

PLANNING and ENVIRONMENT ACT MOYNE PLANNING SCHEME

**PERMIT NO. PA2201719** 

ENDORSED PLAN Sheet 1 of 45

Signed: for MINISTER FOR PLANNING
Date: 11 November 2022

# Ryan Corner Wind Farm Transmission Line to Tarrone Terminal Station – Option 2

Native Vegetation Plan

Prepared for Ryan Corner Development Pty Ltd

October 2022 Report No. 14144.26 (1.4)



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## **Contents**

1.	Intro	oduction	. 1
1.1	1.	Purpose of the plan	. 1
1.2	2.	Avoid and minimise impacts to Biodiversity (Three-step Approach)	.2
2.	Proj	ect Description	.3
2.1	1.	Objectives of the NVP	.4
2.2	2.	Threatened flora, fauna and communities	.6
2.3	3.	Micro-siting of power poles and access tracks	.8
3.	Mar	nagement Actions	10
3.1	1.	Summary of management actions to be undertaken	10
3.2	2.	Training requirements	16
3.3	3.	Measures used to protect native vegetation to be retained during construction	16
	3.3.	1. Management actions	16
3.4	4.	Measures used to protect wetlands beyond the development footprint	18
3.5	5.	Avoidance of roadside vegetation	19
3.6	3.	Opportunities for Revegetation	19
4.	Mor	nitor and Review	22
5.	Refe	erences	23
Figur	es		
Figur	e 1:	Footprint and Native Vegetation for removal	.5
_		Locations of threatened flora and fauna detected within 10km of the transmission li	
Figur	e 3:	Examples of micro siting along the transmission line	.9
Figur	e 4:	Fencing Plan	21
Attac	hme	ents	
	Asse	ent 1: TxL - Ryan Corner Wind Farm to Tarrone Terminal Station: Flora and Fau essment – <i>Option 2</i> , Report No. 14144.23 (1.4) prepared by Nature Advisory Pty L 22)	_td

PLANNING and ENVIRONMENT ACT MOYNE PLANNING SCHEME

**PERMIT NO. PA2201719** 

ENDORSED PLAN Sheet 2 of 45



igned. for MINISTER FOR PLANNING Date: 11 November 2022

### 1. Introduction

Ryan Corner Development Pty Ltd (RCD) (a wholly owned subsidiary of GPG Australia Pty Ltd) engaged Nature Advisory Pty Ltd to prepare a Native Vegetation Plan (NVP) for a 132 kV transmission line (the project), associated with the approved Ryan Corner Wind Farm, in the localities of Tarrone, Orford and Port Fairy, in south-western Victoria.

The transmission line alignment is approximately 18 kilometres long, running in a north-south direction to connect Ryan Corner Wind Farm in the south to Tarrone Terminal Station in the north.

Two options for the transmission line route have been assessed and presented to the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning for approval. Approval of native vegetation impacts associated with each option has been sought. RCD will be adopting and constructing only one of the two options. Therefore, the transmission line route has been the subject of two separate Flora and Fauna Assessments:

- Ryan Corner Wind Farm to Tarrone Terminal Station Option 1: Flora and Fauna Assessment prepared by Nature Advisory June 2022 (Report No 14144.23 (2.3)); and
- Ryan Corner Wind Farm to Tarrone Terminal Station Option 2: Flora and Fauna Assessment prepared by Nature Advisory June 2022 (Report No 14144.23 (1.4)).

This NVP aims to provide management and mitigation measures for the removal of native vegetation associated with RCD's preferred option, Option 2. Upon endorsement, this NVP will form part of the planning permit for the removal of native vegetation and will be the reference document for the details of the native vegetation approved to be removed and required to be offset in accordance with Attachment 1.

The abovementioned Flora and Fauna Assessment relating to Option 2 is referred to in this NVP as 'the report'.

The report identified 109 patches of native vegetation totalling approximately 23 hectares, within the transmission line study area. The specific area investigated, comprised a 30-metre wide corridor along the proposed transmission line route, as well as a 20-metre-wide corridor along proposed access tracks and existing access track upgrades from Ryan Corner Wind Farm's internal substation to the existing Tarrone Terminal Station.

The transmission line, access track footprint and associated civil works will require the removal of 1.477 hectares of native vegetation.

#### 1.1. Purpose of the plan

This NVP provides the following:

- A description of the area that will host the transmission line;
- Maps outlining areas of native vegetation to be removed and retained, current mapped wetlands and locations of detected threatened flora and fauna species:
- Methods for the identification of potential methods for protection of these areas; and

  PLANNING and ENVIRONMENT ACT threats to areas threats to are a put of the protection of these areas; and
- Risk management measures with management indicators for managing risks to retained native vegetation.

Signed: for MINISTER FOR PLANNING

Sheet 3 of 45



The aim of this NVP is to provide guidance on the management of the construction phase of the project to avoid impact on areas of native vegetation to be retained, as well as to minimise unnecessary impacts on the site, as a whole.

#### 1.2. Avoid and minimise impacts to Biodiversity (Three-step Approach)

As defined under the Guidelines for the removal, destruction or lopping of native vegetation:

The three-step approach (avoid, minimise, offset) is the key policy in relation to the removal of native vegetation to achieve no net loss to biodiversity as a result of the removal, destruction or lopping of native vegetation. It is a precautionary approach that aims to ensure that the removal of native vegetation is restricted to only what is reasonably necessary, and that biodiversity is appropriately compensated for any removal of native vegetation that is approved.

Efforts to avoid the removal of, and minimise the impacts on, native vegetation should be commensurate with the biodiversity and other values of the native vegetation and focused on areas of native vegetation that have the most value.

Areas of native vegetation to be retained must be able to maintain the same values in the future and should not be degraded over time by a proposed use or development associated with the removal.

The associated Flora and Fauna Assessment adheres to these principles as follows:

- 1. Impacts to native vegetation were avoided in the first instance (particularly high biodiversity-value areas)
- 2. Where impacts were deemed unavoidable, they were reduced to the minimum extent deemed feasible to carry out the necessary works
- 3. The residual impacts will be offset under a 3<sup>rd</sup> party offset credit agreement. This type of offset secures a net gain of native vegetation within an established offset site to compensate for the removal of native vegetation on site. The offset site is and will continue to be effectively managed and is secured in perpetuity.

#### Opportunities to continue to apply the avoid and minimise principles

During construction, opportunities may arise to further reduce the impact to native vegetation. Therefore, construction personnel must always consider the avoid and minimise principles by reducing the construction footprint in areas identified as containing native vegetation, wherever the opportunity exists to do so. For example, there is likely an opportunity to restrict the on-ground footprint of the equipment laydown areas for pole construction. This is because a precautionary approach was adopted during the design phase and these areas were allocated a 20 metre x 20 metre area to ensure there were no additional impacts beyond what is detailed in the Flora and Fauna Assessment. Areas of native vegetation approved to be impacted is illustrated in Figure 1 of this plan and will also be replicated in the series of A3 maps (as detailed below).

A series of A3 maps summarising the requirements of the NVP will be prepared upon endorsement of this document by the Minister for Planning. Upon completion, the maps and this NVP will be provided to the construction contractors to assist in understanding the obligations. NNEW Gavel Enviolement Medical Environment and management. The summary will common the sages for the summary will common the sages for the sages for the plan. These maps will not replace this NVP, but rather will be a quick reference guide for personnel working on site. The maps will be updated as required to reflect any changes made to this NVP and approved by the Minister for Planning.

This NVP was prepared by a team from Nature Advisory, comprising Cara Cappellett (Echlogist and Project Manager) and Chris Armstrong (Senior Botanist and Project Manager).

Signed: for MINISTER FOR PLANNING Date: 11 November 2022page | 2



## 2. Project Description

The project will involve the construction and operation of a 132 kV transmission line that will connect the Ryan Corner Wind Farm to the Tarrone Terminal Station. The transmission line will extend for approximately 18 kilometres, the majority of which is on private land. The route crosses the following roads:

Tarrone North Road;

Tarrone Lane:

Riordans Road:

Gapes Road:

Spencer Road; and

Hamilton-Port Fairy Road.

No hardstands or power poles occur within these road reserves.

PLANNING and ENVIRONMENT ACT MOYNE PLANNING SCHEME

**PERMIT NO. PA2201719** 

ENDORSED PLAN Sheet 5 of 45

The transmission line will be constructed with steel monopole type poles with a single tube-fixe pole which will have one foundation which minimises the area and veget ation affected. There are two structures that are constructed as an H structure with three footings each to facilitate the undercrossing of the existing 500kV transmission lines. The line will incorporate approximately 66 steel poles spaced on average 250 metres apart. The poles will be polygonal in shape and made out of galvanised steel. The poles are between 28 and 40 metres in height.

The top of the foundation, above ground, is called the "plinth" and is 1.8 metres to 2.4 metres in diameter. The visible portion of the foundation will protrude approximately 300 millimetres above ground. The minimum working area required around a structure position is 20 metres × 20 metres.

Foundations will be mechanically excavated where access to the pole position is readily available. The same applies to the pouring of concrete required for the setting of the foundations. Prior to construction of the foundations, the excavated foundations will be covered in order to safeguard animals and people from injury.

Considerable work has been undertaken during detailed design to micro-site poles and access tracks to minimise the impact to native vegetation and cultural heritage.

Impacts have been determined based on the footprint provided by AusNet Services (AusNet), commissioned by RCD to construct the transmission line, including:

- 5 to 6 metre wide access track (including the entire construction footprint), topped with a crusher run 100-150 millimetres deep (when water is apparent and vehicles are in danger of getting bogged down). All native vegetation within the access track footprint is considered removed;
- A working and vehicle/equipment laydown area of 20 metres X 20 metres has been assumed for pole installation; and
- In order to comply with the Electricity Safety (Electric Line Clearance) Regulations 2020 for a 132kV transmission line, where the transmission line passes over native woody vegetation taller than three metres, all vegetation within these patches is considered removed.

