

Inland Rail – North Star to NSW/QLD border, NSW (EPBC 2018/8222), 10 April 2025


Annual Compliance Report



Document Control

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Glossary

Specific terms and acronyms used throughout this report are listed and described in the table below.

Table 1 Acronyms

TERM	DEFINITION
ARTC	Australian Rail Track Corporation
SSI-9371	State Planning Approval for NS2B
EPBC Act	Commonwealth <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i>
EP&A Act	<i>Environmental Planning & Assessment Act, 1979</i> (NSW)
EPBC 2018/8222	EPBC Act Planning Approval for NS2B
FCWS	Five-clawed Worm Skink
IRPL	Inland Rail Pty Ltd
NS2B	North Star to NSW/QLD border project
SSI	State Significant Infrastructure
CSSI	Critical State Significant Infrastructure as defined in the EP&A Act
TEC	Threatened Ecological Community

1 Introduction

1.1 Background

Australian Rail Track Corporation (**ARTC**) submitted a Critical State Significant Infrastructure (**CSSI**) application for approval to construct and operate the North Star to NSW/QLD border (**NS2B**) section of the Inland Rail program under Part 5, Division 5.2 of the NSW *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (**EP&A Act**). The then NSW Minister for Planning granted CSSI approval for NS2B on 20 February 2023 (**SSI-9371**). A copy of the SSI-9371 Approval can be viewed on the NSW Major Projects Portal [NS2B Mod 1 - biodiversity offsets prior to impact to biodiversity | Planning Portal - Department of Planning and Environment](#).

NS2B is subject to approval under the Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (**EPBC Act**). The NS2B project was declared by the then Commonwealth Minister for Sustainability, Environment, Water, Populations and Communities to be a controlled action under the EPBC Act on 17 July 2018. NS2B was approved by the Commonwealth Minister on 21 July 2023 (**EPBC 2018/8222**). ARTC Inland Rail is yet to commence the action as defined within the EPBC Approval.

1.2 Scope

This report details the commitments outlined within EPBC 2018/8222 and assessment of compliance against conditions 1 - 42 for the reporting period 21 July 2023 to 20 July 2024 as per Condition 28-31 of EPBC 2018/8222, which states:

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

29) *Each compliance report must be consistent with the Annual Compliance Report Guidelines, Commonwealth of Australia 2014.*

30) *Each compliance report must include:*

a) *Accurate and complete details of compliance and any non-compliance with the conditions and the plans, and any incidents.*

b) *One or more shapefile showing all clearing of any protected matters, and/or their habitat, undertaken within the 12-month period at the end of which that compliance report is prepared.*

c) *A schedule of all plans in existence in relation to these conditions and accurate and complete details of how each plan is being implemented.*

31) *The approval holder must:*

a) *Publish each compliance report on the website within 60 business days following the end of the 12-month period for which that compliance report is required.*

b) *Notify the department electronically, within 5 business days of the date of publication that a compliance report has been published on the website.*

c) *Provide the weblink for the compliance report in the notification to the department.*

d) *Keep all published compliance reports required by these conditions on the website until the expiry date of this approval. e) Exclude or redact sensitive ecological data from compliance reports published on the website or otherwise provided to a member of the public.*

f) *If sensitive ecological data is excluded or redacted from the published version, submit the full compliance report to the department within 5 business days of its publication on the website and notify the department in writing what exclusions and redactions have been made in the version published on the website.*

1.3 Approved action

To date, the NS2B Project has only undertaken minor physical disturbance and has not commenced the action, as defined within EPBC 2018/8222.

An independent review of the Inland Rail Program was undertaken for the Australian Government by Dr Kerry Schott and delivered to the Australian Government in April 2023. The review made 19 recommendations which focused on the planning, governance and delivery of the Inland Rail Program of work.

ARTC and the Australian Government along with the State Governments of Victoria, New South Wales and Queensland have accepted all the recommendations and are currently working together to address the findings of the independent review.

The Australian Government has confirmed that Inland Rail is an important project to meet Australia's growing freight task, improve road safety and help decarbonise our economy.

