

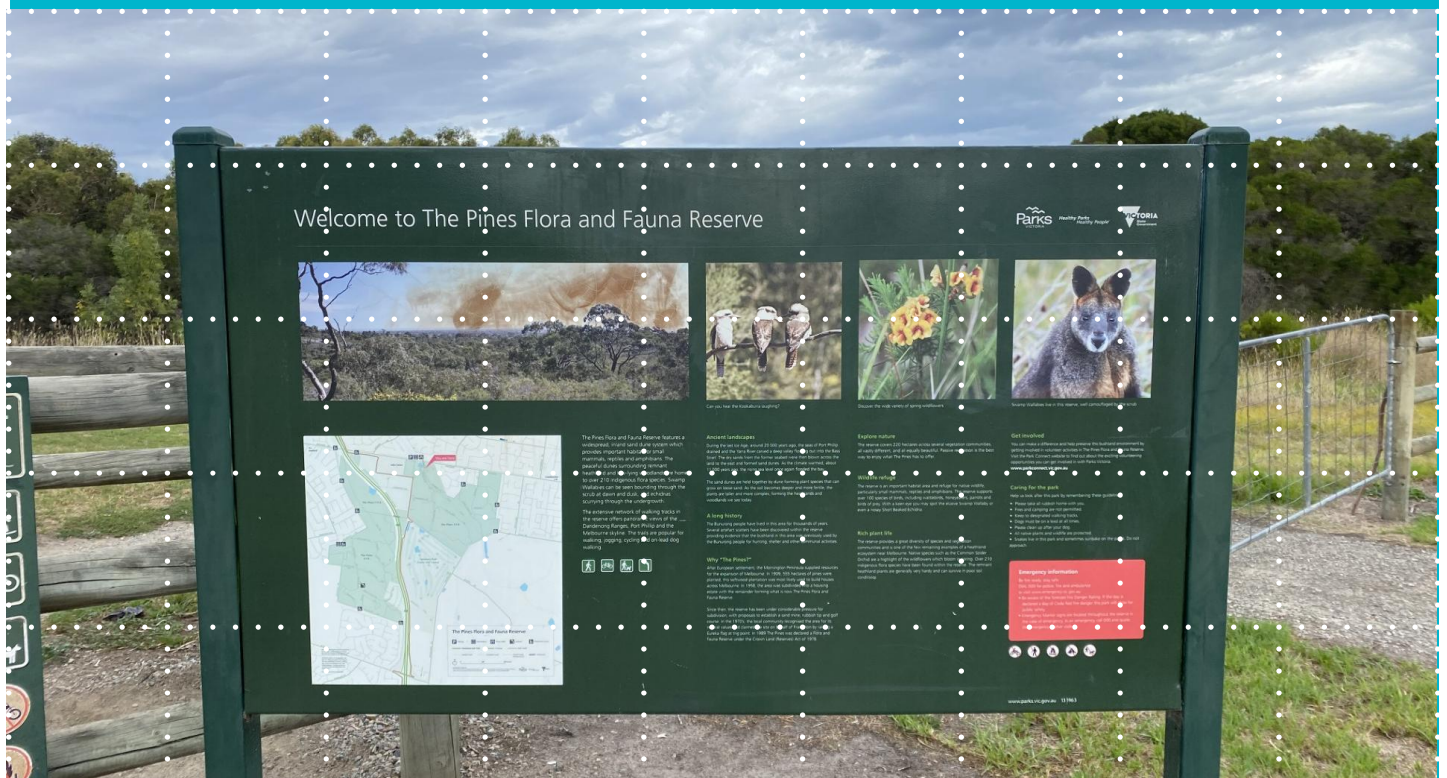
Report

# Frankston Bypass - Carrum Downs to Mount Martha (EPBC 2007/3480) Independent Audit

Prepared for

Department of Transport and Planning (Victoria)

May 2025



Ecology and Heritage Partners Pty Ltd

## DOCUMENT CONTROL

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Final	-	-	26/05/2025
Revised Final	Minor corrections made to how the approval details are described in the audit report. Audit findings also refined with respect to the River Swamp Wallaby Grass and the Dwarf Galaxias following the receipt of further documentary evidence.	Richard Sharp	10/06/2025

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## 1 AUDIT DETAILS

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### 1.1 Project

This audit is for the Frankston Bypass – Carrum Downs To Mount Martha road project. The project, according to the EPBC approval, involves the construction and operation of approximately 25 kilometres of road running south from the Mornington Peninsula Freeway/EastLink interchange at Carrum Downs to the Mornington Peninsula Freeway at Mount Martha in Victoria. The referral for the project showed that the project area bisects The Pines Flora and Fauna Reserve which is of state significance due to the diversity of species and vegetation communities present. One of these species is the Southern Brown Bandicoot which at the time of the referral was listed as endangered under the EPBC Act and had been recently confirmed to inhabiting the reserve.

### 1.2 Project approval holder

The approval holder for this road project has varied since the project was initially approved in 2009. At present, the current project approval holder is VicRoads.

### 1.3 Approval details

#### Approval

On the 20<sup>th</sup> of August 2009, a decision was made under sections 130(1) and 133 of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* to approve the project subject to conditions. This approval had seven conditions and imposed an expiry date of the 15<sup>th</sup> of July 2024 and was issued to the Southern Eastern Integrated Transport Authority, which later became the Linking Melbourne Authority.