Construction personnel will make use of existing facilities such as toilets, offices and break rooms at either Ryan Corner Wind Farm or Tarrone Terminal Station, to minimise the extent of disturbance required for the construction. Any facilities required to be on site will be confined to the identified laydown areas. Stockpiling sites and plant parking areas will be contained within the easement and restricted to areas where there is no vegetation present. The precise location of which is not illustrated in the Figures due to the requirement to shift materials and vehicles constantly throughout the construction process. Entry and exit points are shown on Figure 1. These entry and exit points would also be used for access in the event of an emergency during construction of the transmission line.



The development footprint is indicated in Figure 1 of this plan. These Figures provide a defined area in which contractors will be confined to when working adjacent to native vegetation, to eliminate unintentional impacts on retained native vegetation.

#### 2.1. Objectives of the NVP

The objectives of this NVP include, but are not limited to the following:

- Clearly and accurately show the location and extent of native vegetation to be removed along the alignment as permitted in the planning permit;
- Clearly and accurately show the location and extent of native vegetation to be retained, and define
  protection parameters for any areas of native vegetation that occur in the proximity of the
  development footprint ('No Go Zones');
- Provide methods to manage (i.e. avoid and minimise) impacts on native vegetation within these
   'No Go Zones' that may be directly or indirectly affected by the development;
- Clearly and accurately show the location and extent of any current mapped wetlands as defined in the Guidelines for the removal, destruction or lopping of native vegetation (DELWP 2017); and
- Clearly and accurately show the locations of any threatened flora or fauna that have been detected along and within 10 kilometre buffer of the alignment.

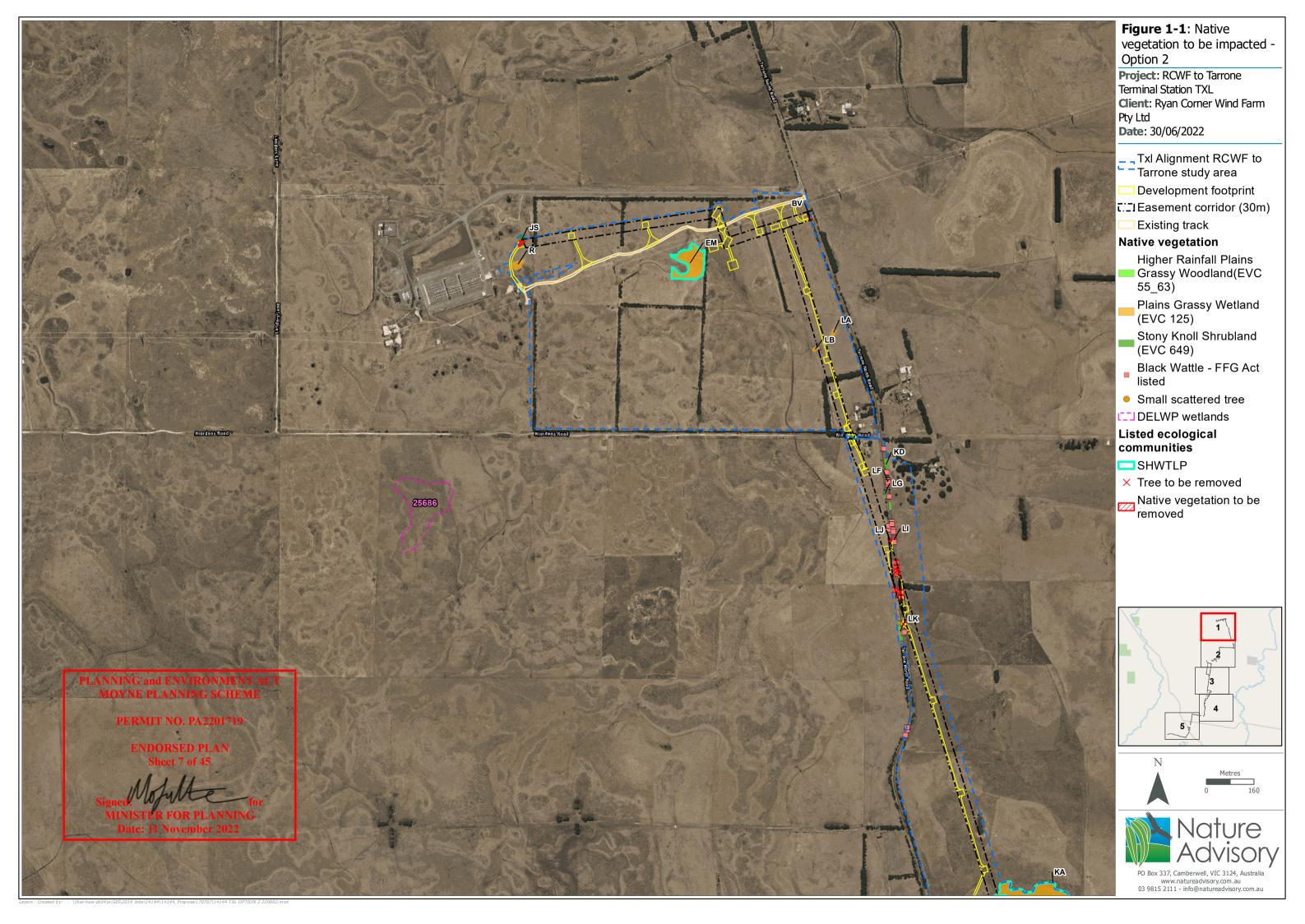
PLANNING and ENVIRONMENT ACT MOYNE PLANNING SCHEME

