

# APA

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## Western Outer Ring Main EPBC Compliance Report 2023-24

February 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 \_\_\_\_\_

Full name (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

Position (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

Organisation (please print including ABN/ACN if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

### Document History and Status

Version	Date	Description	Prepared By	Reviewed By	Approved By
V01	31.01.2025	Issued for Use	Ian Spence	Ben Schneider	Dennis Reid
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# Contents

<b>1. Introduction</b>	<b>5</b>
1.1. Compliance Report Purpose	5
1.2. Description of Activity	6
<b>2. Western Outer Ring Main Project Overview</b>	<b>6</b>
2.1. Summary of key project milestone dates and activities	7
<b>3. Vegetation Clearing Summary</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>4. Overview of Offset Requirement, Offset Site Overview, and Offset Status</b>	<b>8</b>
4.1. WORM Offset Requirement	8
4.2. WORM Document Requirements under EPBC 2019/8569	9
<b>5. Compliance Report 2024 Overview</b>	<b>10</b>
5.1. Results and Findings	10
5.2. Opportunities for Improvement	10
5.3. Non-compliance	10
5.4. New Environmental Risks	10
5.5. 2024-2025 Look ahead	10
<b>6. Conclusion</b>	<b>11</b>

# Figures

<i>Figure 1 - Overview of the WORM Pipeline.....</i>	<i>7</i>
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# Tables

<i>Table 1.1 - Project Details.....</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>Table 3.1 - EPBC Vegetation Clearing Summary.....</i>	<i>8</i>
<i>Table 4.1 - EPBC Offset Requirement.....</i>	<i>9</i>
<i>Table 4.2 - EPBC 2019/8569 Document Status 7/11/2024.....</i>	<i>9</i>

# Appendices

Appendix A: EPBC Approval Conditions Compliance Table
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Term	Definition
DCCEEW	Commonwealth Department of Climate Change, Energy the Environment and Water
DTP	Victorian Department of Transport and Planning
EPBC Act	<i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i> (Cth)
GSM	Golden Sun Moth
SLL	Striped Legless Lizard
the EPBC Approval	The Project's approval under the EPBC Act (EPBC 2019/8569)
the Project	Western Outer Ring Main



## 1. Introduction

This comprises the first annual compliance report for Approval 'EPBC 2019/8569' for the Western Outer Ring Main ('WORM') Pipeline. The Western Outer Ring Main project is a high pressure, buried, gas transmission pipeline approximately 51 kilometres in length. It addressed a key capacity constraint in the VTS by providing a new high pressure connection between existing sources of natural gas supply in the north and east with those in the west of the state. Table 1 describes the action as it pertains to the EPBC Act.

Table 1 Project Details	
Project	Western Outer Ring Main (WORM)
Approval holder	APA VTS AUSTRALIA (OPERATIONS) PTY LIMITED
ABN	65 083 009 278
EPBC Approval	EPBC 2019/8569
Approved Action	To construct and operate the Western Outer Ring Main (WORM) high pressure gas transmission pipeline between Plumpton and Lindum Vale, northwest of Melbourne CBD, Victoria. See EPBC Act referral 2019/8569 subject to the variation of the action accepted by the Minister under section 156B on Wednesday, 21 April 2021 and further variation of the action under s143(1)(c) of the EPBC Act on 9 <sup>th</sup> November 2023.
Project Location	Plumpton Meter Station to Wollert Compressor Station (please refer to Figure 1).
Reporting period	9 <sup>th</sup> November 2023 – 9 <sup>th</sup> November 2024
Report Date	31 <sup>st</sup> January 2025 V1: 17 <sup>th</sup> February 2025 V2
Project Phase	<b>Rehabilitation and pipeline operation</b>

Table 1.1 - Project Details

### 1.1. Compliance Report Purpose

The purpose of this report is to record compliance in accordance with condition 15 of the Project's EPBC Approval:

*15) 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 and provide the weblink for the compliance report within 5 business days of the date of publication*

*c) keep all compliance reports publicly available on the website until this approval expires*

*d) exclude or redact sensitive ecological data from compliance reports published on the website*

*e) 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. Note: Compliance reports may be published on the Department's website.*

This annual compliance report has been prepared in accordance with the *Annual Compliance Report Guidelines, Reporting under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act, 1999 (DCCEEW, 2023)*.

## 1.2. Description of Activity

The approved action under EPBC ref 2019/8569 is:

*'To construct and operate the Western Outer Ring Main (WORM) high pressure gas transmission pipeline between Plumpton and Lindum Vale, northwest of Melbourne CBD, Victoria.*

*See EPBC Act referral 2019/8569 subject to the variation of the action accepted by the Minister under section 156B on Wednesday, 21 April 2021.'*

EPBC 2019/8569 was varied on 9<sup>th</sup> November, 2023.

## 2. Western Outer Ring Main Project Overview

The Western Outer Ring Main (WORM) gas pipeline is an, approximately 51 kilometre (km), 500 millimetre (mm) nominal diameter high pressure gas transmission pipeline that now provides a high pressure connection between the eastern and western pipeline networks of the Victorian Transmission System (VTS).

APA VTS (Operations) Pty Ltd (APA) operates the pipeline. APA is Australia's largest natural gas infrastructure business. In Victoria, the VTS is owned and maintained by APA and consists of 2,267 km of gas pipelines. The VTS serves a total consumption base of approximately two million residential consumers and approximately 60,000 industrial and commercial users throughout Victoria.

The Pipeline and additional compression at Wollert has been designed to provide critical infrastructure for Victoria's gas supply, distribution, and consequent security, efficiency and affordability. The key objectives of the Pipelines construction and operation are to:

- Improve system resilience and security of gas supply
- Increase the amount of natural gas that can be stored for times of peak demand
- Improve network performance and reliability
- Address potential gas shortages as forecast by the Australian Energy Market Operator (AEMO) in the March 2020 Victorian Gas Planning Report update.

