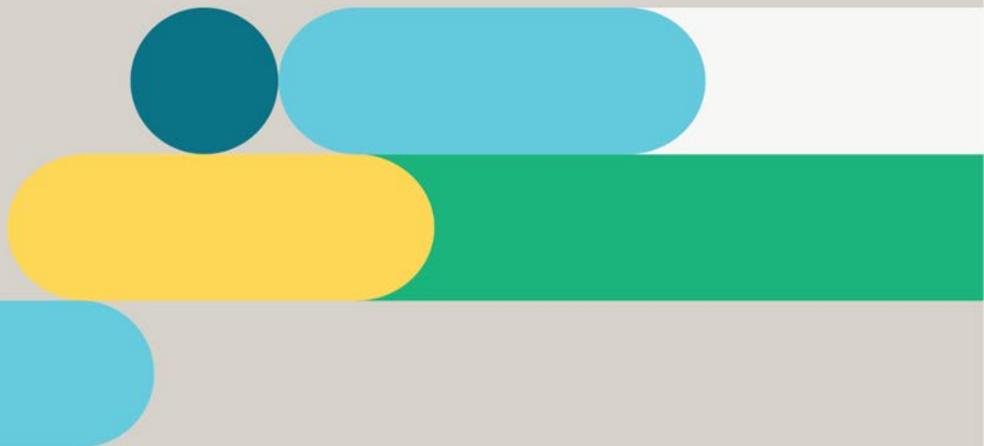


Inland Rail – Narromine to Narrabri, NSW (EPBC 2018/8259), 29 January 2026

Annual Compliance Report



Document Control

REPORT TITLE	NARROMINE TO NARRABRI EPBC ANNUAL COMPLIANCE REPORT
REPORT OWNER	Justin Bate, HSE Manager
PREPARED BY	Tui Williams, Senior Environment Advisor Regulatory
REVIEWED BY	Ian Irwin, Program Environmental Manager Matt Mulcahy, Principal Environment Advisor Belinda Jones, Head of Program Environment Justin Bate, HSE Manager Melvin Rajan, Principal Environment Advisor ARTC Brodie McDougall, Lead Environment Systems Tyler Warren, Environment Advisor - Ops Readiness
ENDORSED BY	Kurt Uebergang Area Director N2N

Approved by

	NAME	TITLE	DATE	SIGNATURE
DOCUMENT APPROVER	Kurt Uebergang	Area Director N2N	20/03/2026	

Revision History

REVISION	REVISION DATE	DESCRIPTION OF CHANGES
A	24/01/2025	Draft EPBC Annual Compliance Report
0	20/03/2026	Final

Disclaimer: This document has been prepared by Inland Rail Pty Ltd (Inland Rail) or a related entity of Inland Rail and may not be relied on by any other party without Inland Rail’s prior written consent. Use of this document shall be subject to the terms of the relevant contract with Inland Rail. Inland Rail, its related entities and employees shall have no liability to unauthorised users of the information for any loss, damage, cost or expense incurred or arising by reason of an unauthorised user using or relying upon the information in this document, whether caused by error, negligence, omission or misrepresentation in this document.

Copyright of this material is vested in Inland Rail, subject to the Copyright Act 1968. This material, including the Inland Rail logo, is copyright. None of this material may be reproduced, altered or transmitted in whole or in part without prior written permission from Inland Rail which must be directed to IR Director Business Services.

© Inland Rail Pty Ltd 2024

Table of Contents

Glossary	3
1 Introduction.....	4
1.1 Background	4
1.2 Scope.....	4
1.3 Approved action	5
1.4 Project details.....	8
1.5 Key project activities.....	8
2 Compliance assessment	9
2.1 Assessment of compliance.....	9
3 Compliance assessment	31
3.1 Declaration of Accuracy	31

List of tables

Table 1 Terminology	3
Table 2 Project Details.....	8
Table 3 Compliance status terminology	9

List of figures

Figure 1 Narromine to Narrabri section of Inland Rail project footprint.....	7
Figure 2 Narromine to Narrabri section of Inland Rail project footprint.....	7

Glossary

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

Table 1 Terminology

ACRONYM	TERM
ARTC	Australian Rail Track Corporation
CEMP	Construction Environmental Management Plan
CIZ	Construction Impact Zone
CSSI	Critical State Significant Infrastructure
CSSI 9487	Critical State Significant Infrastructure Planning Approval for N2N
DCCEEW Cth	Commonwealth Department of Climate Change, Energy the Environment and Water
DCCEEW NSW	NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy the Environment and Water
DPHI	Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
EP&A Act	NSW Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979
EPBC 2018/8259	EPBC Act Planning Approval for N2N
FCWS	Five-clawed Worm Skink
IRPL	Inland Rail Pty Ltd, a wholly owned subsidiary company of the ARTC.
N2N	Narromine to Narrabri project
SPIR	Submissions and Preferred Infrastructure Report
SSI	State Significant Infrastructure
TEC	Threatened Ecological Community

1 Introduction

1.1.1 Background

The Narromine to Narrabri (N2N) project was declared by the then Commonwealth Minister for Sustainability, Environment, Water, Populations and Communities to be a controlled action under the Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act) on 5 November 2018. The controlled action, as defined under EPBC approval, was subsequently approved on the 31 January 2024 (**EPBC 2018/8259**). The project is subject to conditions of approval issued under **EPBC 2018/8259**.