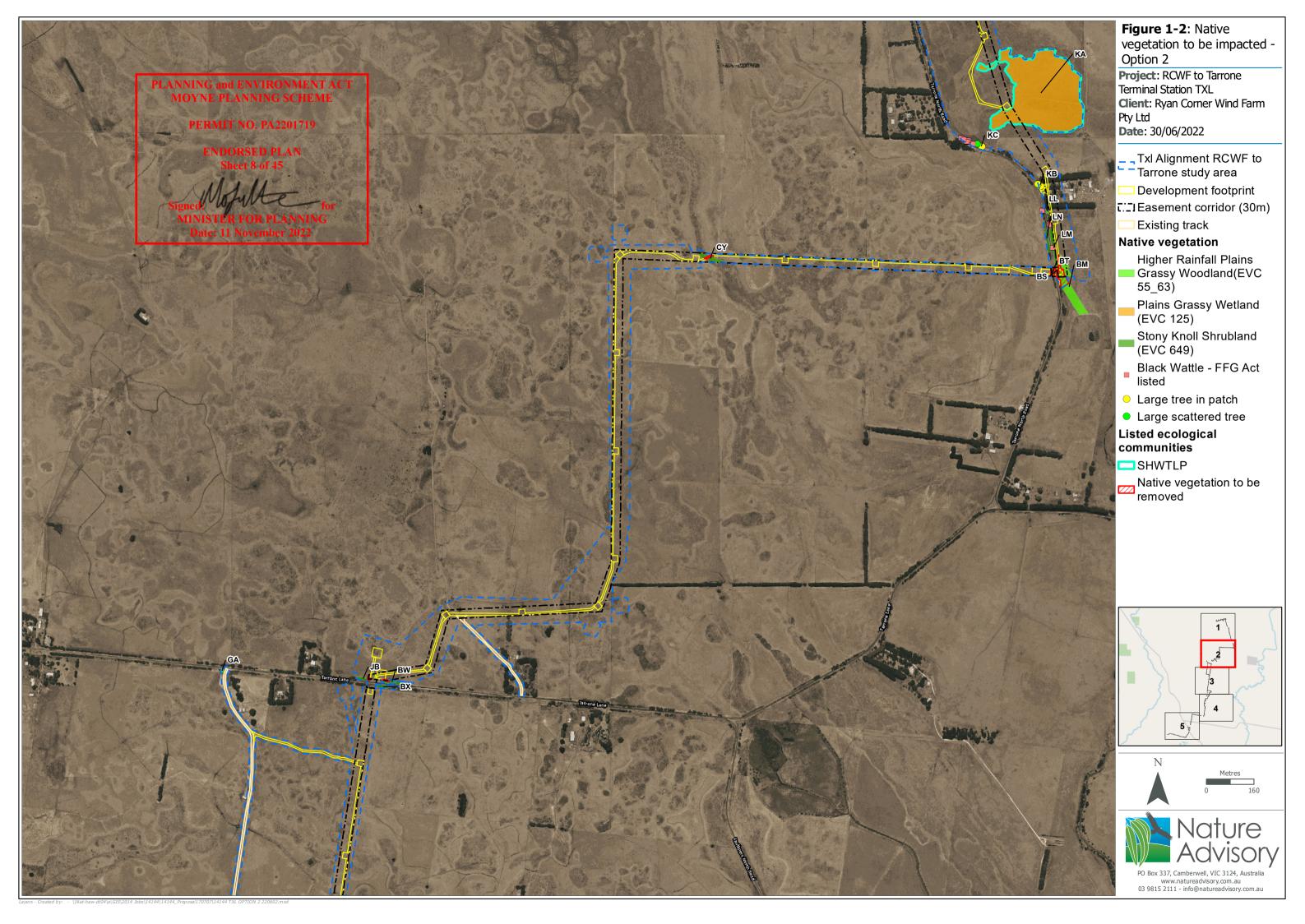
**PERMIT NO. PA2201719** 

ENDORSED PLAN Sheet 6 of 45

MINISTER FOR PLANNING

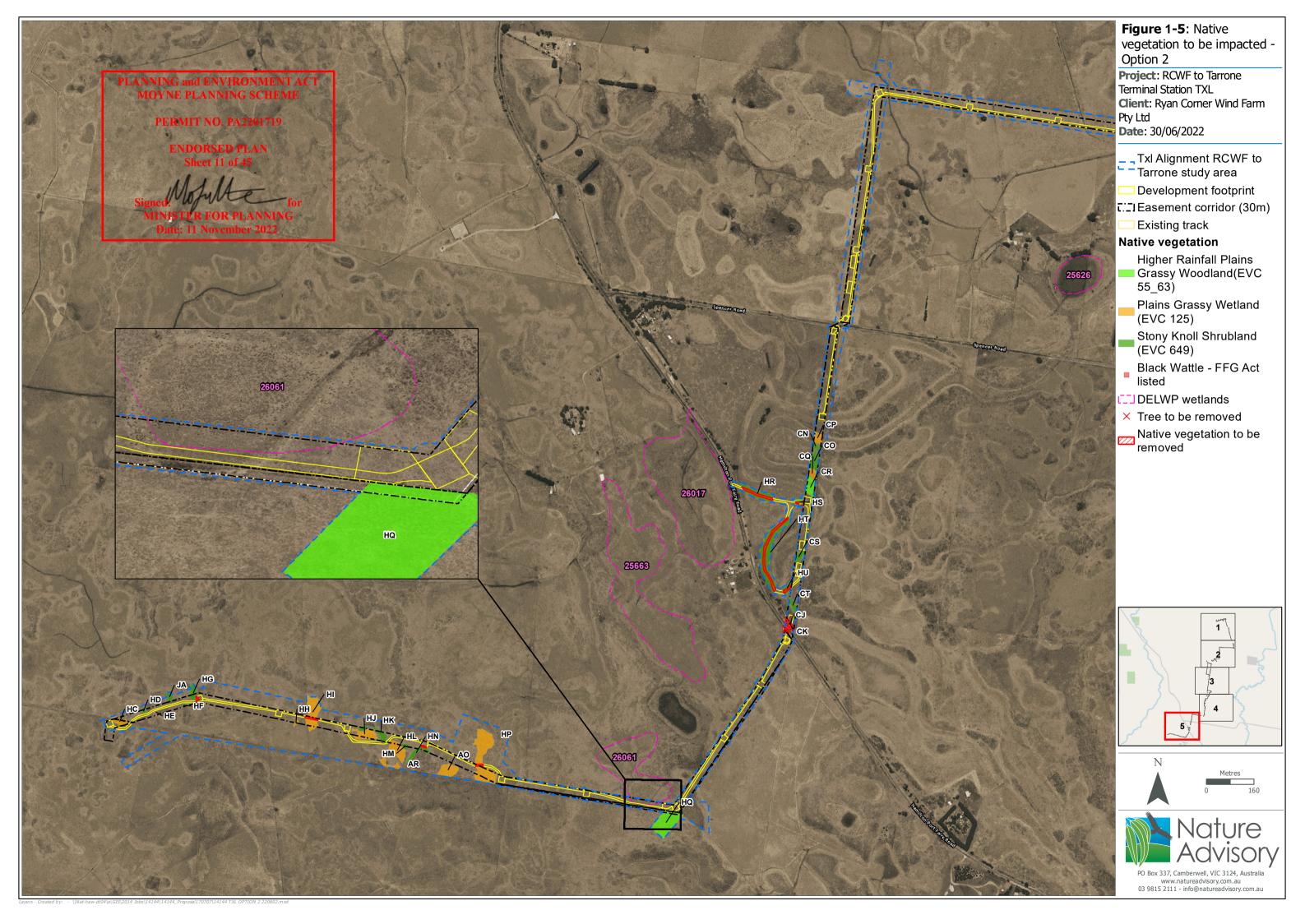












#### 2.2. Threatened flora, fauna and communities

The locations of threatened flora and fauna species recorded within a 10-kilometre radius of the transmission line alignment are provided in Figure 2. This figure was created by Nature Advisory primarily based on records from the Victorian Biodiversity Atlas, as well as any additional records resulting from ecological surveys conducted by Nature Advisory. The results are included in the attached Flora and Fauna Assessment (Attachment 1), which includes information from surveys undertaken in 2020 and 2021.

One ecological community - Seasonal Herbaceous Wetlands (Freshwater) of the Temperate Lowland Plains (SHWTLP) listed under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation (EPBC) Act was recorded in the study area.

Access tracks have been designed with consideration for relevant waterways to ensure development does not alter natural waterflow in the landscape. The installation of culverts for minor waterway crossings for access tracks will be constructed at appropriate locations to maintain the natural flow.

Therefore, the proposal is unlikely to alter the existing water regime in the landscape which could lead to indirect impact on the function of existing areas of SHWTLP. Due to both direct and indirect avoidance of SHWTLP, there are no implications under the EPBC Act listed community.

Based on the relevant guidelines and targeted surveys, the proposed development is unlikely to result in a significant impact on any EPBC Act listed flora, fauna or listed communities. All areas in the study area which support, or potentially support these values will be avoided during construction and operation of the transmission line, or the collision risk of the transmission line is deemed not to have a significant impact in the case of some avifauna species.

In addition to this, no species listed under the FFG threatened species list (DELWP 2021a) are proposed to be impacted by this proposal. However, one common species listed as protected under the FFG Act (DELWP 2019) will be impacted by the proposed development on public land. This is 14 Black Wattles, *Acacia mearnsii* from the following locations:

- Habitat zone CK (two plants); and
- Habitat zone CJ (two plants).
- Between habitat zones LJ and JK (10 plants).

A Protected Flora Permit will be required from DELWP to remove these plants.

#### Reporting of Significant Species

As per the conditions on the permit to take/keep protected flora administered by DELWP and issued to consultants, all flora records must be entered into the Victorian Biodiversity Atlas (VBA) within 12 months of the data being collected. This obligation ensures all flora records are uploaded to the VBA by the suitably qualified, VQA accredited site assessor. Nature Advisory, who have undertaken the ecological surveys to date hold this permit (Permit No: 10010139) and therefore will upload all flora records from surveys associated with this development within 12 months.

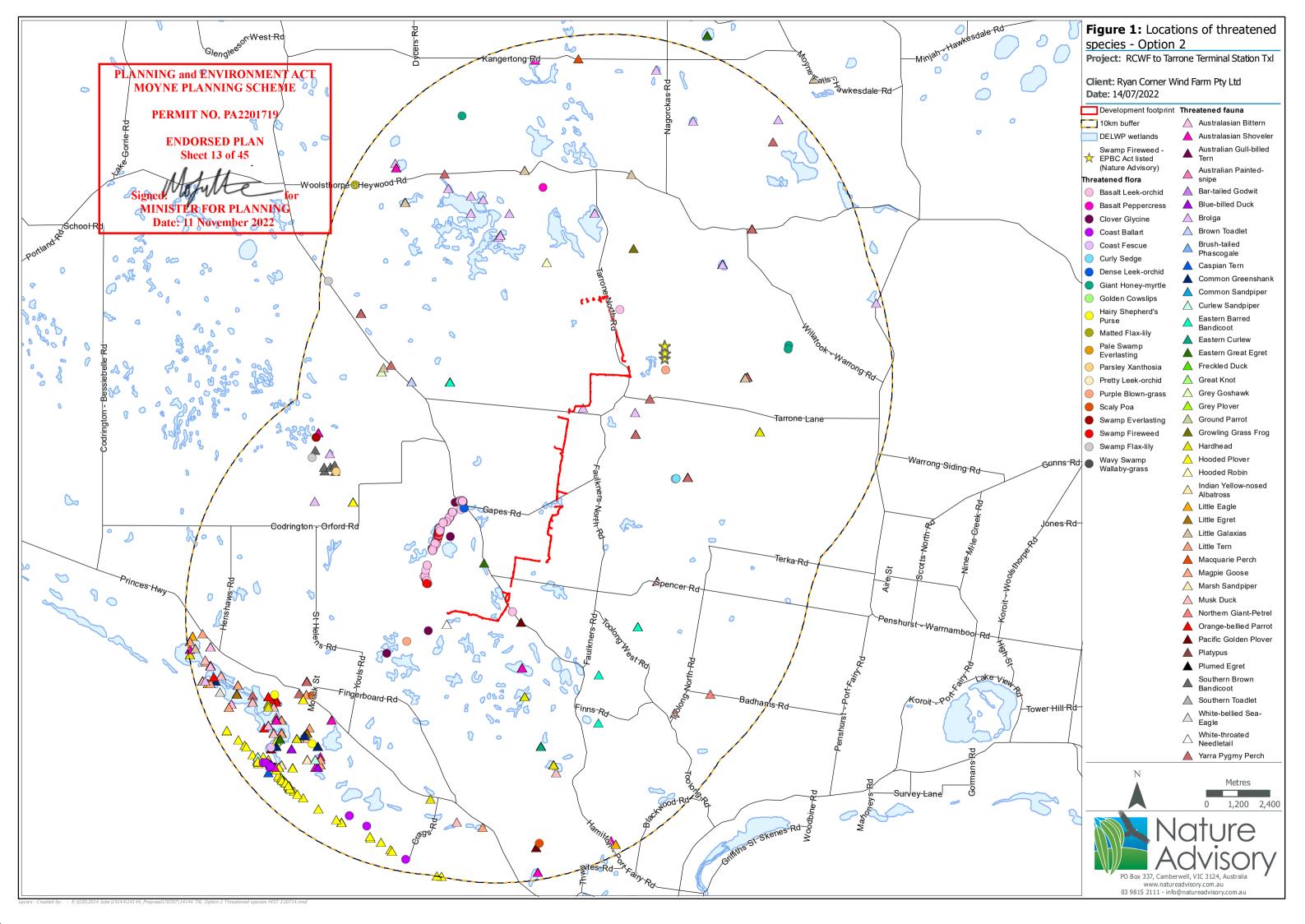
PLANNING and ENVIRONMENT ACT
MOYNE PLANNING SCHEME

PERMIT NO. PA2201719

ENDORSED PLAN
Sheet 12 of 45

Signed: for
MINISTER FOR PLANNING
Date: 11 November 2022





#### 2.3. Micro-siting of power poles and access tracks

An accurate representation of the native vegetation to be retained along the transmission line alignment is included in Figure 1 of the attached Flora and Fauna Assessment report (Attachment 1).