The WORM Pipeline is located in a 51km linear corridor extending from APA's existing Plumpton meter station to APA's existing Wollert Compressor Station. An upgrade to the Wollert Compressor Station also formed part of the Project scope and incorporated additional land at APA's operational Compressor Station. The pipeline corridor during construction was typically 30m wide with provision for additional work space, access tracks and areas of no surface disturbance through sensitive areas such as Deep Creek and Jacksons Creek.

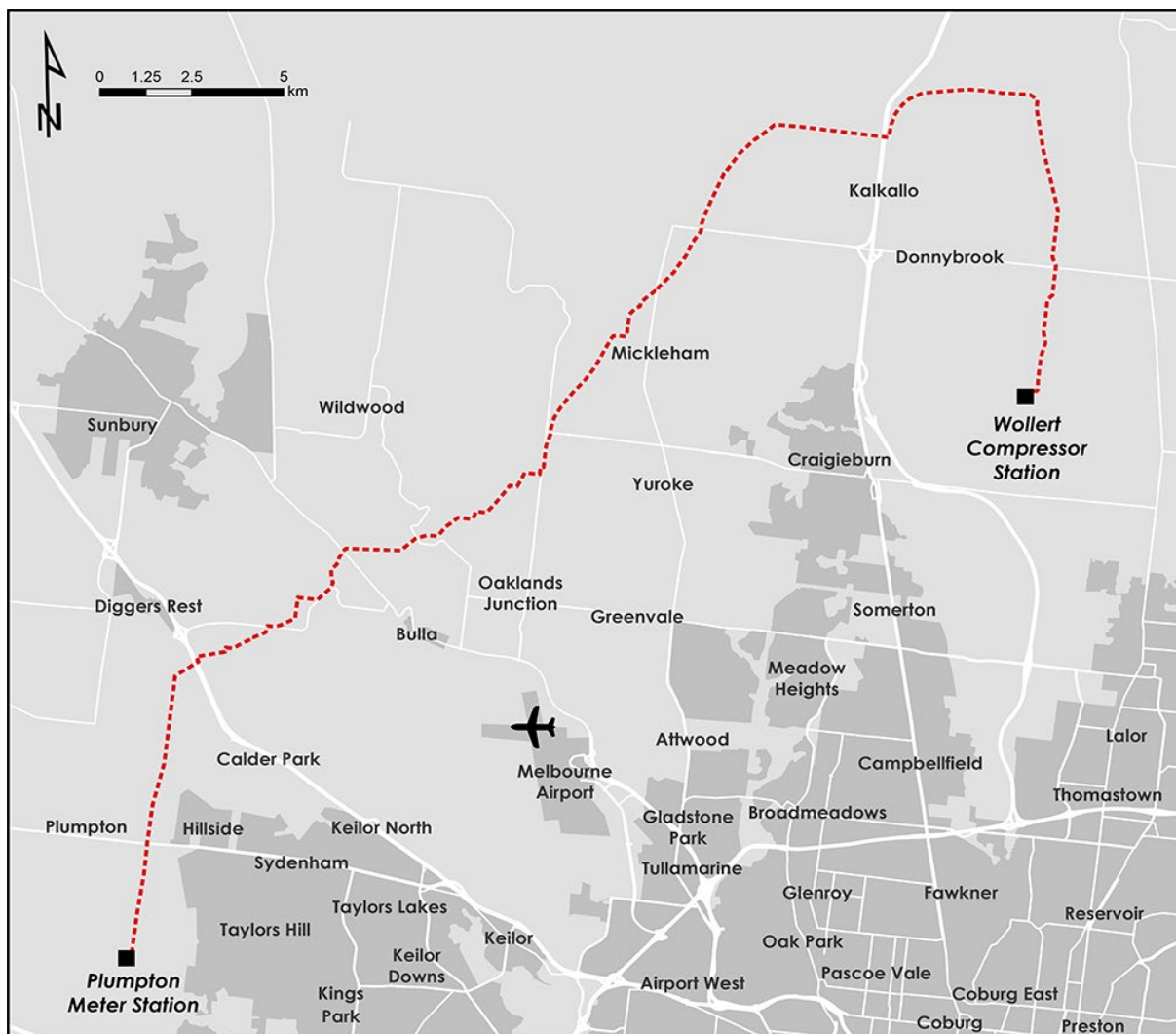


Figure 1 - Overview of the WORM Pipeline.

## 2.1. Summary of key project milestone dates and activities

Construction of the pipeline (the action) commenced on 3<sup>rd</sup> October, 2022. Operation of the pipeline formally commenced on 27<sup>th</sup> February 2024. Reinstatement and rehabilitation of the pipeline corridor has been active through 2023 and 2024.

## 3. Vegetation Clearing Summary

Condition 1 of EPBC 2019/8569 provided for disturbance and clearance limits. Following completion of construction, a review was undertaken to account for total vegetation removed. Condition 1 removal limits and actual removal totals are provided in Table 2.

**Table 3.1 – EPBC Vegetation Clearing Summary**

EPBC Aspect	Disturbance Limit (Ha)	Total Actual Disturbance (Ha)	Disturbance Difference (Ha)
Native Temperate Grassland of the Victorian Volcanic Plain (NTGVVP).	4.52	4.09	- 0.43
Grassy Eucalypt Woodland of the Victorian Volcanic Plain (GEWVVP).	2.09	2.09	0.00
Golden Sun Moth Habitat	19.93	19.47	- 0.46
Striped Legless Lizard Habitat	39.92	37.04	- 2.88
<b>Total</b>	<b>66.46</b>	<b>62.69</b>	<b>- 3.77</b>

*Table 3.1 - EPBC Vegetation Clearing Summary*

A GIS session was held on 25<sup>th</sup> October 2024 as a means of demonstrating compliance with the clearing summary. A rolling chronology of timestamped imagery was used to demonstrate where and when clearing has been undertaken and how it had been measured and accounted for. The Table 2 summary was validated via desktop mapping tools.

