



# Melton Renewable Energy Hub

*MREH EPBC Approval 2021/8909*

**MREH Common AssetCo Pty Ltd | Annual Compliance Report for Year 2**

**Date: 2 December 2025**

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**Reporting period from 7 October 2024 to 7 October 2025**

**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

*Elizabeth Zorondo*

Full name (please print)

Elizabeth Zorondo

Position (please print)

Approval and Permit Compliance Manager

Organisation (please print including ABN/ACN if applicable)

MREH Common AssetCo Pty Ltd (ACN 669 645 569)

Date

2/12/2025

Revision	Date	Description	Author	Approver
1	2 December 2025	Annual compliance reporting Year 2	Elizabeth Zorondo	Roby Camagong

**Acknowledgement of Country**

**Equis would like to acknowledge the traditional owners of the places where we live, work and host our projects and their continued spiritual relationship with land, water and culture. We pay our respect to past and present elders.**

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# 1 Introduction

The approval holder of the Melton Renewable Energy Hub (**MREH**) (the **Project**), which consists of large-scale battery storage facility, solar farm and associated infrastructure connecting to the Sydenham Terminal Substation has prepared its second annual compliance report.

The purpose of this report is to demonstrate compliance with Condition 19 of the Project's EPBC approval (2021/8908) (the **Approval**), which states:

***“The approval holder must prepare a compliance report for each 12-month period following the date of this approval decision, or as otherwise agreed to in writing by the Minister.”***

This annual compliance report covers the period from **7<sup>th</sup> October 2024** to **7<sup>th</sup> October 2025** and represents the second year of compliance reporting for the Project.

This compliance report has been prepared to respond to Conditions 20 -21 of the Approval in accordance with the Commonwealth's 2014 guidelines for annual compliance reporting.

## 1.1 History of approval

The Project was determined a control action (under section 75 and section 87(f) of the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act) for potential impacts to listed threatened species and communities (under sections 18 & 18A of the EPBC Act) on 1 April 2021.

On 7 October 2023 the Project received EPBC approval (2021/8908) under section 133(1) of the EPBC Act to mitigate potential impacts to the Stripped Legless Lizard/habitat and Growling Grass Frog.

The Table below provides a history of the EPBC approval process.

**Table 1.1 EPBC Approval History**

No.	Date	Detail
1	March 2021	Syncline Energy Pty Ltd (ACN: 117 458 803) (first person proposing to take an action) referred the Project.
2	1 April 2021	EPBC referral decision notice and assessment pathway was determined. The Project was considered a controlled action requiring assessment and approval under the EPBC Act via preliminary documentation.
3	22 Feb 2022	Details of the person proposing to take the action were updated from Syncline Energy Pty Ltd (the first person) to MREH Pty Ltd as trustee for the MREH Asset Trust (the second person).
4	10 June 2022	Draft Preliminary document was submitted for assessment.
5	20 June 2022	Further information was requested.
6	22 May 2023	A Request for a variation was made under section 156A-E of the EPBC Act to include land subject to the Planning Permit (PA 2201624) and layout changes resulting in new impacts to biodiversity matters.
7	21 June 2023	The Minister's delegate provided his acceptance of the variation request.
8	7 October 2023	The Minister's delegate granted EPBC approval, subject to approval conditions.
9	8 February 2024	Request to transfer the EPBC Act approval from MREH Pty Ltd as trustee for the MREH Asset Trust to MREH Common AssetCo Pty Ltd was approved.
10	13 December 2024	The Minister's delegate approved an update to the SLL OMP. Version 6 dated 20 November 2024 supersedes the earlier version of the Plan.

## 2 Description of activities

Without limitation, the Project includes the following activities:

- removal of rock and grading of ground surface to create benches for the batteries and substation with the appropriate geotechnical and drainage requirements;
- installation of battery megapacks and conduits;
- open trenching to install underground 500kV cable will connect the battery storage and High voltage substation to the Sydenham Terminal Substation; and
- creation of an earth mound and landscaping for screening



Plate 1- Drome image of the Site showing the completed works for Stage A.

The department was notified of the action commencing on 12 Jan 2024 during last year's compliance reporting period. The works carried out to date form part of Stage A and consisted of the following key construction activities **within this reporting period**:

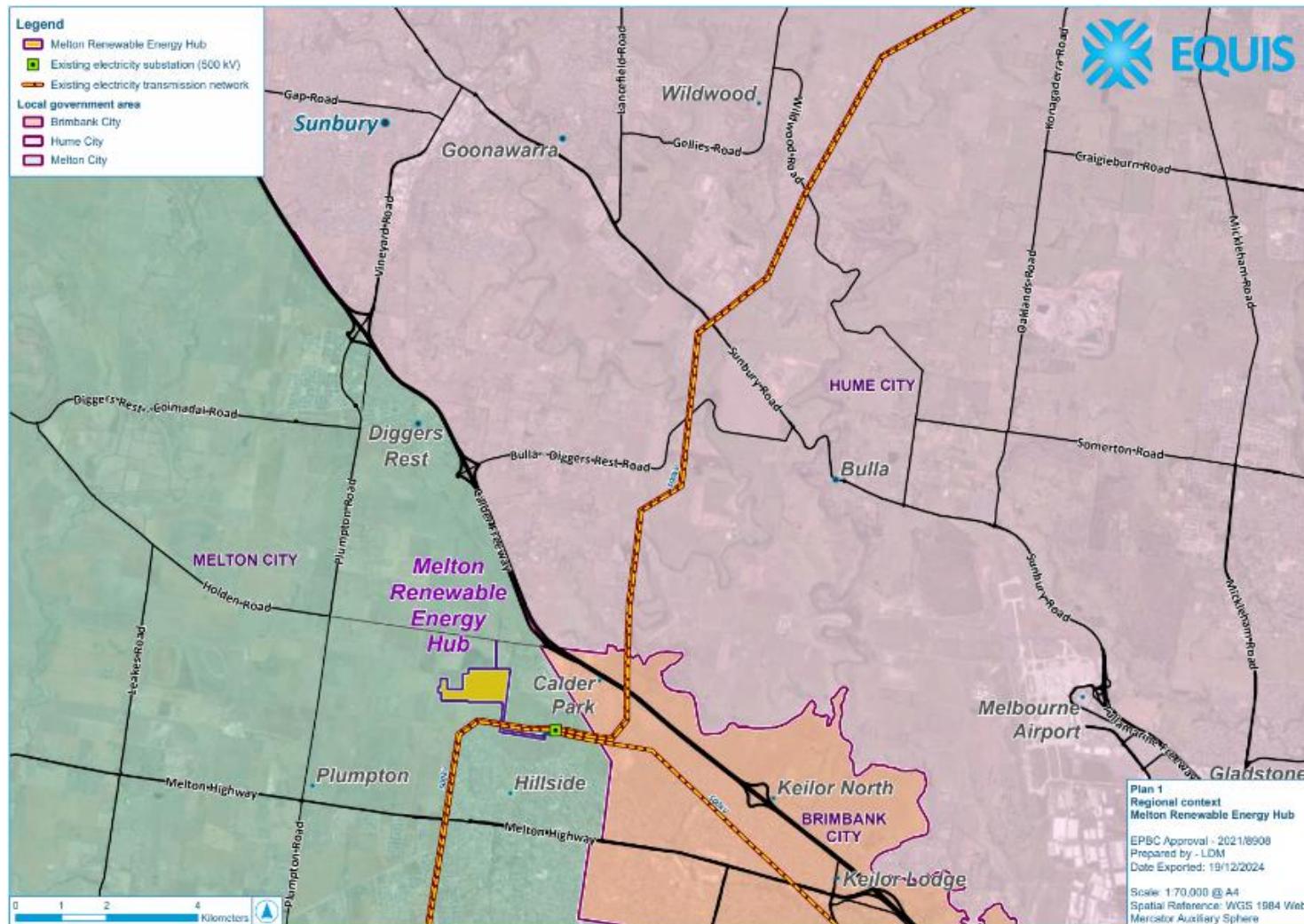
- sediment fencing and drainage monitoring and repairs
- Rock crushing and stockpiling
- Delivery and installation of a total of 444 Tesla Megapack batteries
- Delivery and installation of MV transformers
- Trenching cabling works
- HV substation works
- Landscaping works
- Connection works into the Sydenham substation.

The Table below provides a set of project activity descriptions in accordance with Section 3.4 of the 2014 Annual Compliance Report Guidelines (**Guidelines**).

**Table 2.1 Project Details**

Project information	Detail
<b>EPBC number</b>	2021/8908
<b>Project Name</b>	Melton Renewable Energy Hub (MREH)
<b>Approval Holder And ACN</b>	MREH Common AssetCo Pty Ltd (ACN 669 645 569)
<b>The Approved Action</b>	To construct and operate a solar farm, battery storage facility, and associated infrastructure at Plumpton, Victoria, approximately 24.5 km north-west of Melbourne. See EPBC Act referral 2021/8908 subject to the variation of the Action accepted by the Minister under section 156B on 21 June 2023 and Conditions of EPBC Approval.
<b>Location Of The Project</b>	The Project is located in Plumpton, Victoria, approximately 24.5 km north-west of Melbourne, 12.5 km east of Melton and 9 km west of Melbourne Airport within the City of Melton.  The Site is located approximately 1.2km west from Calder Park racecourse and 500m north of Hillside Residential Estate.
<b>Person Accepting Responsibility For The Report – Signed Declaration</b>	Elizabeth Zorondo (Approvals and Permit Compliance Manager)
<b>Dates For the Reporting Period of the Report</b>	7 October 2024 to 7 October 2025
<b>Date Of Preparation Of The Report.</b>	2 December 2025

## &lt;div[](https://www.environment.gov.au/resource/2021/08/08/2021-08-08-melton-renewable-energy-hub-mreh-epbc-approval-2021-8908/2021-08-08-melton-renewable-energy-hub-mreh-epbc-approval-2021-8908.pdf) Melton Renewable Energy Hub (MREH) EPBC Approval 2021/8908