For the purposes of this project, micro-siting is defined as:

- an alteration to the siting of a power pole within the current proposed hardstand area which has already been surveyed for native vegetation; or
- an alteration to the location of access tracks only to areas which have been surveyed and do not include native vegetation.

An example of the micro-siting allowance is illustrated in Figure 3. Detailed design is completed for the project, it is not considered feasible for the project to micro-site power poles or access tracks beyond the definition of micro-siting provided above. Therefore, micro-siting will occur only as defined above and will not warrant additional native vegetation assessments and will not result in increased impacts to native vegetation.

PLANNING and ENVIRONMENT ACT MOYNE PLANNING SCHEME

**PERMIT NO. PA2201719** 

ENDORSED PLAN Sheet 14 of 45

MINISTER FOR PLANNING





## 3. Management Actions

#### 3.1. Summary of management actions to be undertaken

This plan details measures to be incorporated into the construction contractors' Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) to ensure impacts to retained native vegetation are avoided. These include:

- Restriction of unauthorised access:
- Provision of signage to deter prohibited activities;
- Limiting of all machinery and vehicular traffic to defined 'development footprint' (see Figure 1);
- Temporary fencing and signage along the edge of the development footprint where there is retained native vegetation within 30 metres of the defined 'development footprint' (see Figure 4);
- Where there are patches of native vegetation that occur beyond 30 metres but with 50 metres of the defined 'development footprint', temporary visible signage will be installed at a maximum of every 50 metres at the edge of the defined 'development footprint'.
- Where the development footprint is sited along the edge of the study area, temporary visible signage will also be installed every 50 metres. This is a precautionary approach, in which it is assumed that native vegetation could occur adjacent to the development footprint, in an area that has not been surveyed (i.e. beyond the study area);
- Induction of all contractors accessing the transmission line alignment into the prescriptions of this plan;
- Manage all rubbish and construction waste during the construction phase of the project;
- Manage the threat of weed invasion throughout the construction phase of the project, through vehicle and personnel clothing hygiene practices (See Section 3.3.1); and
- The removal, destruction or lopping of native vegetation is restricted to what is allowed to be removed under the associated permit. There is an exemption under Cl. 52.17-7 that allows for the lopping and pruning of native vegetation for maintenance purposes. This must be to the minimum extent necessary be no more than a 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of the foliage of each plant (see Section 3.5 for full explanation of exemption). The location and extent of removal is defined within the Flora and Fauna Assessment (Attachment 1) and will be to the minimum extent necessary.

PLANNING and ENVIRONMENT ACT MOYNE PLANNING SCHEME

**PERMIT NO. PA2201719** 

ENDORSED PLAN Sheet 16 of 45

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Table 1 Management actions and monitoring and auditing requirements

Timeframe	Action	Responsibility	Monitoring/auditing	
All times	All vehicles are to remain within the defined 'development footprint'.	RCD Construction contractors and sub-contractors.	Construction contractor to undertake daily checks that impacts are within approved areas and to report any noncompliance. RCD to assess monthly and photograph and report any impacts outside approved areas. Independent auditor to check six monthly during construction.	
All times	All contractors to be trained in issues relating to protection of native vegetation and weed hygiene at a compulsory induction prior to commencing works.	RCD, except where RCD specifically delegate responsibilities in writing.	Audit six monthly on site during construction to check training and induction records. Independent auditor	
Pre- construction	PLANNING and ENVIRON  All native vegetation to be Pen Wed and North Solve segments on the retained is to be shown on construction drawings.  PERMIT NO. PA220	Moyne Shire Council inspectors		
Pre- construction	"No Go Zones" are to be delineate the strong will be regated along the edge of the defined 'development footprint' where patches of native vegetation black that of the footprint.  Where there are patches of native vegetation that occur beyond 30 metres but with 50 metres of the defined 'development footprint', temporary visible signage will be installed at a maximum of every 50 metres at the edge of the defined 'development footprint'.  Where the development footprint is sited along the edge of the study area, temporary visible signage will also be installed every 50 metres. This is a precautionary approach, in which it is assumed that native vegetation could occur adjacent to the development footprint, in an area that has not been surveyed (i.e. beyond the study area);  These areas will be appropriately signed "Significant Vegetation - No Go Zone".	for NNING 2022  RCD, except where RCD specifically delegate responsibilities in writing.	Moyne Shire Council inspectors	



Timeframe	Action	Responsibility	Monitoring/auditing	
Pre- construction	Offsets must be obtained prior to removal of any native vegetation	RCD	Moyne Shire Council	
During construction	The following activities are not to be undertaken within "No Go Zones":  Vehicular or pedestrian access Parking areas Turning points Trenching or soil excavation Storage or dumping of any soils, materials, equipment, vehicles, machinery or waste products Entry and exit pits for underground services Any other actions or activities that may result in adverse impacts to retained native vegetation  All stock piles must pleader at the surveyed ar footprint where vegetation.  PERMIT NO. PA220	CHEME	Construction contractor to undertake daily checks that impacts are within approved areas and to report any noncompliance. RCD to assess monthly and photograph and report any impacts outside approved areas. Independent auditor to check six monthly during construction.	
During construction	The following 'c earing protocol' wheet 18 of 45 followed:  The day before any clearing of native vegetation approved to be removed is to be cleared, the state by the following PLA officer is to clearly demeated nativember vegetation that is permitted be removed and ensure "No Go Zones" are in place.  Personnel undertaking clearing of native vegetation approved to be removed are to be briefed prior to work on the exact extent of what is permitted to be impacted.	for NNING RCD, except where RCD specifically delegate responsibilities in writing.	Site Environment Officer. Independent auditor to check six monthly during construction.	
During construction	The following hygiene protocols will be implemented, as detailed in Section 3.3.1 below:  All earthmoving equipment that is delivered to site is clean and free of soil, seed and plant material before being taken to the works site. Any vehicles not meeting the required standards of hygiene and cleanliness shall be refused access onto the site.  Movement of vehicles and machinery between different properties will be restricted as much as practical to limit	RCD, except where RCD specifically delegate responsibilities in writing.	Construction contractor to comply with hygiene protocols as applicable (i.e. when entering site or moving between properties).  RCD to monitor contractor compliance with use of hygiene wash facilities.  Hygiene wash facilities to be monitored for	



Timeframe	Action	Responsibility	Monitoring/auditing
	the risk of spreading noxious weeds. They must also utilise designated entry and exit points, within the development footprint.  Hygiene wash facilities will be provided at the entry/exit point of each property. All machinery and equipment that may contain noxious weeds or soil pathogens, will have excess soil and organic material removed prior to leaving the property.  All construction personnel must have clothing and footwear that is clean and free of soil, seed and plant material before entering the works site.		weed outbreaks monthly.  Independent auditor to check six monthly during construction.
During construction	Regular monitoring of rubbish/construction waste adjacent to construction works areas must be carried out and any rubbish/construction waste found occurring within or adjacent to the construction waste found occurring within or adjacent to the construction waste found occurring within or adjacent to the construction waste found occurring within or adjacent to the construction waste found occurring within or adjacent to the construction waste found occurring within or adjacent to the construction waste adjacent to construction works areas must be carried out and any construction works areas must be carried out and any construction works areas must be carried out and any construction works areas must be carried out and any construction works areas must be carried out and any construction works areas must be carried out and any construction works areas must be carried out and any construction works areas must be carried out and any construction works areas must be carried out and any construction waste found occurring within or adjacent to the construction waste found occurring within or adjacent to the construction waste found occurring within or adjacent to the construction waste found occurring within or adjacent to the construction waste found occurring within or adjacent to the construction waste for the construction was	CHEME	Construction contractor to undertake daily checks that all rubbish is contained and disposed of appropriately. RCD to assess monthly and photograph and report any non-compliance.
During construction and operation	The following weed control protocols will be implemented:  A program of spot spraying to of the transmission line weeds will be implemented throughout construction of the transmission line weed control will be undertaken on any waits type as io within and adjacent to othe: perclosement footprint, where earthmoving equipment has been operating and vehicles have been entering.  Weed control must be undertaken by a suitably qualified contractor with experience in controlling weeds in sensitive areas. Noxious weed outbreaks must be targeted and treated with an appropriate herbicide or control method that does not result in inadvertent impacts to areas of retained native vegetation. Weed control must be undertaken on days of little to no wind to avoid spray drift.  The site environment officer must undertake regular inspections of the works area and alert the engaged weed control contractor of the location of any noxious weed outbreaks within or adjacent do the development footprint.	for NNING	RCD to inspect vehicle tracks weekly and photograph and report any noxious weed outbreaks. Weed control to be undertaken quarterly.  Independent auditor to check six monthly during construction.