In line with the Australian Government's response to the Independent Review of Inland Rail, ARTC is now taking a staged approach to deliver the Program of work. The sections of Inland Rail between Beveridge in Victoria and Parkes in New South Wales have been prioritised for completion by 2027. The section from Parkes to Narromine has been delivered already. The delivery of these sections will enable Inland Rail to connect to existing rail networks between Melbourne, Sydney, Perth, Adelaide and the Illawarra via Parkes.

The immediate focus for ARTC north of Narromine is to gain primary approvals to secure the Inland Rail route (which includes ARTC completing key environmental approval processes) and securing land required for the Inland Rail corridor. Future decisions by the Australian Government on the delivery of sections north of Narromine will be considered when it has more certainty as to the delivery and full cost of the Inland Rail Program.

The key features of NS2B include:

- ▶ Approximately 25km of new track within existing rail corridor
- ▶ Approximately 5km of new track within greenfield rail corridor
- ▶ One crossing loop, turnouts at either end of the crossing loop and a one-ended siding
- ▶ Eleven new bridges including an approximately 1.8km long viaduct over the Macintyre River and Whalan Creek
- ▶ Reinforced concrete pipe culverts and reinforced concrete box culverts
- ▶ Realignment of Bruxner Way
- ▶ Ancillary infrastructure including utilities, signalling and communications infrastructure, fencing and signage

The overall project footprint is presented in **Figure 1** below.



Figure 1 North Star to NSW/QLD border section of Inland Rail project footprint

1.4 Project details

Project details for NS2B are presented in **Table 2** below.

Table 2 Project Details

EPBC NUMBER	EPBC 2018/8222
PROJECT NAME	North Star to NSW/QLD border
APPROVAL HOLDER AND ACN OR ABN	Australian Rail Track Corporation Limited ACN 081 455 754
LOCATION OF THE PROJECT	North Star to NSW/QLD border
REPORTING PERIOD	21 July 2024 – 20 July 2024

1.5 Key project activities

ARTC Inland Rail are not currently undertaking Low Impact Works (LIW) scopes. Scopes which may be delivered prior to Construction include:

- ▶ Investigations, including investigative drilling and excavation
- ▶ Soil investigations
- ▶ Property acquisition adjustment work
- ▶ General survey investigations, including utilities investigations
- ▶ Other non-intrusive investigations

2 Compliance assessment

2.1 Assessment of compliance

The terminology used to record findings in this compliance report (**Table 3**) is consistent with that used by the Commonwealth Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water Annual Compliance Report Guidelines (2014) Section 3.7.

Table 3 Compliance status terminology

STATUS	DESCRIPTION
COMPLIANT	'Compliance' is achieved when all the requirements of a condition have been met, including the implementation of management plans or other measures required by those conditions.
NON-COMPLIANT	A designation of 'non-compliance' should be given where the requirements of a condition or elements of a condition, including the implementation of management plans and other measures, have not been met.
NOT APPLICABLE	A designation of 'not applicable' should be given where the requirements of a condition or elements of a condition fall outside of the scope of the current reporting period. For example, a condition which apply to an activity that has not yet commenced.

Table 4 EPBC Compliance Table

EPBC CONDITION NUMBER	EPBC CONDITION	COMPLIANCE STATUS	EXPLANATION
1	To avoid and mitigate harm to protected matters, in taking the Action, the approval holder must not clear outside the construction impact zone.	Not applicable	This Condition has not been triggered as Inland Rail Pty Ltd (IRPL) have not commenced the action.
2	a Within the study area, to minimise harm to protected matters, the approval holder must not disturb more than: 4.6 hectares (ha) of Semi-evergreen vine thickets TEC	Not applicable	This Condition has not been triggered as IRPL have not commenced the action.
2	b Within the study area, to minimise harm to protected matters, the approval holder must not disturb more than: 11.84 ha of Brigalow TEC	Not applicable	This Condition has not been triggered as IRPL have not commenced the action.
2	c Within the study area, to minimise harm to protected matters, the approval holder must not disturb more than: 33.5 ha of Natural grasslands TEC	Not applicable	This Condition has not been triggered as IRPL have not commenced the action.
2	d Within the study area, to minimise harm to protected matters, the approval holder must not disturb more than: 46.36 ha of Belson's Panic habitat	Not applicable	This Condition has not been triggered as IRPL have not commenced the action.
2	e Within the study area, to minimise harm to protected matters, the approval holder must not disturb more than: 26.1 ha of Bluegrass habitat	Not applicable	This Condition has not been triggered as IRPL have not commenced the action.
2	f Within the study area, to minimise harm to protected matters, the approval holder must not disturb more than: 27.7 ha of Koala breeding habitat	Not applicable	This Condition has not been triggered as IRPL have not commenced the action.

