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AIRTRUNK

ANNUAL COMPLIANCE REPORT (EPBC 2019/8417) 31/10/2023 TO 31/10/2024

COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT AT 210 SWANN DRIVE, DERRIMUT, VICTORIA

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JANUARY 2025 PUBLIC

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Annual Compliance Report (EPBC 2019/8417) 31/10/2023 to 31/10/2024 Commercial Development at 210 Swann Drive, Derrimut, Victoria

AirTrunk

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REV	DATE	DETAILS
1	28/01/2025	Final
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EPBC 2019/8417



Our ref: PS120946-ECO-ACR_YR4-Rev1

Your ref: EPBC 2019/8417

By email and post post.approvals@environment.gov.au

29 January 2025

Public

Audit and Assurance Section Compliance and Enforcement Branch Environment Assessment and Compliance Division Department of the Environment GPO Box 787, Canberra ACT 2601

To Whom It May Concern

Annual Compliance Report (EPBC 2019/8417) 31/10/2023 to 31/10/2024 Commercial Development at 210 Swann Drive, Derrimut, Victoria

This Annual Compliance Report documents compliance against conditions of approval and provides results of annual offset site monitoring for EPBC Act Approval (EPBC 2019/8417) for the 31/10/2023 - 31/10/2024 reporting period.

I hope this satisfies your requirements on this matter. If clarification or further information is sought, please contact me on 03 8662 6260 or justin.pegg@wsp.com.

Yours sincerely

Justin Pegg Associate Ecologist

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1 ANNUAL COMPLIANCE REPORTING

1.1 PROJECT – ACTION

In 2019, AirTrunk Operating Pty Ltd proposed to establish a commercial development at 210 Swann Drive, Derrimut, Victoria. The proposed action was referred to the Australian Government Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW) (EPBC 2019/8417) for impacting 2.444 hectares of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) listed Threatened Ecological Community 'Natural Temperate Grassland of the Victorian Volcanic Plain' (NTGVVP) – Critically Endangered, and 2.444 hectares of habitat for the Vulnerable Striped Legless Lizard *Delma impar*.

1.2 APPROVAL UNDER THE EPBC ACT

AirTrunk Operating Pty Ltd received approval for the action on 23 October 2019. One of the conditions of approval (Condition 12 of EPBC Act Approval 2019/8417) was to provide DCCEEW with an Annual Compliance Report, to be submitted within 60 days of the anniversary of the date of commencement/approval.

As per the Deed of Agreement with DCCEEW dated 14 April 2020, EPBC approval (2019/8417) was transferred from AirTrunk Operating Pty Ltd, to Air Trunk Pty Ltd (as trustee for AirTrunk Melbourne Land Trust).

1.3 COMPLIANCE REPORT

The reporting period for this compliance report is the fifth 12 month-period following commencement of the action which occurred on 31/10/2019. This is the fourth compliance report and covers the period 31/10/2023 - 31/10/2024. The final compliance report is to be for the period 31/10/2029 - 31/10/2030.

The compliance against approval conditions is provided in Table 1.1 below. Compliance reporting has been undertaken as per the Federal *Annual Compliance Reporting Guidelines* (DoE, 2014).

There are no third-party ecological monitoring requirements and reporting commitments as per the approved Offset Management Plan (OMP) (EHP, 2019a) for the year 5 period. This has not been undertaken as previously done for years 1-4 by WSP. Landowner annual monitoring and reporting commitments are provided in Appendix B.

As required by the *Annual Compliance Reporting Guidelines* (DoE, 2014), the declaration of accuracy is attached as Appendix C.

Mapping of the action area and offset area as shown in the Approval have been provided in this report for convenience below.