Timeframe	Action	Responsibility	Monitoring/auditing	
During construction and operation	Monitoring and review of this NVP will be regularly undertaken by the site environment officer. Should the requirements of this Plan be found to not be met at a particular location, work is to stop at that location until this Plan can be complied with.	RCD, except where RCD specifically delegate responsibilities in writing.	Site Environment Officer. Independent auditor to check six monthly during construction.	
Post- construction	In accordance with commercial arrangements entered into with individual landowners, areas of disturbance to be rehabilitated will be done so in accordance with individual landowner requirements.  Where no individual landowner requirements exist, areas of disturbance to be reinstated will be sown with sterile Rye Grass as soon as practical to limit the potential for disturbance specialist weeds from colonising these areas.	RCD, except where RCD specifically delegate responsibilities in writing.	Site Environment Officer. Independent auditor to check six monthly during construction.	
During construction and operation	Avoidance of indirect impacts on wetlands. Ensure drainage patterns are maintained and are in accordance with the specific drainage design requirements at each location identified in the waterway and wetland inspection report.	RCD, except where RCD specifically delegate responsibilities in writing.	Site Environment Officer. Independent auditor to check six monthly during construction.	

PLANNING and ENVIRONMENT ACT MOYNE PLANNING SCHEME

**PERMIT NO. PA2201719** 

ENDORSED PLAN Sheet 20 of 45

Signed. Of the MINISTER FOR PLANNING
Date: 11 November 2022



#### Construction during wet conditions

With current conditions being wet, and the long-range forecast anticipating higher than average rainfall, there is no surety that the ground conditions will dry out over the summer months. Therefore, appropriate consideration has been given to the construction of the access tracks during boggy and wet conditions by detailing effective construction and mitigation measures to ensure there is no additional impacts to native vegetation associated with working in boggy conditions. The construction standards for the access tracks are as follows:

- Excavate the 150mm topsoil profile, within the defined construction footprint (to remove the soil profile which becomes waterlogged and creates boggy conditions)
- Check that the subgrade is of a suitable standard to build a road base
- Spreading a suitable large aggregate road base within the excavated access track
- Compact with a roller in 100 metre sections and test that the compaction is suitable for vehicle use
- The tracks are then sealed with suitable material e.g type 3, type 4 crush rock or limestone and finished to the natural ground level. Any material used will be certified weed free.

Mitigation and control measures to ensure that impacts to native vegetation are restricted to the planning permit, as illustrated in Figure 4, are detailed below:

- Protection of native vegetation via fencing and flagging
- Staff inductions
- Pre-start daily briefings
- Native vegetation booklet to be carried by construction staff showing all the necessary layers of Native Vegetation, Access tracks, entry and exit points for vehicle drivers and must be always kept in vehicles.
- Access tracks will be constructed in their final/complete form before they are used by powerline construction personnel.

PLANNING and ENVIRONMENT ACT MOYNE PLANNING SCHEME

**PERMIT NO. PA2201719** 

ENDORSED PLAN Sheet 21 of 45

Signed. for PLANNING
Date: 11 November 2022



#### 3.2. Training requirements

All personnel, including RCD employees, contractors and sub-contractors, will be required to attend a compulsory project induction before commencing any work on the project.

The induction will be delivered by RCD or the contractor's Site Safety and Environment Officer (or delegate) and include:

- The NVP overview;
- The requirements of the planning permit as they relate to native vegetation removal and protection;
- Responsibilities under the NVP in relation to implementing mitigation measures, monitoring, and reporting;
- Key management and protection controls; and
- Consequences of departure from specified procedures or other controls

"Toolbox" training will also be undertaken to ensure that the workforce is regularly updated on relevant information, issues of interest or concern, and regularly reminded of their duties to protect and minimise impacts to native vegetation.

Figures showing the areas of native vegetation to be impacted and those to be retained will be provided to site personnel to reference during induction says in says to be retained will be provided to site personnel to reference during induction says in says in says to be retained will be provided to site personnel to reference during induction says in says

### 3.3. Measures used to protect native vegetation to be retained during construction

Native vegetation to be retained along the transmission line alignment from Ryan Corner Wind Farm to Tarrone Terminal Station is included in Figure 2. Native vegetation to be retained occurs on private land and public roadside. No scattered trees have been recorded within the assessment area.

Any opportunities to avoid or minimise impacts to narve vegetation that has been approved for clearing during operations will be ider tified a will be identified as will be identified a will be identified a will be identified as wi

3.3.1. Management actions Date: 11 November 2022

The management actions required for the protection of native vegetation to be retained are as follows:

#### Temporary fencing requirements

- Prior to construction, temporary fencing will be erected along the edge of the defined 'development footprint' where patches of native vegetation occur within 30 metres of the footprint;
- Where there are patches of native vegetation that occur beyond 30 metres but within 50 metres of the defined 'development footprint', temporary visible signage will be installed at a maximum of every 50 metres at the edge of the defined 'development footprint'.
- Where the development footprint is sited along the edge of the study area, temporary visible signage will also be installed every 50 metres. This is a precautionary approach, in which it is assumed that native vegetation could occur adjacent to the development footprint, in an area that has not been surveyed (i.e. beyond the study area);
- These areas will be appropriately signed "Significant Vegetation No Go Zone".



#### Vehicle access restrictions

- All vehicles are to remain within the defined 'development footprint', to avoid inadvertent damage to native vegetation that is to be retained. Construction personal must familiarise themselves with the localities of native vegetation, threatened flora, fauna habitat and communities, with access strictly prohibited within these areas.
- No turning points are to be created in the "No Go Zones". Turning points will take advantage of existing paddock access points, driveways or roads.
- No parking areas are to be created in the "No Go Zones". Parking areas will be established on adjacent private land or side roads.

#### Rubbish control

 Weekly monitoring of rubbish/construction waste adjacent to construction works areas must be carried out and any rubbish/construction waste found occurring within or adjacent to areas of native vegetation must be removed immediately.

#### Vehicle and personnel clothing hygiene

- All contractors to be trained in issues relating to protection of native vegetation and weed hygiene at a compulsory induction prior to commencing works.
- Vehicle and machinery operators and free of soil, seed and plant material before being taken to the works site. Any vehicles not meeting the required standards of hygiene and cleanliness will be refused entry onto the site.
- Movement of vehicles and machinery between different properties will be restricted as much as practical to limit the risk of spreading noxious weeds. They must also utilise designated entry and exit points, within the development footprint.
- All construction personnel must have clothing and footwear that is clean and free of soil, seed and plant material before entering the works site vember 2022
- Designated washdown facilities will be provided at the defined entry/exit point of each property, in accordance with the following requirements:
  - The designated washdown area will be clearly marked with signage
  - They will consist of a trailer mounted water tankers, pump and a high-pressure hose as well as a boot washing facility to ensure personnel footwear can be adequately cleaned
  - They will be established within the assessed survey area, and must be located at least 20 meters from identified areas of native vegetation, as well as waterways
  - The washdown area will be located in an area whereby runoff is directed away from retained areas of native vegetation and waterways
  - Areas around the wash down facility will be regularly inspected (monthly) for emergent weed outbreaks
  - An equipment and vehicle cleaning register will be kept and maintained at each washdown station.



#### Emergent weed control

- A program of spot spraying of any noxious weeds will be implemented throughout construction of the transmission line. Weed control will be undertaken on a quarterly basis within and adjacent to the development footprint, where earthmoving equipment has been operating and vehicles have been entering.
- Weed control must be undertaken quarterly by a suitably qualified contractor with experience in controlling weeds in sensitive areas. Noxious weed outbreaks must be targeted and treated with an appropriate herbicide or control method that does not result in inadvertent impacts to areas of retained native vegetation. Weed control must be undertaken on days of little to no wind to avoid spray drift.
- The site environment officer must undertake regular inspections of the works area and alert the engaged weed control contractor of the location of any noxious weed outbreaks within or adjacent do the development footprint.
- Any materials required for construction (e.g. road making materials) must be free of weeds and weed seeds.
- In accordance with commercial arrangements entered into with individual landowners, areas of disturbance to be rehabilitated will be done so in accordance with individual landowner requirements. Where no individual landowner requirements exist, areas of disturbance to be reinstated will be sown with sterile Rye Grass as soon as practical to limit the potential for disturbance specialist weeds from colonising these areas.

#### 3.4. Measures used to protect wetlands beyond the development footprint

Indirect impacts to wetlands along the alignment were considered during the design of hardstands and access tracks. The design aims to preserve the drainage elements that already exist and identify additional drainage elements necessary to achieve continuity of the natural runoff, both to preserve the flow feeding of the existing wetlands and to respect the natural drainage along the alignment. These requirements are managed in consultation with Glenelg Hopkins Catchment Management Authority to ensure the design and drainage measures implemented will adequately protect or minimise impacts to wetlands and waterways. The following mitigation measures have been implemented:

- All access tracks and hardstand areas avoid directly intercepting with all DELWP-mapped wetlands and named waterways.
- Drainage has been designed to maintain the existing water flow of waterways, rural drainage channels and wetlands. Where required, floodways and culverts have been designed for the specific conditions at each location identified in the waterway and wetland inspection report prepared by Austral Research and Consulting (July 2022).

PLANNING and ENVIRONMENT ACT MOYNE PLANNING SCHEME

**PERMIT NO. PA2201719** 

ENDORSED PLAN Sheet 24 of 45

Signed. fo
MINISTER FOR PLANNING



#### 3.5. Avoidance of roadside vegetation

Ausnet have provided assurance that all construction materials can be transported to site by following regular traffic movements on public roads and do not anticipate a requirement to widen or clear roadways. However, if there are any unforeseen obstacles along the transport route that require the removal or pruning of vegetation, it will be surveyed by a suitably qualified ecologist, to determine if the vegetation is native (as defined in the Victoria Planning Provisions and Guidelines for the removal, destruction or lopping of native vegetation - DELWP, 2017). A permit is not required under Cl. 52.17-7 if lopping or pruning of native vegetation is done for maintenance only, provided no more than 1/3 of the foliage of each individual plant is lopped or pruned.