In addition to the EPBC approval, the project also holds a Critical State Significant Infrastructure (**CSSI**) approval to construct and operate the N2N section of the Inland Rail program under Part 5, Division 5.2 of the NSW *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (**EP&A Act**). CSSI Approval was granted for N2N on 21 February 2023, and complements conditions under the EPBC approval.

Inland Rail Pty Limited (as a wholly owned subsidiary of Australian Rail Track Corporation) is yet to commence the action as defined within the EPBC Approval, specifically the construction and operation of a rail line approximately 300 km in length between Narromine and Narrabri, NSW, as part of the Inland Rail Programme.

1.1 Scope

This report details the commitments outlined within EPBC 2018/8259 and assessment of compliance against conditions 1 - 52 for the reporting period 31 January 2025 to 30 January 2026 as per Condition 38-41 of EPBC 2018/8259, which states:

38) *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.*

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

40) *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.*

41) *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.*

1.2 Approved action

To date, the N2N Project has only undertaken minor physical disturbance and has not commenced the action. Activities carried out to date are limited to those defined as Low Impact Works (LIW) under the CSSI approval.

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, IRPL 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 IRPL north of Narromine is to gain primary approvals to secure the Inland Rail route (which includes IRPL 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 N2N include:

- ▶ A new 306- kilometre (km) long rail corridor between Narromine and Narrabri
- ▶ A single-track standard-gauge railway and track formation within the new rail corridor
- ▶ Seven crossing loops at Burroway, Balladoran, Curban, Black Hollow/Quanda, Baradine, The Pilliga and Bohena Creek
- ▶ Bridges over rivers and other watercourses (including the Macquarie River, Castlereagh River and the Narrabri Creek/Namoi River), floodplains and roads
- ▶ Level crossings
- ▶ New rail connections and possible future connections with existing IRPL and Country Regional Network rail lines, including a new 1.2-km long rail junction between the Parkes to Narromine section of Inland Rail and the existing Narromine to Cobar Line (the Narromine West connection).
- ▶ Road realignments at various locations, including realignment of the Pilliga Forest Way for a distance of 6.7 km

The overall project footprint is presented in **Figure 1 and 2** below.