#### First variation to the approval

On the 25<sup>th</sup> of March 2014, a decision to vary the conditions attached to the approval was made under section 143 of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*. This variation applied to conditions 2(c), 2(e) and 3.

#### Transfer of approval

On the 19<sup>th</sup> of February 2016, a decision to transfer the approval was made under section 145(B) of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*. As a result, the approval was transferred from the Linking Melbourne Authority to Vic Roads.

#### Second variation to the approval

On the 29<sup>th</sup> of February 2016, a decision to vary a condition attached to the approval was made under section 143 of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*. This variation applied to condition 2(d).

### Extension of approval period

On the 13<sup>th</sup> of June 2024, a decision was made to extend the approval period under section 145(D) of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*. As a result, the new expiry date of the approval was the 15<sup>th</sup> of July 2025.

### Third variation to the approval

On the 23<sup>rd</sup> of August 2024, a decision to vary the conditions attached to the approval was made under section 143(1)(a) of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*. This variation applied to condition 6 which was substituted, condition 7 which was revoked, and the addition of conditions 8 to 16. These additional conditions included a requirement that an independent audit be conducted and that an audit report be sent to the department by the 25<sup>th</sup> of April 2025. Accordingly, the auditor must declare their independence (see Appendix A), the auditor must have approval from the department to conduct the independent audit (see Appendix B), and that the audit criteria must be approved by the department (see Appendix C).

### Extension of time for the audit report

On the 19<sup>th</sup> of March 2025, the Australian Government's Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water agreed to a request from the Victorian Department of Transport and Planning for an extension date for the audit report which is now due on the 25<sup>th</sup> of June 2025 (see Appendix D).

## 1.4 Audit scope

The scope of this audit includes the following:

- All of the conditions listed within the varied approval dated the 23<sup>rd</sup> of August 2024
- The management measures for South Brown Bandicoot, as listed in Table 5 of the *Southern Brown Bandicoot Management Plan – The Pines Flora and Fauna Reserve* (May 2015) which was prepared by Hilary Chapman for the Linking Melbourne Authority.
- The responsibilities listed in Tables 3, 4, 5, 6 and 8 of the *Threatened Species Management Plan Peninsula Link Project* (December 2010).

## 1.5 When the audit was conducted

This audit was conducted between the period of early December 2024 to June 2025.

## 1.6 Methods used to assess compliance

The primary method used in this audit to assess compliance involved the review and checking of documentation provided by the Victorian Department of Transport and Planning.

## **1.7 Evidence reviewed to assess compliance**

The evidence reviewed during this audit to assess compliance included a very wide range of documents including, but not limited to, the following:

- 'As Built' drawings
- Construction contractor reports
- Letters
- Management plans
- Construction schedules
- Agreements
- Email messages
- Incident investigation reports
- Non-conformance reports
- Monitoring reports
- Program reports
- Monitoring results
- Maps
- Expenditure spreadsheets
- Trapping records
- Site-Specific Environmental Management Plans
- Design reports
- Construction drawings

## 2 AUDITOR CERTIFICATION

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### Auditor's name, position, company and contact details

- Richard Sharp, FEIANZ, CEnvP
- Senior Associate - Environment & Infrastructure
- Ecology and Heritage Partners Pty Ltd
- rsharp@ehpartners.com.au

### Auditor's qualifications

- Graduate Certificate in Applied Engineering Practice
- Associate Diploma in Land Management
- Bachelor of Applied Science in Natural Resources
- Bachelor of Applied Science (Parks, Recreation and Heritage) (Honours)
- Graduate Diploma in Legal Studies (Environmental Law)

### Auditor's declaration:

I, Richard Sharp certify that, to the best of my knowledge, all information provided in this audit report is true, correct and complete.

I am aware that section 491 of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* makes it an offence in certain circumstances to knowingly provide false or misleading information or documents to specified persons who are known to be performing a duty or carrying out a function under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* or the regulations. The offence is punishable on conviction by imprisonment for not more than 1 year, a fine not more than 60 penalty units, or both.

Signature: 

Date: 26/05/2025

### 3 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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On the 20<sup>th</sup> of August 2009, the Southern and Eastern Integrated Transport Authority (which later became the Melbourne Linking Authority) were given approval under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 to construct and operate approximately 25 kilometres of road running south from the Mornington Peninsula Freeway/EastLink interchange at Carrum Downs to the Mornington Peninsula Freeway at Mount Martha in Victoria. On the 19<sup>th</sup> of February 2016, the approval holder for the project was transferred from the Linking Melbourne Authority to Vic Roads.

On the 23<sup>rd</sup> of August 2024, a variation to the conditions of approval were issued. Condition 12 of this varied approval required that an independent audit:

- a. be conducted by an independent auditor in accordance with the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 Independent Audit and Audit Report Guidelines*, Commonwealth of Australia 2019; and
- b. determine and demonstrate the status of compliance with:
  - i. each condition of this approval; and
  - ii. each commitment made in each plan.

This independent audit was undertaken during the period between December 2024 to June 2025 and the audit findings are that there is:

- Compliance with 3 conditions.
- Non-compliance with 6 conditions.
- Six conditions are not applicable.