Table 1.1Approval conditions compliance

CONDITION OF APPROVAL	REQUIREMENT	COMPLIANT/NON- COMPLIANT	EVIDENCE SUPPORTING CLAIMS REGARDING COMPLIANCE OF NON-COMPLIANCE
1	 In the study area, the approval holder must not clear more than: a 2.444 hectares of NTGVVP. b 2.444 hectares of Striped Legless Lizard habitat. 	Compliant	Clearance was undertaken in accordance with the EPBC Approval and can be confirmed in writing by Air Trunk if required.
2	Prior to the commencement of the action, to compensate for the loss of up to 2.444 ha of NTGWP and 2.444 ha of Striped Legless Lizard habitat, the approval holder must control the offset area, must provide the Department with written evidence of the approval holder's effective management authority over the offset area, and must implement the offset management plan at the offset area. The approval holder must continue to implement the offset management plan until the approval expires.	Compliant	Landowner confirmed commencement of management, as per Offset Management Plan (EPBC 2019/8417) on 21 October 2019 via email. DCCEEW notified via EMKC pty. ptd. on behalf of AirTrunk- email dated 29 October 2019.
3	Within 5 months of the date of approval, the approval holder must secure the offset area.	Compliant	Credit Trade Agreement securing the offset area signed 23 December 2019.
4	 Notify department with: a written evidence that offset has been secured. b Shapefile of offset attributes 	Compliant	 a Department notified by email on 29 October 2019. b Shapefile submitted via email on 9 October 2019. Emailed to <u>Robert.Kirby@Environment.gov.au</u>.

CONDITION OF APPROVAL	REQUIREMENT	COMPLIANT/NON- COMPLIANT	EVIDENCE SUPPORTING CLAIMS REGARDING COMPLIANCE OF NON-COMPLIANCE
5	The approval holder must implement the CEMP and weed measures for the duration of the approval.	Compliant	Communication via email on 15/12/2020 from a senior project manager of construction contractors for AirTrunk], confirming compliance with the CEMP stating:
6	Notify department of commencement of the action within 10 business days of commencement.	Compliant	Action commenced on 31 October 2019. Department notified via EMKC email on 29 October 2019.
7	If the commencement of the action does not occur within 5 years from the date of this approval, then the approval holder must not commence the action without the prior written agreement of the Minister.	Not applicable	Action commenced on 31 October 2019.
8	The approval holder must maintain accurate and complete compliance records.	Compliant	Compliance recording requirements were met for years 1 - 5 in Annual Compliance Reports – ACRs, published at: <u>https://www.airtrunk.com/policies-reports/</u> Compliance recording requirements will be met for year 4 with this report to be published at the same link.
9	If the Department makes a request in writing, the approval holder must provide electronic copies of compliance records to the Department within the timeframe specified in the request.	Not applicable	To be submitted electronically to DCCEEW upon request if required.

CONDITION OF APPROVAL	REQUIREMENT	COMPLIANT/NON- COMPLIANT	EVIDENCE SUPPORTING CLAIMS REGARDING COMPLIANCE OF NON-COMPLIANCE
10	 The approval holder must: a submit plans electronically to the Department for approval by the Minister; b publish each plan on the website within 20 business days of the date the plan is approved by the Minister or of the date a revised action management plan is submitted to the Minister or the Department, unless otherwise agreed to in writing by the Minister; c exclude or redact sensitive ecological data from plans published on the website or provided to a member of the public; and d keep plans published on the website until the end date of this approval. 	Compliant	 a Mapping undertaken in Year 1 as a part of the ecological monitoring is provided in Error! Reference source not found. in this report. b Plan is to be published by, and hosted on, AirTrunk's website at https://www.airtrunk.com/policies-reports/. c No ecologically sensitive data has been published to date. d Plans remain published on website until all approval requirements are satisfied.
11	The approval holder must ensure that any monitoring data (including sensitive ecological data), surveys, maps, and other spatial and metadata required under a plan, is prepared in accordance with the Department's Guidelines for biological survey and mapped data (2018) and submitted electronically to the Department in accordance with the requirements of the plan.	Compliant	Minister has received plans. Offset Management Plan provided as a part of the final Preliminary Documentation – 19 September 2019. There is no digital data to be provided for year 5.