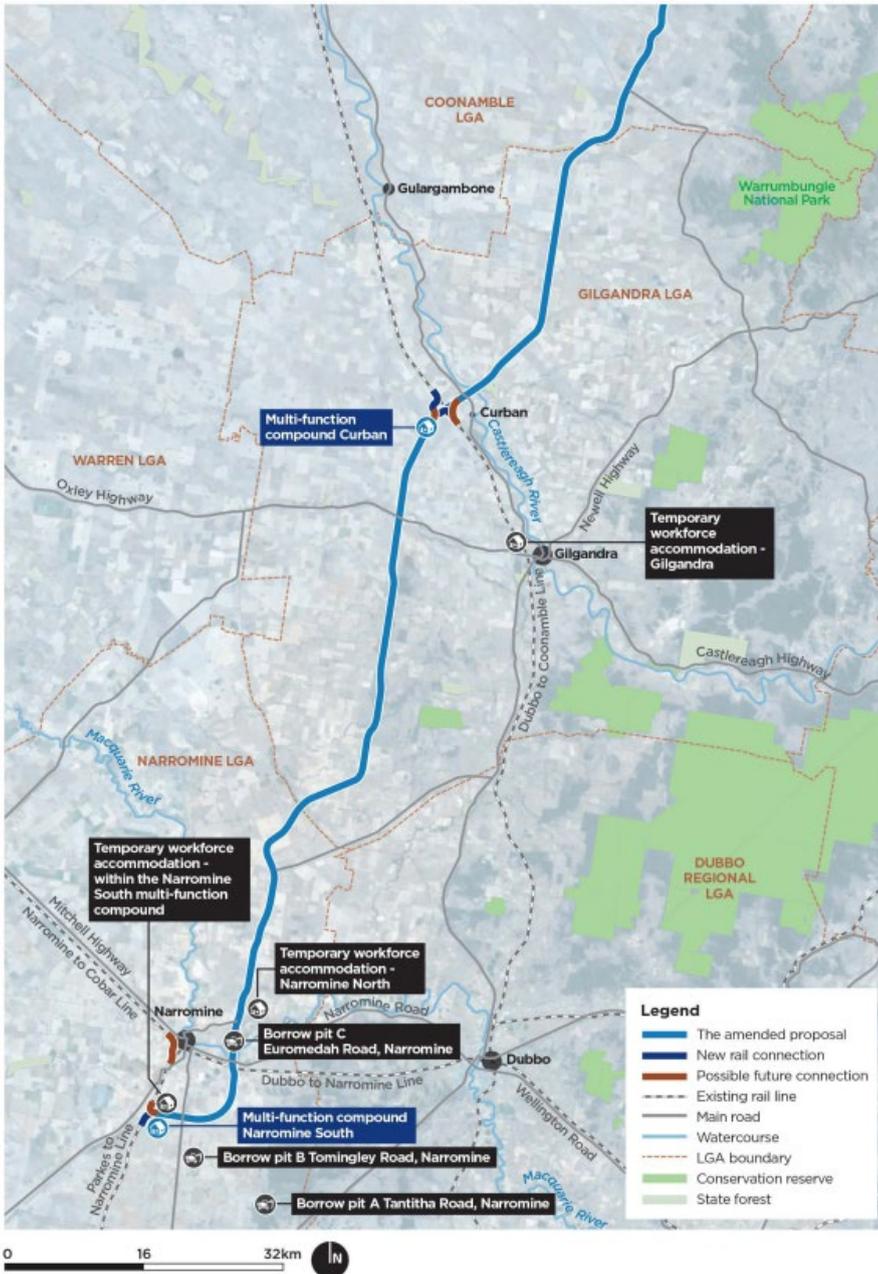


Figure 1 Narromine to Narrabri section of Inland Rail project footprint

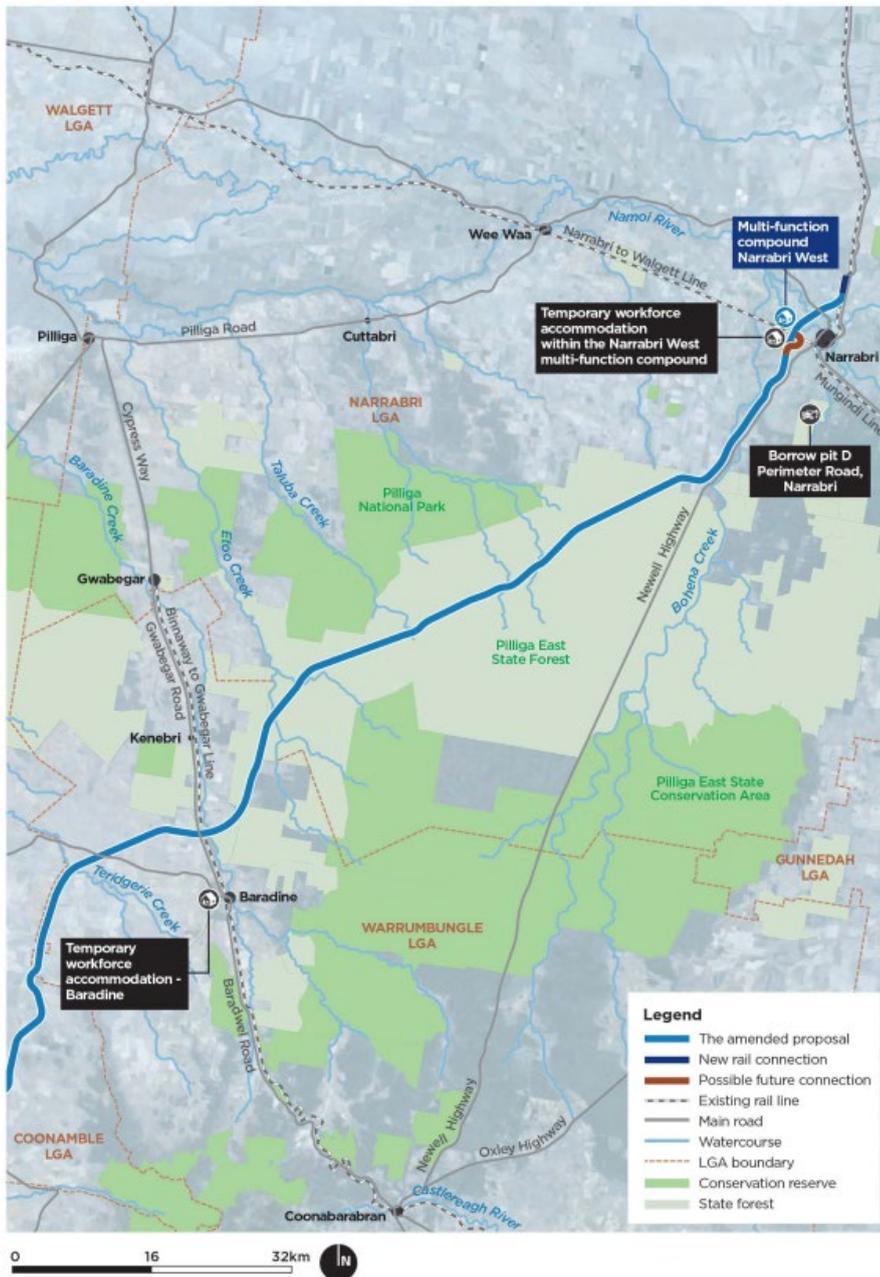


Figure 2 Narromine to Narrabri section of Inland Rail project footprint

1.3 Project details

Project details for N2N are presented in **Table 2** below.

Table 2 Project Details

EPBC NUMBER	EPBC 2018/8259
PROJECT NAME	Narromine to Narrabri
APPROVAL HOLDER AND ACN OR ABN	Australian Rail Track Corporation Limited ACN 081 455 754
LOCATION OF THE PROJECT	Narromine to Narrabri
REPORTING PERIOD	31 January 2025 – 30 January 2026

1.1.2 Key project activities

The following LIW as defined under the NSW Approval were commenced and/ or completed during the reporting period:

- ▶ Utilities investigations
- ▶ Erosion Threshold Velocity Investigations
- ▶ Geotechnical Survey Investigations
- ▶ Property acquisition adjustment work
- ▶ General survey investigations
- ▶ Other non-intrusive investigations
- ▶ Other activities determined by the ER to have minimal environmental impact.

LIW scopes currently being assessed by IRPL, which may be delivered prior to Construction and/ or commencement of the defined action include:

- ▶ Archaeological test excavation and salvage
- ▶ Utilities investigations
- ▶ Installation of mitigation measures including erosion and sediment controls and temporary exclusion fencing for sensitive areas

- ▶ Contamination investigations and treatment of contaminated sites
- ▶ Site establishment work
- ▶ Property acquisition adjustment work
- ▶ Minor ancillary facility establishment
- ▶ General survey investigations
- ▶ Other non-intrusive investigations
- ▶ Other activities determined by the ER to have minimal environmental impact.

