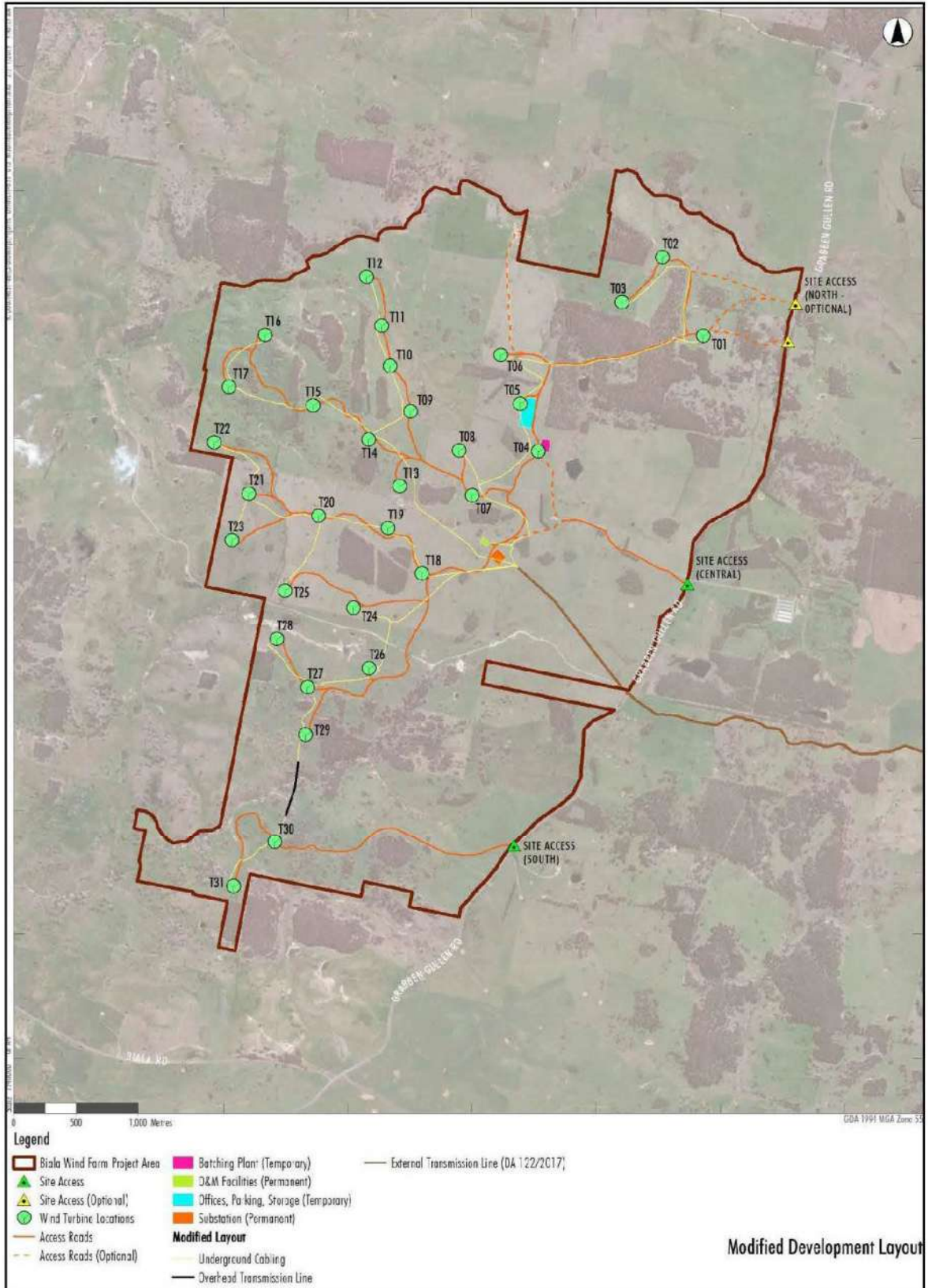


Figure 1 – Biala Development Layout



### 3 IEA REQUIREMENTS

#### 3.1 DEVELOPMENT CONSENT

This IEA and subsequent report have been compiled pursuant to SSD 6039 (as modified) and the DPE Audit Guidelines (DPE, 2020) (discussed in **Section 3.2**).

Requirements for independent auditing under SSD 6039 (as modified) Schedule 4 Condition 6 is listed in **Table 1** which also lists where each is addressed in this document.

**Table 1: Independent Environmental Audit Requirements**

Description	Where Addressed
<b>SSD 6039 Schedule 4 Condition 6</b>	
Within 1 year of the commencement of construction, and every 3 years thereafter, unless the Secretary directs otherwise, the Applicant shall commission and pay the full cost of an Independent Environmental Audit of the development. The audits must:	<b>This IEA</b>
(a) be prepared in accordance with the relevant Independent Audit Post Approval requirements (DPE 2018).;	<b>Section 3.2 Appendix F</b>
(b) be led and conducted by a suitably qualified, experienced and independent team of experts whose appointment has been endorsed by the Secretary;	<b>Appendix B Appendix E</b>
(c) be carried out in consultation with the relevant agencies;	<b>Section 3.3 Appendix E</b>
(d) assess whether the development complies with the relevant requirements in this consent, and any strategy, plan or program required under this consent; and	<b>Section 4 Appendix C</b>
(e) recommend appropriate measures or actions to improve the environmental performance of the development and any strategy, plan or program required under this consent.	<b>Section 5 Appendix C</b>
Within 3 months of commencing an Independent Environmental Audit, or unless otherwise agreed by the Secretary, a copy of the audit report must be submitted to the Secretary, and any other NSW agency that requests it, together with a response to any recommendations contained in the audit report, and a timetable for the implementation of the recommendations.	<b>Responsibility of Applicant</b>
The recommendations of the Independent Environmental Audit must be implemented to the satisfaction of the Secretary.	<b>Responsibility of Applicant</b>

## 3.2 AUDIT GUIDELINES

This IEA report has also been prepared in accordance with the Audit Guidelines (DPE, 2020). **Appendix F** lists key requirements from the Audit Guidelines, the relevant section of the Guidelines which references the requirement and indicates where each is addressed in this report.

## 3.3 AGENCY CONSULTATION

The following agencies were approached directly by RPS in late August 2023 for input as part of the scoping phase of this IEA (see **Appendix E**).

- Department of Planning and Environment (DPE);
- DPE Compliance Division;
- Environment and Protection Authority (EPA);
- Transport for NSW (TfNSW), formally the Roads and Maritime Service;
- Airservices Australia (ASA);
- NSW Rural Fire Service (NSW RFS);
- Upper Lachlan Shire Council (ULSC); and
- Biala CCC Chair.

Following comment from the DPE, additional regulators were approached in late September 2023:

- Heritage NSW;
- Department of Primary Industries – Water; and
- Biodiversity Conservation Division.

While not a regulator, the Pejar Local Aboriginal Land Council was also consulted with in late September 2023 as requested by the DPE.

Where specific issues were raised during consultation, these are listed in **Table 2** along with a section on where each has been addressed in this IEA report.

**Table 2: Agency Requirements**

Regulator	Date of Response	Feedback	Where Addressed
Upper Lachlan Shire Council	07/09/2023	ULSC has not undertaken any inspections of the Biala Wind Farm with respect to environmental issues, nor has it received any complaints re same.	N/A
EPA	31/08/2023	<p>The scope of the audit should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An assessment of compliance against: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Relevant conditions of SSD 6039</li> <li>– Environmental Management Plans (EMP) and Sub-plans and other relevant post approval documents and the adequacy of the system to achieve legislative requirements and drive performance improvements. EMPs should be reviewed and updated on a regular basis. This should include consideration of complaint and incident handling, compliance tracking and reporting as well as the outcomes of any independent environmental audits.</li> <li>– Environment Protection Licence 21280</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p><b>Appendix C</b></p> <p>Note: An audit of EPL21280 and the Pollution Incident Response Management Plan is not required as a condition of consent and as such has not been included in this IEA.</p>

Regulator	Date of Response	Feedback	Where Addressed
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Pollution Incident Response Management Plan and specific procedures to address potential risks around turbine fires.</li> <li>• An assessment of the environmental performance of the development including impacts, physical extent and environmental compliance.</li> <li>• An assessment of the implementation of previous audit findings, recommendations and actions</li> </ul> <p>As the construction phase of the project is now complete, and given the previous water pollution incident the EPA considers the following key environmental issues should be considered in the 2023 IEA:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Water management, success of revegetation works and erosion controls in place to address potential water pollution risks, specifically associated with watercourse crossings, unsealed roads and other areas which may present a pollution risk post construction.</li> <li>• Noise compliance and management post construction. The EPA has reviewed the Noise Compliance Test Plan Rp 001 R02 20200121) prepared by Marshall Day Acoustics, dated 2 December 2022 (NCTP). Whilst the EPA does not endorse or approve the NCTP it is acknowledged that it will be used to determine compliance monitoring. The EPA has recently received a copy of the Noise Monitoring Report and noted that which it states compliance was achieved the outcomes of the compliance assessment were inconclusive at wind speeds greater than 10 m/s due to the influence of background noise.</li> <li>• Waste assessment, classification, and management.</li> </ul>	
TfNSW (RMS)	Request for engagement email sent 29/08/2023.	No feedback received.	N/A
Biala CCC	04/09/2023	Advised that the proponent has been open, transparent, and obliging to all community concerns that have arisen during the development process thus far. Any Environmental issues raised by the community have been reported promptly to the committee which are noted in the minutes on the proponent's website.	N/A
Airservices Australia	Request for engagement email sent 29/08/2023.	No feedback received.	N/A
RFS NSW	Request for engagement email sent 29/08/2023.	No feedback received.	N/A

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Regulator	Date of Response	Feedback	Where Addressed
DPE Compliance	11/09/2023	<p>Agencies/stakeholders to be consulted include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local Aboriginal Councils</li> <li>Upper Lachlan Shire Council</li> <li>Biodiversity and Conservation Division (BCD)</li> <li>Environment Protection Authority (EPA)</li> <li>Department of Primary Industries (DPI)</li> <li>Heritage NSW</li> <li>Rural Fire Service (RFS)</li> <li>Roads and Maritime Services (RMS)</li> <li>CCC</li> </ul> <p>Evidence of Bushfire preparation and programs being developed and implemented (as required by schedule 3 condition 33).</p>	<b>Section 3.3</b>
		<p>Areas for focus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Evidence of compliance with all commitments within management plans (such as monitoring requirements, reporting (reports submitted when required and to relevant agencies) and adaptive management) as required by Schedule 3 conditions 20 and 21.</li> <li>Complaints register, monitoring and response management.</li> </ul>	<b>Appendix C</b>
		<p>Evidence of any road maintenance which has been required and undertaken in accordance with Schedule 3 condition 26.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Visual impact monitoring and management</li> <li>Evidence of rehabilitation program being implemented and monitored</li> </ul> <p>Evidence of Weed and pest management program being implemented and monitored</p>	<b>Appendix C</b>
		<p>Evidence of Bushfire preparation and programs being developed and implemented (as required by schedule 3 condition 33).</p>	<b>Appendix C</b>
Pejar Local Aboriginal Land Council	Request for engagement email sent 25/09/2023.	No feedback provided.	<b>N/A</b>
Heritage NSW	26/09/2023	Thank you for your email and referral regarding Biala Wind Farm Independent Environmental Audit. Heritage NSW has no specific requirements in relation to the audit. Please let me know if you require any additional information.	<b>N/A</b>
Department of Primary Industries – Water	Request for engagement email sent 25/09/2023.	No feedback provided.	<b>N/A</b>
Biodiversity Conservation Division	Request for engagement email sent 25/09/2023.	No feedback provided.	<b>N/A</b>

## 4 NON-COMPLIANCES AND RECOMMENDATIONS

A summary of the two non-compliances against each condition of SSD 6039 is summarised in **Table 3**. Recommendations arising from the non-compliances are included in **Section 5**.

**Appendix C** provides a complete tabulated list of conditions of SSD 6039 with the compliance status and comments and evidence provided against each.

**Table 3: Identified Non-Compliances**

Ref	Non-Compliance
Sch 3 Cond 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Post-Construction Noise Assessment was finalised and submitted outside the six-month required timeframe although the monitoring itself was carried out in the six-month timeframe. DPE is aware of this issue and no further action required.</li> </ul>
Sch 4 Cond 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No evidence was provided that within 3 months of the submission of the previous audit report under condition 7, that the Applicant reviewed and if necessary revised strategies, plans and programs. It is noted that that EMS and BFRMP were both updated during the audit period and are relevant to the operations period.</li> <li>Recommend a calendar note (or similar) be used to consider and record the consideration after any incident, audit report or modification for future audits, even if no changes are required to demonstrate the consideration.</li> </ul>

## 5 CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT AND RECOMMENDATIONS

**Table 4** includes a consolidated list of continuous improvement recommendations from this IEA. These are recommendations for consideration only and are not mandatory to ensure compliance with conditions of consent.