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CONDITION OF APPROVAL	REQUIREMENT		EVIDENCE SUPPORTING CLAIMS REGARDING COMPLIANCE OF NON-COMPLIANCE
12	 The approval holder must prepare a compliance report for each 12-month period following the date of commencement of the action, or otherwise in accordance with an annual date that has been agreed to in writing by the Minister. The approval holder must: a publish each compliance report on the website within 60 business days following the relevant 12-month period; b notify the Department by email that a compliance report has been published on the website; c and provide the weblink for the compliance report within five business days of the date of publication; d keep all compliance reports publicly available on the website until this approval expires; e exclude or redact sensitive ecological data from compliance reports published on the website; and f where any sensitive ecological data has been excluded from the version published, submit the full compliance report to the Department within 5 business days of publication. 	Compliant	 a Compliance will be published by AirTrunk at https://www.airtrunk.com/policies-reports/ b Notification to be provided by email complete with this report. c Link to be sent to post.approvals@environment.gov.au d Report will remain published on website until all conditions of this approval satisfied. e No ecologically sensitive data has been provided. f Not applicable, as no ecologically sensitive data has been provided.

CONDITION OF APPROVAL	REQUIREMENT	COMPLIANT/NON- COMPLIANT	EVIDENCE SUPPORTING CLAIMS REGARDING COMPLIANCE OF NON-COMPLIANCE
13	 The approval holder must notify the Department in writing of any: incident; non-compliance with the conditions; or non-compliance with the commitments made in plans. The notification must be given as soon as practicable, and no later than two business days after becoming aware of the incident or non-compliance. The notification must specify: a any condition which is or may be in breach; b a short description of the incident and/or non-compliance; and c the location (including co-ordinates), date, and time of the incident and/or non-compliance. In the event the exact information cannot be provided, provide the best information available. 	-	No incidents or non-compliances have occurred in the year 5 reporting period. There is potential non-compliance with the offset providers potentially not meeting OMP targets.
14	 The approval holder must provide to the Department the details of any incident or non-compliance with the conditions or commitments made in plans as soon as practicable and no later than 10 business days after becoming aware of the incident or non-compliance, specifying: a any corrective action or investigation which the approval holder has already taken or intends to take in the immediate future; b the potential impacts of the incident or non-compliance; and c the method and timing of any remedial action that will be undertaken by the approval holder. 	Compliant	 Potential impact of offset management issues raised being a decline in offset quality, has the potential for a non-compliance, however this is not yet considered to be a non-compliance – to be assessed in year 6. See landowner report in Appendix B.
15	The approval holder must ensure that independent audits of compliance with the conditions are conducted as requested in writing by the Minister.	Not applicable	Not requested by Minister

CONDITION OF APPROVAL	REQUIREMENT	COMPLIANT/NON- COMPLIANT	EVIDENCE SUPPORTING CLAIMS REGARDING COMPLIANCE OF NON-COMPLIANCE
16	 For each independent audit, the approval holder must: a provide the name and qualifications of the independent auditor and the draft audit criteria to the Department; b only commence the independent audit once the audit criteria have been approved in writing by the Department; and c submit an audit report to the Department within the timeframe specified in the approved audit criteria. 	Not applicable	Not requested by Minister
17	The approval holder must publish the audit report on the website within 10 business days of receiving the Department's approval of the audit report and keep the audit report published on the website until the end date of this approval.	Not applicable	Not requested by Minister
18	Within 30 days after the completion of the action, the approval holder must notify the Department in writing and provide completion data.	Compliant	AirTrunk can confirm the Action has been completed, as the footprint of the building works is complete.

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2 ANNUAL MONITORING – OFFSET MANAGEMENT PLAN

Annual monitoring to evaluate progress must be evaluated against the objectives set out in section 8 of the Offset Management Plan (OMP) (EHP, 2019a). Detailed vegetation monitoring is to be undertaken in years 1 - 4, 6, 8 & 10. Detailed vegetation monitoring was not undertaken during the 2023-2024 period forming year 5 of the ACR reporting cycle.

Landowner reporting has been undertaken and is provided for reference in Appendix B.

LANDOWNER REPORTING

The key results of landowner reporting are summarised below:

- A mosaic burn was undertaken over a portion of the site. There is intent to burn in year 6 also.
- Pulse grazing has been undertaken.
- A representative of the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA) has inspected the site and provided actions for landowners.

REFERENCES

DOE 2014. Annual Compliance Report Guidelines. *In:* ENVIRONMENT, D. O. T. (ed.). Commonwealth of Australia. EHP 2019a. Offset Management Plan: 5-95 Birds Road, Balliang, Victoria (EPBC 2019/8417).