## 4 DETAILED AUDIT FINDINGS

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The findings of the audit are detailed in this section of the audit report, across three separate tables which are titled as follows:

- Table 1: Varied Approval (EPBC 2007/3480) dated the 23<sup>rd</sup> of August 2024
- Table 2: Southern Brown Bandicoot Management Plan (May 2015)
- Table 3: Threatened Species Management Plan (December 2010)

Table 1: Varied Approval (EPBC 2007/3480) dated the 23<sup>rd</sup> of August 2024

Conditions of the varied EPBC Act approval		Verification Method	Evidence	Documents Sighted	Determination	Compliance Finding
1. Within the Pines Flora and Fauna Reserve, the person taking the action may only construct the Frankston Bypass and associated works consistent with the boundaries and diagrams shown in Annexure 1 and 2. All works associated with the action must not disturb more than 11ha of native vegetation within the Reserve. A report verifying compliance with the paragraph must be submitted to the Department within 3 months of the completion of construction.						
1.1	Within the Pines Flora and Fauna Reserve, the person taking the action may only construct the Frankston Bypass and associated works consistent with the boundaries and diagrams shown in Annexure 1 and 2.	Review of 'As Built' drawings	<p>'As Built' drawing titled 'Peninsula Link Freeway (Zone B) Key Plan' shows a completed alignment with boundaries that are consistent with Annexure 1.</p> <p>'As Built' drawing titled 'Peninsula Link Freeway (MC00) Typical Cross Sections, Sheet 3' shows a diagram that is consistent with Annexure 2.</p> <p>'As Built' drawing titled 'Peninsula Link, Zone B – Ballarto Road to Skye Road, Landscape Details' states that The Pines restoration planting mix includes densely planted grasses, tussocks, groundcovers and shrubs drawn from the swamy riparian woodland. Swamp scrub and damp sands herb-rich woodland EVCs and therefore consistent with Annexure 1.</p> <p>'As Built' drawing titled 'Peninsula Link, Zone B – Ballarto Road to Skye Road, Legend' states that the batters within the clear zone are planted with grasses/tussocks, groundcovers, and shrubs with a trunk caliper less than 100mm in diameter.</p>	<p>'As Built' stamped drawings:</p> <p>PLB-DRG-C-0103_AB1</p> <p>PLG-DRG-C-0041-AB1</p> <p>PLB-DRG-L-2003_AB1</p> <p>PLB-DRG_L-2007_AB1</p>	I found that the 'as built' drawings show that the Frankston Bypass and associated works were completed within the boundaries and as per the diagrams shown in Annexure 1 and 2.	Compliant
1.2	All works associated with the action must not disturb more than 11ha of native vegetation within the Reserve.	Review of the native vegetation disturbance register	An extract from an Abigroup report for the Peninsula Link project within The Pines Flora and Fauna Reserve shows that a total loss of native vegetation was 10.533 hectares.	Table 3 – Impact of works on ecological vegetation classes: The Pines	I found a report saying that that works did not disturb more than 11 hectares of native vegetation within The Pines Flora and Fauna Reserve.	Compliant
1.3	A report verifying compliance with the paragraph must be submitted to the Department within 3 months of the completion of construction.	Review of the compliance report submitted to the department	An EPBC Compliance Report prepared by Abigroup for the Peninsula Link Project and dated the 12 <sup>th</sup> of April 2013 was provided to the Department as an attachment to a letter from the Linking Melbourne Authority. The report showed that construction of the project concluded in January 2013, and that the works were consistent with the boundaries and diagrams shown in Annexure 1 and 2, and that less than 11ha of native vegetation was disturbed.	Letter from the Linking Melbourne Authority to the Department dated the 18 <sup>th</sup> of April 2013.	I found that a report verifying compliance with the paragraph was sent to the Department within 3 months of the completion of construction.	Compliant

2. Prior to construction in the Pines Flora and Fauna Reserve, the person talking the action must submit for the Minister's approval a Southern Brown Bandicoot Management Plan. The plan must address the following requirements a) The acquisition of the land within the former Keither Turnbull Research Institute, indicated at Annexure 3, followed by its inclusion into the existing Pines Flora and Fauna Reserve. b) Rehabilitation of the vegetation on the former orchard and Keither Turnbull Research Institute to provide approximately 16 ha of additional habitat for the Southern Brown Bandicoot. c) Predator control or other management measures that include: • Initiation and maintenance of a predator control and monitoring program in the Pines Flora and Fauna Reserve, or such other location agreed to by the Minister; and • Installation and maintenance of a predator proof fence around the boundary of the Pines Flora and Fauna Reserve, or such other predator control or management measure(s) for the purposes of conserving the Southern Brown Bandicoot agreed to by the Minister, whether at the Pines Flora and Fauna Reserve or elsewhere; and • Identification of impact thresholds that will trigger management intervention. d) Monitoring and recovery actions for the Southern Brown Bandicoot that include: • Provision of a large underpass and a number of smaller culverts under the Frankston Bypass, as proposed in the Environmental Effects Statement. The report needs to justify the placement and design of these structures. • Assessment of the effectiveness of the culverts and underpass for retaining connectivity of habitat for the Southern Brown Bandicoot, which includes preconstruction monitoring for approximately six months and post construction monitoring up to 30 June 2015. Results of monitoring will be used to inform adaptive management measures and the need for further monitoring may be reviewed. • The development of a Population Viability Analysis (PVA) to determine the effectiveness of all management measures and recovery actions undertaken for the Southern Brown Bandicoot. The report needs to include a peer review of the completed PVA by a qualified expert. e) Discuss a range of options for offsets in the event that the Southern Brown Bandicoot population in the Pines Reserve continues to decline, including the last resort option of translocation. f) Arrangements that fund the implementation of the plan. g) Schedule of proposed works, timings and responsibilities. h) Review the opportunities for maintenance and creation of corridors for the Southern Brown Bandicoot to enhance the connectivity of habitat in the region. i) A description of its objectives, performance criteria and corrective actions as well as provisions to review the plan regularly. Construction within the Pines Flora and Fauna Reserve cannot commence until the plan is approved. The approved Southern Brown Bandicoot Management Plan must be implemented.