**Table 4: IEA Recommendations**

Ref	Recommendation
Sch 3 Cond 21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>BCS and DPE should be advised when annual bird and bat management plan reports are placed on the Biala website.</li></ul>
Sch 3 Cond 33	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Bushfire Management Plan to be reviewed in next audit period to ensure key contacts remain contemporary.</li></ul>
Sch 4 Cond 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>At the next update, management plans may be updated to remove construction sections and only pertain to the operational period.</li></ul>



## Appendix A Audit Itinerary

# BIALA IEA 12-13 SEPTEMBER 2023

## SITE VISIT ITINERARY

Unit 2A, 45 Fitzroy Street  
Carrington NSW 2294  
T +61 2 4940 4200

### Invitees

Name	Company	Title
Jochen Rasmussen (JR)	BJEI Australia	Senior Asset Management
Simon Zhao (ZH aka SZ)	BJEI Australia	Site Manager
Karim Ali (KA)	BJEI Australia	HSEQ
Roslyn Milne (RM)	Goldwind Australia (GWA)	HSE
Aaron Poole (AP)	SBL Solutions Services	Supervisor for Goldwind and BJEI
Shani Walton (SW)	AECOM	Principal Environmental Consultant
Dianne Munro (DM)	RPS	Lead Auditor
Jessica Robinson (JS)	RPS	Assistant Auditor

### Site Inspection Schedule

Day 1 – Tuesday, 12 September 2023		
Time	Task	Personnel
9 – 9.30 am	<b>Opening Meeting</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introductions (JR)</li> <li>• IEA scope and purpose (DM)</li> <li>• Confidentiality arrangements (DM)</li> <li>• IEA process and timing (DM)</li> </ul>	All
to 10 am	<b>Biala Presentation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Activities during audit period overview</li> </ul>	JR, AP, ZH, DM, JS
to 1.15 pm	<b>Compliance Review</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SSD 6039 Individual Conditions Review</li> <li>• Working lunch</li> </ul>	JR, RM, ZH, DM, JS
to 3 pm	<b>Compliance Review</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SSD 6039 Individual Conditions Review (cont.)</li> </ul>	JR, RM, ZH, DM, JS
to 6 pm	<b>Site Inspection</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Turbines</li> <li>• Laydown areas</li> <li>• Underground and overhead reticulation</li> <li>• Rehabilitation / Maintenance</li> <li>• Heritage / Ecology/ Amenity / Monitoring</li> </ul>	JR, AP, DM, JS



# Agenda

Day 2 – Wednesday, 13 September 2023		
Time	Task	Personnel
8 – 8.15 am	Day 2 Overview Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Confirm arrangements for Day 2</li></ul>	
To 11 am	<b>Compliance Review</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• SSD 6039 Individual Conditions Review (cont.)</li><li>• EPL Review (internal only)</li></ul>	JR, ZH, DM, JS
To 12 pm	<b>Goldwind Discussion</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Turbine design (height, capacity, locations)</li><li>• Electrical and transformers</li><li>• Turbine maintenance</li><li>• Operating hours, personnel and schedule</li><li>• Environmental: visual, dust, noise, heritage, transport, rehabilitation, aviation, telecoms, bushfire, water, waste, complaints, incidents, compliance inspections</li></ul>	JR, RM, DM, JS
To 12.30 pm	Lunch Break	JR, RM, DM, JS
To 1.00 pm (TBC)	Closeout Preparation <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Auditor preparation for Closeout Meeting</li></ul>	JR, ZH, DM, JS
To 2.30 pm (TBC)	Close out Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Overview of findings</li><li>• Confirmation of outstanding documents</li><li>• Confirmation IEA completion process</li></ul>	JR, SW, ZH, KA, DM, JS



**Appendix B**  
Independent Audit  
Certification Form

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## 6. Appendices

### Appendix A – Declaration of Independence Form Template

#### Declaration of Independence - Auditor

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Project Name Biala Wind Farm Independent Environmental Audit Two

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Consent Number SSD 6039

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Description of Project Second Independent Environmental Audit of Biala Wind Farm

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Project Address Grabben Gullen Road, Gurrundah NSW 2581

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Proponent Beijing Energy International (Australia) Holding Pty Ltd

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Date 31 July 2023

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I declare that:

- i. I am not related to any proponent, owner, operator or other entity involved in the delivery of the project. Such a relationship includes that of employer/employee, a business partnership, sharing a common employer, a contractual arrangement outside an Independent Audit, or that of a spouse, partner, sibling, parent, or child;
- ii. I do not have any pecuniary interest in the project, proponent or related entities. Such an interest includes where there is a reasonable likelihood or expectation of financial gain (other than being reimbursed for performing the audit) or loss to the auditor, or their spouse, partner, sibling, parent, or child;
- iii. I have not provided services (not including independent reviews or auditing) to the project with the result that the audit work performed by themselves or their company, except as otherwise declared to the Department prior to the audit;
- iv. I am not an Environmental Representative for the project; and
- v. I will not accept any inducement, commission, gift or any other benefit from auditee organisations, their employees or any interested party, or knowingly allow colleagues to do so.

Notes:

- a) Under section 10.6 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* a person must not include false or misleading information (or provide information for inclusion in) in a report of monitoring data or an audit report produced to the Minister in connection with an audit if the person knows that the information is false or misleading in a material respect. The proponent of an

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approved project must not fail to include information in (or provide information for inclusion in) a report of monitoring data or an audit report produced to the Minister in connection with an audit if the person knows that the information is materially relevant to the monitoring or audit. The maximum penalty is, in the case of a corporation, \$1 million and for an individual, \$250,000; and

b) The *Crimes Act 1900* contains other offences relating to false and misleading information: section 307B (giving false or misleading information – maximum penalty 2 years imprisonment or 200 penalty units, or both)

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**Name of Proposed Auditor** Dianne Munro

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**Signature** 

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**Qualification** Certified Auditor #107622, Environmental Management, Compliance, EMS, ISO14001:2015 Audit Exemplar Global

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**Company** RPS AAP Consulting Pty Ltd



## Appendix C Compliance Table

REPORT

SSD 6039

Cond. no	Requirement/Condition	2023 Status	2023 Evidence
Schedule 2, Condition 1	<p>This consent does not operate until:</p> <p>(a) the development of the transmission line required to connect the wind farm to the high voltage electricity network;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• has been granted consent, or approval by a determining authority within the meaning of section 110 of, under the <i>Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979</i>; or</li> <li>• if the development is an activity which does not require consent or approval, a determining authority has assessed and determined to carry out the activity under Part 5 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979; <p>(b) the applicant has forwarded a copy of the consent, approval or determination (as the case may be) to the Department; and</p> <p>(c) the Secretary has notified the Applicant that it is satisfied that the requirement at 1(a) has been met.</p> </li></ul>	Compliant	Separate development consent obtained for the transmission line and DPE notified prior to audit period.
Schedule 2, Condition 2	<p>In addition to meeting the specific environmental performance criteria established under this consent, the Applicant must implement all reasonable and feasible measures to prevent and/or minimise any material harm to the environment that may result from the construction, operation or decommissioning of the development.</p>	Compliant	No material harm or exceedances of performance criteria was identified during the audit period.
Schedule 2, Condition 3	<p>The Applicant must carry out the development:</p> <p>(a) generally in accordance with the EIS; and</p> <p>(b) in accordance with the conditions of this consent.</p> <p>Note: The general layout of the development is shown in Appendix 2.</p>	Compliant	<p>Viewed Appendix 2 Development Layout in consent.</p> <p>Viewed document titled 'SF_BWF_DWG_0017' dated 17/10/2018 which shows the final layout of turbines as indicated by the most contemporary layout by JR. This is generally consistent with the layout in Appendix 2.</p> <p>No additional figure as at 2020 actual layout was provided.</p> <p>Viewed the 'Biala Wind Farm Environmental Impact Statement' (EIS) (ERM, 2015).</p> <p>The EIS allows "Employment of up to 74 personnel during construction and seven personnel during operation". These numbers have not been exceeded (JR pers comms).</p> <p>No additional requests from the secretary were received during the audit period (JR pers comms).</p>
Schedule 2, Condition 4	<p>The Applicant must comply with any reasonable requirement/s of the Secretary arising from the Department's assessment of:</p> <p>(a) any strategies, plans, programs, reviews, audits, reports or correspondence that are submitted in accordance with this consent;</p> <p>(b) any reports, reviews or audits commissioned by the Department regarding compliance with this consent; and</p> <p>(c) the implementation of any actions or measures contained in these documents.</p>	Not Triggered	

**REPORT**

Cond. no	Requirement/Condition	2023 Status	2023 Evidence
Schedule 2, Condition 5	<p>The Applicant may construct, operate and replace or upgrade as necessary up to 31 wind turbines.</p> <p>Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To avoid any doubt, the Applicant does not require additional approval to replace or upgrade wind turbines over time, as long as the replacement or upgrade is carried out in accordance with the conditions of this consent.</li> <li>To identify the approved wind turbines, see the figures and corresponding GPS coordinates in Appendix 2.</li> </ul>	Compliant	<p>All 31 turbines are currently in operation (16 in process, but not commissioned at last audit).</p> <p>During audit period:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>17 turbines were erected during the audit period: 1, 2, 4-8, 13-15, 24-31.</li> <li>31 turbines were commissioned, tested and commenced operations.</li> </ul> <p>No replacements or upgrades of turbines have occurred during the audit period (JR pers comms).</p>
Schedule 2, Condition 6	<p>No wind turbines may be greater than 185 metres in height (measured from above ground level to the blade tip).</p>	Compliant	<p>Viewed 'Biala Wind Farm GW140/3.57MW Height and Foundation Detail Rev 1 dated 18/08/2015'.</p> <p>Plans show height of turbine from ground level to blade tip to be 179.6 m.</p>
Schedule 2, Condition 7	<p>The Applicant may micro-site the wind turbines and ancillary infrastructure without further approval provided:</p> <p>(a) no wind turbine is moved more than 100 metres from the relevant GPS coordinates shown in Appendix 2, except for turbine T29.</p> <p>(b) wind turbine T29 is moved at least 350 metres from the wedge-tailed eagle nest shown on the figure in Appendix 5, and if practicable, over 500m from this nest;</p> <p>(c) the closest turbine is moved no closer to residence H06, H07, H09, H11 or H12 shown in the figure in Appendix 2;</p> <p>(d) the revised location of a wind turbine is at least 50m from existing hollow-bearing trees; or where the proposed turbine location is already within 50m of existing hollow-bearing trees, the revised location of the turbine is not moved any closer to the existing hollow-bearing trees; and</p> <p>(e) the revised location of the wind turbine and/or ancillary infrastructure would not result in any non-compliance with the conditions of this consent.</p>	Compliant	<p>Conditions met as per previous audit.</p> <p>Viewed 'Consistency Review' dated October 2019. Stated in Table 3.3 that through micro siting there would be no non-compliances pertaining to associated consent.</p>
Schedule 2, Condition 8	<p>The Applicant must not undertake the construction of turbines T01, T02 and T03 during September and October, unless otherwise agreed in writing with the owner of Residence H07.</p>	Not Triggerred	<p>T1, T2 and T3 were constructed during the previous audit period.</p>
Schedule 2, Condition 9	<p>Prior to the commencement of construction, the Applicant must submit detailed plans of the final layout of the development to the Secretary, including:</p> <p>(a) details on the micro-siting of any wind turbines and/or ancillary infrastructure; and</p> <p>(b) the GPS coordinates of the final wind turbine locations.</p> <p>Note: If the construction of the development is to be staged, then the provision of these plans may be staged.</p>	Not Triggerred	<p>Condition was met as per previous audit.</p>

**REPORT**

Cond. no	Requirement/Condition	2023 Status	2023 Evidence
Schedule 2, Condition 10	<p>Prior to the commencement of the construction, operation and/or decommissioning of the development or the cessation of operations, the Applicant must notify the Department in writing of the date of commencement or cessation.</p> <p>If the construction, operation and/or decommissioning of the development is to be staged, then the Applicant must:</p> <p>(a) notify the Department in writing prior to the commencement of the relevant stage, and clearly identify the development that would be carried out during the relevant stage; and</p> <p>(b) inform the local community and the Community Consultative Committee about the proposed staging plans.</p>	Compliant	<p>a) Letter dated 31 October 2022 notifying the DPE of an updated operational phase commencement date to be 4 November 2022 due to delays. Letter from DPE dated 3 November 2022 acknowledging the updated operational commencement date.</p> <p>b) No staging was implemented during the audit period (JR pers comms).</p>
Schedule 2, Condition 11	<p>The Applicant must ensure that:</p> <p>(a) the wind turbines are constructed in accordance with the relevant standards, including the structural design requirements of IEC61400- 1 (or equivalent);</p> <p>(b) all new buildings and structures, and any alterations or additions to existing buildings and structures, are constructed in accordance with the relevant requirements of the BCA.</p> <p>Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Under Part 4A of the EP&amp;A Act, the Applicant is required to obtain construction and occupation certificates for the proposed building works.</li> <li>– Part 8 of the EP&amp;A Regulation sets out the requirements for the certification of the development.</li> </ul>	Compliant	<p>Conditions met as per previous audit.</p> <p>Viewed 'QA System Folder for WTG04' as example during audit period which showed, inspections, mechanical and electrical inspections and punch list of items requiring remediation/repair. Punch list items are all rectified or closed at date of audit.</p>
Schedule 2, Condition 12	<p>The Applicant must ensure that all demolition work on site is carried out in accordance with AS 2601-2001: The Demolition of Structures, or its latest version</p>	Not Triggered	<p>During the audit period demolition of temporary structures including the temporary site office and containers were demobilised (see <b>Plate 10</b>).</p> <p>No demolition was undertaken during the audit period (JR pers comms).</p>
Schedule 2, Condition 13	<p>Unless the Applicant and the applicable authority agree otherwise, the Applicant must:</p> <p>(a) repair, or pay the full costs associated with repairing, any public infrastructure that is damaged by the development; and</p> <p>(b) relocate, or pay the full costs associated with relocating, any public infrastructure that needs to be relocated as a result of the development.</p> <p>This condition does not apply to the upgrade and maintenance of the road network, which is expressly provided for in the conditions of this consent.</p>	Not Triggered	<p>None required in audit period.</p>



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	Requirement/Condition	2023 Status	2023 Evidence
Schedule 2, Condition 14	<p>The Applicant must ensure that all plant and equipment used on site, or in connection with the development, is:</p> <p>(a) maintained in a proper and efficient condition; and</p> <p>(b) operated in a proper and efficient manner.</p>	Compliant	<p>a) Viewed BWF Incident Register Aug 20 to Aug 23. Small leak of hydraulic fluid from a crane occurring at T26. Leak was cleaned up once crane was removed from site. Impact material was disposed of to a waste facility.</p> <p>b) Viewed Operational Management Plan dated 06/07/2023 detailing equipment servicing procedure and processes regarding reporting of issues, hazards and incidence (Section 7). Viewed Operations and Maintenance Report dated June 2023 relating to WTGs with updates on inspections undertaken compared to services expected.</p>
Schedule 2, Condition 15	<p>With the approval of the Secretary, the Applicant may submit any strategy, plan or program required by this consent on a progressive basis.</p> <p>To ensure the strategies, plans or programs under the conditions of this consent are updated on a regular basis, the Applicant may at any time submit revised strategies, plans or programs to the Secretary for approval.</p> <p>With the agreement of the Secretary, the Applicant may prepare any revised strategy, plan or program without undertaking consultation with all the parties referred to under the relevant conditions of this consent. Refer also to notes in consent.</p> <p>Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>While any strategy, plan or program may be submitted on a progressive basis, the Applicant must ensure that all development being carried out on site is covered by suitable strategies, plans or programs at all times.</i></li> <li>• <i>If the submission of any strategy, plan or program is to be staged, then the relevant strategy, plan or program must clearly describe the specific stage to which the strategy, plan or program applies, the relationship of this stage to any future stages, and the trigger for updating the strategy, plan or program.</i></li> </ul>	Not Triggered	<p>Not triggered during this audit period.</p> <p>No management plans were updated during the audit period (JR pers comms).</p> <p><b>Recommend consideration given to updating management plans for operational phase only, if suitable to the Applicant.</b></p>
Schedule 2, Condition 16	<p>Prior to the commencement of construction, unless the Secretary agrees otherwise, the Applicant must enter into a Voluntary Planning Agreement (VPA) with the Council in accordance with:</p> <p>(a) Division 6 of Part 4 of the EP&amp;A Act; and</p> <p>(b) the terms of the applicable offer summarised in Appendix 3.</p>	Compliant	<p>Viewed Voluntary Planning Agreement.</p> <p>Viewed Remittance Advice for payments:</p> <p>Invoice 1 dated 21 Feb 2022, payment date 22 March 2022.</p> <p>Viewed bank transaction to support remittance advice.</p> <p>Invoice 2 dated 8 Nov 2022, payment date 12 Dec 2022.</p> <p>Viewed bank transaction to support remittance advice.</p> <p>Viewed Upper Lachlan Shire Council Meeting Minutes during the audit period. Viewed several minutes throughout the audit period supporting the implementation of Community Enhancement Fund Committee.</p> <p>Additional to the VPA, BWF provides the following community benefits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An annual community fund</li> </ul>