EPBC CONDITION NUMBER		EPBC CONDITION	COMPLIANCE STATUS	EXPLANATION
2	g	Within the study area, to minimise harm to protected matters, the approval holder must not disturb more than: 140.88 ha of Koala foraging habitat	Not applicable	This Condition has not been triggered as IRPL have not commenced the action.
2	h	Within the study area, to minimise harm to protected matters, the approval holder must not disturb more than: 139.4 ha of Painted Honeyeater habitat	Not applicable	This Condition has not been triggered as IRPL have not commenced the action.
2	i	Within the study area, to minimise harm to protected matters, the approval holder must not disturb more than: 247.62 ha of Corben's Long-eared Bat habitat	Not applicable	This Condition has not been triggered as IRPL have not commenced the action.
2	j	Within the study area, to minimise harm to protected matters, the approval holder must not disturb more than: 268.17 ha of Five-clawed Worm-skink habitat	Not applicable	This Condition has not been triggered as IRPL have not commenced the action.
3	a	To avoid and mitigate harm to protected matters, if the approval holder detects the presence of any protected matter or the habitat of any protected matter not previously reported to the department as part of the referral of this Action or in accordance with this condition, the approval holder must: notify the department in writing of the presence and likely extent of any protected matter or the habitat of any protected matter not previously reported to the department within 10 business days of detecting the presence of any protected matter or the habitat of any protected matter not previously reported to the department, and	Not applicable	This Condition has not been triggered.
3	b	To avoid and mitigate harm to protected matters, if the approval holder detects the presence of any protected matter or the habitat of any protected matter not previously reported to the department as	Not applicable	This Condition has not been triggered.

EPBC CONDITION NUMBER	EPBC CONDITION	COMPLIANCE STATUS	EXPLANATION
	part of the referral of this Action or in accordance with this condition, the approval holder must: not clear any protected matter or the habitat of any protected matter outside of the limits specified in conditions 1 and 2.		
4	To avoid and mitigate harm to protected matters as a result of the Action, the approval holder must implement conditions E20 and E21 of the NSW approval, to the extent that they relate to protected matters.	Not applicable	This Condition has not been triggered.
5	a To ensure clearing of protected matters and the habitat of protected matters do not exceed the limits specified in conditions 1 and 2, prior to any area within the study area being cleared, the approval holder must conduct a pre-clearance survey of that area to map and determine the extent of protected matters and the habitat of protected matters in that area and its vicinity. All pre-clearance surveys must be: developed by a suitably qualified expert, and	Not applicable	This Condition has not been triggered.
5	b To ensure clearing of protected matters and the habitat of protected matters do not exceed the limits specified in conditions 1 and 2, prior to any area within the study area being cleared, the approval holder must conduct a pre-clearance survey of that area to map and determine the extent of protected matters and the habitat of protected matters in that area and its vicinity. All pre-clearance surveys must be: conducted under the supervision of a suitably qualified expert.	Not applicable	This Condition has not been triggered.
6	a The approval holder must document the findings of each pre-clearance survey as a report meeting the requirements set out below. The approval holder must submit electronically to the department and publish on the website each report prior to undertaking any disturbance of the area in respect of which the survey was undertaken. Each report published on the website must remain published on the website until completion of the Action. Each report must:	Not applicable	This Condition has not been triggered as IRPL have not commenced the action.