## **Figure 1 MREH Regional Context Plan**

## Melton Renewable Energy Hub (MREH) EPBC Approval 2021/8908

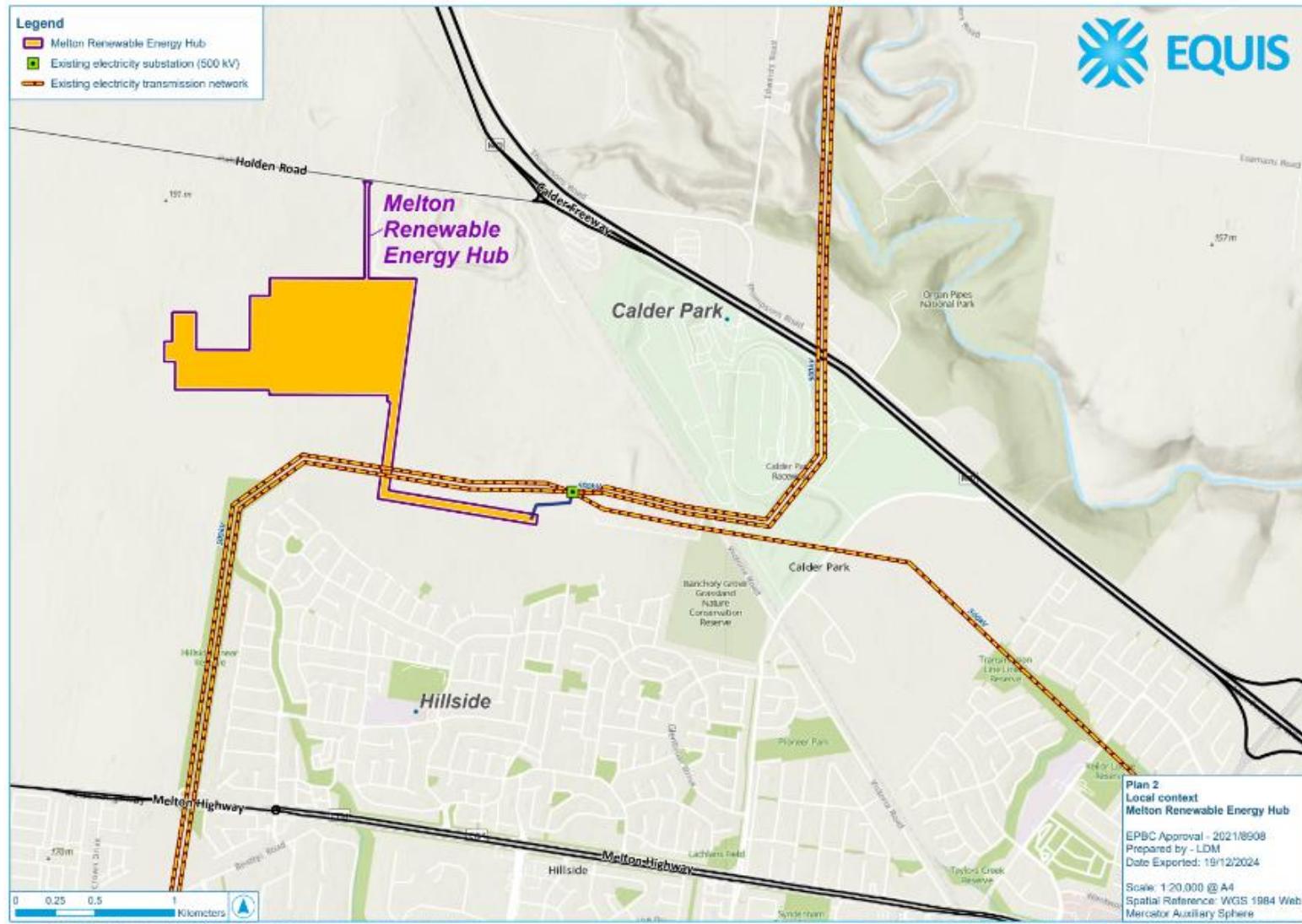


Figure 2 MREH Local Context Area Plan

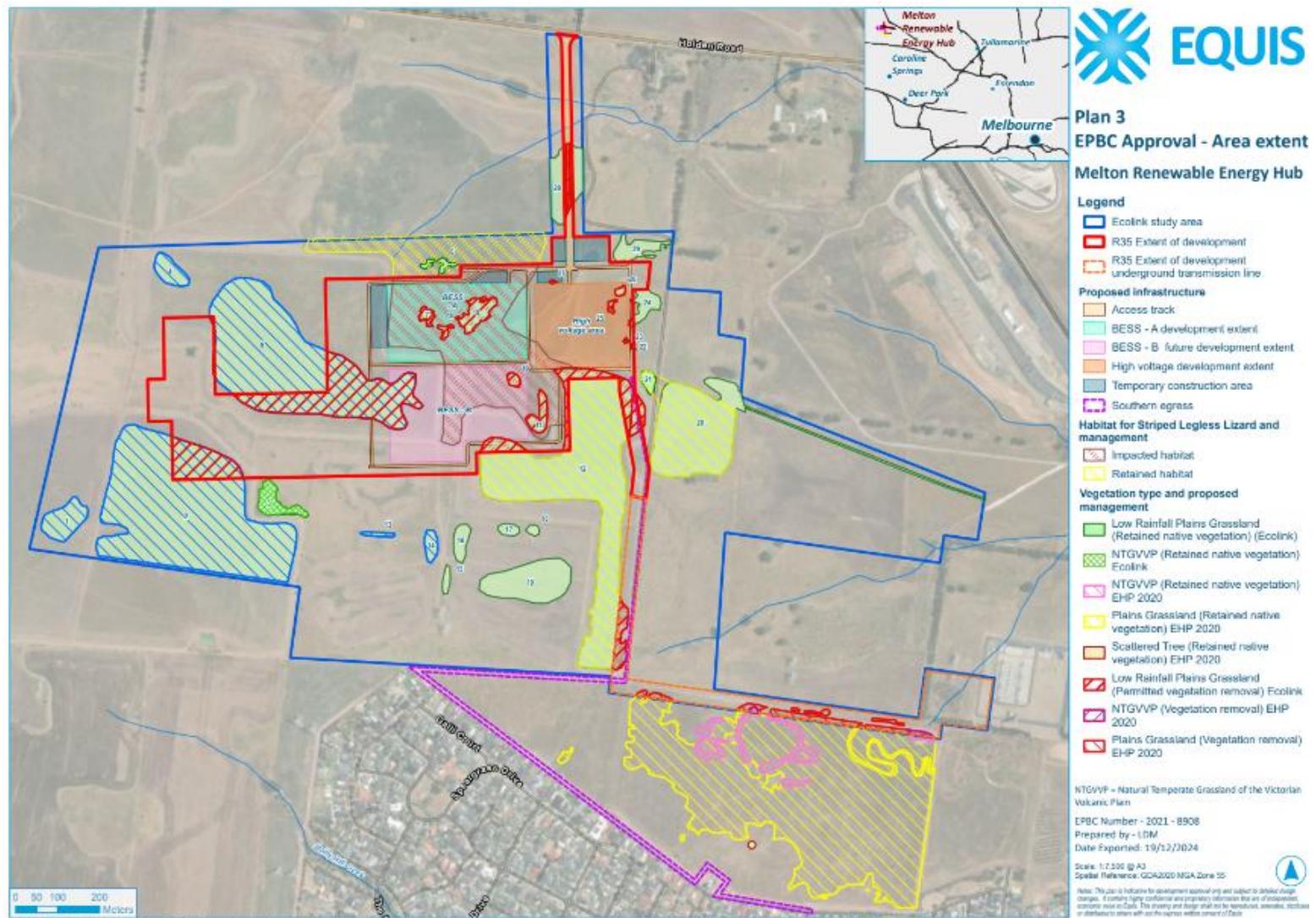


Figure 3 MREH Project Area Extent

## 3 EPBC approval conditions and Compliance

### 3.1 Designations of findings

Consistent with the Annual Compliance Report Guidelines, Commonwealth of Australia 2014 required under Condition 20 of the Approval, this annual compliance reporting follows the three designations below to record its findings.

**Table 3.1 Meaning of designations**

Term	Meaning
<b>Compliant</b>	'Compliance' is achieved when all the requirements of a condition have been met, including the implementation of management plans or other measures required by those conditions.
<b>Non-compliant</b>	A designation of 'non-compliance' should be given where the requirements of a condition or elements of a condition, including the implementation of management plans and other measures, have not been met.
<b>Not applicable</b>	A designation of 'not applicable' should be given where the requirements of a condition or elements of a condition fall outside of the scope of the current reporting period. For example, a condition which applies to an activity that has not yet commenced.

### 3.2 Summary of results

The results of Year 2 compliance reporting for EPBC approval (2021/8908) indicate:

- Compliance with 15 Conditions,