## 4. Overview of Offset Requirement, Offset Site Overview, and Offset Status

### 4.1. WORM Offset Requirement

Table 3 provides an overview of total Offset requirements generated by impacts to Matters of National Environmental Significance (MNES) during construction of the WORM.

**Table 4.1 – EPBC Offset Requirement**

MNES	Disturbance limit (Ha)	Quality of impacted area	Area of offset required (Ha)	Quality of Offset area	Nominated Site(s) to offset impact
Native Temperate Grassland of the Victorian	4.52	3/10	33	6/10	Cressy

Volcanic Plain (NTGVVP).					
Golden Sun Moth Habitat	19.93	5/10	128	6-7/10	Cressy
Striped Legless Lizard Habitat	39.92	6/10	153	8-9/10	Cressy
Grassy Eucalypt Woodland of the Victorian Volcanic Plain (GEWVVP).	2.09	4/10	6.1	6/10	Ararat-Dobie (64%)
			4.0709	1-4/10	Dunkeld (36%)

Table 4.1 - EPBC Offset Requirement

153ha of a broader 275ha property has been selected near Cressy, Vic approximately 98km west of the WORM to offset three MNES – the NTGVVP, the Golden Sun Moth habitat and the Striped Legless Lizard habitat.

The GEWVVP offset is spread between two locations. Ararat-Dobie located approximately 158km north west of the WORM Pipeline holds 6.1ha of suitable GEWVVP habitat whilst the remainder of the 10.8ha offset requirement will be regenerated at a site near Dunkeld, approximately 240km west of the WORM Pipeline.

## 4.2. WORM Document Requirements under EPBC 2019/8569

Table 4 provides an overview of document status of each document required by the approval conditions of EPBC 2019/8569, as amended on 9<sup>th</sup> November 2023.

Table 4.2 – EPBC 2019/8569 Document Status 7/11/2024

EPBC 2019/8569 Condition	Document Title	Date Prepared	Approved by DCCEW	Status
3	Ararat-Dobie Offset Management Plan. Version 4.	12/01/2024	21/03/2024	Implementation
4	Dunkeld Offset Management Plan. Version 5 (AOMP).	7/11/2024	Not yet approved.	Awaiting Approval
6	Western Outer Ring Main Grassland Offset Strategy, Rev 5 April 2024	5/04/24	9/05/2024	Implementation
7	EPBC 2019/8569 Natural Temperate Grassland of the Victorian Volcanic Plain, Striped Legless Lizard <i>Delmar impar</i> and Golden Sun Moth <i>Synemon plana</i> Offset Management Plan, 6060 Hamilton Highway, Cressy, Victoria. Version 4.	4/4/2024	17/05/2024	Implementation

Table 4.2 - EPBC 2019/8569 Document Status 7/11/2024

Each Plan and Strategy has been reviewed as part of this compliance report with evidence of implementation being observed via a collection of agreements, reporting, photos and invoices for materials such as fencing relating to site establishment and improvements.

## 5. Compliance Report 2024 Overview

This compliance report has been prepared between October and December 2024. Audit meetings have been held with key project staff to review and validate authorised clearing within the Project's disturbance envelope and to go through validation of compliance with each condition within EPBC2019/8569 as amended on 9<sup>th</sup> November, 2023.

### 5.1. Results and Findings

Of the 99 Conditions within EPBC 2019/8569,

- 70 Conditions were identified as being Compliant;
- 1 Conditions achieved Partial Compliance;
- 9 Conditions are considered as Pending Compliance;
- 19 Conditions are considered as Not Applicable as at this time.

Assessment of compliance is presented in detail in the form of a compliance table in Appendix A.

### 5.2. Opportunities for Improvement

The only opportunities for improvement can be attributed to work that is pending or still to come as the collective strategy and offset management plans are accepted and implemented:

1. Maintain records of approval from DCCEE when received for the Dunkeld OMP (AOMP)
2. Review site monitoring scopes and reports to ensure that any monitoring data from offset sites is recorded in accordance with the Department's Guidelines for biological survey and mapped data (2018).
3. Ensure that commitments in each OMP are collated and tracked actively in a fit-for-purpose compliance system. APA are in the process of implementing a company-wide compliance system with a focus on regulatory licencing, approval conditions and actions.
4. Note the transition date on the project from CEMP to OEMP is on the 7<sup>th</sup> February 2026.

### 5.3. Non-compliance

No non-compliances have been recorded as part of this compliance review.

### 5.4. New Environmental Risks

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

### 5.5. 2024-2025 Look ahead

Rehabilitation will continue on the pipeline corridor with landholder sign off expected to continue as the corridor reestablishes itself. This will include natural regeneration in the sections of subject Threatened Ecological Communities and threatened species habitat that were disturbed during construction.

It is likely that the Dunkeld Offset Management Plan will be accepted with establishment works planned thereafter to implement the 12-year offset management plan to improve the present degraded status of Grassy Eucalypt Woodland of the Victorian Volcanic Plains on site.

The Ararat-Dobie Site will continue to implement the actions in the offset management plan to protect and enhance vegetation quality whilst the Cressy Site will continue to establish the necessary infrastructure and pest species control required to establish site in accordance with the Offset Management Plan.

Offset Management Plan implementation reporting will be carried out on the Cressy and Dobie sites. Dunkeld will be dependent on the stage of establishment it reaches in the next reporting period as to whether formal implementation and progress reporting will be prepared before the reporting period cut off.