Cond. no	Requirement/Condition	2023 Status	2023 Evidence
Schedule 3, Condition 1	<p>For a period of 5 years from the commencement of construction, the owner of:</p> <p>(a) residence H03a; and</p> <p>(b) any non-associated residence within 4 kms of any wind turbine. May ask the Applicant to implement visual impact mitigation measures on their land to minimise the visual impacts of the development on their residence (including its curtilage).</p> <p>Upon receiving such a written request from the owner of these residences, the Applicant must implement appropriate mitigation measures (such as landscaping and vegetation screening) in consultation with the owner. These mitigation measures must be reasonable and feasible, aimed at reducing the visibility of the wind turbines from the residence and its curtilage, and commensurate with the level of visual impact on the residence.</p> <p>All mitigation measures must be implemented within 12 months of receiving the written request, unless the Secretary agree otherwise. If the Applicant and the owner cannot agree on the measures to be implemented, or there is a dispute about the implementation of these measures, then either party may refer the matter to the Secretary for resolution.</p> <p><i>Notes:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>To avoid any doubt, mitigation measures are not required to be implemented to reduce the visibility of wind turbines from any other locations on the property other than the residence and its curtilage.</i></li> <li><i>The identification of appropriate visual impact mitigation measures will be more effective following the construction of the wind turbines. While landowners may ask for the implementation of visual impact mitigation measures shortly after the commencement of construction, they should consider the merits of delaying this request until the wind turbines are visible from their residence.</i></li> </ul>	Compliant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sponsorship opportunities</li> <li>• Improved roads for firefighting</li> <li>• Boost in the local economy especially during construction but also in operations</li> <li>• Boost to renewable energy tourism</li> <li>• Boost to local school STEM programs</li> <li>• Employment of local residents</li> </ul> <p>a) Viewed email titled "Biala Wind Farm – landscaping" dated 19 May 2021. H03a did not proceed with landscaping request.</p> <p>b) Newfricity received 3 applications. Three of the 30 applications were deemed ineligible due to either the applicant being a landowner or the applicants' DA was lodged after 12/04/2017, while two of the 30 applications were incomplete.</p> <p>Viewed emails to applicant one dated 3 and 4 July 2021 to proceed with application. No response was received.</p> <p>Viewed email to applicant two dated 14 May 2021 to proceed with application. No response was received.</p> <p>One of the remaining 25 applicants chose (and received) landscaping EIS IDH06</p> <p>The remaining 24 chose the one-off-payment evidenced by their application form, landscape agreement and invoices.</p>

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	Requirement/Condition	2023 Status	2023 Evidence
<p>Schedule 3, Condition 2</p>	<p>Prior to the commencement of construction, the Applicant must notify the relevant owners of the residences referred to in condition 1 above, that they have the right to request the Applicant to implement visual impact mitigation measures at their residence (including its curtilage) at any time within 5 years of the commencement of construction.</p>	<p>Not Triggered</p>	<p>Condition was met within previous audit period.</p>
<p>Schedule 3, Condition 3</p>	<p>The Applicant must:                      (a) minimise the off-site visual impacts of the development;                      (b) ensure the wind turbines are painted off white/grey, unless otherwise agreed by the Secretary; and - finished with a surface treatment that minimise the potential for glare and reflection;                      (c) ensure the visual appearance of all ancillary infrastructure (including paint colours), blends in as far as possible with the surrounding landscape; and                      (d) (d) not mount any advertising signs or logos in wind turbines or ancillary infrastructure</p>	<p>Compliant</p>	<p>a) Achieved through verbal agreements with landowners (JR pers comms). Viewed tax invoice from Clancy Contracting dated 17 May 2022 for services including planting (house yard and on site), fencing, gate installation and maintenance of flora on site.                      b) Site inspection - Turbines are painted white with a no gloss paint and a satin finish (site inspection).                      Viewed complaints register. No complaints about glare and reflection have been raised during the audit period.                      c) O&amp;M building is painted white and grey to blend in with the landscape (site inspection, see <b>Plate 7</b> and <b>Plate 8</b>).                      d) No logos were mounted on infrastructure viewed during the site inspection (site inspection).</p>
<p>Schedule 3, Condition 4</p>	<p>The Applicant must:                      (a) minimise the off-site lighting impacts of the development;                      (b) ensure that any aviation hazard lighting complies with CASA's requirements;                      (c) minimise the visual impacts of any aviation lighting by implement measures such as; - partial shielding of lights; - operating the lights only at night or during times of reduced visibility; and turning the lights on and off simultaneously;                      (d) ensure that all external lighting associated with the development (apart from any aviation hazard lighting): - is installed as low intensity lighting (except where required for safety or emergency purposes); - does not shine above the horizontal; - uses best management practice for bat deterrence; and complies with AS4282 (INT) 1997 or its latest version</p>	<p>Compliant</p>	<p>a) O&amp;M is not visible from any private houses. Floodlights are visible outside of the building. Lights are manual on/off switch for the O&amp;M building and inside turbine structures (JR pers comms).                      Viewed Complaints Register July 2023. There were four complaints related to aviation lighting during the audit period (one in 2020, three in 2021).                      b) Viewed email titled 'Biala Obstacle Lighting – CASA Reply' dated 7 April 2021. The email stated that in this circumstance, "CASA does not consider there a need to light the Biala Wind Farm and their advice was that lighting was not required".                      c) CASA lights are partial shielded and are now turned off as per CASA advice (JR pers comms).                      d) Only other lighting is O&amp;M building (see <b>Plate 9</b>). Does not shine above the horizontal. Lights remain off at night for bat deterrence. In compliance with AS4282 as per last audit (JR pers comms).</p>

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Cond. no	Requirement/Condition	2023 Status	2023 Evidence
Schedule 3, Condition 5	The Applicant must ensure that shadow flicker from operational wind turbines does not exceed 30 hours per year at any non-associated residence.	Compliant	Viewed Shadow Flicker Assessment dated 23 February 2023. Results of the shadow flicker assessment determined that five dwellings are modelled to expect shadow flicker. Of these five, one dwelling (h10) is modelled to experience theoretical shadow flicker above the recommended limit of 30 hours per year within 50 m of the dwelling. It has been recommended that the Customer investigate a number of mitigation measures within the owners of dwellings with anticipated higher levels of shadow flicker if required. The Applicant advised this is an associated residence.
Schedule 3, Condition 6	The Applicant must: (a) minimise the construction or decommissioning noise of the development, including any associated traffic noise; and (b) ensure that the noise generated by any construction or decommissioning activities is managed in accordance with the best practice requirements outlined in the <i>Interim Construction Noise Guideline</i> (DECC, 2009) or its latest version	Compliant	a) Viewed complaints register. There was one construction complaint in the audit period on 22 April 2021 relating excessive noise of wind turbine. No noise complaints received since in relation to this issue. The technical team found there was no evidence that turbines were louder than usual levels during investigation. There were no traffic noise complaints during the audit period. Decommissioning did not occur during the audit period (JR pers comms). b) Not triggered
Schedule 3, Condition 7	Unless the Secretary agrees otherwise, the Applicant must only undertake construction or decommissioning activities between: (a) 7am to 6pm Monday to Friday; (b) 8am to 1pm Saturdays; and (c) at no times on Sundays and NSW public holidays. The following construction or decommissioning activities may be undertaken outside these hours without the approval of the Secretary: - activities that are inaudible at non-associated residence; - the delivery of materials as requested by the NSW Police Force or other authorities for safety reasons; or emergency work to avoid the loss of life, property and/or material harm to the environment.	Compliant	No out of hours work at non-associated residences has been conducted during the audit period (JR pers comms). No noise complaints received during the period.
Schedule 3, Condition 8	The Applicant may only carry out blasting on site between 9 am and 5 pm Monday to Friday and between 8 am and 1 pm on Saturday inclusive. No blasting is allowed on Sundays or public holidays.	Not Triggered	Not triggered during the audit period.
Schedule 3, Condition 9	The Applicant must ensure that any blasting carried out on site does not exceed the criteria in Table 1.	Not Triggered	No blasting occurred during the audit period (JR pers comms).

Cond. no	Requirement/Condition	2023 Status	2023 Evidence																																																																																																																																					
Schedule 3, Condition 10	<p><b>Table 1: Blasting criteria</b></p> <p>The Applicant must ensure that the noise generated by the operation of wind turbines does not exceed the relevant criteria in Table 2 at any non-associated residence.</p> <p><b>Table 2: Noise criteria cB(A)</b></p> <table border="1" data-bbox="207 1276 295 1433"> <thead> <tr> <th>Location</th> <th>Approved maximum (dB(Lin Peak))</th> <th>Ground vibration (mm/s)</th> <th>Allowable exceedance</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Any non-associated residence</td> <td>120</td> <td>10</td> <td>0%</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>115</td> <td>5</td> <td>5% of the total number of blasts or events over a period of 12 months</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <table border="1" data-bbox="438 1388 550 1859"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2">Residence</th> <th colspan="11">Criteria (dB(A) with Reference to Hub Height Wind Speed (m/s))</th> </tr> <tr> <th>3</th><th>4</th><th>5</th><th>6</th><th>7</th><th>8</th><th>9</th><th>10</th><th>11</th><th>12 or more</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>H03, H04</td> <td>35</td><td>35</td><td>35</td><td>37</td><td>38</td><td>39</td><td>40</td><td>42</td><td>43</td><td>45</td> </tr> <tr> <td>H05</td> <td>35</td><td>35</td><td>35</td><td>35</td><td>35</td><td>37</td><td>38</td><td>39</td><td>41</td><td>43</td> </tr> <tr> <td>H06</td> <td>35</td><td>35</td><td>35</td><td>35</td><td>35</td><td>35</td><td>38</td><td>40</td><td>43</td><td>45</td> </tr> <tr> <td>L07</td> <td>35</td><td>35</td><td>35</td><td>35</td><td>37</td><td>38</td><td>40</td><td>41</td><td>44</td><td>45</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <table border="1" data-bbox="550 1388 694 1859"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2">Residence</th> <th colspan="11">Criteria (dB(A) with Reference to Hub Height Wind Speed (m/s))</th> </tr> <tr> <th>3</th><th>4</th><th>5</th><th>6</th><th>7</th><th>8</th><th>9</th><th>10</th><th>11</th><th>12 or more</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>H15</td> <td>35</td><td>35</td><td>35</td><td>35</td><td>35</td><td>35</td><td>37</td><td>37</td><td>39</td><td>39</td> </tr> <tr> <td>H17</td> <td>35</td><td>37</td><td>38</td><td>40</td><td>41</td><td>42</td><td>44</td><td>45</td><td>47</td><td>48</td> </tr> <tr> <td>DB18</td> <td>35</td><td>35</td><td>37</td><td>38</td><td>40</td><td>42</td><td>43</td><td>45</td><td>45</td><td>48</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><i>Note: To identify the residences referred to in Table 2, see the applicable figure in Appendix 2.</i></p> <p>Noise generated by the operation of the wind turbines is to be measured in accordance with the relevant requirements of the South Australian Environment Protection Authority's Wind Farms – Environmental Noise Guidelines 2009 (or its latest version), as modified by the provisions in Appendix 4. If this guideline is replaced by an equivalent NSW guideline, then the noise generated is to be measured in accordance with the requirements in the NSW guideline. However, these criteria do not apply if the Applicant has an agreement with the relevant owner/s of these residences to generate higher noise levels, and the Applicant has advised the Department in writing of the terms of this agreement.</p>	Location	Approved maximum (dB(Lin Peak))	Ground vibration (mm/s)	Allowable exceedance	Any non-associated residence	120	10	0%		115	5	5% of the total number of blasts or events over a period of 12 months	Residence	Criteria (dB(A) with Reference to Hub Height Wind Speed (m/s))											3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12 or more	H03, H04	35	35	35	37	38	39	40	42	43	45	H05	35	35	35	35	35	37	38	39	41	43	H06	35	35	35	35	35	35	38	40	43	45	L07	35	35	35	35	37	38	40	41	44	45	Residence	Criteria (dB(A) with Reference to Hub Height Wind Speed (m/s))											3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12 or more	H15	35	35	35	35	35	35	37	37	39	39	H17	35	37	38	40	41	42	44	45	47	48	DB18	35	35	37	38	40	42	43	45	45	48	Compliant	Viewed Post-Construction 'Noise Assessment' dated 31 July 2023. Representative receivers H06, H09, H11, H12, H13 and H15 were tested for predicted noise levels. It has been noted in the report that "as the influence of background noise on total measured noise levels could not be quantified due to outdated background noise data, estimated wind farm noise levels were extrapolated at receiver locations based on measured noise levels at intermediate locations. It was also noted that "not all receivers were studied, and comment made that measurements above 10m/s the outcomes were inconclusive due to the influence of background noise". Additional audio monitoring revealed localised noise sources and wind farm was not audible. Section 6.7 concludes that "complies with the noise criteria specified in the Development consent by a reasonable margin (at least 3 dBA)". Viewed lodgment emails to DPE and EPA on 31 July 2023. There have since been no directions from the EPA or DPE following submission of the Report (JR pers comms). See response to Schedule 4 Condition 5.
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Schedule 3, Condition 11	The Applicant must ensure that the noise generated by the operation of wind turbines does not exceed 35 dB(A) LAeq (15 minute) at any non-associated residence.	Not Triggered	The approved substation was not constructed and as such would be the only ancillary infrastructure to which this would apply.																																																																																																																																					
Schedule 3, Condition 12	Within 6 months of the commencement of operations, the Applicant must: (a) undertake noise monitoring to determine whether the development is complying with the relevant conditions of this consent; and (b) submit a copy of the monitoring results to the Department and the EPA.	Not Compliant	Requirement met by 31 July 2023 report. Applicable date when operations occurred was 4 November 2023. Viewed 'Post-Construction Noise Assessment' dated 31 July 2023 that determines that Biala Wind Farm is compliant with the operation noise requirements specified in the Development Consent. Viewed 'Biala Wind Farm Noise Monitoring Report DPE Letter' 23 May 23 which indicates a non-compliance for late																																																																																																																																					