EPBC CONDITION NUMBER		EPBC CONDITION	COMPLIANCE STATUS	EXPLANATION
		include a map accurately showing the area surveyed and the proposed clearance area		
6	b	<p>The approval holder must document the findings of each pre-clearance survey as a report meeting the requirements set out below. The approval holder must submit electronically to the department and publish on the website each report prior to undertaking any disturbance of the area in respect of which the survey was undertaken. Each report published on the website must remain published on the website until completion of the Action. Each report must:</p> <p>quantify the extent of each protected matter and the habitat of each protected matter (in hectares) within the area surveyed and within the proposed clearance area</p>	Not applicable	This Condition has not been triggered as IRPL have not commenced the action.
6	c	<p>The approval holder must document the findings of each pre-clearance survey as a report meeting the requirements set out below. The approval holder must submit electronically to the department and publish on the website each report prior to undertaking any disturbance of the area in respect of which the survey was undertaken. Each report published on the website must remain published on the website until completion of the Action. Each report must:</p> <p>include a map accurately showing the location of each protected matter and the habitat of each protected matter within the area surveyed and within the proposed clearance area</p>	Not applicable	This Condition has not been triggered as IRPL have not commenced the action.
6	d	<p>The approval holder must document the findings of each pre-clearance survey as a report meeting the requirements set out below. The approval holder must submit electronically to the department and publish on the website each report prior to undertaking any disturbance of the area in respect of which the survey was undertaken. Each report published on the website must remain published on the website until completion of the Action. Each report</p>	Not applicable	This Condition has not been triggered as IRPL have not commenced the action.

EPBC CONDITION NUMBER		EPBC CONDITION	COMPLIANCE STATUS	EXPLANATION
		must: detail the extent of and map the area of each protected matter and their habitat which will be cleared as a result of the Action in that area		
6	e	The approval holder must document the findings of each pre-clearance survey as a report meeting the requirements set out below. The approval holder must submit electronically to the department and publish on the website each report prior to undertaking any disturbance of the area in respect of which the survey was undertaken. Each report published on the website must remain published on the website until completion of the Action. Each report must: exclude or redact sensitive ecological data from reports published on the website or otherwise provided to a member of the public	Not applicable	This Condition has not been triggered as IRPL have not commenced the action.
6	f	The approval holder must document the findings of each pre-clearance survey as a report meeting the requirements set out below. The approval holder must submit electronically to the department and publish on the website each report prior to undertaking any disturbance of the area in respect of which the survey was undertaken. Each report published on the website must remain published on the website until completion of the Action. Each report must: commit the approval holder to implement specific management measures to avoid and/or minimise clearance of each protected matter and their habitat, where reasonable and feasible	Not applicable	This Condition has not been triggered as IRPL have not commenced the action.
7		If sensitive ecological data is excluded or redacted from the published version of a report, the approval holder must submit the full report to the department within 5 business days of its publication on the website and notify the department in writing what exclusions and redactions have been made in the version published on the website.	Not applicable	This Condition has not been triggered as IRPL have not commenced the action.