## 6. Conclusion

This Compliance report has been prepared in accordance with the *Annual Compliance Report Guidelines, Reporting under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act, 1999 (DCCEEW, 2023)*.

Other than one partial compliance item relating to an administrative notification, APA has achieved full compliance with 70 of the 99 conditions. The remainder of the conditions are either not applicable or pending at the time of reporting.

No non-compliances have been recorded for the reporting period.

**Appendix A. EPBC Approval Conditions Compliance Table**



CONDITION NUMBER / REFERENCE	CONDITION	COMPLIANCE LEVEL	STATUS	EVIDENCE / COMMENTS
<b>Part A - Conditions specific to the action</b>				
<b>Disturbance Limits and Construction</b>				
<b>1</b>	To limit the extent of impacts to <b>NTGVVP, GEVVVP, GSM, and SLL</b> , the approval holder must not <b>clear</b> :			
a)	outside the <b>project area</b>	Compliant	Closed	Desktop review of clearing undertaken with APA Geospatial Services Team Lead 25/10/24. All clearing was undertaken within the prescribed pipeline corridor.
b)	more than 4.52 ha of <b>NTGVVP</b>	Compliant	Closed	4.09ha cleared - verified via GIS desktop review of clearing on 25.10.24
c)	more than 2.09 ha of <b>GEVVVP</b>	Compliant	Closed	2.09ha cleared - verified via GIS desktop review of clearing on 25.10.24
d)	more than 19.93 ha of <b>GSM habitat</b>	Compliant	Closed	19.47ha cleared - verified via GIS desktop review of clearing on 25.10.24
e)	more than 39.92 ha of <b>SLL habitat</b>	Compliant	Closed	37.04ha cleared - verified via GIS desktop review of clearing on 25.10.24
<b>2</b>	To minimise impacts to <b>protected matters</b> , the approval holder must:			
a)	when undertaking <b>construction</b> at the <b>Deep Creek site crossing</b> , use <b>Trenchless Construction</b>	Compliant	Closed	Sighted photographic records, HDD Plan and as built drawings.
b)	when undertaking <b>construction</b> at the <b>Jacksons Creek site crossing</b> , use <b>Trenchless Construction</b>	Compliant	Closed	Sighted photographic records, HDD Plan and as built drawings.
c)	when undertaking <b>construction</b> at the <b>Craigieburn Road site crossing</b> , use <b>Trenchless Construction</b>	Compliant	Closed	Sighted photographic records, HDD Plan and as built drawings.
d)	implement the <b>CEMP</b> and <b>OEMP</b>	Pending	Open	CEMP implemented and active until Feb 2026 OEMP not yet prepared.

GEWVVP Offset - The purpose of the following conditions is to compensate for impacts to GEWVVP as a result of the Action.				
3	The approval holder must submit an Ararat-Dobie Site Offset Management Plan (ADS-OMP) to the <b>department</b> for the <b>Minister's</b> approval. The approval holder must implement the ADS-OMP as and from when approved by the <b>Minister</b> in writing in accordance with the timelines specified in the ADS-OMP or at least until the expiry date of this approval, whichever is the longer. The ADS-OMP must, to the satisfaction of the <b>Minister</b> , meet the requirements of the <b>Environmental Offsets Policy</b> and be consistent with the <b>Environmental Management Plan Guidelines</b> . The ADS-OMP must include:	Compliant	Open	ADS-OMP submitted to DCCEEW 7/02/2024 ADS-OMP version 4 dated 12/01/24 Approved by DCCEEW (Rachel Short) 21/03/2024
a)	A summary of the residual impacts to <b>GEWVVP</b> that will be compensated for by the <b>Ararat-Dobie Site</b> . This summary must include the extent of <b>GEWVVP</b> and its <b>condition</b> at all impact sites which the <b>Ararat-Dobie Site</b> is to address.	Compliant	Closed	Sighted s1.2 of the ADS-OMP
b)	A reference to the <b>EPBC Act</b> approval conditions to which the AD-SOMP refers.	Compliant	Closed	Sighted Table A of the ADS-OMP
c)	Measures that will be implemented to achieve the ecological benefits for <b>GEWVVP</b> and the timing and effort to be applied to these measures.	Compliant	Closed	Sighted ADS-OMP:  Section 2. Objectives and Commitments  Section 7. Management Action Table  Appendix C. S.69 Landowner Agreement VC_CFL-3693_01

d)	A table of commitments made in the ADS-OMP to achieve the objectives, and a reference to where the commitments are detailed in the ADS-OMP.	Compliant	Closed	<p>Sighted ADS-OMP:</p> <p>Section 2. Objectives and Commitments</p> <p>Section 3. Management Commitments and Actions</p> <p>Section 7. Management Action Table</p> <p>Appendix B. 'Soil Erosion Management Plan: Lot 12, 15, 17, 19, 20 and 21 Western Highway, Ararat VIC', Murrang Earth Sciences, 11th May 2020.</p> <p>Appendix C. S.69 Landowner Agreement VC_CFL-3693_01</p>
e)	The reporting and review mechanisms, and documentation standards that will be implemented to inform others annually regarding compliance with management and environmental commitments, and attainment and maintenance of the ecological benefits as specified in the ADS-OMP.	Compliant	Closed	<p>Sighted ADS-OMP:</p> <p>Section 2.3 Reporting</p> <p>Section 4. Environmental Monitoring</p> <p>Section 5. Audit and Review</p> <p>Appendix C. S.69 Landowner Agreement VC_CFL-3693_01</p>
f)	An assessment of risks to achieving the ecological benefits and risk management strategies that will be applied to address these.	Compliant	Closed	Sighted Section 6 Risk Evaluation of the ADS-OMP