**REPORT**

Cond. no	Requirement/Condition	2023 Status	2023 Evidence
			<p><b>submission of the Noise Monitoring Report to the DPE past the six-month permitted timeframe.</b> DPE recognised the unavoidable delays in noise monitoring affecting the submission date of the report.</p> <p>Viewed lodgment emails to DPE and EPA on 31 July 2023.</p> <p>Viewed DPE letter dated 07/08/2023 confirming satisfaction of the Post Construction Noise Monitoring Report with Condition 12 of the consent.</p> <p>No plan to regularly monitor noise. Testing has been performed if required (JR pers comms). Further information provided in response to Schedule 4, Condition 5.</p> <p>This has not been requested by DPE (JR pers comms).</p>
<p>Schedule 3, Condition 13</p> <p>Schedule 3, Condition 14</p>	<p>The Applicant must undertake further noise monitoring of the development if required by the Secretary.</p> <p>The Applicant must:</p> <p>(a) minimise the off-site dust, fume and blast emissions of the development; and</p> <p>(b) minimise the surface disturbance of the site.</p>	<p>Not Triggered</p> <p>Compliant</p>	<p>Viewed Complaints Register July 23. No complaints within the complaints register were related to specifications in a) and b) during this audit period.</p> <p>Viewed Incident Register Aug 20 – Aug 23, which describes an incident pertaining to surface disturbance. "Complaint was made to the EPA through its Environmental Line. EPA officer attended site on 20/7/2021 and reported that there was an expanse of disturbed earth with only limited sediment controls at the location of the former site compound. Inspections by Newtricity verified that some sediment laden water entered a grassed paddock adjoining the site compound but did not identify any sediment entering any water way".</p> <p>No dust-related complaints were received during the audit period.</p> <p>Site inspection showed little to no dust on roads or hardstands (see <b>Plate 6</b>)</p>
<p>Schedule 3, Condition 15</p>	<p>The Applicant must ensure that it has sufficient water for all stages of the development; and if necessary, adjust the scale of the development to match its available water supply.</p> <p><i>Note: Under the Water Act 1912 and/or the Water Management Act 2000, the Applicant is required to obtain the necessary water licences for the development.</i></p>	<p>Compliant</p>	<p>Only the O&amp;M building requires water for basic functions such as flushing toilets and drinking.</p> <p>No water shortages occurred during the audit period (JR pers comms).</p>

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Cond. no	Requirement/Condition	2023 Status	2023 Evidence
Schedule 3, Condition 16	<p>Unless an EPL authorises otherwise, the Applicant must comply with Section 120 of the POEO Act.  <i>Note: Section 120 of the POEO Act makes it an offence to pollute any waters.</i></p>	Compliant	<p>As stated in the BWF Incident Register Aug-20 – Aug-23, "Complaint was made to the EPA through its Environmental Line. EPA officer attended site on 20/7/2021 and reported that there was an expanse of disturbed earth with only limited sediment controls at the location of the former site compound. Inspections by Newtricity verified that some sediment laden water entered a grassed paddock adjoining the site compound but did not identify any sediment entering any water way". As a result of this incident, "Updates were made to sediment controls in line with an EPA issued a clean-up notice". Site visit did not identify any significant erosion and sediment control issues at potentially higher risk areas, e.g., T31 (see <b>Plate 6</b>).</p>
Schedule 3, Condition 17	<p>The Applicant must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) ensure the wind turbines and ancillary infrastructure, particularly any access roads on steep slopes, are designed, constructed and maintained to minimise any soil erosion;</li> <li>(b) minimise any soil erosion associated with the construction and decommissioning of the development by implementing the relevant mitigation measures in Managing Urban Stormwater: Soils and Construction (Landcom, 2004), or its latest version;</li> <li>(c) ensure all roadway crossings are constructed in accordance with the relevant Water Guidelines for Controlled Activities on Waterfront Land (2012), or their latest version;</li> <li>(d) store and handle all dangerous or hazardous materials on site in accordance with AS1940-2004: The storage and handling of flammable and combustible liquids, or its latest version;</li> <li>(e) ensure the concrete batching plants and substation are suitably bunded; and</li> <li>(f) minimise any spills of hazardous materials or hydrocarbons, and clean up any spills as soon as possible after they occur.</li> </ul>	Compliant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Previous erosion issues with T30 and 31. Site inspection revealed no major erosion issues (see <b>Plate 6</b>).</li> <li>b) Site inspection revealed no major erosion issues. No incidents in register additional to that described in Condition 16.</li> <li>c) None were constructed during the audit period (JR pers comms).</li> <li>d) Viewed SDS Register. All expiry dates are current. Site inspection revealed responsible and safe storage of materials (see <b>Plate 3</b> and <b>Plate 4</b>).</li> <li>e) Not triggered - Not utilised in operational phase.</li> <li>f) Viewed Incident Register Aug-20 to Aug-23. Minor spills noted in the plant storage area in the CATCON September monthly report on 16 September 2020. Spills were cleaned and impacted material was disposed of to a waste facility. Minor oil spill (approx. 1-2 litres) reported when an unsecured container on the back of a Ute fell over on 5 November 2020. Spill was cleaned up and impacted material was disposed of to a waste facility. Site visit revealed good management of oils (see <b>Plate 4</b>)</li> </ul>
Schedule 3, Condition 18	<p>The Applicant must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) ensure that no more than 1.23 hectares of the Tablelands Snow Gum, Black Salee, Candlebark and Ribbon Gum Grassy Woodland EEC is cleared for the development, unless the Secretary agrees otherwise;</li> <li>(b) minimise: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- the impacts of the development on hollow-bearing trees and termite mounds;</li> <li>- the impacts of the development on threatened bird and bat populations; and</li> <li>- the clearing of native vegetation and key habitat within the approved disturbance footprint.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Compliant	<p>No clearing or removal of vegetation occurred during the audit period (JR pers comms).  'Viewed Disturbance Running Tally' dated 28/08/2020.  A total of 0.5442 ha has been cleared. This indicates that no additional disturbance has occurred since the last audit.</p>

Cond. no	Requirement/Condition	2023 Status	2023 Evidence												
Schedule 3, Condition 19	<p>Within 2 years of the commencement of construction, the Applicant must retire biodiversity credits of a number and class specified in Table 3 below, to the satisfaction of BCD, unless the Secretary agrees otherwise. The retirement of the credits must be carried out in accordance with the NSW Biodiversity Offsets Scheme, and can be achieved by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) acquiring or retiring 'biodiversity credits' within the meaning of the BC Act;</li> <li>(b) making payments into an offset fund that has been established by the NSW Government; or</li> <li>(c) providing suitable supplementary measures.</li> </ul> <p>Table 3: Ecosystem credit requirements</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="518 1310 790 1870"> <thead> <tr> <th>Bionetric Vegetation Type</th> <th>Bionetric Condition</th> <th>Impact Area (ha)</th> <th>Credits Required</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>PCT ID 351: Britts Gum - Broad-leaved Peppermint - Red Stringy open forest in the north-western part (Vass to Orange) of South Eastern Highlands Bioregion</td> <td>Moderate_Good_Moderate Moderate_Good_Sparse Moderate_Good_Derived Native Grassland</td> <td>0.88 0.29 1.31</td> <td>46</td> </tr> <tr> <td>PCT ID 1007: Ribbon Gum - Narrow-leaved Peppermint grassy open forest on basalt plateaux, Sydney Basin Bioregion and South Eastern Highlands Bioregion</td> <td>Moderate_Good_Moderate</td> <td>1.23</td> <td>47</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><i>Note: Following repeal of the TSC Act on 25 August 2017, credits created under that Act are taken to be "biodiversity credits" under the BC Act by virtue of clause 22 of the Biodiversity Conservation (Savings and Transitional) Regulation 2017.</i></p>	Bionetric Vegetation Type	Bionetric Condition	Impact Area (ha)	Credits Required	PCT ID 351: Britts Gum - Broad-leaved Peppermint - Red Stringy open forest in the north-western part (Vass to Orange) of South Eastern Highlands Bioregion	Moderate_Good_Moderate Moderate_Good_Sparse Moderate_Good_Derived Native Grassland	0.88 0.29 1.31	46	PCT ID 1007: Ribbon Gum - Narrow-leaved Peppermint grassy open forest on basalt plateaux, Sydney Basin Bioregion and South Eastern Highlands Bioregion	Moderate_Good_Moderate	1.23	47	Compliant	<p>Construction commenced 5 August 2019 therefore due to be retired 5 August 2021. Viewed letter to DPIE on 30 July 2021 (within the permitted two-year period) requesting an extension for the retirement of biodiversity credits. Viewed DPIE letter dated 10 September 2021 approving an extension of time to discharge biodiversity offset obligations until 5 February 2022. Viewed statement of payment confirmation into the Biodiversity Conservation Fund from the Biodiversity Conservation Trust for an offset obligation dated 11 November 2021. This is before the extension date of February 2022. Email from DPIE on 13 December 2021 confirming receipt of post-approval documentation and fulfillment of Condition 19 of Schedule 3 by retiring the required biodiversity credits. Viewed acknowledgement of receipt email for the confirmation of offset obligation from DPIE dated 14 December 2021.</p>
Bionetric Vegetation Type	Bionetric Condition	Impact Area (ha)	Credits Required												
PCT ID 351: Britts Gum - Broad-leaved Peppermint - Red Stringy open forest in the north-western part (Vass to Orange) of South Eastern Highlands Bioregion	Moderate_Good_Moderate Moderate_Good_Sparse Moderate_Good_Derived Native Grassland	0.88 0.29 1.31	46												
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Schedule 3, Condition 20	<p>Prior to the commencement of construction, the Applicant must prepare a Biodiversity Management Plan for the development to the satisfaction of the Secretary. This plan must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) be prepared in consultation with BCD; and</li> <li>(b) include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• updated baseline mapping of the vegetation communities and key fauna habitat on site;</li> <li>• a description of the measures that would be implemented for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- minimising the amount of native vegetation clearing within the approved development footprint;</li> <li>- minimising the loss of key fauna habitat, including tree hollows and termite mounds;</li> <li>- minimising the impacts on fauna on site, including undertaking pre-clearance surveys;</li> <li>- rehabilitating and revegetating temporary disturbance areas;</li> <li>- protecting native vegetation and key fauna habitat outside the approved disturbance area;</li> <li>- minimising the salvage of resources within the approved disturbance area including vegetative and soil resources – for beneficial reuse</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Compliant	<p>BMP compliant last audit. No update since then. Version of plan used in previous audit period (Biodiversity Management Plan dated March 2020). Compliance achieved in previous audit. Viewed 'Corridor of High Risk for Additional Weed Monitoring checklist' dated August 2023. No weeds were found during the inspection. Landowners are responsible for weed and pest management on land not on wind farm roads, hardstands or around the O&amp;M building. No clearing or removal of vegetation occurred during the audit period (JR pers comms). Viewed biosecurity vehicle washdown area at site inspection (see <b>Plate 2</b>). Viewed remediation at T15 and T31 (see <b>Plate 5</b> and <b>Plate 6</b>).</p>												



Cond. no	Requirement/Condition	2023 Status	2023 Evidence
Schedule 3, Condition 21	<p>(including fauna habitat enhancement) during the rehabilitation and revegetation of the site;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- collecting and propagating seed (where relevant);</li> <li>- controlling weeds and feral pests;</li> <li>- controlling erosion; and</li> <li>- bushfire management;</li> </ul> <p>• a detailed program to monitor and report on the effectiveness of these measures.</p> <p>Following the Secretary's approval, the Applicant must implement the Biodiversity Management Plan.</p> <p>Prior to the commissioning of any wind turbines, the Applicant must prepare a Bird and Bat Adaptive Management Plan for the development in consultation with BCD, and to the satisfaction of the Secretary. This plan must include:</p> <p>(a) at least 12 months' worth of current (or updated) baseline data on threatened and 'at risk' bird and bat species and populations in the locality that could be affected by the project;</p> <p>(b) a detailed description of the measures that would be implemented on site for minimising bird and bat strike during operation of the development, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• minimising the availability of raptor perches;</li> <li>• prompt carcass removal;</li> <li>• controlling pests; and</li> <li>• using best practice methods for bat deterrence, including managing potential lighting impacts;</li> </ul> <p>(c) trigger levels for further investigation of the potential impacts of the project on particular bird or bat species or populations;</p> <p>(d) an adaptive management program that would be implemented if the development is having an adverse impact on a particular threatened or 'at risk' bird or bat species or population, including the implementation of measures to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• reduce the mortality of these species or populations (such as restricting operation of certain turbines during certain periods); or</li> <li>• enhance and propagate these species or population in the locality; and</li> </ul> <p>(e) a detailed program to monitor and report on the effectiveness of these measures, and any bird or bat strikes on site.</p> <p>Following the Secretary's approval, the Applicant must implement the Bird and Bat Adaptive Management Plan.</p>	Compliant	<p>BBAMP compliant at last audit. No update since then. Viewed Bird and Bat Adaptive Management Plan Reports: First Annual Report dated June 2022 and Second Annual Report dated July 2023 detailing progress on implementation of the BBAMP.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Section 2.1.1 and Section 3</li> <li>b) Section 5</li> <li>c) Section 6.1.1 and 6.2.1</li> <li>d) Section 6</li> <li>e) Section 3.4 and 6.4</li> </ol> <p>Viewed 4.7 of Stage 2 BBAMP annual report dated July 2023. No specific actions were recommended.</p> <p>Viewed 3.6.3 impact trigger summary. "One non-threatened species trigger was detected during the monitoring program to date" due to finding three Crimson Rosella carcasses under turbine 13 and one Crimson Rosella carcass under turbine 14. BCS was notified of the trigger on 23 June 2021. The investigation concluded that this trigger is likely to be a one-off event and no additional actions were recommended. No response was received.</p> <p>Viewed Biala WF Monthly Monitoring Reports dated June 2023, July 2023 and August 2023. One Australian Magpie carcass was found under turbines in June, one unidentified bat species carcass in July and two Australian Magpie carcasses in August. Viewed Environmental Impact Statement dated July 2015. The EIS states that there is no significant impact for any threatened fauna species which is reflected in data above.</p> <p><b>Recommend BCS and DPE are advised when reports are placed on website.</b></p>

