



THE HON JOSH FRYDENBERG MP
MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY

MS16-002249

Mr Ed Mounsey
Crudine Ridge Wind Farm Pty Ltd
PO Box 1708
NEWCASTLE NSW 2300

Dear Mr Mounsey

I am writing to you in relation to your proposal to develop and operate a wind farm 45 kilometres south of Mudgee and 45 kilometres north of Bathurst, New South Wales (EPBC 2011/6206). I have considered the proposal in accordance with Part 9 of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) and have decided to grant an approval to Crudine Ridge Wind Farm Pty Ltd. The details of my decision are attached. The proposal must be undertaken in accordance with the conditions specified in the approval.

I would appreciate your assistance by informing my Department when you start the action, and the details for the contact person responsible for the administration of the approval decision. Please note, any plans required as conditions of approval will be regarded as public documents unless you provide sufficient justification to warrant commercial-in-confidence status. You should also note that this EPBC Act approval does not affect obligations to comply with any other laws of the Commonwealth, state or territory that are applicable to the action. Neither does this approval confer any right, title or interest that may be required to access land or waters to take the action.

The Department has an active audit program for proposals that have been referred or approved under the EPBC Act. The audit program aims to ensure that proposals are implemented as planned and that there is a high degree of compliance with any associated conditions. Please note that your project may be selected for audit by the Department at any time and all related records and documents may be subject to scrutiny. Information about the Department's compliance monitoring and auditing program is enclosed.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'J. Frydenberg', written over a printed name.

JOSH FRYDENBERG



Approval

Crudine Ridge Wind Farm, NSW (EPBC 2011/6206)

This decision is made under sections 130(1) and 133 of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*.

Proposed action

person to whom the approval is granted	Crudine Ridge Wind Farm Pty Ltd
proponent's ACN (if applicable)	ACN: 143 399 160
proposed action	The proposed action is the development and operation of a wind farm 45 km south of Mudgee and 45 km north of Bathurst, New South Wales [See EPBC Act referral 2011/6206].

Approval decision

Controlling Provision	Decision
Listed threatened species and communities (sections 18 & 18A)	Approved
Listed migratory species (sections 20 & 20A)	Approved

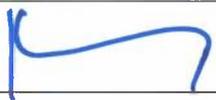
conditions of approval

This approval is subject to the conditions specified below.

expiry date of approval

This approval has effect until 28 February 2052

Decision-maker

name and position	The Hon Josh Frydenberg MP Minister for the Environment and Energy
signature	
date of decision	4/4/17

Conditions attached to the approval

1. To minimise the impacts of the action on **protected matters**, the approval holder must:
 - a. Implement administrative conditions 1,4, 6, 7, 8; environmental conditions 19 (b)(c) - 24, 41, 42 of the approval under the NSW *Environment Planning and Assessment Act 1979*, as per Development Consent SSD-6697 dated 10 May 2016, where they relate to monitoring, managing, mitigating, avoiding, offsetting, recording, or reporting on, impacts to **protected matters**.
 - b. Notify the **Department** in writing of any proposed change to the conditions of the NSW Government approval for which Condition 1a applies, no later than 2 weeks after formally proposing a change or becoming aware of the NSW Government proposing a change.
 - c. Notify the **Department** in writing of any change to the NSW Government approval for which Condition 1a applies within 2 weeks of a change being finalised.
2. If the approval holder does not secure the **offset site** through a **NSW BioBanking Agreement**, then the approval holder must protect the offset site under a legal instrument, approved by the **Minster** within 12 months of the commencement of construction. The legal instrument must:
 - a. be registered on title of the offset site once approved, and
 - b. provide for the protection and ongoing conservation management of the **offset site** in perpetuity.
3. **The person taking the action** must not clear more than 3.28 hectares of *White Box Yellow Box Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland* ecological community, for the development of the proposed action, as defined in Schedule 1 of this approval.
4. **The person taking the action** must not clear known locations of Small Purple Pea (*Swainsona recta*) within the project area (identified within the **Environmental Assessment**). The person taking the action must not clear any additional populations of Small Purple Pea (not identified within the **Environmental Assessment**), without the approval of the **Minister**.
5. **The person taking the action** must only construct, operate, and replace or upgrade, as necessary, up to 37 **wind turbines**.
6. **The person taking the action** must not construct or place any **wind turbines** at locations A53, A54, A55, A56, A57, A58, A61, A66, A67, A68, A69, A71, A73, A78, A79, A80, A81, A82, A83, A84 as indicated on Schedule 2 of this approval.
7. **The person taking the action** must not construct any additional turbines at a future time in the project site area indicated on Schedule 2 of this approval, except for those referred to in condition 5.
8. Within 30 days after the **commencement of the action**, **the person taking the action** must advise the **Department** in writing of the actual date of **commencement of the action**.