g)	A monitoring program, which must include:	Compliant	Closed	<p>Sighted ADS-OMP:</p> <p>Section 4. Environmental Monitoring</p> <p>Section 5. Audit and Review</p> <p>Appendix C. S.69 Landowner Agreement VC_CFL-3693_01</p>
i)	Evidence that effectively determine progress towards, attainment of and maintenance of the ecological benefits for <b>GEWVVP</b>	Compliant	Closed	
ii)	measurable performance indicators to monitor attainment of the ecological benefits for <b>GEWVVP</b>	Compliant	Closed	
iii)	trigger values for corrective actions	Compliant	Closed	
iv)	the timing and frequency of monitoring capable of detecting trigger values and changes in the performance indicators	Compliant	Closed	
v)	proposed corrective actions, if trigger values are reached.	Compliant	Closed	
h)	proposed corrective actions to ensure ecological benefits for <b>GEWVVP</b> are attained or maintained, if trigger values are reached or performance indicators not attained and	Compliant	Closed	<p>Sighted ADS-OMP:</p> <p>Section 4. Environmental Monitoring</p> <p>Section 5. Audit and Review</p> <p>Appendix C. S.69 Landowner Agreement VC_CFL-3693_01</p>
i)	links to referenced plans and applicable conditions of approval (including State approval conditions) if any.	Compliant	Closed	<p>Sighted ADS-OMP:</p> <p>Section 8 References</p> <p>Section 9 Appendices</p>

4	<p>The approval holder must submit an Additional Offset Management Plan (AOMP) to the <b>department</b> for the <b>Minister's</b> approval. The approval holder must implement the AOMP as and from when approved by the <b>Minister</b> in writing in accordance with the timelines specified in the AOMP or at least until the expiry date of this approval, whichever is the longer. The AOMP must, to the satisfaction of the <b>Minister</b>, meet the requirements of the <b>Environmental Offsets Policy</b> and be consistent with the <b>Environmental Management Plan Guidelines</b>. The AOMP must include:</p>	Pending	Awaiting Ministerial approval	<p>Sighted EPBC2019/8569 Grassy Eucalypt Woodland of the Victorian Volcanic Plain Offset Management Plan, 2030 Blackwood-Dunkeld Road, Dunkeld, Victoria Final Report Version 5 November 2024 ('Dunkeld OMP')</p> <p>V5 provided to DCCEEW on 7th November 2024.</p> <p>Acceptance pending.</p>
a)	A proposal which identifies one or more offset site to compensate for the impacts of the Action to <b>GEWVVP</b> not offset by the ADS-OMP.	Compliant	Awaiting Ministerial approval	Sighted Table 1. within the Dunkeld OMP nominating Dunkeld and Ararat Dobie as offset sites to compensate for the impacts of the action.
b)	A description of the proposed offset site or sites.	Compliant	Awaiting Ministerial approval	Section 3 of the Dunkeld OMP describes the site.
c)	A summary of the residual impacts to <b>GEWVVP</b> that will be compensated for by the offset site or sites. This summary must include the area of habitat for <b>GEWVVP</b> and its <b>condition</b> at all impact sites which the offset site or sites are to address.	Compliant	Awaiting Ministerial approval	Summary of residual impacts sighted during desktop review of residual impacts on 24.10.24. Calculation spread sheets have been sighted and validated.
d)	A reference to the <b>EPBC Act</b> approval conditions to which the AMOP refers.	Compliant	Awaiting Ministerial approval	Appendix 2 of the Dunkeld OMP states each relevant condition, how the condition has been addressed and where it is addressed.
e)	Detailed information and <b>shapefiles</b> specifying the location, area and boundaries of the proposed offset site or sites.	Compliant	Awaiting Ministerial approval	Figure 2 of the Dunkeld OMP details mapping of habitat zones within the offset site.

f)	Detailed baseline information on the areas of habitat, their <b>condition</b> , and the presence (or not) of <b>GEWVVP</b> on the proposed offset site or sites.	Compliant	Awaiting Ministerial approval	Sighted s3.3, 3.4 and 3.5 of the Dunkeld OMP.
g)	Commitments to achievable improved ecological benefits at the offset site or sites and the timeframes in which they will be achieved.	Compliant	Awaiting Ministerial approval	Sighted s4.1 (Objective 2), 4.2 and Table 11 of the Dunkeld OMP.
h)	A table summarising all commitments to achieve the proposed ecological benefits for <b>GEWVVP</b> at the offset site or sites, and a reference to where each commitment is detailed in the AOMP.	Compliant	Awaiting Ministerial approval	Sighted tables 10 and 12 of the Dunkeld OMP.
i)	Reporting and review mechanisms to inform the <b>department</b> annually regarding compliance with the management and environmental outcome commitments, and attainment and maintenance of the ecological benefits specified in the AOMP.	Compliant	Awaiting Ministerial approval	Sighted S4.2.8, Tables 10, 12 and Appendix 5.
j)	An assessment of risks to achieving the proposed ecological benefits and what risk management measures and/or strategies will be applied to address these.	Compliant	Awaiting Ministerial approval	Sighted Tables 10, 12 and Appendix 4 of the Dunkeld OMP
k)	A monitoring program, which must specify:			
i)	Measurable performance indicators and the timeframes for their achievement to gauge attainment of the proposed ecological benefits for <b>GEWVVP</b> ,	Compliant	Awaiting Ministerial approval	Sighted performance and completion criteria in Tables 10 and 12 of the Dunkeld OMP.
ii)	Trigger values for corrective actions, and	Compliant	Awaiting Ministerial approval	Sighted in Tables 10 and 12 of the Dunkeld OMP.