- 17 Conditions were found to not be applicable, and
- There were no incidences of non-compliance within this reporting period.

## 3.3 Compliance tracking and reporting

**Table 3.2 Findings against EPBC Approval (2021/8908) Conditions.**

Note: Words appearing in bold have the meaning assigned to them in Part C – Definitions of the EPBC Approval

Condition Number/ reference	Complete Condition wording	Compliant/ Non-Compliant/ Not applicable	Evidence/Comments
<b>Part A – Conditions specific to the Action</b>			
<b>CLEARING AND CONSTRUCTION LIMITS</b>			
1	To avoid and mitigate harm to protected matters, the approval holder must not clear or construct outside of the project area.	Compliant	<p>Compliant during this reporting period. No authorised works have occurred outside of the Project Area extent.</p> <p>During the last reporting period, this Condition was assigned as non-compliant, with details provided of the non-compliance. The department acknowledged the non-compliance on the 9 December 2024. Since then, the temporary car parking area has been rehabilitated and the development Project Area fence re-established.</p>
2	To mitigate harm to Striped Legless Lizard, the approval holder must not clear more than 12.643 hectares (ha) of Striped Legless Lizard habitat.	Compliant	<p>The extent of clearing SLL habitat has not been altered within this reporting period. A total of approximately 10.789 ha of SLL habitat has been cleared to date.</p>
<b>GROWLING GRASS FROG MITIGATION</b>			