EHP 2019b. Offset Site Assessment: 5 - 95 Birds Road, Balliang, VIctoria.

EHP 2019c. Preliminary Documentation fo the Proposed Development at 210 Swann Drive, Derrimut, Vic (EPBC 2019/8417).

APPENDIX A MAPS OF IMPACT AREA AND OFFSET

AREA REPLICATED FROM EPBC APPROVAL 2019/8417



APPENDICES

1. <u>Appendix 1</u>: the location of the proposed action, as demarcated by the red line and labelled 'Study area'.



Figure 2 Ecological features 210 Swann Drive, Derrimut



Study Area **Ecological Vegetation Class** Plains Grassland EPBC Act-listed ecological community Natural Temperate Grassland of the Victorian Volcanic Plain



2. <u>Appendix 2</u>: the location of the offset which must be secured under condition 3, as demarcated by the blue dotted line and labelled 'Offset area'.



APPENDIX B LANDOWNER REPORTING



Department of Energy, Environment & Climate Action Annual Report Form

Enter management year here: Year ____5

Management Agreement: VC CFL - 3069

Enter Landowner name(s) here: Kylie Buttigieg

Site Code: ___02

Site-Zone	Standard to be achieved	Management action description (write each management action description from your final management actions table below)	Timing	Action Complet ed (Yes/No)	Description of Actions and observed outcomes (Include or attach evidence of actions completed / comments / observed outcomes)
Site 1	Fencing	To Protect the Site from threats	On going	YES	Maintenance all boundary Fences are regularly inspected throughout the year. See Log Book for details.
ALL	7 Photo Points	7 Photo Monitor Points	October *	Yes	 7 Photo Point locations were selected across the Site and Photos taken *we usually take these photos towards the end of October but due to weather conditions we weren't able to take these until 2nd November, 2024. Please note that there has been a lot of spraying since photos were taken and areas with high Serrated Tussock already dying off. A photo has been added at the end of the Photo point document showing the North East corner where Sifton Bushes are growing. See Map and Photos marked 1a, 2a, 3a, 4a, 5a, 6a, 7a
ALL	Elimination of all Woody Weeds	Woody weeds to be eliminated Sweet Briar Rose & African Boxthorn	Year Round	Yes	 Any new Briar Rose plants have been hand chipped and removed from Site throughout the year. Any new African Boxthorn plants have been hand cut and their stumps painted. A Site Inspection from Richard Boon DEECA on 10th April 2024 (report dated 24/4/24) listed African Boxthorn locations. All of the listed plants were hand cut and had their stumps painted. These will be monitored though out the coming year. (See attachment 3 Log Book, photo evidence) (See receipts for Chemicals)
ALL	New and emerging woody weeds	Monitor for new and emerging woody weeds and eliminate.	Ongoing	Yes	Sifton Bush (Cassinia Sifton) Native Cassinia Shrubs scattered around the Site. We will continue to monitor them to make sure they do not get out of control. 1 area in the North East corner has been photographed and added to the photo point document.

Site-Zone	Standard to be achieved	Management action description (write each management action description from your final management actions table below)	Timing	Action Complet ed (Yes/No)	Description of Actions and observed outcomes (Include or attach evidence of actions completed / comments / observed outcomes)
					Our sheep have been grazing them and pushing over the bushes in areas. But smaller plants are coming up around the larger bushes. We request that A Conservations Work Exemption be granted for this Site so that we can continue to keep the numbers of Sifton Bushes low on this Site.
All	Control High threat herbaceous and grassy weeds	Control all high threat herbaceous and grassy weeds to ensure cover does not increase beyond current cover.	Year round	Yes	Serrated Tussock – Targeted spot spray year-round concentrating efforts on areas with infestations a reduction in the amount across some areas but other areas still have work to be done. We will continue to be spray year-round. A big effort is being put into spraying currently underway though out Summer 2024/2025. Mosaic Burns that were conducted in Spring this year were targeting the areas with high Serrated tussock numbers. Areas that were burned will be monitored for new growth and spot sprayed.
			Early Spring & Summer	Yes	Spear Thistle plants are been sprayed and seed heads hand chipped and removed Spring and continued to be sprayed through Summer 2023 to 2024 with a reduction on Site.
			Early Spring & Summer	Yes	Toowoomba Canary-Grass
			Early Spring & early Summer	Yes	reduction of plants on Site as Sheep help to control this weed and further grazing will help reduce further when on Site.
			Spring & early Summer	Yes	Saffron Thistle Spot Sprayed and hand chipped (seed heads removed from Site) early Summer reduction of plants on Site. Continuing through Summer 2023 to 2024. Horehound Spot sprayed early Summer with a reduction in plants on Site.
			Spring & Summer	Yes	Galenia has been spot sprayed Spring and continuing through Summer and a reduction on Site. Also sprayed in the year. Our Sheep graze so this has help significantly reduce the amount of this weed.
			Spring & Summer		Chilean Needle Grass spot sprayed reduction on Site.
			Spring & Summer	Yes	Bathurst Burr spot sprayed and hand chipped with a high reduction of plants in all zones.
				Yes	Soft Brome