iii)	The proposed timing (including season/time of day/frequency), methods and effort, and an explanation of how these will be effective for this purpose, of monitoring to detect trigger values, changes in the performance indicators and to gather evidence that effectively demonstrates actual progress towards, attainment of and maintenance of the ecological benefits for <b>GEWVVP</b> .	Compliant	Awaiting Ministerial approval	Sighted s4.2.9 and Tables 10,11 and 12 of the Dunkeld OMP.
l)	Corrective actions to be implemented to ensure that the proposed ecological benefits for <b>GEWVVP</b> are achieved or maintained if trigger values are reached or performance indicators not achieved in the specified timeframes.	Compliant	Awaiting Ministerial approval	Sighted performance and completion criteria in Tables 10 and 12 of the Dunkeld OMP.
m)	Links to relevant referenced plans or conditions of approval (including state approval conditions), and	Compliant	Awaiting Ministerial approval	Sighted s1 of the Dunkeld OMP stating the links with the WORM Ecological Offset Strategy and the Ararat Dobie site to meet the full requirement for GEWVVP offsets (Table 1).
n)	How the offset site or sites will be protected, and ecological benefits maintained, at least until the expiry of the approval.	Compliant	Awaiting Ministerial approval	Sighted sections 3.6, 3.7 and 4.2-4.4 of the Dunkeld OMP.
4A	If either or both the ADS-OMP or the AOMP have not been approved by the <b>Minister</b> within 12 months of commencement of <b>operations</b> , the <b>Minister</b> may give notice to the approval holder of the date on which certain specified elements of <b>operations</b> must be suspended and under what circumstances the specified elements of <b>operations</b> may be resumed. The approval holder must comply with the notice.	Compliant (ADS-OMP)  Pending (AOMP)	Closed  Awaiting Ministerial Approval	ADS-OMP submitted to DCCEEW 7/02/2024 Approved by DCCEEW (Rachel Short) 21/03/2024  AOMP version 5 submitted to DCCEEW 7/11/2024 and under evaluation.

5	Within 12 months of commencement of <b>operations</b> , the approval holder must provide written evidence to the <b>Department</b> demonstrating that the:			
a)	ADS-OMP approved by the <b>Minister</b> is being <b>implemented</b>	Compliant	Ongoing	<p>Sighted 'EPBC 2019-8569 Ararat-Dobie Offset Management Plan Monitoring Year 1, First Quarter: Winter 2024 report prepared by Living Victoria.</p> <p>Report outlines criteria under assessment in Year 1. Table 1 summarises OMP trigger value, summarises site condition and recommends corrective actions.</p> <p>S3 concludes that significant management of threats has been undertaken in recent months.</p>
b)	AOMP approved by the <b>Minister</b> is being <b>implemented</b>	Pending	Not yet Commenced	Awaiting approval of the OMP.
c)	<b>Ararat-Dobie Site</b> has been <b>secured</b>	Compliant	Closed	Sighted Appendix C: S69 Landowner Agreement on Title
d)	Offset site or sites identified in the AOMP approved by the <b>Minister</b> in writing has been <b>secured</b> .	Pending	Not yet Commenced	Not yet commenced. TfN s.127 Covenant will be enacted upon acceptance of AOMP.



NTGVVP, GSM and SLL Offset - The purpose of the following conditions is to compensate for impacts to <b>NTGVVP, GSM</b> and <b>SLL</b> as a result of the Action.				
6	The approval holder must, before 1 February 2024, submit to the <b>department</b> for the <b>Minister's</b> written approval a Grassland Offset Strategy (GOS). The approval holder must implement the GOS as and from when it is approved by the <b>Minister</b> in writing in accordance with the timelines specified in the GOS or at least until the expiry date of this approval, whichever is the longer. The GOS must, to the satisfaction of the <b>Minister</b> , meet the requirements of the <b>Environmental Offsets Policy</b> . The GOS must:	Compliant	Closed	<p>Email on Friday 12th January from APA to DCCEEW presenting v4 Grassland Offset Strategy for approval.</p> <p>Version 5 of the Grassland Offset Strategy dated 5th April 2024</p> <p>GOS was approved by DCCEEW (Rachel Short) on 9/05/2024.</p>
a)	identify and describe an offset site	Compliant	Closed	Sighted Section 5.1 of the approved GOS
b)	demonstrate that the offset site is of a size and scale proportionate to the residual impacts on <b>NTGVVP, GSM</b> and <b>SLL</b> , according to the <b>Environmental Offsets Policy</b>	Compliant	Closed	<p>Sighted the GOS:</p> <p>Section 4 Impacts and Offset Requirements</p> <p>Section 5.1 Offset Site</p> <p>Appendix A Offset assessment guide calculations</p> <p>Appendix B Supporting information for Offset calculations</p>

c)	commit to specific ecological outcomes for <b>NTGVVP</b> , <b>GSM</b> and <b>SLL</b>	Compliant	Closed	Sighted the GOS:  Section 5.2 Offset Measures  Appendix B Supporting Information for Offset calculations
d)	specify management measures which will be undertaken on the offset site to achieve <b>condition</b> improvement	Compliant	Closed	Sighted the GOS Section 5.2 Offset Measures
6A	If the GOS has not been approved by the <b>Minister</b> prior to 2 April 2024 the <b>Minister</b> may give notice to the approval holder of the date on which specified elements of <b>operations</b> must cease and under what circumstances the specified elements of <b>operations</b> may be resumed. The approval holder must comply with the notice.	N/A	Closed	Email on Friday 12th January from APA to DCCEEW presenting v4 Grassland Offset Strategy for approval.  Version 5 of the Grassland Offset Strategy dated 5th April 2024  GOS was approved by DCCEEW (Rachel Short) on 9/05/2024.  No notice was issued by DCCEEW.