EPBC CONDITION NUMBER		EPBC CONDITION	COMPLIANCE STATUS	EXPLANATION
8	a	To avoid and mitigate harm to protected matters as a result of the Action, the approval holder must: implement conditions C6(c) and C6 (g), C8, C13 and C14 of the NSW approval, to the extent that they relate to protected matters.	Not applicable	This Condition has not been triggered as IRPL have not commenced the action.
8	b	To avoid and mitigate harm to protected matters as a result of the Action, the approval holder must: ensure that the weed, pest and pathogen management plan required under condition C8(e) of the NSW approval includes appropriate measures to prevent both the introduction and spread of weeds as a result of construction into any retained area of Belson's Panic, Bluegrass, SEVT TEC, Brigalow TEC, and Natural Grassland TEC.	Not applicable	This Condition has not been triggered as IRPL have not commenced the action.
9		To avoid and mitigate harm to protected matters as a result of the Action, the approval holder must implement conditions D1 to D4 (inclusive) of the NSW approval, to the extent that they relate to protected matters.	Not applicable	This Condition is an Operational Condition and has not been triggered.
10		To avoid and mitigate harm to the Five-clawed Worm-skink as a result of the Action, the approval holder must implement condition E30 of the NSW approval, to the extent that they relate to protected matters.	Compliant	IRPL have an approved Five-clawed Worm Skink (FCWS) Management Plan (Revision E dated 1 December 2023). Any Low Impact Work must be undertaken in accordance with the FCWS Management Plan. Five-Clawed Worm Skink Management Plan_RevE.2
11		To mitigate harm to protected matters as a result of the Action, the approval holder must implement condition E36 of the NSW approval, to the extent that they relate to protected matters.	Not applicable	This Condition has not been triggered.
12	a	Prior to commencement of the action, the approval holder must submit the Biodiversity Offset Package to the department within 10 business days of that Biodiversity Offset Package being approved by	Non-compliant	The Biodiversity Offset Package for North Star to the NSW/QLD Border Project (Revision 4, dated 17 August 2023) was approved by the NSW Department

EPBC CONDITION NUMBER	EPBC CONDITION	COMPLIANCE STATUS	EXPLANATION
	NSW Planning Secretary. The Biodiversity Offset Package must include: details of the significant residual impacts to all protected matters that will be compensated for by offsets and compensatory measures		of Planning and Environment (DPE) on 19 October 2023. There was an extension granted for the submission of the Biodiversity Offset Package as required by SSI-9371 Condition E24 which was granted on 24/5/2023 (Ref: SSI-9371-PA-14).
12	b Prior to commencement of the action, the approval holder must submit the Biodiversity Offset Package to the department within 10 business days of that Biodiversity Offset Package being approved by NSW Planning Secretary. The Biodiversity Offset Package must include: details of the biodiversity credits obligations	Non-compliant	IRPL received an additional RFI on 13 September 2023 (Ref: SSI-9371-PA-20) which was responded to on 4 October 2023 (Ref: SSI-9371-PA-25). The Biodiversity Offset Package was approved by NSW DPE on 19 October 2023.
12	c Prior to commencement of the action, the approval holder must submit the Biodiversity Offset Package to the department within 10 business days of that Biodiversity Offset Package being approved by NSW Planning Secretary. The Biodiversity Offset Package must include: updated Project Plans in accordance with condition E24 of the NSW approval	Non-compliant	IRPL's requirement to submit the Biodiversity Offset Package within 10 business days of the Biodiversity Offset Package being approved for the NSW Planning Secretary was not complied with. This non-compliance was picked up as an oversight of the project due to its inactive status in regards to commencement of the action. As a corrective action in relation to the requirements for tracking compliance commitments the process within the ARTC/Inland Rail management system is being reviewed to initiate notification for actionable items and the establishment of links between the NSW and Commonwealth commitments. North Star to Border: Planning Approval Documents - Inland Rail
13	The approval holder must submit each Biodiversity Offset Report, as required by condition E26 of the NSW approval, electronically to the department within 10 business days of that Biodiversity Offset Report being submitted to the NSW Department of Planning and Environment.	Non-compliant	IRPL have submitted quarterly Biodiversity Offset Reports in January 2024, April 2024, July 2024, October 2024 and January 2025 in accordance with Condition 26 of the NSW Approval. IRPL oversight of the requirement to submit the

