

6 September 2022

Brian Restall
Senior Director
Quinbrook Infrastructure Partners

EPBC approval number: EPBC 2017/7994
Project Name: Lockyer Power Project

Dear Brian

Annual Compliance Inspection of Lockyer Power Project Site

On 5th September 2022 I conducted a compliance inspection of the Lockyer Power Station Project Site, and draw the following items to your attention:

Items requiring action:

The first dot point in **Table 2 Offset Strategy Details** of the EPBC approval (EPBC 2017/7994) requires the following actions to be undertaken:

Annual Monitoring of the offset to assess koala usage of the suite, evidence of predators, evidence of plant pathogens or fauna disease, and habitat condition aspects such as extent of weed infestations, eroding land, and presence of water.

The eighth dot point in the same table requires the following actions to be undertaken:

Offset Area B will include revegetation in accordance with Landscape Management and Revegetation Plan including incorporation of eucalypt species suitable for providing koala food trees and winter/spring foraging habitat for the grey-headed flying fox.

Full reporting of these dot points will require input from two different but related scientific disciplines, so firstly, I have obtained a quotation from Bemrose Wildlife Management Services (\$3,300.00 inc GST) to conduct monitoring of koala populations, habitat, usage etc and provide a report for publication.

I recommend that you commission this work, so that it may be completed within September 2022 and referenced in the compliance report

I have also obtained a quotation from S5 Environmental (\$2,970.00 inc GST) to assess vegetation and weeds in Offset Areas A and B, assess the status of revegetation in Offset Area B, fire management issues and provide a report for publication.

I recommend that you commission this work, so that it may be completed within September 2022 and referenced in the compliance report

Note that I arranged for Bemrose to discuss the work with S5 Environmental to clearly identify and define the overlaps and delineations between the two work packages.

The 10m wide fence maintenance lines (ie firebreaks) along the western, northern and eastern boundaries of the lot are overgrown in places, and contain grass up to one metre high. I inspected the area with Graeme Jenkins of Leading Rural Traders on the 6th of September, and he is available and willing to slash those areas within September 2022 if required.

I recommend that we obtain a quotation from Leading Rural Traders to mow the fence maintenance lines, then commission this work so that it may be completed within September 2022 and referenced in the compliance report

The area which was cleared of trees in September 2021 (the approved project footprint) contains a number (a few hundreds) of eucalyptus regrowth suckers, up to 4 m tall (see below photograph).



Left untreated there is a risk that this area will revegetate by itself within a short period, thereby requiring repetition of some of the approved clearing work that was performed in 2021. I inspected the area with Graeme Jenkins of Leading Rural Traders on the 6th of September, and he is available and willing to treat all those suckers by hand-spray application of a suitable herbicide within September 2022 if required. Graeme advised me that he must use hand-spray techniques as the presence of a large number of felled tree trunks across the area precludes the use of a truck-mounted boom spray.

I recommend that we obtain a quotation from Leading Rural Traders to treat the eucalyptus regrowth suckers with a suitable herbicide, then commission the work, so that it may be completed within September 2022 and referenced in the compliance report.

The north-western margin of Offset Area A, and an area in the fence maintenance line in the north-west corner of the lot, plus an area in the margin of Offset Area B, contains some mature Lantana (*Lantana camara*) plants and some instances of regrowth. (see below photograph).



This is one of the 20 Weeds of National Significance (WoNS) in Australia and should be controlled regularly. I inspected the area with Graeme Jenkins of Leading Rural Traders on the 6th of September, and he is available and willing to treat all these Lantana plants by application of a suitable herbicide within September 2022 if required. Graeme advised me that he will use hand-spray techniques within Offset Areas A and B in order to avoid damaging existing trees.

I recommend that we obtain a quotation from Leading Rural Traders to treat the Lantana plants with a suitable herbicide, then commission the work so that it may be completed within September 2022 and referenced in the compliance report.

The by-wash located on the north-western and western side of the farm dam which is located in the southern end of the cleared area shows some evidence of erosion, due to recent exceptionally heavy rainfall events, and will likely require the placement of some fill and gravel cover. (see below photograph).



If left untreated, there is a risk that the dam wall may become damaged or leak, and release sediment into the drainage feature to the south-west.

I inspected the area with Graeme Jenkins of Leading Rural Traders on the 6th of September, and he is available and willing to rectify the erosion by placement of fill with an armouring top layer of suitably sized gravel.

I have requested a quotation from Leading Rural Traders to rectify the damage to the by-wash, and will submit same to you for approval shortly, so that the work may be completed as soon as possible.

Items not requiring action:

The second dot point in the same **Table 2 Offset Strategy Details** requires the following actions to be undertaken:

Monitoring of wildlife friendly boundary fencing (including koala exclusion fencing around the project infrastructure and along the southern boundary of the lot) on a 6-monthly basis to identify maintenance requirements, such as trimming regrowth within 3 m of koala exclusion fence and repairing fences to assist in excluding predators.

I (localised flooding and therefore temporarily inaccessible to machinery) a ten-metre wide strip of land immediately inside and adjacent to the koala exclusion fence is regularly, and has recently been, mowed along the entire length and contains no trees or regrowth. This mowing work is arranged by the operator of the existing high underground pressure gas pipeline that is located along and inside the southern boundary of the lot. See below photograph.



1. As no project infrastructure has yet been installed, there is no other koala exclusion fencing present nor is it required at present.
2. The wildlife friendly fences along the western, northern and eastern sides of the lot are in good condition. They include a plain top wire, a plain bottom wire, and the two middle wires are ordinary barbed wire.
3. I observed a mob of approximately 40 adult Eastern Grey Kangaroos (*Macropus giganteus*) moving around Offset Area B, and passing backwards and forwards between the lot and the adjoining landholding. I saw them pass several times through the wildlife friendly boundary fence without impediment or injury so consider that these fences are meeting the criteria.

Best wishes

Andrew Robson
Construction and Compliance Manager
Andrew.Robson@ArcheEnergy.com.au

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