7	The approval holder must submit to the <b>department</b> for the <b>Minister's</b> approval a Grassland Offset Management Plan (GOMP) for the offset site identified in the approved GOS. The approval holder must ensure that the GOMP, as approved by the <b>Minister</b> in writing, is implemented in accordance with the timelines specified in the GOMP or at least until the expiry date of this approval, whichever is the longer. The GOMP must, to the satisfaction of the <b>Minister</b> , meet the requirements of the <b>Environmental Offsets Policy</b> and <b>Environmental Management Plan Guidelines</b> , and must include:	Compliant	Ongoing	<p>Final version of GOMP submitted 9th April 2024 Approval letter dated 17th May 2024</p> <p>Section 5 of GOMP demonstrates how the offset meets the requirements of each Principle of the Environmental Offsets Policy.</p> <p>Implementation active.</p>
a)	A summary of the residual impacts to <b>NTGVVP, GSM</b> and <b>SLL</b> that will be compensated for by the offset site. This summary must include the area of habitat for <b>protected matters</b> and the <b>condition</b> at all impact sites which the offset site is to address.	Compliant	Closed	Sighted the approved GOS and Section 2.3 of the GOMP.
b)	The relevant <b>protected matters</b> and a reference to the <b>EPBC Act</b> approval conditions to which the GOMP refers.	Compliant	Closed	Sighted in Section 1.1 of the GOMP.
c)	Specific, timebound and measurable ecological benefits for the relevant <b>protected matters</b> .	Compliant	Closed	Sighted Section 4.2, Table 16 and Table 18 of the GOMP.
d)	Measures that will be implemented to achieve the ecological benefits and the timing and effort to be applied to these measures.	Compliant	Closed	Sighted section 4.2 of the GOMP
e)	A table of commitments to achieve the ecological benefits, and a reference to where the commitments are detailed in the GOMP.	Compliant	Closed	Sighted Tables 16, 17 and 18 of the GOMP

f)	The reporting and review mechanisms, and documentation standards that will be implemented to inform others annually regarding compliance with management and environmental commitments, and attainment and maintenance of the ecological benefits as specified in the GOMP.	Compliant	Ongoing	Sighted Section 4.2.7, Tables 16, 17, 18 and Appendix 6 Annual Reporting Template of the GOMP.  Not Yet Commenced - Annual reporting by the Landowner to TfN and DCCEEW.
g)	An assessment of risks to achieving the ecological benefits and what risk management strategies will be applied to address these.	Pending	Ongoing	Sighted Appendix 5 of the GOMP  Sighted tables 16 and 18
h)	A monitoring program, which must include:			
i)	collecting evidence that effectively determines progress towards, attainment of and maintenance of the ecological benefits for the <b>protected matters</b>	Compliant	Ongoing	Sighted Section 4.2.7, Table 16 and Table 18 of the GOMP.  Not Yet Commenced - Annual monitoring and reporting by the Landowner to TfN and DCCEEW.
ii)	measurable performance indicators to monitor attainment of the ecological benefits for the <b>protected matters</b>	Compliant	Ongoing	Sighted Table 16 and Table 18 of the GOMP
iii)	trigger values for corrective actions	Compliant	Closed	Sighted Table 16 and Table 18 of the GOMP
iv)	the timing and frequency of monitoring capable of detecting trigger values and changes in the performance indicators	Compliant	Closed	Sighted Table 16 and Table 18 of the GOMP
i)	Proposed corrective actions to ensure ecological benefits for the <b>protected matters</b> are attained or maintained, if trigger values are reached or performance indicators not attained	Compliant	Closed	Sighted Table 16 and Table 18 of the GOMP
j)	Links to referenced plans and applicable conditions of approval (including State approval conditions) if any.	Compliant	Closed	Sighted GOS References Section and Appendices Section

8	Within 12 months of the <b>Minister</b> approving the GOS, the approval holder must provide written evidence to the <b>Department</b> demonstrating that the:			
a)	GOMP as approved by the <b>Minister</b> in writing is being <b>implemented</b>	Compliant	Active	<p>Sighted invoice for 'Stage 1' infrastructure works including fencing, roading and stock adjustments.</p> <p>Sighted 'Offset Management Plan Implementation (EPBC 2019/8569) Proposal prepared by SMEC 11th Oct 2024 with provision for draft baseline survey being prepared in Feb 2025.</p>
b)	Offset site identified in the GOMP has been <b>secured</b> .	Compliant	Closed	<p>Sighted Cressy s173 Council agreement - fully executed 13th June 2024</p>
8A	If the GOMP has not been approved by the <b>Minister</b> within 12 months of the <b>Minister's</b> approval of the GOS, the <b>Minister</b> may give notice to the approval holder of the date on which specified elements of <b>operations</b> must be suspended and under what circumstances the specified elements of <b>operations</b> may be resumed. The approval holder must comply with the notice.	Pending	Active	<p>GOS approved 09/05/2024</p> <p>GOMP approved 17/05/2024</p>

Part B - Standard administrative conditions				
9	The approval holder must notify the <b>Department</b> in writing of the date of <b>commencement of the action</b> within 10 <b>business days</b> after the date of <b>commencement of the action</b> .	Partial	Closed	Verbal notification was provided to DCCEEW. Dialogue continued frequently following commencement of the action regarding commitments relating to the Approval. Unable to locate written notification but this may be on staff members emails who have subsequently left the business.
9A	The approval holder must notify the <b>Department</b> in writing of the date of commencement of <b>operations</b> within 10 <b>business days</b> after the date of commencement of <b>operations</b> .	Compliant	Closed	Sighted notification of operation on 27th February 2024 - email sent Friday 1st March 2024.
10	If the <b>commencement of the action</b> does not occur within 5 years from the date of this approval, then the approval holder must not <b>commence the action</b> without the prior written agreement of the <b>Minister</b> .	N/A	N/A	Action formally commenced on 3rd October 2023.
11	The approval holder must maintain accurate and complete <b>compliance records</b> .	Compliant	Active	Reviewed vegetation removal GIS records on 24.10.24. Dataset is complete with accurate measurements of EPBC vegetation removal within allowable limits.  Scope for annual reports from each offset site include provision for evaluation of compliance parameters detailed in each OMP and strategy. This would form an accurate basis to monitor establishment and implementation of the OMPs across each offset site.
12	If the <b>Department</b> makes a request in writing, the approval holder must provide electronic copies of <b>compliance records</b> to the <b>Department</b> within the timeframe specified in the request.	Compliant	Active	No requests in writing for compliance records have been received from the Department.
13	The approval holder must:			