EPBC CONDITION NUMBER	EPBC CONDITION	COMPLIANCE STATUS	EXPLANATION
			<p>quarterly Biodiversity Offset Reports within 10 business days of the Biodiversity Offset Report being submitted to NSW DPE.</p> <p>IRPL have since submitted all Biodiversity Offset Reports as part of Non-Compliance 6-0000-270-EEC-DC-LT-0002.</p> <p>IRPL have been granted approval to modify Condition E26 of the NSW Planning Approval on 17 February 2025, which removes the ongoing requirement to submit quarterly Biodiversity Offset Reports.</p> <p>IRPL have engaged with DCCEEW Cth to discuss a variation to Conditions and will continue to progress this.</p> <p>North Star to Border: Planning Approval Documents - Inland Rail</p>
14	The approval holder must submit the Final Biodiversity Offset Report, as required by condition E27 of the NSW approval, electronically to the department within 10 business days of the Final Biodiversity Offset Report being submitted to the NSW Department of Planning and Environment.	Not applicable	This Condition has not been triggered.
15	The approval holder must comply with conditions E28 and E29 of the NSW Approval.	Not applicable	This Condition has not been triggered.
16	The approval holder must submit all plans required by these conditions electronically to the department.	Not applicable	No plans required under these Conditions have been approved.
17	Unless otherwise agreed to in writing by the Minister, the approval holder must publish each plan on the website within 15 business days of the date the plan is approved by the NSW Planning Secretary as required under NSW approval condition which must be complied with	Compliant	<p>FCWS Management Plan is published on the Inland Rail North Star to NSW/QLD border website.</p> <p>Five-Clawed Worm Skink Mngement Plan RevE.2</p>

EPBC CONDITION NUMBER	EPBC CONDITION	COMPLIANCE STATUS	EXPLANATION
	in accordance with these EPBC Act conditions.		
18	The approval holder must keep all plans required by these conditions published on the website until the expiry date of this approval, unless otherwise agreed to in writing by the Minister.	Not Applicable	Inland Rail North Star to NSW/QLD border website will host plans Refer to link below. North Star to Border: Planning Approval Documents - Inland Rail
19	The approval holder is required to exclude or redact sensitive ecological data from plans published on the website or otherwise provided to a member of the public.	Not applicable	This Condition has not been triggered as IRPL have not commenced the action.
20	If sensitive ecological data is excluded or redacted from a plan in accordance with condition 14, the approval holder must notify the department in writing what exclusions and redactions have been made in the version published on the website.	Not applicable	This Condition has not been triggered.
21	The approval holder must notify the department electronically of the date of commencement of the Action, within 5 business days of commencement of the Action.	Not applicable	This Condition has not been triggered.
22	The approval holder must commence the Action within 5 years from the date of this approval.	Not applicable	This Condition has not been triggered as IRPL have not commenced the action.
23	The approval holder must maintain accurate and complete compliance records.	Compliant	This Annual Compliance Report is the first annual compliance report. IRPL have not commenced the action and still have over 3 years to commence the action.
24	If the department makes a request in writing, the approval holder must provide electronic copies of compliance records to the department within the timeframe specified in the request.	Compliant	All records are maintained accurately.
25	The approval holder must ensure that any monitoring data (including	Compliant	This Condition is noted. No requests have currently

EPBC CONDITION NUMBER	EPBC CONDITION	COMPLIANCE STATUS	EXPLANATION
	sensitive ecological data), surveys, maps, and other spatial and metadata required under the conditions of this approval are prepared in accordance with the Guidelines for biological survey and mapped data, Commonwealth of Australia 2018, or as otherwise specified by the Minister in writing.		been received.
26	The approval holder must ensure that any monitoring data (including sensitive ecological data), surveys, maps, and other spatial and metadata required under the conditions of this approval are prepared in accordance with the Guide to providing maps and boundary data for EPBC Act projects, Commonwealth of Australia 2021, or as otherwise specified by the Minister in writing.	Not applicable	This Condition has not been triggered.
27	The approval holder must submit all monitoring data (including sensitive ecological data), surveys, maps, other spatial and metadata and all species occurrence record data (sightings and evidence of presence) electronically to the department within 3 months of completing the final pre-clearance survey.	Not applicable	This Condition has not been triggered.
28	The approval holder must prepare a compliance report for each 12-month period following the date of this approval, or as otherwise agreed to in writing by the Minister.	Non-compliant	IRPL did not submit the Annual Compliance Report for the 12-month period from 21 July 2023 – 20 July 2024. This has now been addressed by the submission of the Report.
29	Each compliance report must be consistent with the Annual Compliance Report Guidelines, Commonwealth of Australia 2014.	Compliant	This report.
30	a Each compliance report must include: Accurate and complete details of compliance and any non-compliance with the conditions and the plans, and any incidents.	Compliant	This report.
30	b Each compliance report must include: One or more shapefile showing all clearing of any protected matters, and/or their habitat, undertaken within the 12-month	Not Applicable	No clearing of MNES has occurred during the reporting period and as such there are no available shapefiles to demonstrate the extent of clearing as required under the condition.