2.1	Prior to construction in the Pines Flora and Fauna Reserve, the person talking the action must submit for the Minister's approval a Southern Brown Bandicoot Management Plan.	Review of the Minister's approval of the plan and the construction program that applies to the Pines Flora and Fauna Reserve	<p>A letter from the Department to the Linking Melbourne Authority shows that the Minister was provided with and later approved a version of the Southern Brown Bandicoot Management Plan.</p> <p>A letter sent from the Linking Melbourne Authority to the Department in late October 2012 showed that an updated version of the Southern Brown Bandicoot Management Plan (September 2012) was sent to the Department in early October 2012 for approval.</p> <p>An amended version (Version 1) of the Southern Brown Bandicoot Management Plan was prepared in February 2014. This document shows that the 2012 version of the Southern Brown Bandicoot Management Plan is known as the first version.</p> <p>A letter sent from the Linking Melbourne Authority to the Department in mid-April 2015 showed that the Southern Brown Bandicoot Management Plan (Revision 1), which is the 2014 version, was approved in late March 2015.</p> <p>Another amended version of the Southern Brown Bandicoot Management Plan (Version 2) was prepared in May 2015.</p> <p>A letter from the Department to VicRoads in February 2016 said that the Southern Brown</p>	<p>Peninsula Link - Southern Brown Bandicoot Management Plan - Pines Flora and Fauna Reserve (March 2010), prepared for Linking Melbourne Authority by Rodney van der Ree and Will Sowersby.</p> <p>Letter from the Department to the Linking Melbourne Authority dated the 12<sup>th</sup> of March 2010.</p> <p>Letter from the Linking Melbourne Authority to the Department dated the 30<sup>th</sup> of October 2012.</p> <p>Southern Brown Bandicoot</p>	<p>I found that the Minister received on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of March 2010, the first version of the Southern Brown Bandicoot Management Plan and approved this plan on the 12<sup>th</sup> of March 2010.</p> <p>I found that there was no documentary evidence to verify that a 2012 version of the Southern Brown Bandicoot Management Plan was approved but I note that this version was superseded by a version issued in 2014.</p> <p>I found documentation that the 2014 version of the Southern Brown Bandicoot Management Plan was considered to be approved by the Linking Melbourne Authority.</p> <p>I found that the current 2015 version of the Southern Brown Bandicoot Management Plan was approved on the 29<sup>th</sup> of February 2016.</p>	Compliant
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			<p>Bandicoot Management Plan (Revision 2, May 2015) was approved.</p>	<p>Management Plan - The Pines Flora and Fauna Reserve (February 2014)</p> <p>Letter from the Linking Melbourne Authority to the Department dated the 20<sup>th</sup> of April 2015.</p> <p>Southern Brown Bandicoot Management Plan - The Pines Flora and Fauna Reserve (May 2015)</p> <p>Letter from the Department to Vic Roads dated the 29<sup>th</sup> of February 2016.</p>		
2.2	<p>The plan must address the following requirements</p> <p>a) The acquisition of the land within the former Keither Turnbull Research Institute, indicated at Annexure 3, followed by its inclusion into the existing Pines Flora and Fauna Reserve.</p>	<p>Review of the SBB Management Plan</p>	<p>Letters from the Department to the Linking Melbourne Authority show that the Minister had considered the 2010 version of the plan and later the 2014 version of the plan and accepted that each version of the plan addressed requirements relating to the acquisition of the land within the former Keither Turnbull Research Institute.</p> <p>A letter from the Department to Vic Roads shows that the Minister had considered the 2015 version of the plan and accepted that this latest version addressed requirements relating to the acquisition of the land within the former Keither Turnbull Research Institute.</p>	<p>Letter from the Department to the Linking Melbourne Authority dated the 12<sup>th</sup> of March 2010.</p> <p>Letter from the Linking Melbourne Authority to the Department dated the 20<sup>th</sup> of April 2015.</p> <p>Letter from the Department to Vic Roads dated the</p>	<p>I found that this requirement was addressed in the Southern Brown Bandicoot Management Plan which is why the plan was approved.</p>	<p>Compliant</p>