Site-Zone	Standard to be achieved	Management action description (write each management action description from your final management actions table below)	Timing	Action Complet ed (Yes/No)	Description of Actions and observed outcomes (Include or attach evidence of actions completed / comments / observed outcomes)
					Please see log book attachments and photos showing dying weeds and receipts for chemical/herbicide. See Log Book for details
All	Control all low threat Herbaceous Weeds	Ensure all low threat herbaceous Weeds do not increase beyond current levels	Spring & early Summer February - October	Yes Yes Yes Yes	 Ribwort Pulse grazing has been beneficial in reducing numbers Wild Oat Pulse grazing has been beneficial in reducing numbers. White Clover Pulse grazing has been beneficial in reducing numbers. Wild Turnip Pulse Grazing has been beneficial in reducing numbers. All of the above herbaceous have decreased and Biomass Grazing will continue to reduce numbers further when sheep are back on Site in February 2024.
All	New and emerging high threat & herbaceous weeds	Ensure weed cover does not increase beyond current levels and monitor for new and emerging high threat.	Year round	Yes	Any new weeds were identified on Site If they are spot sprayed or removed. New weeds identified continue to be spot sprayed year- round namely Sticky Cape Gooseberry, Artichoke Thistle, Fleabane and Great Mullen. Good reduction on Site.
All	Biomass Management	Biomass management	February – October	Yes	 Grazing Sheep as per management Plan to control herbaceous weeds such as Wild Oat, Turnip and White Clover and Toowoomba Canary Grass. Pulse Grazing events have taken place though out the year between February to October 2024 with appropriate rest periods in between. We continue to see the benefit of pulse grazing reducing the herbaceous weeds and the amount of cover. See Log Book for details of rest periods and photo evidence of our Sheep.
All	Pest Animals	Rabbits & Foxes	Year round	Yes	Active and non-active rabbit warrens were baited and hand collapsed in December 2024 and if detected while spraying for weeds from time to time during the year. Also rabbits and foxes were hunted (with long arm on foot) across the entire property throughout the year.

Site-Zone	Standard to be achieved	Management action description (write each management action description from your final management actions table below)	Timing	Action Complet ed (Yes/No)	Description of Actions and observed outcomes (Include or attach evidence of actions completed / comments / observed outcomes)
					see Log Book entries
All	New & emerging pest Animals	Monitor & Control	Year round	Yes	No new threats have been detected.

OTHER OBERSATION/COMMENTS

Mosaic Fire Burn

We finally had our first Cool Mosaic burns on the Site in Spring. The Fire Permit we obtained this year did not require us to make a bare earth break (last year's permit did request this therefore no burn could go ahead). All burns were completed early morning or early evening and on low temperature and low wind days. See photographs in the evidence attachment. Previously we thought we would be getting help from local CFA but we were unable to secure their help after numerous requests. We even tried two local other CFAs but could not get any help, this was quite frustrating so not as much area got burned as we were aiming for. We hope to burn more in Year 6 know that have some experience and our own equipment to manage the burn.

Sheep

We have a current flock of approximately 100 Aussie White & Dorper Sheep for Biomass Control. They remain excluded from the Offset area over the Summer period and are being feed Hay close to the house. We sold our first lot of wethers this year to reduce numbers and chose not to breed to keep the flock size at 100. A few surprise lambs did appear in Spring but only a hand full. Our flock had their first shearer visit at the end of Spring which a fun experience.