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Condition Number/ reference	Complete Condition wording	Compliant/ Non-Compliant/ Not applicable	Evidence/Comments
3	To mitigate harm to Growling Grass Frog within the project area, the approval holder must commence implementing the Growling Grass Frog Impact Mitigation Protocol prior to construction. The approval holder must continue to implement the Growling Grass Frog Impact Mitigation Protocol until the expiry date of this approval.	Complaint	To mitigate harm to potential Growling Grass Frog (GGF) individuals, the contractor has inducted site construction personnel on the GGF protocols, and has installed, monitored and maintained a floppy frog fence along the site access track and at the existing Sydenham Substation as required by the Growling Grass Frog Impact Mitigation Protocol prior to construction works commencing. See the extract of the Contractor's work photo diary in Appendix B.
<b>OFFSETS</b>			
4	To compensate for the loss of up to 12.643 ha of Striped Legless Lizard habitat, the approval holder must not commence construction unless it controls the offset area. Once the approval holder has control of the offset area, the approval holder must continue to control the offset area at least until the offset area is secured.	Not applicable-completed	As noted in the Year 1 Compliance Report, this Condition has been fully satisfied. This Condition is noted as not applicable in this reporting period as it has already been completed.
5(a)	Prior to operation, to compensate for the loss of up to 12.643 ha of Striped Legless habitat, the approval holder must secure the offset area.	Not applicable-completed	As above.
5(b)	Provide the department with written evidence demonstrating that the offset area has been secured within 10 business days of the offset area being secured.	Not applicable-completed	As above.
6	To compensate for the loss of up to 12.643 ha of Striped Legless Lizard habitat, the approval holder	Compliant	The approval holder has secured the required SLL Offset area. Minor changes to the SLL OMP were approved under delegation on 13

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Condition Number/ reference	Complete Condition wording	Compliant/ Non-Compliant/ Not applicable	Evidence/Comments
	must commence implementing the OMP prior to operation. The approval holder must continue to implement the OMP until the expiry date of this approval.		December 2024. The current approved SLL OMP, Version 6, dated 20 November 2024 was varied to assist in clarifying management actions and address any inconsistencies within the OMP. Table 6 of the SLL OMP provides a range of management actions that need to be implemented at certain timeframes for Year 1 (that is during this reporting period). The landowner responsible for implementing the plan reported compliance with each of these actions within their separate annual compliance report (included within Appendix D). A copy of the report was provided electronically to the department on the 1st July 2025 in accordance with the requirements of the Plan.
<b>Part B – Administrative conditions</b>			
<b>REVISION OF MOU</b>			
7	The approval holder may, at any time, apply to the Minister to revise the MoU by submitting an application to the department for the Minister's written approval. This application must be in writing and include an explanation and justification of the proposed changes. If the Minister approves a revised MoU, the approval holder must implement the revised MoU in place of the previous MoU.	Not applicable	The MOU does not need to be revised. The offsets have been secured.
<b>SUBMISSION AND PUBLICATION OF PLANS</b>			
8	The approval holder must submit all plans required by these conditions electronically to the department.	Compliant	The original SLL OMP (dated 29 <sup>th</sup> June 2023) and Growling Grass Frog Impact Mitigation Protocol (dated 16 <sup>th</sup> May 2023) specified by the Conditions were submitted to the Department electronically on 29 <sup>th</sup> June

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Condition Number/ reference	Complete Condition wording	Compliant/ Non-Compliant/ Not applicable	Evidence/Comments
			2023 and referenced in the Approval. An updated SLL OMP was approved under delegation on 13 December 2024.
9	Unless otherwise agreed to in writing by the Minister, the approval holder must publish each plan on the website within 15 business days of the date: a) of this approval, if the version of the plan to be implemented is specified in these conditions, or b) the plan is approved by the Minister in writing, if the plan requires the approval of the Minister.	Compliant	The approval holder has published each of the plans mentioned above on the Project's website (see link below). Each of the Plans was published on the website within the timeframe specified by the approval condition after receiving its approval. <a href="https://equis.engagementhub.com.au/mreh">https://equis.engagementhub.com.au/mreh</a>
10	The approval holder must keep all plans required by these conditions published on the website until the expiry date of this approval.	Compliant	All the approved Plans have remained published on the Project's website.
11	The approval holder is required to exclude or redact sensitive ecological data from plans published on the website or otherwise provided to a member of the public. If sensitive ecological data is excluded or redacted from a plan, the approval holder must notify the department in writing what exclusions and redactions have been made in the version published on the website.	Not applicable	There is no sensitive ecological data noted on the approved Plans published on the website that requires redaction to avoid negative outcomes. While not a plan, the Year 1 SLL Offset annual report, published on the Project's website, contains redacted private and sensitive data to avoid negative outcomes. This was communicated to the department when the full annual report was provided to the department electronically on the 1 <sup>st</sup> July 2025.
<b>NOTIFICATION OF DATE OF COMMENCEMENT OF THE ACTION</b>			
12	The approval holder must notify the department electronically of the date of commencement of the	Not applicable-completed	This action was carried out last year, and therefore not applicable during this reporting period.

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<b>Condition Number/ reference</b>	<b>Complete Condition wording</b>	<b>Compliant/ Non-Compliant/ Not applicable</b>	<b>Evidence/Comments</b>
	Action, within 5 business days following commencement of the Action.		
13	If 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	The action commenced within four months after gaining approval.
<b>COMPLIANCE RECORDS</b>			
14	The approval holder must maintain accurate and complete compliance records.	Compliant	The approval holder maintains accurate and complete compliance records.
15	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	No requests were made during this reporting period.
16	The approval holder must ensure that any monitoring data (including sensitive ecological data), surveys, maps, and other spatial and metadata required under the conditions of this approval are prepared in accordance with the Guidelines for biological survey and mapped data, Commonwealth of Australia 2018, or as otherwise specified by the Minister in writing.	Compliant	Monitoring has been captured in accordance with the method mentioned in this Condition.
17	The approval holder must ensure that any monitoring data (including sensitive ecological data), surveys, maps, and other spatial and metadata required under the conditions of this approval are prepared in accordance with the Guide to providing	Compliant	As above.