				29 <sup>th</sup> of February 2016.		
2.3	<p>The plan must address the following requirements</p> <p>b) Rehabilitation of the vegetation on the former orchard and Keither Turnbull Research Institute to provide approximately 16 ha of additional habitat for the Southern Brown Bandicoot.</p>	Review of the SBB Management Plan	<p>Letters from the Department to the Linking Melbourne Authority show that the Minister had considered the 2010 version of the plan and later the 2014 version of the plan and accepted that each version of the plan addressed requirements relating to the rehabilitation of the vegetation on the former orchard and Keither Turnbull Research Institute.</p> <p>A letter from the Department to Vic Roads shows that the Minister had considered the 2015 version of the plan and accepted that this latest version addressed requirements relating to the rehabilitation of the vegetation on the former orchard and Keither Turnbull Research Institute.</p>	<p>Letter from the Department to the Linking Melbourne Authority dated the 12<sup>th</sup> of March 2010.</p> <p>Letter from the Linking Melbourne Authority to the Department dated the 20<sup>th</sup> of April 2015.</p> <p>Letter from the Department to Vic Roads dated the 29<sup>th</sup> of February 2016.</p>	I found that this requirement was addressed in the Southern Brown Bandicoot Management Plan which is why the plan was approved.	Compliant
2.4	<p>The plan must address the following requirements</p> <p>c) Predator control or other management measures that include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Initiation and maintenance of a predator control and monitoring program in the Pines Flora and Fauna Reserve, or such other location agreed to by the Minister; and</li> </ul>	Review of the SBB Management Plan	<p>Letters from the Department to the Linking Melbourne Authority show that the Minister had considered the 2010 version of the plan and later the 2014 version of the plan and accepted that each version of the plan addressed requirements relating to the initiation and maintenance of a predator control and monitoring program in The Pines Flora and Fauna Reserve.</p> <p>A letter from the Department to Vic Roads shows that the Minister had considered the 2015 version of the plan and accepted that this latest version addressed requirements relating to the initiation and maintenance of a predator control and monitoring program in The Pines Flora and Fauna Reserve.</p>	<p>Letter from the Department to the Linking Melbourne Authority dated the 12<sup>th</sup> of March 2010.</p> <p>Letter from the Linking Melbourne Authority to the Department dated the 20<sup>th</sup> of April 2015.</p> <p>Letter from the Department to Vic Roads dated the 29<sup>th</sup> of February 2016.</p>	I found that this requirement was addressed in the Southern Brown Bandicoot Management Plan which is why the plan was approved.	Compliant
2.5	The plan must address the following requirements	Review of the SBB	Letters from the Department to the Linking Melbourne Authority show that the Minister had	Letter from the Department to	I found that this requirement was addressed in the	Compliant

	<p>c) Predator control or other management measures that include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Installation and maintenance of a predator proof fence around the boundary of the Pines Flora and Fauna Reserve, or such other predator control or management measure(s) for the purposes of conserving the Southern Brown Bandicoot agreed to by the Minister, whether at the Pines Flora and Fauna Reserve or elsewhere; and</li> </ul>	Management Plan	<p>considered the 2010 version of the plan and later the 2014 version of the plan and accepted that each version of the plan addressed requirements relating to the installation and maintenance of a predator proof fence around the boundary of The Pines Flora and Fauna Reserve.</p> <p>A letter from the Department to Vic Roads shows that the Minister had considered the 2015 version of the plan and accepted that this latest version addressed requirements relating to the installation and maintenance of a predator proof fence around the boundary of The Pines Flora and Fauna Reserve.</p>	<p>the Linking Melbourne Authority dated the 12<sup>th</sup> of March 2010.</p> <p>Letter from the Linking Melbourne Authority to the Department dated the 20<sup>th</sup> of April 2015.</p> <p>Letter from the Department to Vic Roads dated the 29<sup>th</sup> of February 2016.</p>	Southern Brown Bandicoot Management Plan which is why the plan was approved.	
2.6	<p>The plan must address the following requirements</p> <p>c) Predator control or other management measures that include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identification of impact thresholds that will trigger management Intervention.</li> </ul>	Review of the SBB Management Plan	<p>Letters from the Department to the Linking Melbourne Authority show that the Minister had considered the 2010 version of the plan and later the 2014 version of the plan and accepted that each version of the plan addressed requirements relating to the identification of impact thresholds that will trigger management Intervention for predator control.</p> <p>A letter from the Department to Vic Roads shows that the Minister had considered the 2015 version of the plan and accepted that this latest version addressed requirements relating to the identification of impact thresholds that will trigger management Intervention for predator control.</p>	<p>Letter from the Department to the Linking Melbourne Authority dated the 12<sup>th</sup> of March 2010.</p> <p>Letter from the Linking Melbourne Authority to the Department dated the 20<sup>th</sup> of April 2015.</p> <p>Letter from the Department to Vic Roads dated the 29<sup>th</sup> of February 2016.</p>	I found that this requirement was addressed in the Southern Brown Bandicoot Management Plan which is why the plan was approved.	Compliant
2.7	<p>The plan must address the following requirements</p> <p>d) Monitoring and recovery actions for the Southern Brown Bandicoot that include:</p>	Review of the SBB Management Plan	<p>Letters from the Department to the Linking Melbourne Authority show that the Minister had considered the 2010 version of the plan and later the 2014 version of the plan and accepted that each version of the plan addressed requirements</p>	<p>Letter from the Department to the Linking Melbourne Authority dated</p>	I found that this requirement was addressed in the Southern Brown Bandicoot Management Plan which is why the plan was approved.	Compliant