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 Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW) 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 provides an assessment against the requirements as specified under EPBC 2018/8259 approval. No non-compliances were identified for the reporting period, and many of the conditions were not applicable (not triggered) as the defined 'action' has not yet commenced.

IRPL requested a modification to MCoA E24 of the NSW Approval on the 02/09/2025, which allows the proponent to review and reduce the ecosystem and species credit requirements to reflect the final construction footprint; further surveys required under relevant approval conditions; and the resulting

extent and type of plant community types to be cleared.

The proposed modification was administrative only and did not allow for any increase in impacts on biodiversity values, beyond that already provided for under the approval. The modification was granted by the NSW Planning Secretary on 03/10/2025, and DCCEEW-Cth was notified accordingly pursuant to conditions 51 and 52 of the EPBC approval.

Research and assessments have progressed in relation to Train-Fauna Strike Risk with the following documents provided to the Department for consideration during the reporting period:

- N2N EPBC Act Train-Fauna Strike Risk Zone Modelling, *Literature Review, Risk Assessment and Draft Research Framework*.
- EPBC Train Collision Risk Mitigation, *Stakeholder Engagement Plan*.

The preliminary fauna connectivity strategy was provided by email to DCCEEW-Cth on 19/09/2025 requesting consultation; no response has been received to date.

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 IRPL have not commenced the action.	
2	a	Within the construction impact zone, to avoid and mitigate harm to protected matters, the approval holder must not clear more than: 6.5 hectares (ha) of Weeping Myall Woodlands TEC	Not applicable	This Condition has not been triggered as IRPL have not commenced the action.
2	b	Within the construction impact zone, to avoid and mitigate harm to protected matters, the approval holder must not clear more than: 7.3 ha of Brigalow TEC	Not applicable	This Condition has not been triggered as IRPL have not commenced the action.
2	c	Within the construction impact zone, to avoid and mitigate harm to protected matters, the approval holder must not clear more than: 17.2 ha of Grey Box Grassy Woodlands TEC	Not applicable	This Condition has not been triggered as IRPL have not commenced the action.

EPBC CONDITION NUMBER	EPBC CONDITION	COMPLIANCE STATUS	EXPLANATION
2	d Within the construction impact zone, to avoid and mitigate harm to protected matters, the approval holder must not clear more than: 8.4 ha of Box-gum Grassy Woodland TEC	Not applicable	This Condition has not been triggered as IRPL have not commenced the action.
2	e Within the construction impact zone, to avoid and mitigate harm to protected matters, the approval holder must not clear more than: 575.9 ha of habitat for Commersonia procumbens	Not applicable	This Condition has not been triggered as IRPL have not commenced the action.
2	f Within the construction impact zone, to avoid and mitigate harm to protected matters, the approval holder must not clear more than: 37.9 ha of habitat for Tylophora linearis	Not applicable	This Condition has not been triggered as IRPL have not commenced the action.
2	g Within the construction impact zone, to avoid and mitigate harm to protected matters, the approval holder must not clear more than: 175.8 ha of habitat for Winged Peppercreess	Not applicable	This Condition has not been triggered as IRPL have not commenced the action.
2	h Within the construction impact zone, to avoid and mitigate harm to protected matters, the approval holder must not clear more than: 338.8 ha of habitat for Spiny Peppercreess	Not applicable	This Condition has not been triggered as IRPL have not commenced the action.
2	i Within the construction impact zone, to avoid and mitigate harm to protected matters, the approval holder must not clear more than: 48.6 ha of habitat for Ingram's Zieria	Not applicable	This Condition has not been triggered as IRPL have not commenced the action.
2	j Within the construction impact zone, to avoid and mitigate harm to protected matters, the approval holder must not clear more than: 269.2 ha of breeding habitat for Koala	Not applicable	This Condition has not been triggered as IRPL have not commenced the action.
2	k Within the construction impact zone, to avoid and mitigate harm to	Not applicable	This Condition has not been triggered as IRPL have

EPBC CONDITION NUMBER		EPBC CONDITION	COMPLIANCE STATUS	EXPLANATION
		protected matters, the approval holder must not clear more than: 1,153.43 ha of foraging habitat for Koala		not commenced the action.
2	l	Within the construction impact zone, to avoid and mitigate harm to protected matters, the approval holder must not clear more than: 1,107.4 ha of habitat for Corben's Long-eared Bat	Not applicable	This Condition has not been triggered as IRPL have not commenced the action.
2	m	Within the construction impact zone, to avoid and mitigate harm to protected matters, the approval holder must not clear more than: 647.1 ha of habitat for Pilliga Mouse	Not applicable	This Condition has not been triggered as IRPL have not commenced the action.
2	n	Within the construction impact zone, to avoid and mitigate harm to protected matters, the approval holder must not clear more than: 1,107.4 ha of habitat for Painted Honeyeater	Not applicable	This Condition has not been triggered as IRPL have not commenced the action.
2	o	Within the construction impact zone, to avoid and mitigate harm to protected matters, the approval holder must not clear more than: 286.8 ha of habitat for Regent Honeyeater	Not applicable	This Condition has not been triggered as IRPL have not commenced the action.
2	p	Within the construction impact zone, to avoid and mitigate harm to protected matters, the approval holder must not clear more than: 732.9 ha of habitat for Swift Parrot	Not applicable	This Condition has not been triggered as IRPL have not commenced the action.
2	q	Within the construction impact zone, to avoid and mitigate harm to protected matters, the approval holder must not clear more than: 1,594.1 ha of habitat for Superb parrot	Not applicable	This Condition has not been triggered as IRPL have not commenced the action.
2	r	Within the construction impact zone, to avoid and mitigate harm to protected matters, the approval holder must not clear more than:	Not applicable	This Condition has not been triggered as IRPL have not commenced the action.