This exemption does not apply to:

- the pruning or lopping of the trunk of a native tree; or
- native vegetation on a roadside or railway reservation

The purpose of this exemption is to not require a permit for limited lopping or pruning of native vegetation for maintenance of an existing asset. This exemption only allows lopping and pruning of native vegetation that is interfering with a physical asset, not just to maintain native vegetation in a certain size or form.

In the unlikely event that additional clearing is required, RCD will liaise with the relevant Responsible Planning Authority regarding any removal of native vegetation and, if required, approvals will be obtained having regard to the provisions of the relevant Planning Scheme prior to vegetation being removed.

Roadside vegetation adjacent to the construction boundary will be adequately protected by temporary fencing in locations where the access track crosses through the road reserve, as illustrated in Figure 4. Existing farm fencing also acts as a physical barrier to prevent machinery and vehicle disturbance in the road reserve whilst operating within the adjacent private property.

#### 3.6. Opportunities for Revegetation

Given that the proposed development is linear infrastructure traversing multiple different landowners and tenures, there is limited opportunity to provide a formal revegetation plan. However, land that is temporarily disturbed will be reinstated and reseeded. GPG will engage with all landowners and be responsible for any replanting or screening requirements which they may request. Although the decision for plant species and density is ultimately at the discretion of the landowner, GPG's preference is to utilise locally indigenous species for the relevant modelled Ecological Vegetation Class (EVC), where there are no specific species requested. No CaLP or WoNS listed weed species will be planted or seeded. A suggested planting schedule for the major EVCs within the study area is detailed in Table 2.

PLANNING and ENVIRONMENT ACT MOYNE PLANNING SCHEME

**PERMIT NO. PA2201719** 

ENDORSED PLAN Sheet 25 of 45

igned. for MINISTER FOR PLANNING



Table 2: Suggested planting schedule for different vegetation types

0	Scientific name	EVC 649	EVC 55_63	EVC 53	EVC 125	
Common name		Density of plants				
Canopy Trees (Tube-stock)						
River Redgum	Eucalyptus camaldulensis		✓			
Swamp Gum	E. ovata		✓			
Manna Gum	E. viminalis		✓			
Drooping Sheoak	Allocasuarina verticillata	✓	✓			
Sweet Bursaria	Bursaria spinosa	<b>√</b>				
Blackwood	Acacia melanoxylon		✓	<b>√</b>		
	Medium Shrub	s (tube-stock)				
Hedge Wattle	Acacia paradoxa	✓	<b>√</b>			
Golden Wattle	Acacia pycnantha		✓			
Tree Violet	Melicytus dentatus	<b>√</b>				
Woolly Tea-tree	Leptospermum lanigerum			<b>✓</b>		
Scented Paperbark	Melaleuca squarrosa			<b>√</b>		
	Grasses and tufted pe	erennials (tube-s	stock)			
Tussock-grass	Poa spp.	✓	<b>√</b>		✓	
Kangaroo Grass	Themeda triandra	✓	✓			
Rush	Juncus sp.			<b>✓</b>	✓	
Common Spike-sedge	Eleocharus acuta			<b>√</b>	✓	
Grasses (seeds)						
Wallaby-grasses	Rytidosperma spp.	<b>√</b>	✓			
Spear-grass	Austrostipa spp.	<b>√</b>	✓			
Weeping Grass	Microlaena stipoides var. stipoides	✓	✓			
Australian Sweet- grass	Glyceria australis				<b>√</b>	

PLANNING and ENVIRONMENT ACT MOYNE PLANNING SCHEME

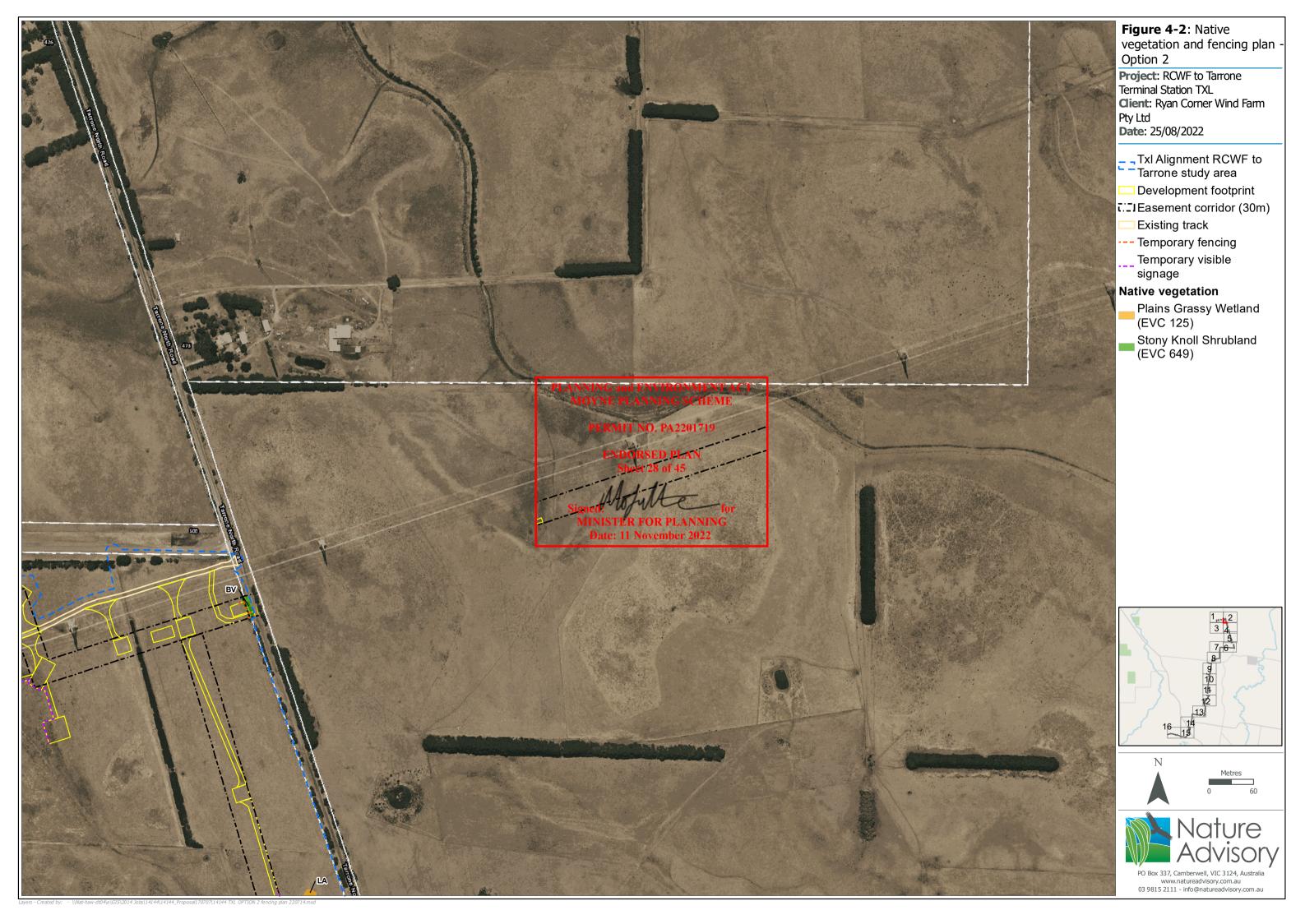
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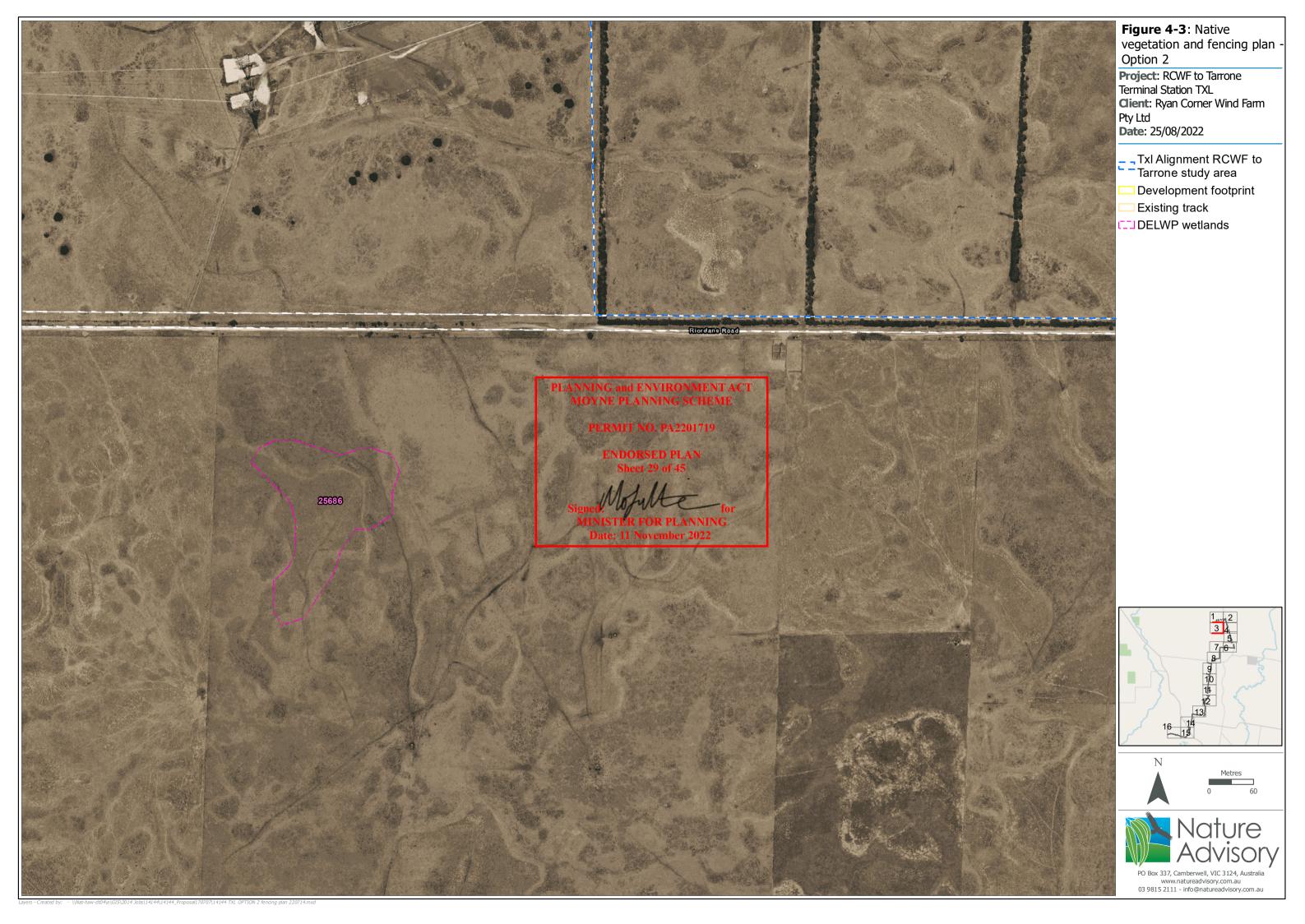
ENDORSED PLAN Sheet 26 of 45