Cond. no	Requirement/Condition	2023 Status	2023 Evidence
Schedule 3, Condition 22	<p>The Applicant must:</p> <p>(a) ensure the development does not cause any direct or indirect impact on the Aboriginal heritage sites identified in the table in Appendix 6, unless the Secretary agrees otherwise; and</p> <p>(b) minimise any impacts on BWF PAD1, and carry out detailed test excavations and salvage of potential archaeological deposits at this site if impacts cannot be avoided.</p> <p><i>Note: The locations of the Aboriginal heritage items referred to in this condition are shown on the figure in Appendix 6.</i></p>	Compliant	<p>No existing known sites have been impacted during audit period (JR pers comms). Examination of heritage sites in the vicinity of the turbine pads and roads were incorporated through environmental management site inspections. The revised EMS includes a figure of known heritage sites and PADs.</p>
Schedule 3, Condition 23	<p>Prior to the commencement of construction, the Applicant must prepare a Heritage Management Plan for the development to the satisfaction of the Secretary. This plan must:</p> <p>(a) be prepared by a suitably qualified and experienced person whose appointment has been endorsed by the Secretary;</p> <p>(b) be prepared in consultation with BCD and Aboriginal stakeholders;</p> <p>(c) include updated baseline mapping of the heritage items within and adjoining the development disturbance area;</p> <p>(d) include a description of the measures that would be implemented for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• protecting Aboriginal heritage sites outside the development disturbance area;</li> <li>• minimising and managing the impacts of the development on heritage items within the disturbance footprint, including:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- test excavations and salvage (if required) of potential Archaeological deposits that will be impacted by the development (including heritage item BWF PAD 1);</li> <li>- salvage of heritage items BWF 8 and BWF 18; and</li> <li>- a strategy for the long term management of any Aboriginal heritage items or material collected during the test excavation or salvage works</li> </ul> </li> <li>• a contingency plan and reporting procedure if:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Aboriginal heritage items outside the approved disturbance area are damaged;</li> <li>– previously unidentified Aboriginal heritage sites are found; or</li> <li>– Aboriginal skeletal material is discovered;</li> </ul> </li> <li>• ensuring workers on site receive suitable heritage inductions prior to carrying out any development on site, and that records are kept of these inductions;</li> <li>• ongoing consultation with Aboriginal stakeholders during the implementation of the plan; and</li> <li>(e) a program to monitor and report on the effectiveness of these measures and any heritage impacts of the project.</li> </ul> <p>Following the Secretary's approval, the Applicant must implement the Heritage Management Plan.</p>	Compliant	<p>Condition was met as per previous audit. No update since then. No existing known sites have been impacted during audit period (JR pers comms). Initial inspections of heritage items would have occurred during the previous audit period. No further ground disturbance works occurred outside the construction footprint.</p>

Cond. no	Requirement/Condition	2023 Status	2023 Evidence
Schedule 3, Condition 24	<p>The Applicant must ensure that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) all over-dimensional vehicle access to and from the site is via the Hume Highway southern interchange through Goulburn, north along Crookwell-Goulburn Road and then bypassing Crookwell township via Grange Road, Cullen Street, Kialla Road, and Range Road connecting to Grabben Gullen Road;</li> <li>(b) all heavy vehicle access to and from the site is via the Hume Highway to Gunning then north along Grabben Gullen Road; and</li> <li>(c) development related heavy vehicles must not travel on Hume Street and Yass Street in Gunning (south of Collector Road).</li> </ul> <p><i>Notes: The Applicant is required to obtain relevant permits under the Heavy Vehicle National Law (NSW) for the use of over-dimensional vehicles on the road network. The identified over-dimensional and heavy vehicle access routes are shown in the figure in Appendix 8.</i></p>	Compliant	<p>Remaining turbine parts were delivered at the commencement of the audit period (JR pers comms).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Viewed Complaints Register 31 July 2023. Two traffic related community complaints were made within the audit period, one relating to a civil contractor driving too fast and over double lines on Range Road. A toolbox talk was delivered to all onsite personnel about safe driving practices.</li> <li>b) Heavy vehicle usage during the audit period was minimal (JR pers comms).</li> <li>c) Not triggered</li> </ul>
Schedule 3, Condition 25	<p>Prior to any over-dimensional vehicles accessing the site, the Applicant must carry out the road upgrades in the schedule of works in Appendix 7 to the satisfaction of Council.</p>	Not Triggered	<p>Completed at last audit period.</p>
Schedule 3, Condition 26	<p>Road Maintenance The Applicant must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the designated heavy vehicle route: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– prior to the commencement of any construction or decommissioning works other than pre-construction minor works; and</li> <li>– within 1 month of the completion of any construction or decommissioning works other than pre-construction minor works;</li> </ul> </li> <li>• the designated over-dimensional vehicle route: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– prior to the use of the route by any over-dimensional vehicles for the construction or decommissioning of the development; and</li> <li>– within 1 month of the completion of the use of the route by over-dimensional vehicles for the construction or decommissioning of the development;</li> </ul> </li> <li>(b) rehabilitate and/or make good any development-related damage: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• identified during the carrying out of the relevant construction and/or decommissioning works if it could endanger road safety, as soon as possible after the damage is identified but within 7 days at the latest; and</li> <li>• identified during any dilapidation survey carried out following the completion of the relevant construction and/or decommissioning works within 2 months of the completion of the survey, unless the relevant roads authority agrees otherwise, to the satisfaction of the relevant roads authority.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>If the construction and/or decommissioning of the development is to be staged, the obligations in this condition apply to each stage of</p>	Compliant	<p>Viewed correspondence dated 24/12/2021 titled Offsite Road Dilapidation Repair from Goldwind to AECOM and BJEI Australia informing that offsite road restoration has been completed in accordance with proposal letter dated 9 August 2021 and agreement with the Council.</p> <p>Viewed 'Dilapidation Report Road Restoration Spreadsheet' dated 21/12/2021 outlining repairs undertaken on Range Road, Cullen Street, Grange Road, Grabben Gullen Road and Kialla Road. Primary forms of restoration were filling of potholes and edge breaks. Other forms included removing of a tree stump to facilitate access and the installation of a 100 km sign at the end of the 50 km/h zone in Grabben Gullen along Range Road.</p>

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Cond. no	Requirement/Condition	2023 Status	2023 Evidence
	<p>construction and/or decommissioning. If there is a dispute about the scope of any remedial works or the implementation of these works, then either party may refer the matter to the Secretary for resolution.</p>		
Schedule 3, Condition 27	<p>The Applicant must ensure any unformed Crown road reserves affected by the development are maintained for future use.</p>	Compliant	<p>Viewed Biala Wind Farm Layout – Drawing No: SF_BWF_DWG_0057 (Rev 2) dated 6 December 2021. One known Crown Road reserve exists on Grabben Gullen Road opposite T01. This reserve is not utilised except as an emergency exit (JR pers comms). TMP dated 2020 from last audit not updated. Project in operational phase, so limited use of TMP required in audit period.</p>
Schedule 3, Condition 28	<p>Prior to the commencement of construction, the Applicant must prepare a Traffic Management Plan for the development in consultation with RMS and Council, and to the satisfaction of the Secretary. This plan must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) detail the measures that would be implemented to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• minimise the traffic safety impacts of the development and disruptions to local road users during the construction and decommissioning of the development, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– temporary traffic controls, including detours and signage;</li> <li>– notifying the local community about development-related traffic impacts;</li> <li>– avoiding potential conflicts between development-related traffic and the stock movements of the owner of Residence H07 by implementing measures such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ consulting with the landowner to confirm likely stock movement frequency, timing and duration;</li> <li>○ notification protocols for stock movements, including a dedicated phone number; and</li> <li>○ temporary traffic controls on Grabben Gullen Road such as traffic flags or signals;</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>– avoiding potential conflict between development-related traffic and school buses in consultation with school bus operators by implementing measures such as avoiding traffic movements during school bus service times or providing an escort for school buses;</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Not Triggered	

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Cond. no	Requirement/Condition	2023 Status	2023 Evidence
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- ensuring development-related traffic does not track dirt onto the public road network;</li> <li>- ensuring loaded vehicles entering or leaving the site have their loads covered or contained;</li> <li>- there is sufficient parking on site for all development-related traffic; responding to any emergency repair requirements or maintenance during construction and/or decommissioning; and</li> <li>- a traffic management system for managing over-dimensional vehicles;</li> <li>• comply with the traffic conditions in this consent;</li> <li>(b) include a drivers code of conduct that addresses:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• travelling speeds;</li> <li>• procedures to ensure that drivers adhere to the designated heavy and over-dimensional vehicle routes; and</li> <li>• procedures to ensure that drivers implement safe driving practices;</li> </ul> </li> <li>(c) include a detailed program to monitor and report on the effectiveness of these measures and the code of conduct.</li> </ul> <p>Following the Secretary's approval, the Applicant must implement the Traffic Management Plan.</p>		
Schedule 3, Condition 29	<p>Prior to the construction of any wind turbine or wind monitoring mast, the Applicant must provide the following information to CASA, Airservices Australia, and the RAAF (together the authorities):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) coordinates in latitude and longitude of each wind turbine and mast;</li> <li>(b) final height of each wind turbine and mast in Australian Height Datum;</li> <li>(c) ground level at the base of each wind turbine and mast in Australian Height Datum;</li> <li>(d) confirmation of compliance with any OLS (Obstacle Limitation Surface); and</li> <li>(e) details of any proposed aviation hazard lighting</li> </ul> <p>Within 30 days of the practical completion of the construction of any wind turbine or mast, the Applicant must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) provide confirmation to the authorities that the information that was previously provided remains accurate; or</li> <li>(b) update the information previously provided</li> </ul>	Compliant	<p>Emails dated outside of the audit period.</p> <p>Viewed email to CASA on 25/03/2020 with description of all dimensions in this condition.</p> <p>Viewed email to Airservices on 25/03/2020 with description of all dimensions in this condition.</p> <p>Viewed email dated 19/03/2019 from Airservices confirming that RAAF will receive a copy of the VOD (Vertical Obstruction Data).</p>
Schedule 3, Condition 30	<p>Prior to the construction of any wind turbines, the Applicant must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) re-route the fixed point-to-point microwave link crossing the middle of the site to the satisfaction of RFS; and</li> <li>(b) implement measures to minimise the risk of television broadcasting interference due to the development at residences H03, H05, H06 and H07</li> </ul>	Compliant	<p>Viewed notification of turbine completion to Airservices on 16 December 2020, with Defence as a CC on email.</p> <p>Viewed email to CASA on 31 May 2020 notifying of construction progress. Viewed response on 6 June 2020 stating that monthly progress updates are not necessary to provide to CASA as long as Airservices remains informed.</p> <p>Completed at last audit period.</p> <p>No new requests in audit period (JR pers comms).</p>
Schedule 3, Condition 31		Not Triggered	

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Cond. no	Requirement/Condition	2023 Status	2023 Evidence
Schedule 3, Condition 32	<p>If the development results in the disruption to any radiocommunications services (including point-to-point microwave links) in the area, then the Applicant must make good any disruption to these services ASAP following the disruption but no later than 1 month following the disruption of the service unless the relevant services provider or user or Secretary agrees otherwise. If there is a dispute about the mitigation measures to be implemented or the implementation of these mitigation measures, then either party may refer the matter to the Secretary for resolution.</p>	Compliant	<p>Viewed 'Complaints Register July 23'. Three complaints relating to radiocommunications disruptions occurred during the audit period.</p> <p>Two complaints resulted in requesting the complainant to contact mobile phone provider as a rayline analysis demonstrated that the disruption was unlikely due to the wind farm.</p> <p>One complaint resulted in offering the complainant VAST box satellite TV system to mitigate disruptions. The complainant chose to wait until the end of construction to make a decision. The complainant decided against the satellite system on 15 October 2020 as they had concerns about installation contributing to a leaking roof. BJEI noted to the complainant they are willing to install a VAST box upon their request (JR pers comms).</p> <p>Viewed Brochure dated April 2021, referring to a TV reception program available to all residents. The program incorporates assessment by a local TV technician and installation of a standard sized aerial to residence rooftop, including satellite dish and VAST box, and includes two years' maintenance. Viewed '2021 email list' outlining recipients of the TV Reception Program announcement. Viewed BJEI newsletters dated April 2021, July 2021, December 2021, March 2022, May 2022 and October 2022 advertising the TV Reception Program.</p>
Schedule 3, Condition 33	<p>The Applicant must:</p> <p>(a) ensure that the development: - provides for asset protection in accordance with the RFS's <i>Planning for Bushfire Protection 2006</i> (or equivalent); - is suitably equipped to respond to any fires on site;</p> <p>(b) develop procedures to manage potential fires on site, in consultation with the RFS; and</p> <p>(c) assist the RFS and emergency services as much as possible if there is a fire in the vicinity of the site.</p>	Compliant	<p>BMP from 2020 previous audit still in place with no edits.</p> <p><b>Recommend this is reviewed in next audit period to ensure contemporary.</b></p> <p>No bushfires occurred within the period (JR pers comms).</p> <p>a) Viewed photos of fire extinguishers and fire blankets within the O&amp;M office dates 12 October 2023. A fire-fighting trailer exists on site that is shared with the Gullen Range Wind Farm and that all vehicles are equipped with fire extinguishers (JR pers comms).</p> <p>b) Viewed BWF-OM-PLN-0002 BIWF Emergency Response Plan Version 3.0. Section 13.5 details protocol to follow if a bush or grass fire emerges.</p> <p>c) There have been no fire related incidents during the audit period (JR pers comms).</p>

**REPORT**

Cond. no	Requirement/Condition	2023 Status	2023 Evidence
Schedule 3, Condition 34	<p>The Applicant must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) prepare a Safety Management System for the development in accordance with the Department's <i>Hazardous Industry Planning Advisory Paper No. 9, 'Safety Management'</i> prior to commissioning any wind turbines on site; and</li> <li>(b) implement, and if necessary update, the system over the remaining life of the development.</li> </ul>	Compliant	<p>Condition (a) was reviewed and complied within the previous audit period.</p> <p>b) Viewed relevant components of Operation Management Plan dated 06/07/2023 including training requirements and Safe Work Method Statement.</p> <p>Viewed 'Lucidity Training Matrix' dated 12/09/2023 outlining due dates for each course for each employee and current training record. The Lucidity system also incorporates contractors. Automated reminders are sent to personnel reminding of upcoming inductions due.</p> <p>Viewed Biala Wind Farm induction presentation dated August 2023.</p> <p>Viewed GWA-CO-POL-001 WHS Policy.</p> <p>Viewed GWA-HSE-FRM-0057 GWA Emergency Exercise Drill Record dated 17/09/2021.</p>
Schedule 3, Condition 35	<p>The Applicant must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) minimise the waste generated by the development;</li> <li>(b) classify all waste generated on site in accordance with the EPA's Waste Classification Guidelines 2014 (or its latest version);</li> <li>(c) store and handle all waste generated on site in accordance with its classification;</li> <li>(d) not receive or dispose of any waste on site; and</li> <li>(e) ensure all waste is disposed of at appropriately licensed waste facilities.</li> </ul>	Compliant	<p>a) Dumpsters classified for cardboard, plastic and general waste (see <b>Plate 1</b>). Cleanaway removes waste when dumpsters are at capacity. Bins are emptied as needed, typically once every 4 months.</p> <p>The septic system gets pumped out once a month.</p> <p>Grease collected in buckets, stored in chemical storage room. When drum fills, waste is collected and disposed of (JR pers comms).</p> <p>b) Site inspection revealed safe storage of flammable materials and appropriate classification of waste.</p> <p>c) site inspection did not reveal any waste not correctly stored.</p> <p>d) No offsite waste received (JR pers comms).</p> <p>Viewed tax invoice 20119 from A1 Septic Tank and Grease Trap Cleaning dated 16 October 2023.</p> <p>e) Viewed tax invoices from Cleanaway dated 31 May 2023 and 30 June 2023.</p> <p>Viewed letter from A1 Septic Tank and Grease Trap Cleaning Services dated 20 October 2023 stating that inspection results demonstrated the septic system is in good condition and that the waste has been disposed of in accordance with local government and EPA regulations under their approval from Local Government Area.</p>