EPBC CONDITION NUMBER	EPBC CONDITION	COMPLIANCE STATUS	EXPLANATION
	336 ha of habitat for Five-clawed Worm-skink		
2	s Within the construction impact zone, to avoid and mitigate harm to protected matters, the approval holder must not clear more than: 934.6 ha of habitat for Large-eared Pied Bat	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. Action has not yet commenced, and there have been no known protected matters, or the habitat of any protected matter(s) identified, during the reporting period that were not previously reported to the department.
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 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 other than those specified in condition 2.	Not applicable	This Condition has not been triggered. The action has not yet commenced. No clearing of protected matters occurred during the reporting period.
4	To avoid and mitigate harm to protected matters as a result of the Action, the approval holder must implement conditions E21 and E23 of the NSW approval, to the extent that they relate to protected matters.	Not applicable	This Condition has not been triggered. The action has not yet commenced.
5	Prior to undertaking any clearing, to accurately map and record the detailed boundaries of the Action, the approval holder must submit a	Not applicable	This Condition has not been triggered. The action has not yet commenced.

EPBC CONDITION NUMBER	EPBC CONDITION	COMPLIANCE STATUS	EXPLANATION
	shapefile of the construction impact zone to the department.		
6	a Prior to any area within the construction impact zone being disturbed, 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 as IRPL have not commenced the action.
6	b Prior to any area within the construction impact zone being disturbed, 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 as IRPL have not commenced the action.
7	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: include a map accurately showing the area surveyed and the proposed disturbance area	Not applicable	This Condition has not been triggered as IRPL have not commenced the action.
7	b 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	Not applicable	This Condition has not been triggered as IRPL have not commenced the action.

EPBC CONDITION NUMBER	EPBC CONDITION	COMPLIANCE STATUS	EXPLANATION
	<p>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 disturbance area</p>		
7	<p>c</p> <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 disturbance area</p>	Not applicable	This Condition has not been triggered as IRPL have not commenced the action.
7	<p>d</p> <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>detail the extent of and map the area of each protected matter and the habitat of each protected matter which will be disturbed as a result of the Action in that area</p>	Not applicable	This Condition has not been triggered as IRPL have not commenced the action.
7	<p>e</p> <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</p>	Not applicable	This Condition has not been triggered as IRPL have not commenced the action.

EPBC CONDITION NUMBER	EPBC CONDITION	COMPLIANCE STATUS	EXPLANATION
	<p>undertaken. Each report published on the website must remain published on the website until completion of the Action. Each report must:</p> <p>commit to specific management measures to avoid and/or minimise disturbance to each protected matter and the habitat of each protected matter</p>		
8	<p>a</p> <p>To avoid and mitigate harm to protected matters as a result of the Action, the approval holder must:</p> <p>implement conditions C6, C9, C14 and E160 of the NSW approval, to the extent that they relate to protected matters</p>	Not applicable	This Condition has not been triggered as IRPL have not commenced the action.
8	<p>b</p> <p>To avoid and mitigate harm to protected matters as a result of the Action, the approval holder must:</p> <p>ensure that the weed, pest and pathogen management plan required under condition C9(c) of the NSW approval includes appropriate measures to prevent both the introduction and spread of weeds, as a result of the Action, into any retained area of Weeping Myall Woodlands TEC, Brigalow TEC, Grey Box Grassy Woodlands TEC or Box-gum Grassy Woodlands TEC</p>	Not applicable	This Condition has not been triggered as IRPL have not commenced the action.
9	<p>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</p>	Not applicable	This Condition is an Operational Condition and has not been triggered.
10	<p>To avoid and mitigate harm to protected matters as a result of the Action, the approval holder must implement conditions D5, D6 and D9 to D13 (inclusive) of the NSW approval, to the extent that they relate to protected matters</p>	Not applicable	This Condition is an Operational Condition and has not been triggered.
11	<p>To avoid and mitigate harm to the Five-clawed Worm-skink as a result of the Action, the approval holder must implement conditions E30 to E33 (inclusive) of the NSW approval, to the extent that they relate to</p>	Compliant	IRPL have an approved Five-clawed Worm Skink Management Plan (Revision 2 dated 15 August 2024). Any Low Impact Work must be undertaken in