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provision of a large underpass and a number of smaller culverts under the Frankston Bypass, as proposed in the Environmental Effects Statement. The report needs to justify the placement and design of these structures.</li> </ul>		<p>relating to the provision of a large underpass and a number of smaller culverts.</p> <p>A letter from the Department to Vic Roads shows that the Minister had considered the 2015 version of the plan and accepted that this latest version addressed requirements relating to the provision of a large underpass and a number of smaller culverts.</p>	<p>the 12<sup>th</sup> of March 2010.</p> <p>Letter from the Linking Melbourne Authority to the Department dated the 20<sup>th</sup> of April 2015.</p> <p>Letter from the Department to Vic Roads dated the 29<sup>th</sup> of February 2016.</p>		
2.8	<p>The plan must address the following requirements</p> <p>d) Monitoring and recovery actions for the Southern Brown Bandicoot that include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assessment of the effectiveness of the culverts and underpass for retaining connectivity of habitat for the Southern Brown Bandicoot, which includes preconstruction monitoring for approximately six months and post construction monitoring up to 30 June 2015. Results of monitoring will be used to inform adaptive management measures and the need for further monitoring may be reviewed</li> </ul>	Review of the SBB Management Plan	<p>Letters from the Department to the Linking Melbourne Authority show that the Minister had considered the 2010 version of the plan and later the 2014 version of the plan and accepted that each version of the plan addressed requirements relating to the assessment of the effectiveness of the culverts and underpass for retaining connectivity of habitat for the bandicoot.</p> <p>A letter from the Department to Vic Roads shows that the Minister had considered the 2015 version of the plan and accepted that this latest version addressed requirements relating to the assessment of the effectiveness of the culverts and underpass for keeping connectivity of habitat for the bandicoot.</p>	<p>Letter from the Department to the Linking Melbourne Authority dated the 12<sup>th</sup> of March 2010.</p> <p>Letter from the Linking Melbourne Authority to the Department dated the 20<sup>th</sup> of April 2015.</p> <p>Letter from the Department to Vic Roads dated the 29<sup>th</sup> of February 2016.</p>	I found that this requirement was addressed in the Southern Brown Bandicoot Management Plan which is why the plan was approved.	Compliant
2.9	<p>The plan must address the following requirements</p> <p>d) Monitoring and recovery actions for the Southern Brown Bandicoot that include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The development of a Population Viability Analysis (PVA) to determine the effectiveness of all management measures and recovery actions undertaken for the Southern Brown Bandicoot. The report needs to include a peer review of the completed PVA by a qualified expert.</li> </ul>	Review of the SBB Management Plan	<p>Letters from the Department to the Linking Melbourne Authority show that the Minister had considered the 2010 version of the plan and later the 2014 version of the plan and accepted that each version of the plan addressed requirements relating to the development of a population viability analysis for the bandicoot.</p>	<p>Letter from the Department to the Linking Melbourne Authority dated the 12<sup>th</sup> of March 2010.</p>	I found that this requirement was addressed in the Southern Brown Bandicoot Management Plan which is why the plan was approved.	Compliant

			<p>A letter from the Department to Vic Roads shows that the Minister had considered the 2015 version of the plan and accepted that this latest version addressed requirements relating to the development of a population viability analysis for the bandicoot.</p>	<p>Letter from the Linking Melbourne Authority to the Department dated the 20<sup>th</sup> of April 2015.</p> <p>Letter from the Department to Vic Roads dated the 29<sup>th</sup> of February 2016.</p>		
2.10	<p>The plan must address the following requirements</p> <p>e) Discuss a range of options for offsets in the event that the Southern Brown Bandicoot population in the Pines Reserve continues to decline, including the last resort option of translocation.</p>	Review of the SBB Management Plan	<p>Letters from the Department to the Linking Melbourne Authority show that the Minister had considered the 2010 version of the plan and later the 2014 version of the plan and accepted that each version of the plan addressed requirements relating to options for offsets in the event that the bandicoot population in The Pines Flora and Fauna Reserve continues to decline, including the last resort option of translocation.</p> <p>A letter from the Department to Vic Roads shows that the Minister had considered the 2015 version of the plan and accepted that this latest version addressed requirements relating to options for offsets in the event that the bandicoot population in The Pines Flora and Fauna Reserve continues to decline, including the last resort option of translocation.</p>	<p>Letter from the Department to the Linking Melbourne Authority dated the 12<sup>th</sup> of March 2010.</p> <p>Letter from the Linking Melbourne Authority to the Department dated the 20<sup>th</sup> of April 2015.</p> <p>Letter from the Department to Vic Roads dated the 29<sup>th</sup> of February 2016.</p>	I found that this requirement was addressed in the Southern Bandicoot Management Plan which is why the plan was approved.	Compliant
2.11	<p>The plan must address the following requirements</p> <p>f) Arrangements that fund the implementation of the plan.</p>	Review of the SBB Management Plan	<p>Letters from the Department to the Linking Melbourne Authority show that the Minister had considered the 2010 version of the plan and later the 2014 version of the plan and accepted that each version of the plan addressed requirements relating to the funding of the plan.</p> <p>A letter from the Department to Vic Roads shows that the Minister had considered the 2015 version of the plan and accepted that this latest version addressed requirements relating to the funding of the plan.</p>	<p>Letter from the Department to the Linking Melbourne Authority dated the 12<sup>th</sup> of March 2010.</p> <p>Letter from the Linking Melbourne Authority to the</p>	I found that this requirement was addressed in the Southern Brown Bandicoot Management Plan which is why the plan was approved.	Compliant