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Condition Number/ reference	Complete Condition wording	Compliant/ Non-Compliant/ Not applicable	Evidence/Comments
	maps and boundary data for EPBC Act projects, Commonwealth of Australia 2021, or as otherwise specified by the Minister in writing.		
18	The approval holder must submit all monitoring data (including sensitive ecological data), surveys, maps, other spatial and metadata and all species occurrence record data (sightings and evidence of presence) electronically to the department in accordance with the requirements of the OMP.	Compliant	Year 1 monitoring data was provided to the department electronically on 1 July 2025 in accordance with the annual reporting requirements of the SLL OMP. This information will again be shared electronically with the department for this reporting period.
<b>ANNUAL COMPLIANCE REPORTING</b>			
19	The approval holder must prepare a compliance report for each 12-month period following the date of this approval decision, or as otherwise agreed to in writing by the Minister.	Compliant	The approval holder has prepared this annual compliance report for the period from 7 <sup>th</sup> October 24 to 7 <sup>th</sup> October 2025 covering a 12-month period.
20	Each compliance report must be consistent with the Annual Compliance Report Guidelines, Commonwealth of Australia 2014.	Compliant	This annual compliance report has been prepared in accordance with the Annual Compliance Report Guidelines, Commonwealth of Australia 2014.
21	Each compliance report must include: a) Accurate and complete details of compliance and any non-compliance with the conditions and the plans, and any incidents. b) One or more shapefiles showing all clearing of protected matters, and/or their habitat, undertaken within the 12-month period at the end of which that compliance report is prepared.	Compliant	This compliance report includes the details required by this Condition. This compliance report has provided complete details of compliance. Appendix A provides GIS details (shapefiles) of the extent of cleared SLL habitat for the reporting period; Appendix B provides extracts of the Contractor's Work Diary showing evidence of control measures; Appendix C provides a Schedule of Approved Plans.

**Melton Renewable Energy Hub (MREH) EPBC Approval 2021/8908**

Condition Number/ reference	Complete Condition wording	Compliant/ Non-Compliant/ Not applicable	Evidence/Comments
	<p>c) A schedule of all plans in existence in relation to these conditions and accurate and complete details of how each plan is being implemented.</p>		
22	<p>The approval holder must:</p> <p>a) Publish each compliance report on the website within 60 business days following the end of the 12-month period for which that compliance report is required.</p> <p>b) Notify the department electronically, within 5 business days of the date of publication that a compliance report has been published on the website.</p> <p>c) Provide the weblink for the compliance report in the notification to the department.</p> <p>d) Keep all published compliance reports required by these conditions on the website until the expiry date of this approval.</p> <p>e) Exclude or redact sensitive ecological data from compliance reports published on the website or otherwise provided to a member of the public.</p> <p>f) If sensitive ecological data is excluded or redacted from the published version, submit the full compliance report to the department within 5 business days of its publication on the website and notify the department in writing what exclusions and</p>	Compliant	<p>This Year 2 compliance report has been published within 60 business days following the end of the 12 months reporting period on the project's website. The Department will be notified electronically within 5 business days of the date of the publication along with a website link.</p>

Melton Renewable Energy Hub (MREH) EPBC Approval 2021/8908

Condition Number/ reference	Complete Condition wording	Compliant/ Non-Compliant/ Not applicable	Evidence/Comments
	redactions have been made in the version published on the website.		
<b>REPORTING NON-COMPLIANCE</b>			
23	The approval holder must notify the department electronically, within 2 business days of becoming aware of any incident and/or potential non-compliance and/or actual non-compliance with the conditions or commitments made in a plan.	Not applicable	No incidents, potential non-compliances, or actual non-compliances with the conditions or commitments made in a plan to report during this reporting period.
24	The approval holder must specify in the notification: a) Any condition or commitment made in a plan which has been or may have been breached. b) A short description of the incident and/or potential non-compliance and/or actual non-compliance. c) The location (including co-ordinates), date and time of the incident and/or potential non-compliance and/or actual non-compliance.	Not applicable	As above.
25	The approval holder must provide to the department in writing, within 12 business days of becoming aware of any incident and/or potential non-compliance and/or actual non-compliance, the details of that incident and/or potential non-compliance and/or actual non-compliance with the conditions or commitments made in a plan. The	Not applicable	As above.

**Melton Renewable Energy Hub (MREH) EPBC Approval 2021/8908**

Condition Number/ reference	Complete Condition wording	Compliant/ Non-Compliant/ Not applicable	Evidence/Comments
	<p>approval holder must specify:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Any corrective action or investigation which the approval holder has already taken.</li> <li>b) The potential impacts of the incident and/or non-compliance.</li> <li>c) The method and timing of any corrective action that will be undertaken by the approval holder.</li> </ul>		
<b>INDEPENDENT AUDIT</b>			
26	<p>The approval holder must ensure that an independent audit of compliance with the conditions is conducted for every five-year period following the commencement of the Action until this approval expires, unless otherwise specified in writing by the Minister.</p>	Not Applicable	<p>This condition is not yet triggered. The Commencement of Action occurred 12<sup>th</sup> January 2024, therefore the first audit is not due until 12<sup>th</sup> January 2029.</p>
27	<p>For each independent audit, the approval holder must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Provide the name and qualifications of the nominated independent auditor, the draft audit criteria, and proposed timeframe for submitting the audit report to the department prior to commencing the independent audit.</li> <li>b) Only commence the independent audit once the nominated independent auditor, audit criteria and timeframe for submitting the audit report have been approved in writing by the department.</li> </ul>	Not Applicable	<p>As above.</p>