EPBC CONDITION NUMBER	EPBC CONDITION	COMPLIANCE STATUS	EXPLANATION
	period at the end of which that compliance report is prepared.		
30	c Each compliance report must include: A schedule of all plans in existence in relation to these conditions and accurate and complete details of how each plan is being implemented.	Compliant	This report.
31	a The approval holder must: Publish each compliance report on the website within 60 business days following the end of the 12-month period for which that compliance report is required.	Non-compliant	<p>This report was not published within 60 business days of following the end of the 12-month period (18 September 2024).</p> <p>This annual compliance report has been prepared and will be placed on the IRPL website.</p> <p>This non-compliance was picked up as an oversight of the project due to its inactive status in regards to commencement of the action. As a corrective action in relation to the requirements for tracking compliance commitments the process within the ARTC/Inland Rail management system is being reviewed to initiate notification for actionable items and the establishment of links between the NSW and Commonwealth commitments.</p> <p>IRPL will ensure a copy of all compliance reports are published on the website until the expiry date of this approval.</p>
31	b The approval holder must: Notify the department electronically, within 5 business days of the date of publication that a compliance report has been published on the website.	Compliant	<p>This Report will trigger this Condition.</p> <p>The department will be notified within 5 business days of the date of publication.</p>
31	c The approval holder must:	Compliant	This Report will trigger this Condition.

EPBC CONDITION NUMBER	EPBC CONDITION	COMPLIANCE STATUS	EXPLANATION
	Provide the weblink for the compliance report in the notification to the department.		The department will be provided a weblink for the compliance report.
31	d The approval holder must: Keep all published compliance reports required by these conditions on the website until the expiry date of this approval.	Compliant	This Report will trigger this Condition. IRPL will ensure a copy of all compliance reports are published on the website until the expiry date of this approval.
31	e The approval holder must: Exclude or redact sensitive ecological data from compliance reports published on the website or otherwise provided to a member of the public.	Compliant	This Condition is noted, however it has not been triggered within this reporting period.
31	f The approval holder must: If sensitive ecological data is excluded or redacted from the published version, submit the full compliance report to the department within 5 business days of its publication on the website and notify the department in writing what exclusions and redactions have been made in the version published on the website.	Compliant	This Condition is noted, however it has not been triggered within this reporting period.
32	The approval holder must notify the department electronically, within 2 business days of becoming aware of any incident and/or potential non-compliance and/or actual non-compliance with the conditions or commitments made in a plan.	Compliant	IRPL notified the Department of an administrative Non-compliance (Ref: 6-0000-270-EEC-DC-LT-0002).
33	a The approval holder must specify in the notification: Any condition or commitment made in a plan which has been or may have been breached.	Not Applicable	This Condition is noted. No incidents have occurred within this reporting period.
33	b The approval holder must specify in the notification:	Not Applicable	This Condition is noted. No incidents have occurred within this reporting period.

EPBC CONDITION NUMBER	EPBC CONDITION	COMPLIANCE STATUS	EXPLANATION
	short description of the incident and/or potential non-compliance and/or actual noncompliance.		
33	c The approval holder must specify in the notification: location (including co-ordinates), date, and time of the incident and/or potential noncompliance and/or actual non-compliance	Not Applicable	This Condition is noted. No incidents have occurred within this reporting period.
34	a The approval holder must provide to the department in writing, within 12 business days of becoming aware of any incident and/or potential non-compliance and/or actual noncompliance, the details of that incident and/or potential non-compliance and/or actual noncompliance with the conditions or commitments made in a plan. The approval holder must specify: Any corrective action or investigation which the approval holder has already taken.	Not applicable	This Condition is noted. No incidents have occurred within this reporting period.
34	b The approval holder must provide to the department in writing, within 12 business days of becoming aware of any incident and/or potential non-compliance and/or actual noncompliance, the details of that incident and/or potential non-compliance and/or actual noncompliance with the conditions or commitments made in a plan. The approval holder must specify: The potential impacts of the incident and/or non-compliance.	Not applicable	This Condition has not been triggered.
34	c The approval holder must provide to the department in writing, within 12 business days of becoming aware of any incident and/or potential non-compliance and/or actual noncompliance, the details of that incident and/or potential non-compliance and/or actual noncompliance with the conditions or commitments made in a plan. The approval holder must specify: The method and timing of any corrective action that will be undertaken by the approval holder.	Not applicable	This Condition has not been triggered.