9. **The person taking the action** must maintain accurate records substantiating all activities associated with or relevant to the conditions of approval, including measures taken to implement the **management plans**, reports, strategies, agreements required by this approval, and make them available upon request to the **Department**. Such records may be subject to audit by the **Department** or an independent auditor in accordance with section 458 of the EPBC Act, or used to verify compliance with the conditions of approval. Summaries of audits will be posted on the **Department's** website. The results of audits may also be publicised through the general media.
10. Within three months of every 12 month anniversary of the **commencement of the action**, **the person taking the action** must publish a report on their website addressing compliance with each of the conditions of this approval, including implementation of any **management plans** as specified in the conditions. Documentary evidence providing proof of the date of publication and non-compliance with any of the conditions of this approval must be provided to the **Department** at the same time as the compliance report is published.
11. Any potential or actual contravention of the conditions of this approval (including contravention of a commitment made in a management plan, program or strategy) must be reported to the **Department** within 7 days of the approval holder becoming aware of the actual or potential contravention.
12. Upon the direction of the **Minister**, **the person taking the action** must ensure that an independent audit of compliance with the conditions of approval is conducted and a report submitted to the **Minister**. The independent auditor must be approved by the **Minister** prior to the commencement of the audit. Audit criteria must be agreed to by the **Minister** and the audit report must address the criteria to the satisfaction of the **Minister**.
13. If, at any time after 5 years from the date of this approval, **the person taking the action** has not substantially **commenced the action**, then **the person taking the action** must not substantially **commence the action** without the written agreement of the **Minister**.

Definitions

Department: The Australian Government Department or any other agency administering the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (Cth) from time to time.

Commencement of the action: The construction of any infrastructure associated with the proposed action, including but not limited to vegetation clearance, the construction of **wind turbines**, ancillary infrastructure and road upgrades (excludes fences and signage, geotechnical drilling and surveying).

Environmental Assessment: The environmental assessment for the Crudine Ridge Wind Farm, prepared by Wind Prospect CWP Pty Ltd (CWP) and dated December 2012, as modified by: Crudine Ridge Response to Submissions and Preferred Project Report, prepared by CWP and dated November 2013; and the supplementary visual wireframe analysis and **wind turbine** layout plans prepared by CWP and dated 12 December 2014.

Management Plans: means the Biodiversity Management Plan, Biodiversity Offsets Management Plan, and Bird and Bat Adaptive Management Plan.

Minister: The Minister administering the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (Cth) and includes a delegate of the **Minister**.