Signed: for MINISTER FOR PLANNING
Date: 11 November 2022





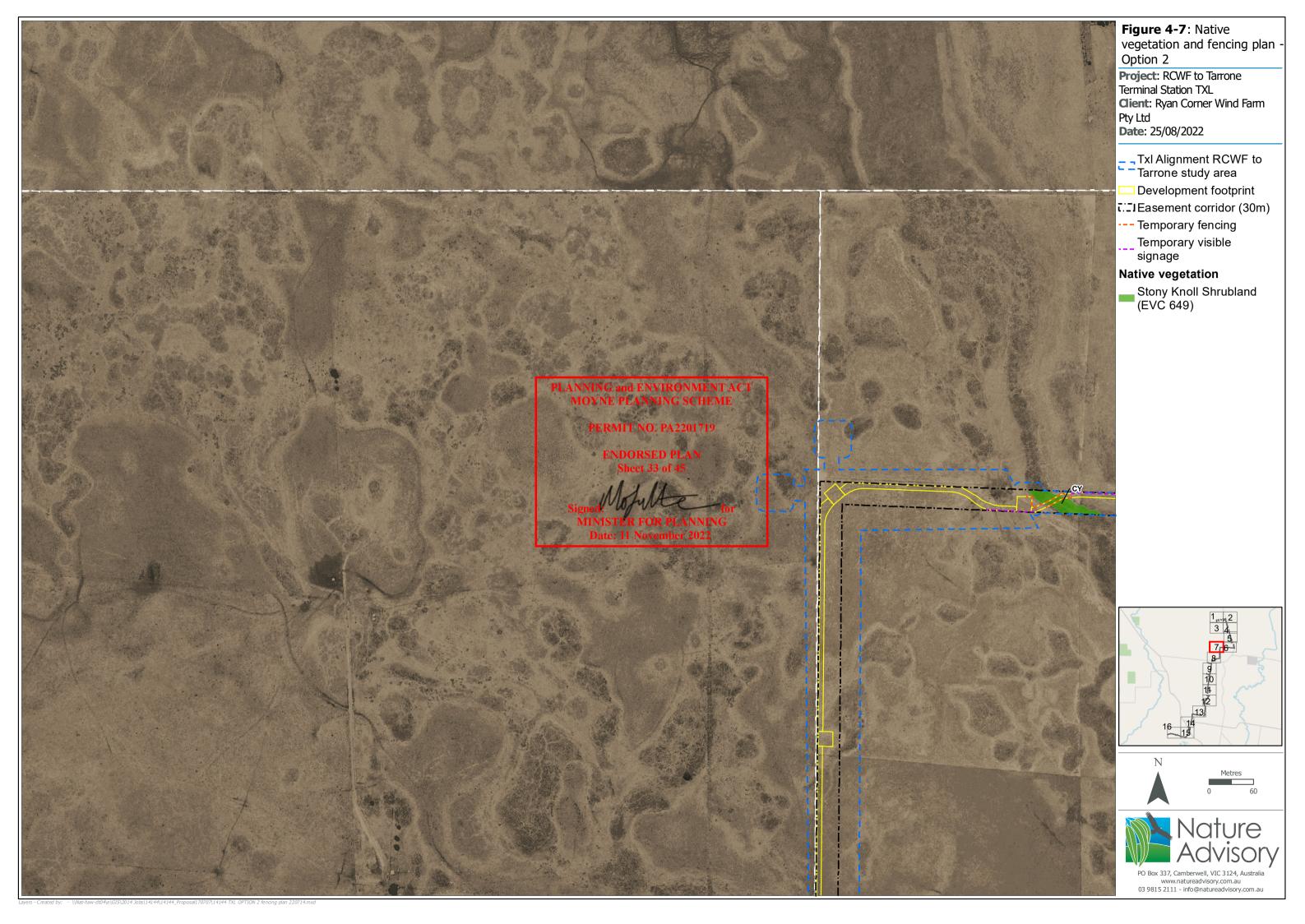




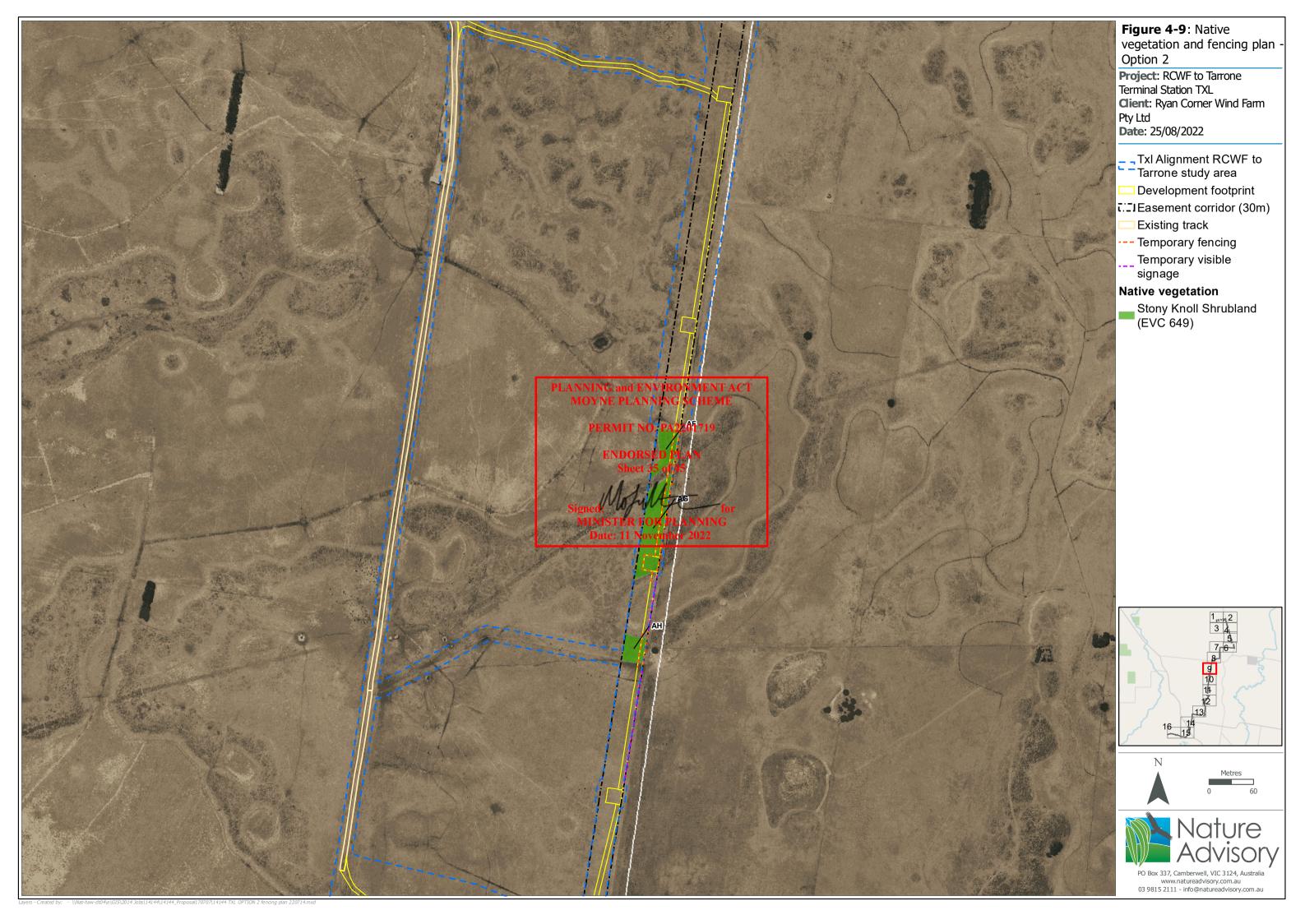




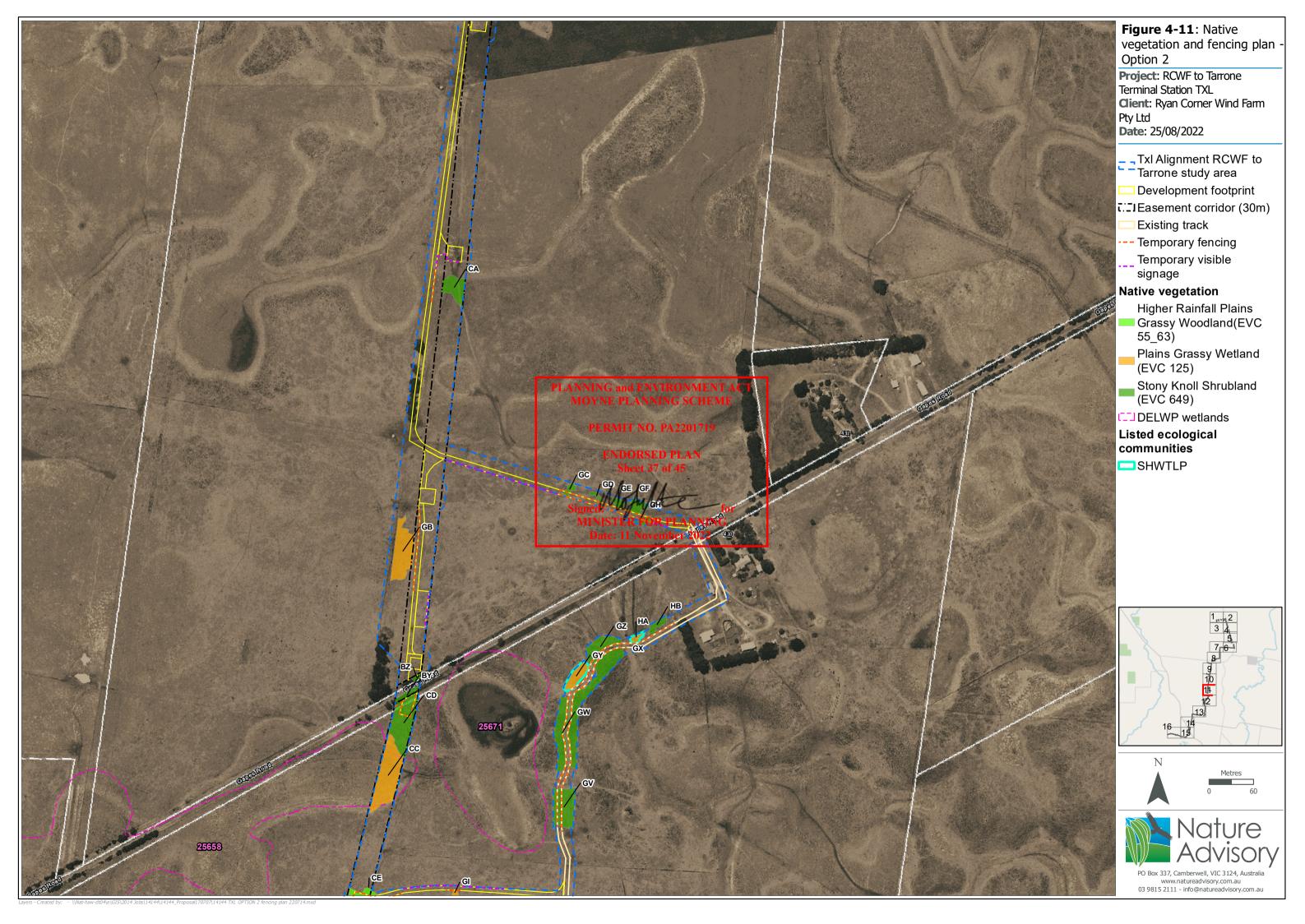










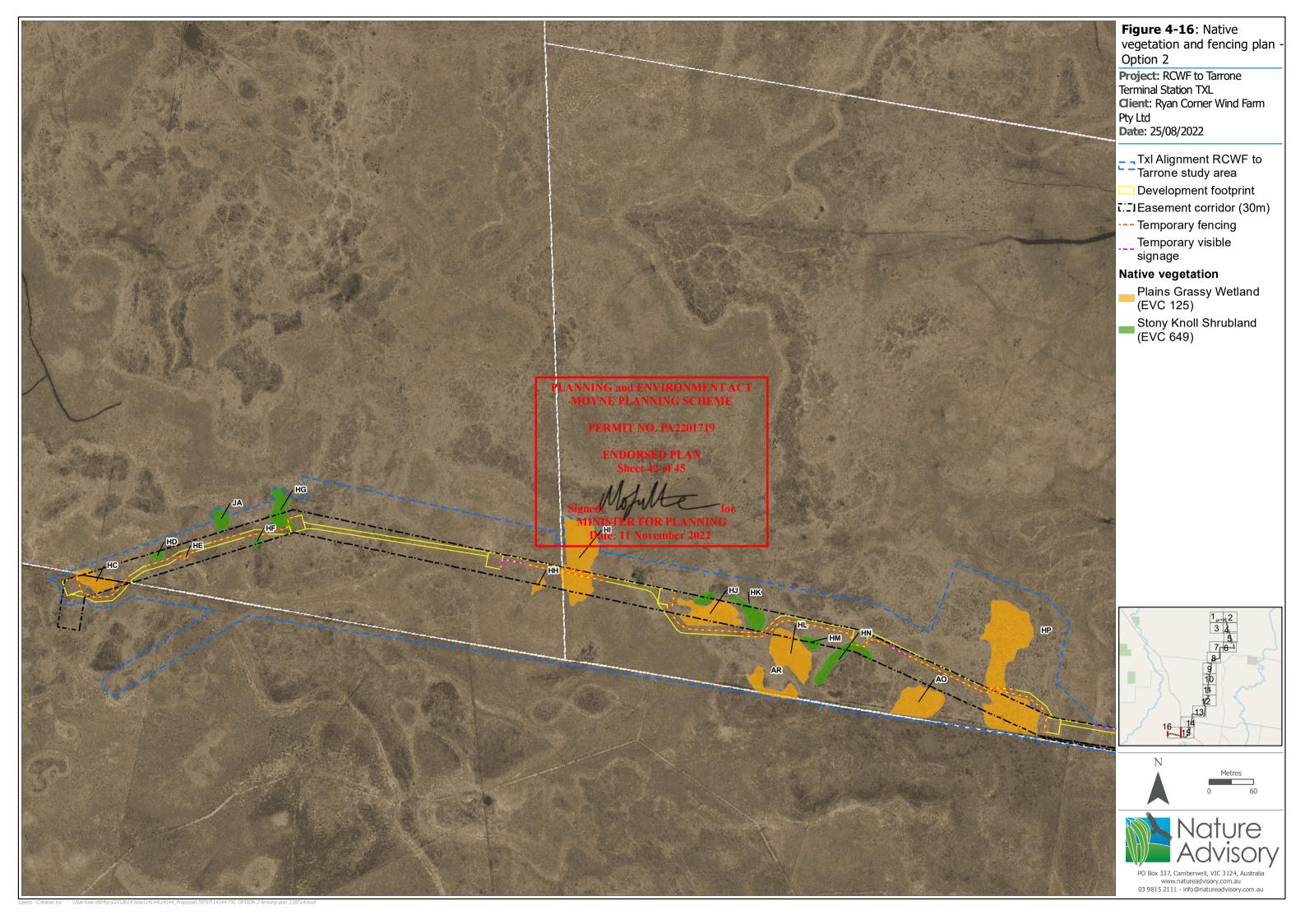












## 4. Monitor and Review

If changes to the transmission line and access track layout are to be sought, native vegetation impact assessments must be undertaken to investigate whether there will be additional impact on native vegetation. The assessments must include additional native vegetation surveys if the proposed changes to the layout are to occur in areas that have not been previously investigated. If impacts are concluded to increase as an outcome of the layout changes, an amendment to the planning permit and Native Vegetation Plan must be sought, and the new impacts must not occur until approval is achieved. If the assessment concludes that there are no additional impacts to native vegetation, the outcome of the investigations must be saved on record to provide to relevant authorities upon request.

Additional approvals may also be required depending on the additional native vegetation being impacted and its location. As such, a review by a qualified ecologist of the additional impacts against the *Flora and Fauna Guarantee* (FFG) Act and the EPBC Act would be required. If any outcomes of the review warrant necessary changes to this NVP and other documentation, they will be made accordingly.