**REPORT**

	Requirement/Condition	2023 Status	2023 Evidence																
<p>Schedule 3, Condition 36</p>	<p>Within 18 months of the cessation of operations, unless the Secretary agrees otherwise, the Applicant must rehabilitate the site to the satisfaction of the Secretary. This rehabilitation must comply with the objectives in Table 4.</p> <p>Table 4: Rehabilitation Objectives</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="343 1254 662 1881"> <thead> <tr> <th>Feature</th> <th>Objective</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Development site (as a whole)</td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Safe, stable and non-polluting</li> <li>Minimise the visual impact of any above ground ancillary infrastructure agreed to be retained for an alternative use as far as is reasonable and feasible</li> <li>Restore native vegetation generally as identified in the EIS</li> <li>To be decommissioned and removed, unless the Secretary agrees otherwise</li> </ul> </td> </tr> <tr> <td>Above ground wind turbine infrastructure (excluding wind turbine pads)</td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To be covered with soil and/or rock and revegetated</li> <li>To be decommissioned and removed, unless an agreed alternative use is identified to the satisfaction of the Secretary</li> </ul> </td> </tr> <tr> <td>Wind turbine pads</td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To be decommissioned and removed, unless an agreed alternative use is identified to the satisfaction of the Secretary</li> </ul> </td> </tr> <tr> <td>Above ground ancillary infrastructure</td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To be decommissioned and removed, unless an agreed alternative use is identified to the satisfaction of the Secretary</li> <li>Restore or maintain land capability as described in the EIS</li> </ul> </td> </tr> <tr> <td>Internal access roads</td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure public safety</li> </ul> </td> </tr> <tr> <td>Land use</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Community</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Feature	Objective	Development site (as a whole)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Safe, stable and non-polluting</li> <li>Minimise the visual impact of any above ground ancillary infrastructure agreed to be retained for an alternative use as far as is reasonable and feasible</li> <li>Restore native vegetation generally as identified in the EIS</li> <li>To be decommissioned and removed, unless the Secretary agrees otherwise</li> </ul>	Above ground wind turbine infrastructure (excluding wind turbine pads)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To be covered with soil and/or rock and revegetated</li> <li>To be decommissioned and removed, unless an agreed alternative use is identified to the satisfaction of the Secretary</li> </ul>	Wind turbine pads	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To be decommissioned and removed, unless an agreed alternative use is identified to the satisfaction of the Secretary</li> </ul>	Above ground ancillary infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To be decommissioned and removed, unless an agreed alternative use is identified to the satisfaction of the Secretary</li> <li>Restore or maintain land capability as described in the EIS</li> </ul>	Internal access roads	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure public safety</li> </ul>	Land use		Community		<p>Not Triggered</p>	<p>Currently in operations phase as of 4 November 2022. Viewed DPE letter confirming commencement of operations phase dated 3 November 2022. Site inspection revealed no major erosion at areas inspected and current rehabilitation holding well (see <b>Plate 5</b> and <b>Plate 6</b>).</p>
Feature	Objective																		
Development site (as a whole)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Safe, stable and non-polluting</li> <li>Minimise the visual impact of any above ground ancillary infrastructure agreed to be retained for an alternative use as far as is reasonable and feasible</li> <li>Restore native vegetation generally as identified in the EIS</li> <li>To be decommissioned and removed, unless the Secretary agrees otherwise</li> </ul>																		
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Land use																			
Community																			
<p>Schedule 3, Condition 37</p>	<p>The Applicant must:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>rehabilitate all areas of the site not proposed for future disturbance progressively, that is, as soon as reasonably practicable following construction or decommissioning;</li> <li>minimise the total area exposed at any time; and</li> <li>employ interim rehabilitation strategies to minimise dust generation, soil erosion and weed incursion on parts of the site that cannot yet be permanently rehabilitated.</li> </ol>	<p>Compliant</p>	<p>Roadworks, rock checks, movement of redundant sediment control checks conducted at site inspection (see <b>Plate 6</b>). No open punch list from CATCON currently exists. Viewed CATCON agreed punch list. All items are marked as rectified or closed. Soil samples were taken from topsoil used within rehabilitation areas by CATCON and sent a week prior to the site interview. It was also noted that improvement of topsoil requested by landowner on site compound area.</p>																
<p>Schedule 3, Condition 38</p>	<p>Any individual wind turbines which cease operating for more than 12 consecutive months must be dismantled within 18 months after that 12 month period, unless the Secretary agrees otherwise.</p>	<p>Not Triggered</p>	<p>No WTGs ceased during audit period.</p>																
<p>Schedule 4, Condition 1</p>	<p>Prior to the commencement of construction, the Applicant must prepare an Environmental Management Strategy for the development to the satisfaction of the Secretary. This strategy must:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>provide the strategic framework for environmental management of the development;</li> <li>identify the statutory approvals that apply to the development;</li> <li>describe the role, responsibility, authority and accountability of all key personnel involved in the environmental management of the development;</li> <li>describe the procedures that would be implemented to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>keep the local community and relevant agencies informed about</li> </ul> </li> </ol>	<p>Compliant</p>	<p>Condition was met as per previous audit. Revised EMS dated 3 August 2023. Viewed DPE lodgment confirmation email dated 03/08/2023 and currently awaiting approval from DPE.</p>																



**REPORT**

Cond. no	Requirement/Condition	2023 Status	2023 Evidence
	<p>the operation and environmental performance of the development;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• receive, handle, respond to, and record complaints;</li> <li>• resolve any disputes that may arise;</li> <li>• respond to any non-compliance;</li> <li>• respond to emergencies; and</li> </ul> <p>include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• copies of any strategies, plans and programs approved under the conditions of this consent; and</li> <li>• a clear plan depicting all the monitoring to be carried out in relation to the development, including a table summarising all the monitoring and reporting obligations under the conditions of this consent. Following the Secretary's approval, the Applicant shall implement the Environmental Management Strategy.</li> </ul>		
Schedule 4, Condition 2	<p>Within 3 months of the submission of:</p> <p>(a) an incident report under condition 4 below;</p> <p>(b) an audit report under condition 7 below; or</p> <p>(c) any modification to the conditions of this consent (unless the conditions require otherwise), the Applicant must review and, if necessary, revise the strategies, plans, and programs required under this consent to the satisfaction of the Secretary. Where this review leads to revisions in any such document, then within 4 weeks of the review the revised document must be submitted to the Secretary for approval.</p> <p>Note: This is to ensure the strategies, plans and programs are updated on a regular basis, and incorporate any recommended measures to improve the environmental performance of the development.</p>	<b>Not Compliant</b>	<p>a) No reportable incidents occurred.</p> <p>b) Previous IEA completed 23-24 September 2020. <b>No evidence this was considered within 3 months of last audit.</b></p> <p>c) There were no modifications of the conditions of consent during the audit period.</p> <p>Reviewed management plans. The revised Environmental Management Strategy was updated 3 August 2023, within the audit period.</p> <p><b>Recommendation: At the next update, management plans may be updated to remove construction sections and only pertain to the operational period.</b></p>
Schedule 4, Condition 3	<p>The Applicant must:</p> <p>(a) operate a Community Consultative Committee for the development prior to the commencement of construction; and</p> <p>(b) operate this Committee following establishment, to the satisfaction of the Secretary, and in accordance with the Community Consultative Committee Guidelines for State Significant Projects (2016), or its latest version.</p>	Compliant	<p>Viewed CCC section of Biala Wind Farm website.</p> <p>The first meeting of the CCC was conducted 21/7/15 and four meetings are held each year (generally).</p> <p>Viewed latest minutes on the Biala Wind Farm website (5/09/2023). Key discussions with the CCC include general project updates, roadworks, aviation lights, reception, Community Enhancement Fund, landscaping program and bird and bat monitoring.</p> <p>Meetings currently occur approximately twice a year.</p> <p>Submission of issues by CCC for consideration in audit. . Very positive response received.</p> <p>No reportable incidents have occurred within the audit period (JR pers comms).</p>
Schedule 4, Condition 4	<p>The Department must be notified in writing immediately via the Major Project Portal after the Applicant becomes aware of an incident. The notification must identify the development (including the development application number and the name of the development if it has one) and set out the location and nature of the incident.</p>	Not Triggered	

**REPORT**

Cond. no	Requirement/Condition	2023 Status	2023 Evidence
Schedule 4, Condition 5	<p>The Department must be notified in writing via the Major Project Portal within 7 days after the Applicant becomes aware of any non-compliance. The notification must identify the development and the application number for it, set out the condition of consent that the development is non-compliant with, the way in which it does not comply and the reasons for the non-compliance (if known) and what actions have been done, or will be undertaken, to address the non-compliance.</p>	Compliant	There were no notifiable exceedances during the audit period.
Schedule 4, Condition 6	<p>Within 1 year of the commencement of construction, and every 3 years thereafter, unless the Secretary directs otherwise, the Applicant shall commission and pay the full cost of an Independent Environmental Audit of the development. The audits must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) be prepared in accordance with the relevant Independent Audit Post Approval requirements (DPE 2018);</li> <li>(b) be led and conducted by a suitably qualified, experienced and independent team of experts whose appointment has been endorsed by the Secretary;</li> <li>(c) be carried out in consultation with the relevant agencies;</li> <li>(d) assess whether the development complies with the relevant requirements in this consent, and any strategy, plan or program required under this consent; and</li> <li>(e) recommend appropriate measures or actions to improve the environmental performance of the development and any strategy, plan or program required under this consent.</li> </ul> <p>Within 3 months of commencing an Independent Environmental Audit, or unless otherwise agreed by the Secretary, a copy of the audit report must be submitted to the Secretary, and any other NSW agency that requests it, together with a response to any recommendations contained in the audit report, and a timetable for the implementation of the recommendations.</p> <p>The recommendations of the Independent Environmental Audit must be implemented to the satisfaction of the Secretary.</p>	Compliant	<p>The previous audit period covered up to 4 August 2020, with the current IEA period covering to 13 September 2023. The 2023 IEA audit team was appointed 31 July 2023 and the site inspection occurred from 12 – 13 September 2023.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) See Section 3 of Main Report.</li> <li>b) Dianne Munro holds Exemplar Certification (see Appendix B. of this IEA). The IEA Team appointment endorsed by letter from DPE dated 31 July 2023.</li> <li>c) Consultation is outlined in Section 3 and Appendix E of this IEA.</li> <li>d) This IEA.</li> <li>e) Outcomes and recommendations are provided in Section 5 of the Main Report.</li> </ul> <p>Viewed responses timeline and register for non-compliances and continual improvement recommendations containing responses on 5 February 2021 and 30 April 2021 and the DPE post approval receipt notification for the Responses and Timeline – Status Update.</p>
Schedule 4, Condition 7	Deleted		
Schedule 4, Condition 8	Deleted		
Schedule 4, Condition 9	<p>9. The Applicant must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) make the following information publicly available on its website as relevant to the stage of the development: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the EIS;</li> <li>• the final layout plans for the development;</li> <li>• current statutory approvals for the development;</li> <li>• approved strategies, plans or programs required under the conditions of this consent;</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Compliant	Viewed the Biala Wind Farm website on 5 September 2023 at 11:30 am. ( <a href="https://bialawindfarm.com/">https://bialawindfarm.com/</a> ). All relevant criteria pertaining to this condition is located on the website.

**REPORT**

Cond. no	Requirement/Condition	2023 Status	2023 Evidence
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the proposed staging plans for the development if the construction, operation and/or decommissioning of the development is to be staged;</li> <li>• a comprehensive summary of the monitoring results of the development, which have been reported in accordance with the various plans and programs approved under the conditions of this consent;</li> <li>• a complaints register, which is to be updated on a monthly basis;</li> <li>• minutes of CCC meetings;</li> <li>• the annual Statement of Compliance with the EPL</li> <li>• any independent environmental audit, and the Applicant's response to the recommendations in any audit; and</li> <li>• any other matter required by the Secretary; and</li> </ul> <p>(b) keep this information up to date, to the satisfaction of the Secretary.</p>		



## Appendix D Site Inspection Plates



Plate 1 – Good waste management

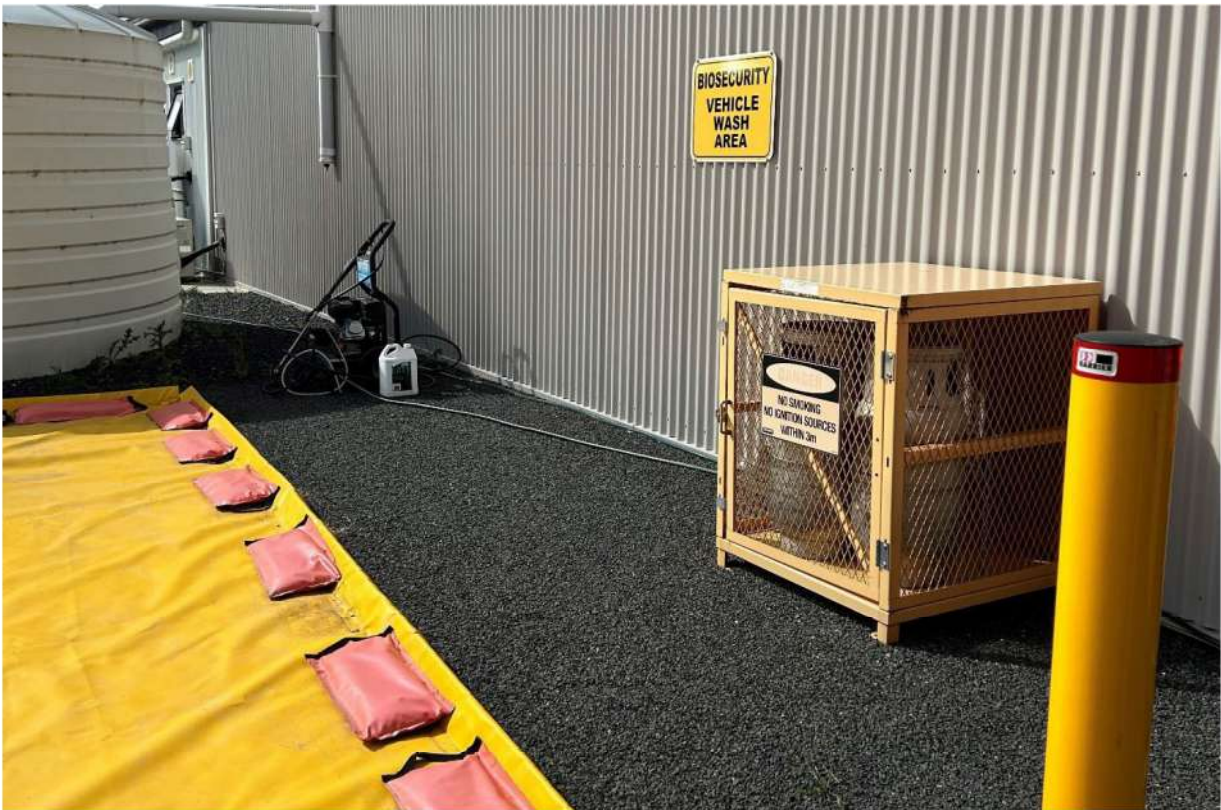


Plate 2 – Biosecurity vehicle washdown area



Plate 3 – Flammable liquid storage within storage shed



Plate 4 – Lubricant storage



Plate 5 – Remediated area at T15



Plate 6 – Rocks at drainage line at T31



Plate 7 – O&M building from entry road



Plate 8 – Rear view of O&M building





Plate 9 – Lighting on O&M building



Plate 10 – Temporary site office rehabilitated area



## Appendix E Regulatory Correspondence

Department of Planning and Environment

Mr Jochen Rasmussen  
Suite 3, Level 21  
1 York Street  
Sydney NSW 2000

31/07/2023

Dear Mr Rasmussen

**Biala Wind Farm – SSD 6039**  
**Independent Environmental Audit – Auditor approval request July 2023**

I refer to your request (SSD-6039-PA-28) for the Secretary's approval of a suitably qualified person to undertake the Independent Environmental Audit (IEA) and prepare the IEA report for the Biala Wind Farm in accordance with Schedule 4 condition 6 of SSD 6039 (as modified) the consent.