EPBC CONDITION NUMBER		EPBC CONDITION	COMPLIANCE STATUS	EXPLANATION
		protected matters		accordance with the FCWS Management Plan.
12	a	<p>To reduce the risk of moving trains causing harm to protected matters in the vicinity of the Pilliga Forest, the approval holder must, prior to commencement in the Train-Fauna Strike Risk Zone, conduct research within the Train-Fauna Strike Risk Zone to inform a Schedule of Train Speed Limits. The research must include sound information about:</p> <p>at what time each protected fauna species is most likely to move across or in the rail corridor within the Train-Fauna Strike Risk Zone</p>	Not applicable	<p>This Condition has not been triggered. The ‘action’ as defined under the EPBC approval has not commenced.</p> <p>Research has progressed.</p> <p>Meeting held with representatives from the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW-Cth) on 15 October 2025 to discuss the approach to the N2N Train-Fauna Strike Risk Modelling.</p> <p>The following documents were subsequently provided to DCCEEW-Cth for consideration, and any comments or feedback:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N2N EPBC Act Train-Fauna Strike Risk Zone Modelling, <i>Literature Review, Risk Assessment and Draft Research Framework</i>. • EPBC Train Collision Risk Mitigation, <i>Stakeholder Engagement Plan</i>.
12	b	<p>To reduce the risk of moving trains causing harm to protected matters in the vicinity of the Pilliga Forest, the approval holder must, prior to commencement in the Train-Fauna Strike Risk Zone, conduct research within the Train-Fauna Strike Risk Zone to inform a Schedule of Train Speed Limits. The research must include sound information about:</p> <p>the likely frequency of wildlife-train collisions in the rail alignment within the Train-Fauna Strike Risk Zone for each of the protected fauna species at each hour of the day for each season and at a series of train speeds and typical train lengths</p>	Not applicable	<p>This Condition has not been triggered.</p> <p>Refer condition 12a ‘explanation column’ for further details.</p>

EPBC CONDITION NUMBER	EPBC CONDITION	COMPLIANCE STATUS	EXPLANATION	
13	The Schedule of Train Speed Limits must specify proposed train speeds in the rail corridor within the Train-Fauna Strike Risk Zone that is based on scientific evidence that the proposed train speeds will not have a greater than negligible impact on protected fauna species	Not applicable	This Condition has not been triggered. Refer condition 12a 'explanation column' for further details.	
14	Prior to commencement in the Train-Fauna Strike Risk Zone, the approval holder must submit to the department for the Minister's approval the Schedule of Train Speed Limits. The approval holder must not commence in the Train-Fauna Strike Risk Zone unless the Minister has approved in writing the Schedule of Train Speed Limits. The approval holder must implement the approved Schedule of Train Speed Limits until the expiry date of this approval.	Not applicable	This Condition has not been triggered. Refer condition 12a 'explanation column' for further details.	
15	a	If the approval holder has not commenced operation within the Train-Fauna Strike Risk Zone within 5 years from the date of the Minister's approval of the Schedule of Train Speed Limits, the approval holder must: resubmit the Schedule of Train Speed Limits to the department for the Minister's written approval prior to the commencement of operation	Not applicable	This Condition has not been triggered. Refer condition 12a 'explanation column' for further details.
15	b	If the approval holder has not commenced operation within the Train-Fauna Strike Risk Zone within 5 years from the date of the Minister's approval of the Schedule of Train Speed Limits, the approval holder must: not commence operation without the Minister's written approval of the resubmitted Schedule of Train Speed Limits.	Not applicable	This Condition has not been triggered. Refer condition 12a 'explanation column' for further details.
16	The approval holder must notify the department in writing within 10 business days of finding evidence of wildlife injury or mortality of a confirmed protected fauna species within the Train-Fauna Strike Risk Zone, which has likely been injured or killed as a result of wildlife-train collision.	Not applicable	This Condition has not been triggered. Refer condition 12a 'explanation column' for further details.	

EPBC CONDITION NUMBER	EPBC CONDITION	COMPLIANCE STATUS	EXPLANATION
17 a	<p>If the Minister notifies the approval holder that the Minister is satisfied that, based on the evidence of notifications by the approval holder under Condition 16, the operation of the Action in the Train-Fauna Strike Risk Zone has, or will likely result in, a regular and sustained level of injury or mortality on populations of protected fauna species in the environs of the Train-Fauna Strike Risk Zone, the approval holder must:</p> <p>temporarily operate or suspend operation of the Action in accordance with the direction of the Minister, or as otherwise agreed in writing and</p>	Not applicable	<p>This Condition has not been triggered.</p> <p>Refer condition 12a 'explanation column' for further details.</p>
17 b	<p>If the Minister notifies the approval holder that the Minister is satisfied that, based on the evidence of notifications by the approval holder under Condition 16, the operation of the Action in the Train-Fauna Strike Risk Zone has, or will likely result in, a regular and sustained level of injury or mortality on populations of protected fauna species in the environs of the Train-Fauna Strike Risk Zone, the approval holder must:</p> <p>submit a revised Schedule of Train Speed Limits and/or alternative fauna strike remediation measures to the department as directed by and/or agreed with the Minister</p>	Not applicable	<p>This Condition has not been triggered.</p> <p>Refer condition 12a 'explanation column' for further details.</p>
17 c	<p>If the Minister notifies the approval holder that the Minister is satisfied that, based on the evidence of notifications by the approval holder under Condition 16, the operation of the Action in the Train-Fauna Strike Risk Zone has, or will likely result in, a regular and sustained level of injury or mortality on populations of protected fauna species in the environs of the Train-Fauna Strike Risk Zone, the approval holder must:</p> <p>resume operation in accordance with the Minister's approval of the revised Schedule and/or measures.</p>	Not applicable	<p>This Condition has not been triggered.</p> <p>Refer condition 12a 'explanation column' for further details.</p>