a)	submit <b>plans</b> electronically to the <b>Department</b>	Compliant	Active	Sighted emails to Department containing electronic copies of submitted plans.
b)	unless otherwise agreed to in writing by the <b>Minister</b> , publish each <b>plan</b> on the <b>website</b> within 20 <b>business days</b> of the date:			
i)	of this approval, if the version of the <b>plan</b> to be implemented is specified in these conditions; or	N/A	N/A	No specific Versions stated in the conditions.
ii)	that the <b>plan</b> is approved by the <b>Minister</b> in writing, if the <b>plan</b> requires the approval of the <b>Minister</b> ; or	Compliant	Active	Sighted plans on website
iii)	that the <b>plan</b> is approved under the Pipelines Act 2005 (Vic) if the plan is required under the Pipelines Act 2005 (Vic).	N/A	N/A	No plans in these conditions require to be approved under the Pipelines Act 2005 (Vic).
14	The approval holder must ensure that any <b>monitoring data</b> (including <b>sensitive ecological data</b> ), surveys, maps, and other spatial and metadata required under a <b>plan</b> , is prepared in accordance with the <b>Department's</b> Guidelines for biological survey and mapped data (2018) and submitted electronically to the <b>Department</b> in accordance with the requirements of the <b>plan</b> .	Pending	Active	Sighted 'EPBC 2019-8569 Ararat-Dobie Offset Management Plan Monitoring Year 1, First Quarter: Winter 2024 report prepared by Living Victoria.  Proposal by SMEC for monitoring of Cressy Site  Dunkeld OMP (AOMP) yet to be approved.

15	The approval holder must prepare a <b>compliance report</b> for each 12 month period following the date of <b>commencement of the action</b> , or otherwise in accordance with an annual date that has been agreed to in writing by the <b>Minister</b> . The approval holder must:	Compliant	Active	This Compliance Report.
a)	publish each <b>compliance report</b> on the <b>website</b> within 60 <b>business days</b> following the relevant 12 month period	Compliant	Active	Agreed publish date no later than Wednesday 5th Feb 2025
b)	notify the <b>Department</b> by email that a <b>compliance report</b> has been published on the <b>website</b> and provide the weblink for the <b>compliance report</b> within 5 <b>business days</b> of the date of publication	Pending	Active	APA to provide written notification to DCCEEW following upload of this report on Project website.
c)	keep all <b>compliance reports</b> publicly available on the <b>website</b> until this approval expires	Pending	Active	Compliance report shall be uploaded on website.
d)	exclude or redact <b>sensitive ecological data</b> from <b>compliance reports</b> published on the <b>website</b>	Compliant	Active	Content of this Compliance report does not include sensitive ecological data.
e)	where any <b>sensitive ecological data</b> has been excluded from the version published, submit the full <b>compliance report</b> to the <b>Department</b> within 5 <b>business days</b> of publication.	N/A	N/A	Published Compliance report has not been redacted.
16	The approval holder must notify the <b>Department</b> in writing of any: <b>incident</b> ; non-compliance with the conditions; or non-compliance with the commitments made in <b>plans</b> . The notification must be given as soon as practicable, and no later than 2 <b>business days</b> after becoming aware of the <b>incident</b> or non-compliance. The notification must specify:	N/A	N/A	No incidents or non-compliances reported to date.
a)	any condition which is or may be in breach	N/A	N/A	No incidents or non-compliances to date



b)	a short description of the <b>incident</b> and/or non-compliance	N/A	N/A	No incidents or non-compliances to date
c)	the location (including co-ordinates), date, and time of the <b>incident</b> and/or non-compliance. In the event the exact information cannot be provided, provide the best information available.	N/A	N/A	No incidents or non-compliances to date
17	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:	N/A	N/A	No incidents or non-compliances to date.
a)	any corrective action or investigation which the approval holder has already taken or intends to take in the immediate future	N/A	N/A	No corrective actions to date
b)	the potential impacts of the <b>incident</b> or non-compliance	N/A	N/A	No incidents or non-compliances to date
c)	the method and timing of any remedial action that will be undertaken by the approval holder.	N/A	N/A	No incidents or non-compliances to date
18	The approval holder must ensure that <b>independent audits</b> of compliance with the conditions are conducted as requested in writing by the <b>Minister</b> .	N/A	N/A	No independent audits requested in the Compliance period 1st July 2023 - 30th September 2024
19	For each <b>independent audit</b> , the approval holder must:			
a)	provide the name and qualifications of the independent auditor and the draft audit criteria to the <b>Department</b>	N/A	Not yet Commenced	
b)	only commence the <b>independent audit</b> once the audit criteria have been approved in writing by the <b>Department</b>	N/A	Not yet Commenced	
c)	submit an audit report to the <b>Department</b> within the timeframe specified in the approved audit criteria.	N/A	Not yet Commenced	

20	The approval holder must publish the audit report on the <b>website</b> within 10 <b>business days</b> of receiving the <b>Department's</b> approval of the audit report and keep the audit report published on the <b>website</b> until the end date of this approval.	N/A	Not yet Commenced	
21	Within 30 days after the <b>completion of the action</b> , the approval holder must notify the <b>Department</b> in writing and provide <b>completion data</b> .	N/A	Not yet Completed	