Vegetation Monitoring

In April 2024 Richard Boon of DEECA inspected the Site and provided a report of his findings dated 24 April 2024. We have addressed all the required actions on that request and at the time of writing this document and the Herbaceous weed control continues throughout Summer 2024/2025 but a huge effort has been put into spraying the Serrated Tussock and Phalaris this year.

As requested above in New and Emerging Woody Weeds we request A Conservation Work Exemption for the Sifton Buh (Cassinia Sifton) so that this plant does not get out of control on the Site in the future.

	Annual reporting	Γ	1 1	Γ
All	 Annual report is signed, dated and submitted by the landowner at least 2 months before the anniversary date of the agreement The annual report is a useful opportunity to make comprehensive comments and observations, giving a picture of the current condition of the site(s), issues identified, works undertaken and actions still required. You are encouraged to create a separate report to include in your annual reporting each year that captures this detailed information. The benefits of monitoring your vegetation condition and identifying issues and management undertaken, is that it aids you to gauge the success of management on the condition of native vegetation over time. The Department is also able to use this information to assist with the assessment of your compliance with the agreement and provides us with useful information and data for future management advice. Obligations of the landowner (compliance with section 6 of the Landowner Agreement) have been met, and I have read, signed, dated and submitted the obligations form with the annual report. 	 Prepare and submit an annual report providing evidence of works carried out. Where the actions were not carried out provided evidence as to the reason why. Include supporting evidence by: detailed written observations & additional report photo point monitoring map of zones & photo points photographs of works undertaken receipts/invoices for materials & works carried out, including by contractors log books of works carried out obligations of the landowner form payment method is correct Receipts of seeds / seedlings ordered or purchased including a table/list of the species, numbers of each species (can estimate if using seeds), provenance Site log - table/list of numbers of species planted/recruiting or germinated, including: numbers of each species by life form that are present/survived and/or were replaced for that year 	Submit at least 2 month prior to agreeme nt annivers ary date	 obligations of the landowner form where applicable: payment method is correct detailed written observations & additional report photo point monitoring map of zones & photo points photographs of works undertaken receipts/invoices for works carried out, including by contractors log books of works carried out Receipts seeds/seedlings, provenance, table of species list & numbers Site log / table of plantings/germination & survival numbers by life form

I hereby declare that the supplied information is accurate and complies with reporting requirements under General Conditions under the Second Schedule of the DELWP Management Agreement.

APPENDIX C DECLARATION OF ACCURACY



491 Providing false or misleading information to authorised officer etc.

- (1) A person is guilty of an offence if the person:
 - (a) provides information or a document to another person (the recipient); and
 - (b) knows the recipient is:
 - (i) an authorised officer; or
 - (ii) the Minister; or
 - (iii) an employee or officer in the Department; or
 - (iv) a commissioner;

performing a duty or carrying out a function under this Act or the regulations; and

- (c) knows the information or document is false or misleading in a material particular.
- (2) The offence is punishable on conviction by imprisonment for a term not more than 1 year, a fine not more than 60 penalty units, or both.

Note: Subsection 4B(3) of the Crimes Act 1914 lets a court fine a body corporate up to 5 times the maximum amount the court could fine a person under this subsection.

The declaration below should be attached to the compliance report and signed by the approval holder. If the approval holder has sub-contracted the project (or part thereof), or the preparation of the compliance report, the responsibility for accuracy still lies with the approval holder:

Declaration of accuracy

In making this declaration, I am aware that sections 490 and 491 of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (Cth) (EPBC Act) make it an offence in certain circumstances to knowingly provide false or misleading information or documents. The offence is punishable on conviction by imprisonment or a fine, or both. I declare that all the information and documentation supporting this compliance report is true and correct in every particular. I am authorised to bind the approval holder to this declaration and that I have no knowledge of that authorisation being revoked at the time of making this declaration.

Signed

Full name (please print) Justin Pegg

Position (please print) Associate Ecologist

Organisation (please print including ABN/ACN if applicable) WSP Australia Pty. Ltd. ABN: 80 078 004 798

Date 28 01 2025