				<p>Department dated the 20<sup>th</sup> of April 2015.</p> <p>Letter from the Department to Vic Roads dated the 29<sup>th</sup> of February 2016.</p>		
2.12	<p>The plan must address the following requirements</p> <p>g) Schedule of proposed works, timings and responsibilities.</p>	Review of the SBB Management Plan	<p>Letters from the Department to the Linking Melbourne Authority show that the Minister had considered the 2010 version of the plan and later the 2014 version of the plan and accepted that each version of the plan addressed requirements relating to works, timings and responsibilities.</p> <p>A letter from the Department to Vic Roads shows that the Minister had considered the 2015 version of the plan and accepted that this latest version addressed requirements relating to works, timings and responsibilities.</p>	<p>Letter from the Department to the Linking Melbourne Authority dated the 12<sup>th</sup> of March 2010.</p> <p>Letter from the Linking Melbourne Authority to the Department dated the 20<sup>th</sup> of April 2015.</p> <p>Letter from the Department to Vic Roads dated the 29<sup>th</sup> of February 2016.</p>	I found that this requirement was addressed in the Southern Brown Bandicoot Management Plan which is why the plan was approved.	Compliant
2.13	<p>The plan must address the following requirements</p> <p>h) Review the opportunities for maintenance and creation of corridors for the Southern Brown Bandicoot to enhance the connectivity of habitat in the region.</p>	Review of the SBB Management Plan	<p>Letters from the Department to the Linking Melbourne Authority show that the Minister had considered the 2010 version of the plan and later the 2014 version of the plan and accepted that each version of the plan addressed requirements relating to the opportunities for maintenance and the creation of corridors for the bandicoot.</p> <p>A letter from the Department to Vic Roads shows that the Minister had considered the 2015 version of the plan and accepted that this latest version addressed requirements relating to the opportunities for maintenance and the creation of corridors for the bandicoot.</p>	<p>Letter from the Department to the Linking Melbourne Authority dated the 12<sup>th</sup> of March 2010.</p> <p>Letter from the Linking Melbourne Authority to the Department dated the 20<sup>th</sup> of April 2015.</p>	I found that this requirement was addressed in the Southern Brown Bandicoot Management Plan which is why the plan was approved.	Compliant

				Letter from the Department to Vic Roads dated the 29 <sup>th</sup> of February 2016.		
2.14	<p>The plan must address the following requirements</p> <p>i) A description of its objectives, performance criteria and corrective actions as well as provisions to review the plan regularly.</p>	Review of the SBB Management Plan	<p>Letters from the Department to the Linking Melbourne Authority show that the Minister had considered the 2010 version of the plan and later the 2014 version of the plan and accepted that each version of the plan addressed requirements relating to the objectives, performance criteria, corrective actions, and the review of the plan.</p> <p>A letter from the Department to Vic Roads shows that the Minister had considered the 2015 version of the plan and accepted that this latest version addressed requirements relating to the objectives, performance criteria, corrective actions, and the review of the plan.</p>	<p>Letter from the Department to the Linking Melbourne Authority dated the 12<sup>th</sup> of March 2010.</p> <p>Letter from the Linking Melbourne Authority to the Department dated the 20<sup>th</sup> of April 2015.</p> <p>Letter from the Department to Vic Roads dated the 29<sup>th</sup> of February 2016.</p>	I found that this requirement was addressed in the Southern Brown Bandicoot Management Plan which is why the plan was approved.	Compliant
2.15	Construction within the Pines Flora and Fauna Reserve cannot commence until the plan is approved.	Review of the Minister's approval of the plan and the construction program that applies to the Pines Flora and Fauna Reserve	<p>A letter from the Department to the Linking Melbourne Authority shows that the Minister approved the plan in March 2010.</p> <p>The construction package schedule for May 2010 showed that construction had yet to start.</p>	<p>Letter from the Department to the Linking Melbourne Authority dated the 12<sup>th</sup> of March 2010.</p> <p>Abigroup Construction Package Status as of 8<sup>th</sup> May 2010, Reference: PLG-ID-M-0102</p>	I found documents prepared by Abigroup indicated that construction began in May 2010 after the first version of the Southern Brown Bandicoot Management Plan was approved in March 2010.	Compliant
2.16	The approved Southern Brown Bandicoot Management Plan must be implemented.	Refer to Table 2 of this audit report for details.			I found that the Southern Brown Bandicoot Management Plan was not fully implemented.	Non-Compliant

3. Where the Southern Brown Bandicoot Management Plan required under Paragraph 2 provides for requirements in relation to land for the which the person taking the action is not the owner, the person taking the action must, prior to carrying out the requirements of the Southern Brown Bandicoot Management Plan on that land, enter arrangements with the owner of the land or other party responsible for the management of the land that will ensure the

requirements specified in the Southern Brown Bandicoot Management Plan and the conditions of this approval, as they relate to that land, will be met. Prior to implementing the Southern Brown Bandicoot Management Plan on that land, the person taking the action must provide evidence to the Department showing that these arrangements have been entered into.