The Department of Planning and Environment (the department) has reviewed the nomination and information you have provided and is satisfied that this expert is suitably qualified and experienced. Consequently, in accordance with Schedule 4 Condition 6 (b) of the consent and the Independent Audit Post Approval Requirements, the Secretary has agreed to Dianne Munro of RPS AAP Consulting Pty Ltd to undertake the IEA and prepare the IEA report.

Please note that this approval of Diane Munro is conditional upon her maintaining certification as a lead or principal auditor with a relevant industry body and being independent of the project.

Please ensure this correspondence is appended to the Independent Audit Report.

The Independent Audit must be prepared, undertaken and finalised in accordance with the consent and Independent Audit Post Approval Requirements. Failure to meet these requirements will require revision and resubmission.

The department reserves the right to request an alternate auditor or audit team for future audits.

Notwithstanding the agreement for the above listed audit team for this Project, each respective project approval or consent requires a request for the agreement to the auditor or audit team be submitted to the department, for consideration of the Secretary. Each request is reviewed and depending on the complexity of future projects, the suitability of a proposed auditor or audit team will be considered.

Should you wish to discuss the matter further, please me on 0429400261 or [compliance@planning.nsw.gov.au](mailto:compliance@planning.nsw.gov.au)

Yours sincerely



Katrina O'Reilly  
Team Leader - Compliance  
Compliance

As nominee of the Planning Secretary

## Jessica Robinson

---

**From:** Dianne Munro  
**Sent:** Monday, 4 September 2023 4:01 PM  
**To:** nic  
**Cc:** Jessica Robinson  
**Subject:** RE: Biala Wind Farm Independent Environmental Audit - Regulatory Engagement Request

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

Thank you very much for your response Nic. We will note it.

Kind Regards,  
Dianne.

---

**From:** nic <nic.carmody@bigpond.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 4, 2023 3:29 PM  
**To:** Dianne Munro <Dianne.Munro@rpsgroup.com.au>  
**Subject:** RE: Biala Wind Farm Independent Environmental Audit - Regulatory Engagement Request

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of RPS.

Good afternoon Dianne,

As the Chair of the Biala Wind Farm Community Consultative Committee (CCC) I can advise that the proponent has been open, transparent, and obliging to all community concerns that have arisen during the development process thus far. Any Environmental issues raised by the community have been reported promptly to the committee which are noted in the minutes on the proponent's website.

I look forward to seeing the outcome of the audit.

Nic Carmody OAM  
**SOLUTIONS**  
0429 354 582

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**From:** Dianne Munro <[Dianne.Munro@rpsgroup.com.au](mailto:Dianne.Munro@rpsgroup.com.au)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 29, 2023 12:00 PM  
**To:** [nic.carmody@bigpond.com](mailto:nic.carmody@bigpond.com)  
**Cc:** Jessica Robinson <[Jessica.Robinson@rpsgroup.com.au](mailto:Jessica.Robinson@rpsgroup.com.au)>  
**Subject:** Biala Wind Farm Independent Environmental Audit - Regulatory Engagement Request

Good afternoon,

RPS has been approved by the Department of Planning and Environment to conduct the 2023 Independent Environmental Audit (IEA) for Biala Wind Farm in accordance with Schedule 4, Condition 6 of SSD 6039 which states:

*“Within 1 year of the commencement of construction, and every 3 years thereafter, unless the Secretary directs otherwise, the Applicant shall commission and pay the full cost of an Independent Environmental Audit of the development. The audits must:*

- (a) be prepared in accordance with the relevant Independent Audit Post Approval requirements (DPE 2018);*
- (b) be led and conducted by a suitably qualified, experienced and independent team of experts whose appointment has been endorsed by the Secretary;*
- (c) be carried out in consultation with the relevant agencies;*
- (d) assess whether the development complies with the relevant requirements in this consent, and any strategy, plan or program required under this consent; and*
- (e) recommend appropriate measures or actions to improve the environmental performance of the development and any strategy, plan or program required under this consent.....”*

In accordance with Condition (6c), could you please provide comment on any specific environmental issues you require particular focus on as part of the IEA.

We look forward to your response. If you could **respond by 7 September** prior prior to site visit, it would be appreciated.

Please do not hesitate to contact myself as Lead Auditor as required on the details below.

Regards,  
Dianne.

**Dianne Munro**

Senior Principal  
RPS | Australia Asia Pacific  
**M** 0437898884  
**E** [dianne.munro@rpsgroup.com.au](mailto:dianne.munro@rpsgroup.com.au)

*I work Monday to Thursday.*

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## Jessica Robinson

---

**From:** Katrina O'Reilly <Katrina.OReilly@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Monday, 11 September 2023 9:00 AM  
**To:** Dianne Munro  
**Cc:** Jessica Robinson  
**Subject:** RE: Biala Wind Farm Independent Environmental Audit - Regulatory Engagement Request

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of RPS.

Good morning Dianna,

apologies for delay in responding please find below departments comments.

Agencies/stakeholders to be consulted include:

Local Aboriginal Councils  
Upper Lachlan Shire Council  
Biodiversity and Conservation Division (BCD)  
Environment Protection Authority (EPA)  
Department of Primary Industries (DPI)  
Heritage NSW  
Rural Fire Service (RFS)  
Roads and Maritime Services (RMS)  
CCC

Areas for focus:

Evidence of compliance with all commitments within management plans (such as monitoring requirements, reporting (reports submitted when required and to relevant agencies) and adaptive management) as required by Schedule 3 conditions 20 and 21.

Complaints register, monitoring and response management.

Evidence of any road maintenance which has been required and undertaken in accordance with Schedule 3 condition 26.

Visual impact monitoring and management

Evidence of rehabilitation program being implemented and monitored

Evidence of Weed and pest management program being implemented and monitored

Evidence of Bushfire preparation and programs being developed and implemented (as required by schedule 3 condition 33)

Regards

Katrina

**Katrina O'Reilly**

**Team Leader Compliance**

Planning & Assessment | Department of Planning and Environment

T 02 6229 7909 | M 0429 400261 | E [katrina.oreilly@planning.nsw.gov.au](mailto:katrina.oreilly@planning.nsw.gov.au)

PO Box 5475 | Level 1 11 Farrer Place Queanbeyan NSW 2620

[www.dpie.nsw.gov.au](http://www.dpie.nsw.gov.au)



*The Department of Planning and Environment acknowledges that it stands on Aboriginal land. We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land and we show our respect for elders past, present and emerging through thoughtful*

and collaborative approaches to our work, seeking to demonstrate our ongoing commitment to providing places in which Aboriginal people are included socially, culturally and economically

---

**From:** Dianne Munro <Dianne.Munro@rpsgroup.com.au>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 29 August 2023 11:57 AM  
**To:** Katrina O'Reilly <Katrina.OReilly@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Cc:** Jessica Robinson <Jessica.Robinson@rpsgroup.com.au>  
**Subject:** Biala Wind Farm Independent Environmental Audit - Regulatory Engagement Request

Good afternoon,

RPS has been approved by the Department of Planning and Environment to conduct the 2023 Independent Environmental Audit (IEA) for Biala Wind Farm in accordance with Schedule 4, Condition 6 of SSD 6039 which states:

*“Within 1 year of the commencement of construction, and every 3 years thereafter, unless the Secretary directs otherwise, the Applicant shall commission and pay the full cost of an Independent Environmental Audit of the development. The audits must:*

- (a) be prepared in accordance with the relevant Independent Audit Post Approval requirements (DPE 2018);*
- (b) be led and conducted by a suitably qualified, experienced and independent team of experts whose appointment has been endorsed by the Secretary;*
- (c) be carried out in consultation with the relevant agencies;*
- (d) assess whether the development complies with the relevant requirements in this consent, and any strategy, plan or program required under this consent; and*
- (e) recommend appropriate measures or actions to improve the environmental performance of the development and any strategy, plan or program required under this consent.....”*

In accordance with Condition (6c), could you please provide comment on any specific environmental issues you require particular focus on as part of the IEA.

We look forward to your response. If you could **respond by 7 September** prior prior to site visit, it would be appreciated.

Please do not hesitate to contact myself as Lead Auditor as required on the details below.

Regards,  
Dianne.

**Dianne Munro**  
Senior Principal  
RPS | Australia Asia Pacific  
**M** 0437898884  
**E** dianne.munro@rpsgroup.com.au

*I work Monday to Thursday.*

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Ms Dianne Munro  
Senior Principal  
RPS Group Australia Asia Pacific

By email: [dianne.munro@rpsgroup.com.au](mailto:dianne.munro@rpsgroup.com.au)

Dear Ms Munro

**Consultation for Independent Environmental Audit –  
Biala Wind Farm - Newtricity Developments Biala Pty Ltd – EPL No. 21280**

I am writing in response to your email correspondence dated 29 August 2023 seeking to consult with the NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA) regarding an Independent Environmental Audit (IEA) of the Biala Wind Farm located at Grabben Gullen Road, Grabben Gullen NSW 2583 (Premises).

In your correspondence you advised that the Department of Planning and Environment (DPE) has appointed RPS Group Pty Ltd (RPS) as the independent auditor to undertake the 2023 Independent Environmental Audit (IEA) of the Biala Wind Farm Premises. As required by Schedule 4, Condition 6 of SSD 6039, you are required to engage with relevant agencies as part of the audit process and have invited the EPA to raise any concerns or issues with the Premises.

The EPA regulates the Premises in accordance with the Environment Protection Licence No. 21280 (Licence) issued to Newtricity Developments Biala Pty Ltd (Licensee) to carry out the scheduled activity of electricity works (wind farms) at the Biala Wind Farm Premises. The EPA has reviewed records and advises it has received one complaint and recorded one incident in 2021 in relation to the undertaking of scheduled activities by the licensee at the Premises in the last three-year period, since the previous IEA in 2020.

The alleged pollution incident was reported to the EPA through the EPA's Environment Line on 19 July 2021. The investigation identified a lack of pollution controls at a former site compound on the Premises resulted in sediment laden runoff polluting nearby waterways. On 22 July 2021, the EPA issued the licensee with Clean-Up Notice No.350081. The latest recorded inspection was undertaken on 10 August 2021 to assess compliance with the Clean Up Notice.

The EPA encourages the preparation of audits as useful tools for industry to determine how to meet statutory obligations and identify potential or actual risks towards achieving these obligations. The proponent retains primary responsibility for the environmental performance of its project and activities carried on at the Premises. The onus is on the proponent to ensure compliance with relevant Acts includes but is not limited to the Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997 and associated regulations.

The scope of the audit should include:

- An assessment of compliance against:
  - Relevant conditions of SSD 6039
  - Environmental Management Plans (EMP) and Sub-plans and other relevant post approval documents and the adequacy of the system to achieve legislative requirements and drive performance improvements. EMPs should be reviewed and updated on a regular basis. This should include consideration of complaint and

Phone 131 555  
Phone 02 9995 5555  
(from outside NSW)

TTY 133 677, then  
ask for 131 155

Locked Bag 5022  
PARRAMATTA  
NSW 2124

6&8 Parramatta  
Square 10 Darcy  
Street  
PARRAMATTA NSW  
2150

[info@epa.nsw.gov.au](mailto:info@epa.nsw.gov.au)  
[www.epa.nsw.gov.au](http://www.epa.nsw.gov.au)  
ABN 43 692 285 758



- incident handling, compliance tracking and reporting as well as the outcomes of any independent environmental audits.
- Environment Protection Licence 21280
- Pollution Incident Response Management Plan and specific procedures to address potential risks around turbine fires.
- An assessment of the environmental performance of the development including impacts, physical extent and environmental compliance.
- An assessment of the implementation of previous audit findings, recommendations and actions

As the construction phase of the project is now complete, and given the previous water pollution incident the EPA considers the following key environmental issues should be considered in the 2023 IEA:

- Water management, success of revegetation works and erosion controls in place to address potential water pollution risks, specifically associated with watercourse crossings, unsealed roads and other areas which may present a pollution risk post construction.
- Noise compliance and management post construction. The EPA has reviewed the Noise Compliance Test Plan Rp 001 R02 20200121) prepared by Marshall Day Acoustics, dated 2 December 2022 (NCTP). Whilst the EPA does not endorse or approve the NCTP it is acknowledged that it will be used to determine compliance monitoring. The EPA has recently received a copy of the Noise Monitoring Report and noted that which it states compliance was achieved the outcomes of the compliance assessment were inconclusive at wind speeds greater than 10 m/s due to the influence of background noise.
- Waste assessment, classification, and management.

If you have any further questions about this issue, please contact Sharon Peters on (02) 62297002 or at [info@epa.nsw.gov.au](mailto:info@epa.nsw.gov.au) .