EPBC CONDITION NUMBER	EPBC CONDITION	COMPLIANCE STATUS	EXPLANATION
18	To mitigate impacts to protected matters as a result of the Action, the approval holder must implement conditions E34 to E37 (inclusive) of the NSW approval, to the extent that they relate to protected matters.	Not applicable	This Condition has not been triggered. The preliminary fauna connectivity strategy was provided by email to DCCEEW-Cth on 19/9/2025 requesting consultation; no response has been received to date.
19	The approval holder must not implement the Fauna Connectivity Strategy required under condition E34 of the NSW approval unless it has received written advice from the department that the Fauna Connectivity Strategy is suitable to implement.	Not applicable	This Condition has not been triggered. Refer to condition 18 'explanation column' for further details.
20	a Should there be a change to the design or location of a connectivity structure or an addition of a new connectivity structure, in accordance with condition E37 of the NSW Approval, where this connectivity structure is likely to be used by a protected matter, the approval holder must: notify the department in writing and provide details of the change to the design or location of the connectivity structure or addition of the new connectivity structure	Not applicable	This Condition has not been triggered. Refer to condition 18 'explanation column' for further details.
20	b Should there be a change to the design or location of a connectivity structure or an addition of a new connectivity structure, in accordance with condition E37 of the NSW Approval, where this connectivity structure is likely to be used by a protected matter, the approval holder must: not commence construction of that connectivity structure until the department agrees in writing to the change to the design or location of the connectivity structure or addition of the new connectivity structure.	Not applicable	This Condition has not been triggered. Refer to condition 18 'explanation column' for further details.
21	To compensate for impacts to protected matters as a result of the Action, the approval holder must retire the biodiversity credits in accordance with conditions E24, E26, E28 and E29 of the NSW	Not applicable	This Condition has not been triggered and will be completed prior to impacts on biodiversity values of the CSSI.

EPBC CONDITION NUMBER	EPBC CONDITION	COMPLIANCE STATUS	EXPLANATION
	approval, to the extent that they relate to protected matters.		
22	Prior to commencement of each segment, the approval holder must retire biodiversity credits in accordance with condition E24 of the NSW Approval.	Not applicable	This Condition has not been triggered and will be completed prior to impacts on biodiversity values of the CSSI.
23	Prior to commencement of each segment, the approval holder must submit evidence to the department demonstrating that the biodiversity credits have been retired, in accordance with condition E26 of the NSW approval.	Not applicable	This Condition has not been triggered and will be completed prior to impacts on biodiversity values of the CSSI.
24	If any changes are made by the NSW Government to the required number of biodiversity credits from the numbers specified in condition E24 of the NSW Approval prior to commencement of each segment, to the extent that they relate to protected matters, the approval holder must not commence the segment unless the Minister has approved in writing the number of biodiversity credits to be retired.	Compliant	No changes to biodiversity credits have been made during the reporting period.
25	The approval holder must submit all plans required by these conditions electronically to the department. This includes plans required under any conditions of the NSW Approval that are specified in these conditions.	Compliant	<p>To date the following approved plan(s) have been submitted to the Department as required under the approval:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Five-clawed Worm Skink Management Plan (by email on 31/01/2025). <p>The preliminary fauna connectivity strategy was also provided by email to DCCEEW-Cth on 19/9/2025 requesting consultation; no response has been received to date.</p>

EPBC CONDITION NUMBER	EPBC CONDITION	COMPLIANCE STATUS	EXPLANATION
26	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 in accordance with the NSW approval conditions which must be complied with in accordance with these EPBC Act approval conditions.	Compliant	Five-clawed Worm Skink Management Plan is published on the Inland Rail Narromine to Narrabri website located here: Narromine to Narrabri: Planning Approval Documents - Inland Rail
27	The approval holder must keep all published plans required by these conditions on the website until the expiry date of this approval.	Compliant	Inland Rail Narromine to Narrabri website contains all relevant approvals. Refer to link below: Narromine to Narrabri: Planning Approval Documents - Inland Rail
28	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.
29	If sensitive ecological data is excluded or redacted from a plan, the approval holder must notify the department in writing what exclusions and redactions have been made in the version published on the website.	Not applicable	This Condition has not been triggered during the reporting period.
30	The approval holder may, at any time, apply to the Minister for a variation to an action management plan approved by the Minister by submitting an application in accordance with the requirements of section 143A of the EPBC Act. The Schedule of Train Speed Limits required under condition 12 - 13 is an action management plan for the purposes of this condition. If the Minister approves a revised action management plan (RAMP) then, from the date specified, the approval holder must implement the RAMP in place of the previous action management plan.	Not applicable	This Condition has not been triggered during the reporting period.
31	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 as IRPL have not commenced the action.

EPBC CONDITION NUMBER	EPBC CONDITION	COMPLIANCE STATUS	EXPLANATION
32	The approval holder must not commence the Action later than 5 years from the date of this approval decision.	Compliant	This compliance report is the second annual compliance report for the project, noting the defined action has not yet commenced. IRPL still have 3 years remaining to commence the action.
33	The approval holder must maintain accurate and complete compliance records.	Compliant	Compliance records are maintained within IRPLs document control/ compliance systems including Horizon 360 and, on the website (as required under conditions of approval).
34	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	This Condition is noted. No requests were received from the Department during the reporting period.
35	The approval holder must ensure that any monitoring data (including sensitive ecological data), surveys, maps, and other spatial and metadata required under the conditions of this approval are prepared in accordance with the Guidelines for biological survey and mapped data, Commonwealth of Australia 2018, or as otherwise specified by the Minister in writing.	Not applicable	This Condition has not been triggered. The action has not yet commenced.
36	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. The action has not yet commenced.
37	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 24 months of the approval.	Not applicable	This Condition has not been triggered. The action has not yet commenced.