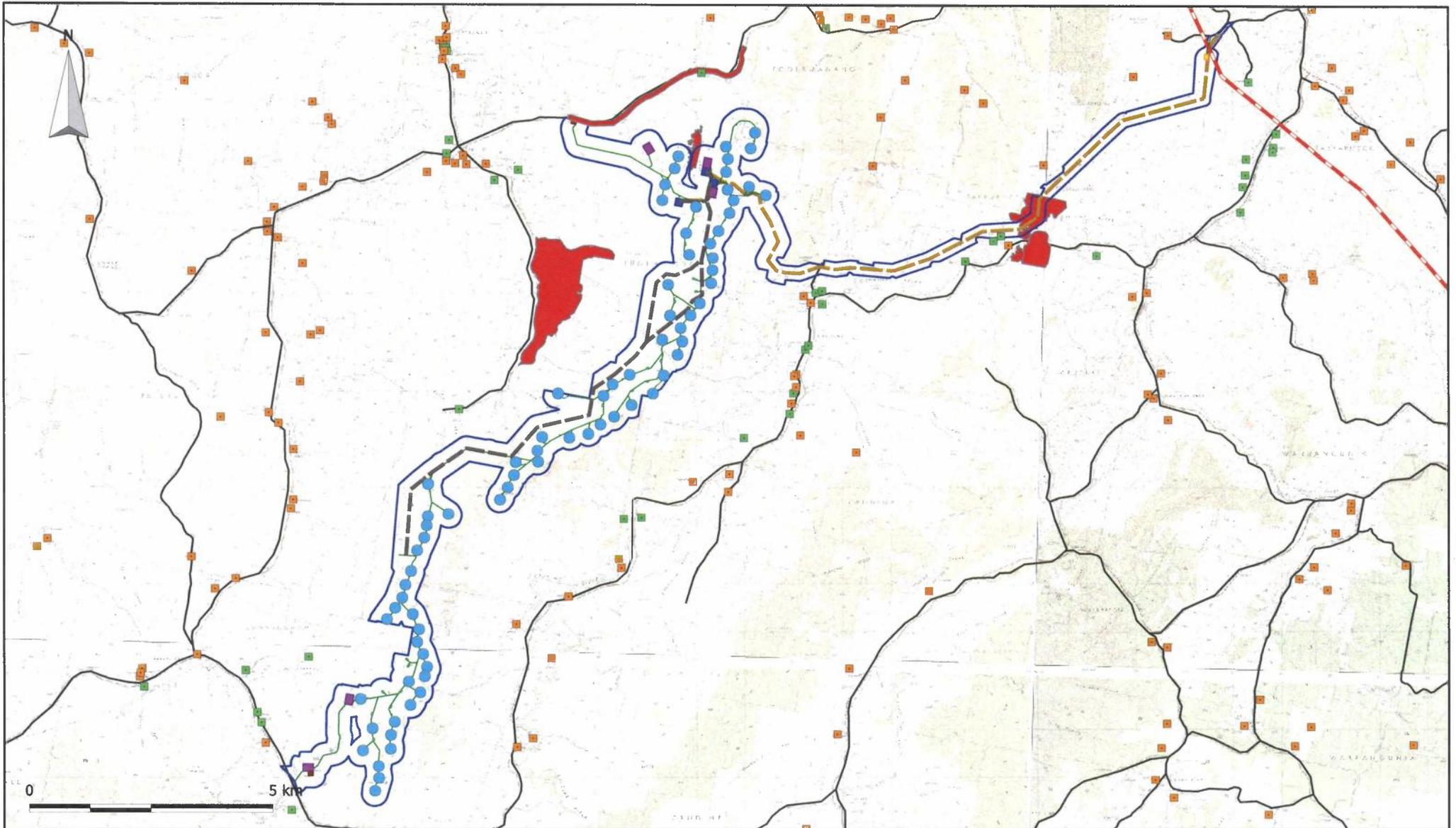
NSW BioBanking Agreement: An agreement under Part 7A of the *NSW Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995* for the purpose of establishing a BioBank site.

Offset site: As defined in environmental condition 20 in Development Consent SSD-6697 dated 10 May 2016.

The person taking the action: The person to whom this approval is granted.

Protected matters: Matters protected under the controlling provisions (under Part 3 of the EPBC Act) for which this approval applies being: *White Box Yellow Box Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland*, Regent Honeyeater (*Anthochaera phrygia*), Small Purple Pea (*Swainsona recta*), and the Swift Parrot (*Lathamus discolor*).

Wind turbine(s): Turbine(s) used for the generation of electricity by wind, including the tower, blades and associated components.