Monitoring and review of this NVP must be regularly undertaken by the site environment officer during construction and operation. Should the requirements of this NVP be found to not be met, work is to stop until this NVP can be complied with.

PLANNING and ENVIRONMENT ACT MOYNE PLANNING SCHEME

**PERMIT NO. PA2201719** 

ENDORSED PLAN Sheet 43 of 45

Signed! for PLANNING



## 5. References

- DELWP 2017a, Guidelines for the removal, destruction or lopping of native vegetation-, Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning, East Melbourne.
- Nature Advisory Pty Ltd 2022, TxL Ryan Corner Wind Farm to Tarrone Terminal Staion: Flora and Fauna Assessment Option 2, Report No. 14144.23 (1.4), Report prepared for Ryan Corner Development Australia Pty Ltd by Nature Advisory Pty Ltd, Hawthorn East, Victoria.
- Austral Research and Consulting 2022, *AusNet waterway and wetland inspections Ryan's Corner Windfarm*, Report prepared for Ausnet by Austral Research and Consulting Pty Ltd, Kirkstall, Victoria.

PLANNING and ENVIRONMENT ACT MOYNE PLANNING SCHEME

**PERMIT NO. PA2201719** 

ENDORSED PLAN Sheet 44 of 45

MINISTER FOR PLANNING



Attachment 1: TxL - Ryan Corner Wind Farm to Tarrone Terminal Station: Flora and Fauna Assessment – *Option 2*, Report No. 14144.23 (1.4) prepared by Nature Advisory Pty Ltd (2022).

PLANNING and ENVIRONMENT ACT MOYNE PLANNING SCHEME

**PERMIT NO. PA2201719** 

ENDORSED PLAN Sheet 45 of 45

Signed! fo MINISTER FOR PLANNING Date: 11 November 2022