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Condition Number/ reference	Complete Condition wording	Compliant/ Non-Compliant/ Not applicable	Evidence/Comments
	<p>c) Submit the audit report to the department for approval within the timeframe specified and approved in writing by the department.</p> <p>d) Publish each audit report on the website within 15 business days of the date of the department's approval of the audit report.</p> <p>e) Keep every audit report published on the website until this approval expires.</p>		
28	Each audit report must report for the five-year period preceding that audit report.	Not Applicable	As above.
29	Each audit report must be completed to the satisfaction of the Minister and be consistent with the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 Independent Audit and Audit Report Guidelines, Commonwealth of Australia 2019.	Not Applicable	As above.
<b>COMPLETION OF THE ACTION</b>			
30	The approval holder must notify the department electronically 60 business days prior to the expiry date of this approval, that the approval is due to expire.	Not Applicable	The Approval expires on 31 <sup>st</sup> August 2053.

## Melton Renewable Energy Hub (MREH) EPBC Approval 2021/8908

Condition Number/ reference	Complete Condition wording	Compliant/ Non-Compliant/ Not applicable	Evidence/Comments
31	Within 20 business days after the completion of the Action, and, in any event, before this approval expires, the approval holder must notify the department electronically of the date of completion of the Action and provide completion data. The approval holder must submit any spatial data that comprises completion data as a shapefile.	Not Applicable	As above.

## 4 Correcting non-compliances

No non-compliances have been recorded during this reporting year. In accordance with the guidelines, this report includes a reference to last year's recorded non-compliance with Condition 1.

**Condition 1-** was designated as non-compliant last year due to works occurring outside the Project area extent without consent.

The number of mitigation measures mentioned in last year's compliance report were successfully implemented to prevent any further work occurring in areas outside of the Project area extent. No further unauthorised non-compliances have occurred during this reporting period. Furthermore, the small area of agricultural land where the temporary car park was located has now been rehabilitated back to agricultural land.

Plumpton VIC 3335

Australia

S 37° 39' 58", E 144° 44' 8"

14 Aug 2025 at 8:59:50 am



Photo 1 -Taken by Contractor -Temporarily disturbed area following hydroseeding

## 5 New environmental risks

No new environmental risks have been identified within this reporting period.

## Appendix A Shapefile of the cleared SLL Habitat area extent

## Appendix B Contractor's work photo dairy

## Appendix C Schedule of Plans

Plan means any action management plan or strategy that the approval holder is required by the EPBC approval conditions to implement, including the SLL OMP and Growling Grass Frog Impact Mitigation Protocol.

**Table D.1 Schedule of Plans**

Plan Title, date and version	Comment
<b>Striped Legless Lizard Offset Management Plan, Rev 5.3 dated 29 June 2023</b>	This version is published on the Project's website and referenced in the Approval.
<b>Striped Legless Lizard Offset Management Plan, Rev 6 dated 20 November 2024</b>	The revised SLL OMP (Version 6, 20 November 2024) was approved on the 13 <sup>th</sup> December 2024 and uploaded to the Project's website ( <a href="https://equis.engagementhub.com.au/mreh">https://equis.engagementhub.com.au/mreh</a> ) within the 15 business days of approval in accordance with Condition 9 demonstrating compliance with Conditions 10-11.
<b>Targeted Growling Grass Frog Survey and Habitat Assessment including Growling Grass Frog Impact Mitigation Protocol, dated 16 May 2023</b>	This version is published on the Project's website and referenced in the Approval.

## Appendix D Year 1 SLL Offset Annual Report

## Appendix E Definitions of the approval

Part C – Definitions	
In these conditions any bolded use of a word or term refers to the below definition of that word or term:	
Word/s	Definition
<b>Audit report</b>	Means a written report of compliance and fulfilment of the conditions attached to this approval, objectively evaluated against the audit criteria approved by the <b>department</b> .
<b>Business day</b>	Means a day that is not a Saturday, a Sunday or a public holiday in the State of Victoria.
<b>Commence or commencement</b>	Means the date on which the first instance of an activity associated with the Action is undertaken.
<b>Completion data</b>	Means an environmental report and spatial data clearly detailing how the conditions of this approval have been met.
<b>Completion of the Action</b>	Means the date on which all activities associated with this approval have permanently ceased and/or been completed.
<b>Compliance records</b>	Means all documentation or other material in whatever form required to demonstrate compliance with the conditions of approval (including compliance with commitments made in <b>plans</b> ) in the approval holder's possession, or that are within the approval holder's power to obtain lawfully.
<b>Compliance report</b>	Means a written report of compliance with, and fulfilment of, the conditions attached to the approval.
<b>Construction</b>	Means the first instance of any activity associated with the Action (including clearing and construction) is undertaken. Construction does not include minor physical disturbance necessary to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Undertake pre-clearance surveys or monitoring programs.</li> <li>b) Install signage and/or temporary fencing to prevent unapproved use of the project area, so long as the signage and/or temporary fencing is located where it does not harm any protected matter.</li> <li>c) Protect environmental and property assets from fire, weeds, and feral animals, including use of existing surface access tracks.</li> <li>d) Install temporary site facilities for persons undertaking pre-commencement activities so long as these facilities are located where they do not harm any protected matter</li> </ul>
<b>Control</b>	Means to exercise effective management authority over the offset area in accordance with the MoU .
<b>DEECA</b>	Means the Victorian Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action, or the subsequent Victorian Government agency responsible for administering the <i>Conservation, Forests and Lands Act 1987 (Vic)</i> .