Yours sincerely



31/08/2023

Andreas Stricker  
**Acting Unit Head**  
**Regulatory Operations**

## Jessica Robinson

---

**From:** Dianne Munro  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 29 August 2023 11:59 AM  
**To:** Sharon Peters  
**Cc:** Jessica Robinson  
**Subject:** Biala Wind Farm Independent Environmental Audit - Regulatory Engagement Request

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Good afternoon,

RPS has been approved by the Department of Planning and Environment to conduct the 2023 Independent Environmental Audit (IEA) for Biala Wind Farm in accordance with Schedule 4, Condition 6 of SSD 6039 which states:

*"Within 1 year of the commencement of construction, and every 3 years thereafter, unless the Secretary directs otherwise, the Applicant shall commission and pay the full cost of an Independent Environmental Audit of the development. The audits must:*  
*(a) be prepared in accordance with the relevant Independent Audit Post Approval requirements (DPE 2018);*  
*(b) be led and conducted by a suitably qualified, experienced and independent team of experts whose appointment has been endorsed by the Secretary;*  
*(c) be carried out in consultation with the relevant agencies;*  
*(d) assess whether the development complies with the relevant requirements in this consent, and any strategy, plan or program required under this consent; and*  
*(e) recommend appropriate measures or actions to improve the environmental performance of the development and any strategy, plan or program required under this consent....."*

In accordance with Condition (6c), could you please provide comment on any specific environmental issues you require particular focus on as part of the IEA.

We look forward to your response. If you could **respond by 7 September** prior prior to site visit, it would be appreciated.

Please do not hesitate to contact myself as Lead Auditor as required on the details below.

Regards,  
Dianne.

**Dianne Munro**  
Senior Principal  
RPS | Australia Asia Pacific  
**M** 0437898884  
**E** [dianne.munro@rpsgroup.com.au](mailto:dianne.munro@rpsgroup.com.au)

*I work Monday to Thursday.*

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## Jessica Robinson

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**From:** Dianne Munro  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 27 September 2023 7:13 AM  
**To:** Jessica Robinson  
**Subject:** Fwd: Heritage NSW Reply - Assignment: Biala Wind Farm Independent Environmental Audit - Regulatory Engagement Request

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

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**From:** Nicole Davis <Nicole.Davis@environment.nsw.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 26, 2023 8:31:57 PM  
**To:** Dianne Munro <Dianne.Munro@rpsgroup.com.au>  
**Subject:** Heritage NSW Reply - Assignment: Biala Wind Farm Independent Environmental Audit - Regulatory Engagement Request

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of RPS.

Hi Dianne,

Thank you for your email and referral regarding Biala Wind Farm Independent Environmental Audit. Heritage NSW has no specific requirements in relation to the audit. Please let me know if you require any additional information.

Kind Regards  
Nicole Davis

Nicole Davis  
Manager Assessments  
Heritage NSW  
Department of Planning and Environment

T 02 4927 3156 M 0409 394 343 E [nicole.davis@environment.nsw.gov.au](mailto:nicole.davis@environment.nsw.gov.au)  
Locked Bag 5020 Parramatta 2124



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**From:** Erin McWhirter (Heritage NSW) <support@zendesk.environment.nsw.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 26 September 2023 10:00 AM  
**To:** Kelly Pleasance <kelly.pleasance@environment.nsw.gov.au>  
**Subject:** [Heritage NSW ] Assignment: Biala Wind Farm Independent Environmental Audit - Regulatory Engagement Request  
**Importance:** High

You have been assigned to this ticket ([#13527](#)).

Good morning,

RPS has been approved by the Department of Planning and Environment to conduct the 2023 Independent Environmental Audit (IEA) for Biala Wind Farm in accordance with Schedule 4, Condition 6 of SSD 6039 which states:

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*(b) be led and conducted by a suitably qualified, experienced and independent team of experts whose appointment has been endorsed by the Secretary;*

*(c) be carried out in consultation with the relevant agencies;*

*(d) assess whether the development complies with the relevant requirements in this consent, and any strategy, plan or program required under this consent; and*

*(e) recommend appropriate measures or actions to improve the environmental performance of the development and any strategy, plan or program required under this consent....."*

In accordance with Condition (6c), could you please provide comment on any specific environmental issues you require particular focus on as part of the IEA.

We look forward to your response. If you could **respond by 2 October**, it would be appreciated.

Please do not hesitate to contact Dianne Munro as Lead Auditor as required on the details below.

**Dianne Munro**

Senior Principal  
RPS | Australia Asia Pacific  
**M** 0437898884  
**E** [dianne.munro@rpsgroup.com.au](mailto:dianne.munro@rpsgroup.com.au)

Regards,

Jessica

**Jessica Robinson**

Environmental Consultant  
RPS | Australia Asia Pacific  
Unit 2A, 45 Fitzroy Street  
Carrington NSW 2294, Australia  
**T** +61 2 4940 4200 **M** +61 455 146 476  
**E** [jessica.robinson@rpsgroup.com.au](mailto:jessica.robinson@rpsgroup.com.au)



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## Jessica Robinson

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**From:** Jane Ramsay <Jane.Ramsay@upperlachlan.nsw.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Thursday, 7 September 2023 3:48 PM  
**To:** Jessica Robinson; Dianne Munro  
**Subject:** RE: Biala Wind Farm Independent Environmental Audit - Regulatory Engagement Request Follow Up

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of RPS.

Hi Jessica and Dianne

Sorry for leaving to the last day to send our reply.

ULSC has not undertaken any inspections of the Biala Wind Farm with respect to environmental issues, nor has it received any complaints re same.

Jane Ramsay  
Executive Assistant | Director Environment and Planning  
**Upper Lachlan Shire Council**

**P:** 4830 1000 | PO Box 42 Gunning NSW 2581  
**W:** [www.upperlachlan.nsw.gov.au](http://www.upperlachlan.nsw.gov.au)



You are requested to send your email correspondence to Council's email address [council@upperlachlan.nsw.gov.au](mailto:council@upperlachlan.nsw.gov.au) instead of individual Council staff. Community members are encouraged to use Council's email address for appropriate record keeping, and timely responses.

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**From:** Jessica Robinson <Jessica.Robinson@rpsgroup.com.au>  
**Sent:** Thursday, 7 September 2023 12:06 PM  
**To:** Upper Lachlan Shire Council <council@upperlachlan.nsw.gov.au>  
**Cc:** Dianne Munro <Dianne.Munro@rpsgroup.com.au>  
**Subject:** Biala Wind Farm Independent Environmental Audit - Regulatory Engagement Request Follow Up

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside the organisation. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.

Good afternoon,

We refer to our email below dated 29 August 2023 requesting your feedback for the Biala IEA.

This is a follow up email to see if you wish to provide any feedback as we will conduct the field component early next week.

Thank you for your time.

Regards,

**Jessica Robinson**

Environmental Consultant  
RPS | Australia Asia Pacific  
Unit 2A, 45 Fitzroy Street  
Carrington NSW 2294, Australia  
T +61 2 4940 4200 M +61 455 146 476  
E [jessica.robinson@rpsgroup.com.au](mailto:jessica.robinson@rpsgroup.com.au)



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We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of Country throughout Australia and recognise their continuing connection to land, waters and community. We pay our respect to them and their cultures and to Elders past and present.

[Click here](#) to find out more about our Reconciliation Action Plan.

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**From:** Dianne Munro <[Dianne.Munro@rpsgroup.com.au](mailto:Dianne.Munro@rpsgroup.com.au)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 29, 2023 11:59 AM  
**To:** [council@upperlachlan.nsw.gov.au](mailto:council@upperlachlan.nsw.gov.au)  
**Cc:** Jessica Robinson <[Jessica.Robinson@rpsgroup.com.au](mailto:Jessica.Robinson@rpsgroup.com.au)>  
**Subject:** Biala Wind Farm Independent Environmental Audit - Regulatory Engagement Request

Good afternoon,

RPS has been approved by the Department of Planning and Environment to conduct the 2023 Independent Environmental Audit (IEA) for Biala Wind Farm in accordance with Schedule 4, Condition 6 of SSD 6039 which states:

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- (b) be led and conducted by a suitably qualified, experienced and independent team of experts whose appointment has been endorsed by the Secretary;*
- (c) be carried out in consultation with the relevant agencies;*
- (d) assess whether the development complies with the relevant requirements in this consent, and any strategy, plan or program required under this consent; and*
- (e) recommend appropriate measures or actions to improve the environmental performance of the development and any strategy, plan or program required under this consent.....”*

In accordance with Condition (6c), could you please provide comment on any specific environmental issues you require particular focus on as part of the IEA.

We look forward to your response. If you could **respond by 7 September** prior prior to site visit, it would be appreciated.

Please do not hesitate to contact myself as Lead Auditor as required on the details below.

Regards,  
Dianne.

**Dianne Munro**

Senior Principal  
RPS | Australia Asia Pacific  
M 0437898884  
E [dianne.munro@rpsgroup.com.au](mailto:dianne.munro@rpsgroup.com.au)

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## **Appendix F** Audit Guidelines and Where Addressed



## AUDIT GUIDELINES

This IEA report has also been prepared in accordance with the Audit Guidelines (DPE, 2020). The table below lists key requirements from the Audit Guidelines, the relevant section of the Guidelines which references the requirement and indicates where each is addressed in this report.

### Audit Guideline Requirements

Section	Description	Where Addressed
3.1	<p>Independent Audits must only be undertaken by a suitably qualified, experienced and independent auditor. The independent lead auditor may be supported by a provisional auditor subject to the Planning Secretary's agreement.</p> <p>Conditions of consent may require Independent Audits to be undertaken by an auditor and one or more technical specialists. The appointment of the auditor and technical experts must be agreed in writing by the Planning Secretary before each audit is commissioned. Each member of the audit team must receive the Department's agreement.</p> <p>Every audit will require the audit team to be endorsed, unless otherwise agreed by the Planning Secretary ie – this is not a one-off approval.</p>	<p><b>Appendix B</b></p> <p><b>Appendix C</b></p> <p><b>Appendix E</b></p>
3.2	<p>The auditor must consult with the Department, who may request that other parties or agencies are consulted, including the Community Consultative Committee chairperson (if one is required for the project), to obtain their input into the scope of the audit.</p> <p>Comments received during such consultation must be recorded and reported in the Independent Audit Report. Specific environmental issues raised during consultation should be investigated and findings of the investigation must be reported in the Independent Audit Report. There may be instances where the consulted parties requests are not reasonable and are outside of scope. In these situations, the auditor must provide justification of how they have considered the matters raised during consultation in the audit report. This justification may be provided in a table format.</p>	<p><b>Section 3.3</b></p> <p><b>Appendix E</b></p>
3.3	<p>An Independent Audit must include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. an assessment of compliance with: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) all conditions of consent applicable to the phase of the development that is being audited. Should there be any uncertainty to which conditions are to be audited, the auditor can seek clarification during the consultation as per Section 3.2;</li> <li>(b) all post approval and compliance documents prepared to satisfy the conditions of consent, including an assessment of the implementation of Environmental Management Plans and Sub-plans; and</li> </ol> </li> </ol>	<p><b>Appendix C</b></p>

<b>Section</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Where Addressed</b>
3.3	<p>2. a review of the environmental performance of the development, including but not necessarily limited to, an assessment of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) actual impacts compared to predicted impacts documented in the environmental impact assessment;</li> <li>(b) the physical extent of the development in comparison with the approved boundary;</li> <li>(c) incidents, non-compliances and complaints that occurred or were made during the audit period;</li> <li>(d) the performance of the development having regard to agency policy and any particular environmental issues identified through consultation carried out when developing the scope of the audit; and</li> <li>(e) feedback received from the Department, and other agencies and stakeholders, including the community or Community Consultative Committee, on the environmental performance of the project during the audit period;</li> </ul>	<b>Appendix C</b>
3.3	The status of implementation of previous Independent Audit findings, recommendations and actions (if any);	<b>Appendix C</b>
3.3	A high-level assessment of whether Environmental Management Plans and Sub-plans are adequate; and	<b>This IEA Report</b>
3.3	Any other matters considered relevant by the auditor or the Department, taking into account relevant regulatory requirements and legislation, knowledge of the development's past performance and comparison to industry best practices.	<b>Appendix C</b>
3.4	Audits must commence with an opening meeting and conclude with a closing meeting. The meetings must be attended by a representative of the proponent at manager level or above, the auditor and technical specialists (if any). During the opening meeting the objectives of the audit, the scope of the audit, the resources required and methodology to be applied must be discussed. At the closing meeting, preliminary audit findings must be presented, recommendations (if appropriate) must be made, and any post-audit actions must be confirmed. A register of attendees (including their name and position title) for the opening and closing meetings is to be recorded and a copy of the registers provided with the audit report.	<b>Appendix A</b>
3.5	Independent Audits must include interviews with key personnel involved in project delivery, including those with responsibility for environmental management, to assist with verifying the compliance status of the development. However, note that interviews are generally not sufficient evidence to verify compliance with a condition of consent and additional supporting evidence should be provided. Auditors must be provided with reasonable access to the key site personnel as required by an Independent Audit scope.	<b>Appendix A</b> <b>Appendix C</b>

Section	Description	Where Addressed
3.6	<p>Independent Audits must include a physical site inspection. The site inspection must cover all development areas and environmental aspects that form part of the scope of the audit. The proponent must provide the auditor with reasonable access to all requested development areas and activities, understanding that the inspections must be accompanied by the designated site representative and that some areas may not be physically accessible for safety or operational reasons. If the auditor considers restricted access has limited their ability to adequately undertake the audit as scoped, it must be noted in the Independent Audit Report. Recommendations to overcome the restricted access (where feasible) must be proposed for subsequent independent audits</p>	<p><b>Appendix C</b> <b>Appendix D</b></p>

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IEA Ref	Recommendation	NDBPL Response	Timeline
<b>NON-COMPLIANCE RECOMMENDATIONS</b>			
Sch 3 Cond 12	Post-Construction Noise Assessment was finalised and submitted outside the six-month required timeframe although the monitoring itself was carried out in the six-month timeframe. DPE is aware of this issue and no further action required.	Noted. No further action required	N/A
Sch 4 Cond 2	<p>No evidence was provided that within 3 months of the submission of the previous audit report under condition 7, that the Applicant reviewed and if necessary revised strategies, plans and programs.</p> <p>It is noted that that EMS and BFRMP were both updated during the audit period and are relevant to the operations period.</p> <p>Recommend a calendar note (or similar) be used to consider and record the consideration after any incident, audit report or modification for future audits, even if no changes are required – to demonstrate the consideration.</p>	<p>NDBPL to consider whether strategies, plans and programs need to be updated following submission of the IEA report and record the consideration.</p> <p>NDBPL to establish a process for considering updates after any incident, audit report or modification, and recording these considerations.</p>	<p>Within 3 months of this IEA report submission</p> <p>By March 2024</p>
<b>CONTINUAL IMPROVEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS</b>			
Sch 3 Cond 21	BCS and DPE should be advised when annual bird and bat management plan reports are placed on the Biala website.	NDBPL to advise BCS and DPE when annual bird and bat management plan reports are placed on the Biala Wind Farm website	Within 14 days of bird and bat management plan report submission
Sch 3 Cond 33	Bushfire Management Plan to be reviewed in next audit period to ensure key contacts remain contemporary.	Bushfire and Response Management Plan to be reviewed to ensure key contacts remain contemporary	By August 2026
Sch 4 Cond 2	At the next update, management plans may be updated to remove construction sections and only pertain to the operational period.	NDBPL to consider removing construction sections from management plans.	Next management plan update