EPBC CONDITION NUMBER	EPBC CONDITION	COMPLIANCE STATUS	EXPLANATION	
38	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.	Compliant	This compliance report, as submitted ensures compliance with this condition.	
39	Each compliance report must be consistent with the Annual Compliance Report Guidelines, Commonwealth of Australia 2014.	Compliant	This compliance report aligns with the requirements of the Guideline, noting that the defined action has not yet commenced.	
40	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 compliance report includes accurate and complete details of compliance with conditions, noting the defined action has not yet commenced, and there were no known incidents or events of non-compliance reported during the reporting period.
40	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 period at the end of which that compliance report is prepared.	Compliant	The defined action has not yet commenced, and as such this requirement was not triggered during the reporting period.
40	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	A schedule of approved plans under this approval is provided as follows: (a) Five-clawed Worm Skink Management Plan Approved plans are publicly available on the project website: <u>Narromine to Narrabri: Planning Approval Documents - Inland Rail</u>

EPBC CONDITION NUMBER		EPBC CONDITION	COMPLIANCE STATUS	EXPLANATION
41	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.	Compliant	A copy of this compliance report has been published on the Inland Rail website located at this link: Narromine to Narrabri: Planning Approval Documents - Inland Rail
41	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	A copy of this compliance report has been published on the Inland Rail website located at this link: Narromine to Narrabri: Planning Approval Documents - Inland Rail
41	c	The approval holder must: Provide the weblink for the compliance report in the notification to the department.	Compliant	A copy of this compliance is published on the Inland rail website at this location: Narromine to Narrabri: Planning Approval Documents - Inland Rail
41	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	To date all compliance reports, remain published on the Inland Rail Website located here: Narromine to Narrabri: Planning Approval Documents - Inland Rail . A copy of this compliance report (as submitted) will be published on the Inland Rail website, and a link provided to the Department pursuant to condition 41c. IRPL will ensure reports remain published until the expiry date of this approval (31 October 2100).
41	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. The defined action has not yet commenced, and accordingly there was no ecological data for the reporting period.

EPBC CONDITION NUMBER		EPBC CONDITION	COMPLIANCE STATUS	EXPLANATION
41	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. Refer to condition 41d explanation column for additional details.
42		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	No known incidents have occurred during this reporting period.
43	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.	Compliant	No known incidents have occurred during this reporting period.
43	b	The approval holder must specify in the notification: short description of the incident and/or potential non-compliance and/or actual non-compliance.	Compliant	No known incidents have occurred during this reporting period.
43	c	The approval holder must specify in the notification: location (including co-ordinates), date, and time of the incident and/or potential non-compliance and/or actual non-compliance	Compliant	No known incidents have occurred during this reporting period.
44	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 non-compliance, the details of that incident and/or potential non-compliance and/or actual non-compliance with the conditions or commitments made in a plan. The approval holder must specify:	Not applicable	This Condition is noted. No known incidents have occurred during this reporting period.

EPBC CONDITION NUMBER	EPBC CONDITION	COMPLIANCE STATUS	EXPLANATION
	Any corrective action or investigation which the approval holder has already taken.		
44	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 is noted. No known incidents have occurred during this reporting period.
44	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 is noted. No known incidents have occurred during this reporting period.
45	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. The defined action has not yet commenced.
46	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. The defined action has not yet commenced.
46	b For each independent audit, the approval holder must:	Not applicable	This Condition has not been triggered. The defined action has not yet commenced.

EPBC CONDITION NUMBER	EPBC CONDITION	COMPLIANCE STATUS	EXPLANATION
	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.		
46	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. The defined action has not yet commenced.
46	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. The defined action has not yet commenced.
46	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. The defined action has not yet commenced.
47	Each audit report must report for the five-year period preceding that audit report.	Not applicable	This Condition has not been triggered. The defined action has not yet commenced.
48	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. The defined action has not yet commenced.
49	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. The approval has effect until 31 October 2100.

EPBC CONDITION NUMBER	EPBC CONDITION	COMPLIANCE STATUS	EXPLANATION
50	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. The defined action has not yet commenced.
51	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>IRPL requested a modification to MCoA E24 of the NSW Approval on the 02/09/2025, to align with MCoA E26 of the NSW Infrastructure Approval for the Inland Rail Illabo to Stockinbingal (I2S) Project (SSI-9406), which allows the proponent to review and reduce the ecosystem and species credit requirements to reflect the final construction footprint; further surveys required under relevant approval conditions; and the resulting extent and type of plant community types to be cleared.</p> <p>The proposed modification was administrative only and did not allow for any increase in impacts on biodiversity values, beyond that already provided for under the approval.</p> <p>The Department was notified of this proposed change (by email to post.approvals@dcceew.gov.au) on the 01/09/2025, within 5 days of formally proposing the change.</p>

EPBC CONDITION NUMBER	EPBC CONDITION	COMPLIANCE STATUS	EXPLANATION
52	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.	Compliant	<p>Refer to condition 51 explanation column for modification requested during the reporting period.</p> <p>The modification was granted by the NSW Planning Secretary on 03/10/2025.</p> <p>The Department was notified (by email to post.approvals@dcceew.gov.au) of this change to the NSW Approval conditions, on the 16/10/2025, within 10 business days of the change to condition being finalised.</p>

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:



Full name: Kurt Uebergang

Position: Area Director N2N

Organisation: Inland Rail Pty Ltd

Date: **20/03/2026**