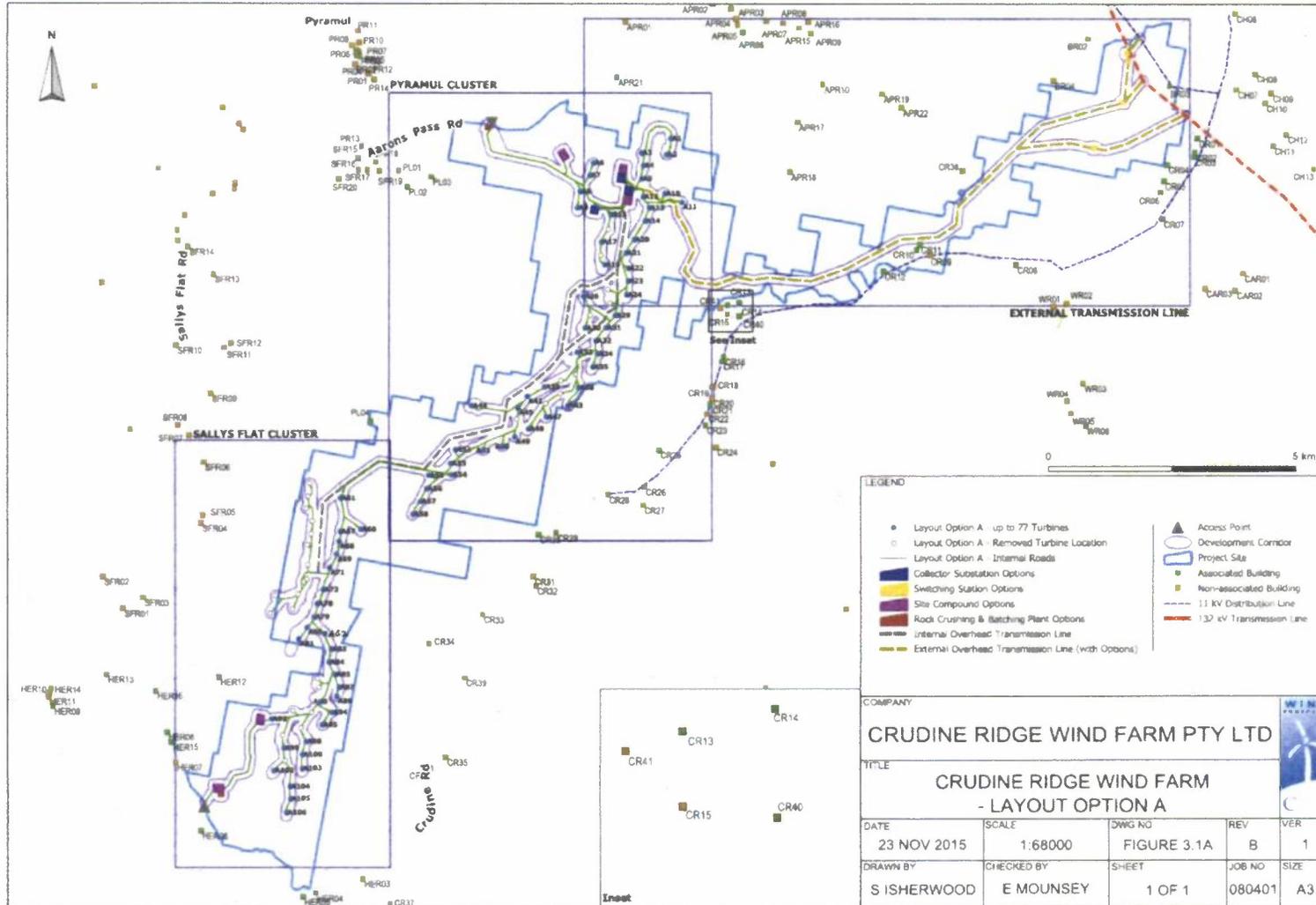


LEGEND		COMPANY		TITLE	
● Layout Option A - up to 77 Turbines	■ Switching Station Options	CRUDINE RIDGE WIND FARM PTY LTD		COMMONWEALTH ENDANGERED ECOLOGICAL COMMUNITIES	
■ Active Landowner	■ Rock Crushing & Batching Plant Options	DATE 27 JUL 2016		SCALE 1:110000	DWG NO CRU196
■ Not Active Landowner	■ Site Compound Options	DRAWN BY B KRONENBERG		CHECKED BY M BRANSON	REV A
— External Overhead Transmission Line (with Options)	■ Collector Substation Options	SHEET 1 OF 1		JOB NO 080401	VER 1
— Internal Overhead Transmission Line	■ EPBC Listed Communities (Box Gum Woodland **)	SIZE A4			
— 132 kV Transmission Line	— Layout Option A - Internal Roads				

** White Box Yellow Box Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland - EPBC Act listed Critically Endangered Ecological Community

FIGURE 3.1A: CRUDINE RIDGE WIND FARM : LAYOUT OPTION A

2015



LEGEND

- Layout Option A - up to 77 Turbines
- Layout Option A - Removed Turbine Location
- Layout Option A - Internal Roads
- Collector Substation Options
- Switching Station Options
- Site Compound Options
- Rock Crushing & Batching Plant Options
- Internal Overhead Transmission Line
- External Overhead Transmission Line (with Options)
- ▲ Access Point
- Development Corridor
- Project Site
- Associated Building
- Non-associated Building
- 11 kV Distribution Line
- 132 kV Transmission Line

COMPANY					
CRUDINE RIDGE WIND FARM PTY LTD					
TITLE					
CRUDINE RIDGE WIND FARM - LAYOUT OPTION A					
DATE	SCALE	DWG NO	REV	VER	
23 NOV 2015	1:68000	FIGURE 3.1A	B	1	
DRAWN BY	CHECKED BY	SHEET	JOB NO	SIZE	
S ISHERWOOD	E MOUNSEY	1 OF 1	080401	A3	