## Melton Renewable Energy Hub (MREH) EPBC Approval 2021/8908

Word/s	Definition
<b>Department</b>	Means the Australian Government agency responsible for administering the <b>EPBC Act</b> .
<b>EPBC Act</b>	Means the <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i> (Cth).
<b>Growling Grass Frog Impact Mitigation Protocol</b>	Means the <b>Striped Legless Lizard (Delma impar) Revised Report - Targeted Growling Grass Frog Survey and Habitat Assessment, Growling Grass Frog Impact Mitigation Protocol, Melton Renewable Energy Hub, 77-347 Holden Road, Plumpton, Ecolink Consulting Pty Ltd (Report for MREH Pty Ltd as trustee of the MREH Asset Trust on behalf of Ecolink Consulting Pty Ltd) 16 May 2023, or a revised version approved by the Minister in writing.</b>
<b>Harm</b>	Means to cause any measurable direct or indirect disturbance or deleterious change as a result of any activity associated with the Action.
<b>Incident</b>	Means any event which has the potential to, or does, <b>harm</b> any <b>protected matter</b> .
<b>Independent</b>	Means a person or firm who does not have any individual, financial*, employment* or family affiliation or any conflicting interests with the project, the approval holder or the approval holder's staff, representatives, or associated persons.
	*Other than for the purpose of undertaking the role for which an independent person is required
<b>Independent audit</b>	Means an audit conducted by an <b>independent</b> and <b>suitably qualified person</b> as detailed in the <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 Independent Audit and Audit Report Guidelines</i> , Commonwealth of Australia 2019.
<b>MoU</b>	Means the <b>Memorandum of Understanding titled Amendments to the SLL Offset MoU, prepared by Equis Development Pty Ltd for agreement between MREH Pty Ltd trustee for the MREH Asset Trust and Mia Mia Conservation Pty Ltd, signed 31 May 2022 and varied by letters of variation dated 11 May 2023 and 14 September 2023, or a revised version approved by the Minister in writing.</b>
<b>Minister</b>	Means the Australian Government Minister administering the <b>EPBC Act</b> , including any delegate thereof.
<b>Monitoring data</b>	Means the data required to be recorded under the conditions of this approval.
<b>Offset area</b>	Means the areas represented in <u>Attachment B</u> by the zones enclosed by the solid green lines designated 'Offset site (4 zones)'.
<b>OMP</b>	Means the <b>Striped Legless Lizard (Delma impar) Offset Management Plan – EPBC 2021/8908, Heathcote – Redesdale Road, Mia Mia, Victoria, Living Rural (Report for MREH Pty Ltd as trustee of the MREH Asset Trust on behalf of Living Rural) 29 June 2023, or a revised version approved by the Minister in writing .</b>
<b>Operation</b>	Means the date from which the usage of the battery storage facility or the solar farm commences, whichever comes first, for the purpose of generating, storing and/or distributing electric current.
<b>Plan</b>	Means any action management plan or strategy that the approval holder is required by these conditions to implement, including the <b>OMP</b> and <b>Growling Grass Frog Impact Mitigation Protocol</b> .

Word/s	Definition
Project area	Means the location of the Action, represented in <u>Attachment A</u> by the zone enclosed by the solid red line designated 'R35 Development Footprint' and the zone enclosed by the solid orange line designated 'R35 Transmission Line Development Footprint'.
Protected matter	Means a matter protected under a controlling provision in Part 3 of the <b>EPBC Act</b> for which this approval has effect.
Sensitive ecological data	Means data as defined in the <i>Sensitive Ecological Data – Access and Management Policy V1.0</i> , Commonwealth of Australia 2016.
Secure or secured	Means to execute a signed agreement with the Secretary of DEECA under Section 69 of the <i>Conservation, Forests and Lands Act 1987</i> (Vic), or via a signed agreement with Trust for Nature to register an offset covenant under the <i>Victorian Conservation Trust Act 1972</i> (Vic), providing for the conservation management of the offset area and preventing the offset area from being diminished in quality .
Shapefile	Means location and attribute information about the Action provided in an Esri shapefile format containing: a) '.shp', '.shx', '.dbf' files, b) a '.prj' file which specifies the projection or geographic coordinate system used, and c) an '.xml' metadata file that describes the shapefile for discovery and identification purposes.
Striped Legless Lizard	Means the <b>EPBC Act</b> listed threatened species <i>Delma impar</i> .
Striped Legless Lizard habitat	Means the area represented in <u>Attachment A</u> by the zones enclosed by the solid yellow lines and shaded with yellow dots designated 'Striped Legless Lizard Habitat'.
Suitably qualified person	Means a person who has professional qualifications, training, skills and/or experience related to the nominated subject matter and can give authoritative independent assessment, advice and analysis on performance relative to the subject matter using the relevant protocols, standards, methods and/or literature.
Website	Means a set of related web pages located under a single domain name attributed to the approval holder and available to the public.