EPBC CONDITION NUMBER		EPBC CONDITION	COMPLIANCE STATUS	EXPLANATION
35		The approval holder must ensure that an independent audit of compliance with the conditions is conducted for every five-year period following the commencement of the Action until this approval expires, unless otherwise specified in writing by the Minister.	Not applicable	This Condition has not been triggered.
36	a	For each independent audit, the approval holder must: Provide the name and qualifications of the nominated independent auditor, the draft audit criteria, and proposed timeframe for submitting the audit report to the department prior to commencing the independent audit.	Not applicable	This Condition has not been triggered.
36	b	For each independent audit, the approval holder must: Only commence the independent audit once the nominated independent auditor, audit criteria and timeframe for submitting the audit report have been approved in writing by the department.	Not applicable	This Condition has not been triggered.
36	c	For each independent audit, the approval holder must: Submit the audit report to the department for approval within the timeframe specified and approved in writing by the department.	Not applicable	This Condition has not been triggered.
36	d	For each independent audit, the approval holder must: Publish each audit report on the website within 15 business days of the date of the department's approval of the audit report.	Not applicable	This Condition has not been triggered.
36	e	For each independent audit, the approval holder must: Keep every audit report published on the website until this approval expires.	Not applicable	This Condition has not been triggered.
37		Each audit report must report for the five-year period preceding that audit report.	Not applicable	This Condition has not been triggered.

EPBC CONDITION NUMBER	EPBC CONDITION	COMPLIANCE STATUS	EXPLANATION
38	Each audit report must be completed to the satisfaction of the Minister and be consistent with the <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 Independent Audit and Audit Report Guidelines, Commonwealth of Australia 2019</i> .	Not applicable	This Condition has not been triggered.
39	The approval holder must notify the department electronically 60 business days prior to the expiry date of this approval, that the approval is due to expire.	Not applicable	This Condition has not been triggered.
40	Within 20 business days after the completion of the Action, and, in any event, before this approval expires, the approval holder must notify the department electronically of the date of completion of the Action and provide completion data. The approval holder must submit any spatial data that comprises completion data as a shapefile	Not applicable	This Condition has not been triggered.
41	The approval holder must notify the department in writing of any proposed change to the NSW Approval that may relate to protected matters within 5 business days of formally proposing a change.	Compliant	<p>A Modification to the NSW Approval was notified via email to the Department on 6 November 2024, which was two days after the Modification was lodged.</p> <p>A meeting to discuss the Modification to the NSW Approval was held with the Department on 21 November 2024.</p>
42	The approval holder must notify the department in writing of any change to the NSW Approval conditions that may relate to protected matters, within 10 business days of a change to conditions being finalised.	Non-compliant	<p>A modification to the NSW Approval was received on 17 February 2025.</p> <p>An email was sent to the Department on 12 March 2025 (13 business days) to request a discussion on the changes to NSW Approval and a link to the Modification previously provided on 7 November 2024.</p> <p>An administrative Non-compliance, associated with</p>

EPBC CONDITION NUMBER	EPBC CONDITION	COMPLIANCE STATUS	EXPLANATION
			timing, has been submitted to the Department.

3 Compliance assessment

3.1 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: *Belinda Jones*

Full name: Belinda Jones

Position: Head of Environment

Organisation: Inland Rail

Date: 11/4/2025