3.1	Where the Southern Brown Bandicoot Management Plan required under Paragraph 2 provides for requirements in relation to land for the which the person taking the action is not the owner, the person taking the action must, prior to carrying out the requirements of the Southern Brown Bandicoot Management Plan on that land, enter arrangements with the owner of the land or other party responsible for the management of the land that will ensure the requirements specified in the Southern Brown Bandicoot Management Plan and the conditions of this approval, as they relate to that land, will be met.	Review of the landowner arrangements relating to the SBB Management Plan	An agreement between VicRoads and Parks Victoria shows that an arrangement was entered into for the carrying out the Southern Brown Bandicoot Management Plan which apply to the Pine Flora and Fauna Reserve, the Adams Creek Nature Conservation reserve and the Heathlands Nature Conservation Reserve, to ensure that the requirements specified in the Southern Brown Bandicoot Management Plan are met.	Executed service agreement between VicRoads and Parks Victoria dated the 14 <sup>th</sup> of October 2015.	I found that an agreement was entered into by VicRoads with Parks Victoria, the party responsible for the management of the land.	Compliant
3.2	Prior to implementing the Southern Brown Bandicoot Management Plan on that land, the person taking the action must provide evidence to the Department showing that these arrangements have been entered into.	Review of documentation sent to the Department about landowner arrangements	A letter from the Linking Melbourne Authority to the Department shows that agreements were being negotiated with Parks Victoria with regards to matters in the Southern Brown Bandicoot Management Plan.	Letter from the Linking Melbourne Authority to the Department dated the 11 <sup>th</sup> of March 2015.	I found a letter by the Linking Melbourne Authority that verified that the Department was informed about the implementation arrangements for the current version of the Southern Brown Bandicoot Management Plan.	Compliant
4. The person taking the action must submit to the Minister for approval a Threatened Species Management Plan that includes: • Provisions for targeted pre-construction surveys for threatened flora species within patches of suitable habitat within the construction footprint of the proposed Frankston Bypass (excluding the Pines Flora and Fauna Reserve); • identification of, and commitment to, measures that avoid and mitigate impacts on any populations of threatened species found during the targeted surveys; • Where impacts on threatened species are identified and cannot be avoided or mitigated, identification of, and commitment to an appropriate offset; and • Measures to mitigate and enhance habitat for the Dwarf Galaxias. Removal of suitable habitat for Threatened Species may not commence until the plan has been approved. The approved Threatened Species Management Plan must be implemented.						
4.1	The person taking the action must submit to the Minister for approval a Threatened Species Management Plan that includes: • Provisions for targeted pre-construction surveys for threatened flora species within patches of suitable habitat within the construction footprint of the proposed Frankston Bypass (excluding the Pines Flora and Fauna Reserve);	Review of the Threatened Species Management Plan	A letter from the Linking Melbourne Authority was sent in late 2009 seeking approval of the Threatened Species Management Plan.  A letter from the Department to the Linking Melbourne Authority shows that the Minister approved the Threatened Species Management Plan and therefore accepted that it included provisions for targeted pre-construction surveys for threatened flora species.	Letter from the Linking Melbourne Authority to the Department dated the 14 <sup>th</sup> of December 2009.  Letter from the Department to the Linking Melbourne Authority dated the 20 <sup>th</sup> of January 2010.	I found that targeted pre-construction surveys for threatened flora species were included by the Linking Melbourne Authority in the Threatened Species Management Plan which is why the plan was approved.	Compliant
4.2	The person taking the action must submit to the Minister for approval a Threatened Species Management Plan that includes: • identification of, and commitment to, measures that avoid and mitigate impacts on any populations of threatened species found during the targeted surveys;	Review of the Threatened Species Management Plan	A letter from the Linking Melbourne Authority was sent in late 2009 seeking approval of the Threatened Species Management Plan.  A letter from the Department to the Linking Melbourne Authority shows that the Minister	Letter from the Linking Melbourne Authority to the Department dated	I found that measures that avoid and mitigate impacts on any populations of threatened species were included by the Linking Melbourne Authority in the	Compliant

			approved the Threatened Species Management Plan and therefore accepted that it included measures that avoid and mitigate impacts on any populations of threatened species.	the 14th of December 2009.  Letter from the Department to the Linking Melbourne Authority dated the 20 <sup>th</sup> of January 2010.	Threatened Species Management Plan which is why the plan was approved.	
4.3	<p>The person taking the action must submit to the Minister for approval a Threatened Species Management Plan that includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Where impacts on threatened species are identified and cannot be avoided or mitigated, identification of, and commitment to an appropriate offset; and</li> </ul>	Review of the Threatened Species Management Plan	<p>A letter from the Linking Melbourne Authority was sent in late 2009 seeking approval of the Threatened Species Management Plan.</p> <p>A letter from the Department to the Linking Melbourne Authority shows that the Minister approved the Threatened Species Management Plan and therefore accepted that it included a commitment to a suitable offset, if needed.</p>	<p>Letter from the Linking Melbourne Authority to the Department dated the 14th of December 2009.</p> <p>Letter from the Department to the Linking Melbourne Authority dated the 20<sup>th</sup> of January 2010.</p>	I found that a reference to an offset was included by the Linking Melbourne Authority in the Threatened Species Management Plan which is why the plan was approved.	Compliant
4.4	<p>The person taking the action must submit to the Minister for approval a Threatened Species Management Plan that includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Measures to mitigate and enhance habitat for the Dwarf Galaxias.</li> </ul>	Review of the Threatened Species Management Plan	<p>A letter from the Linking Melbourne Authority was sent in late 2009 seeking approval of the Threatened Species Management Plan.</p> <p>A letter from the Department to the Linking Melbourne Authority shows that the Minister initially approved the Threatened Species Management Plan and therefore accepted that it included measures to mitigate and enhance habitat for the Dwarf Galaxias. Eleven months later, the Minister approved an amended plan which had improved outcomes for the Dwarf Galaxias.</p>	<p>Letter from the Linking Melbourne Authority to the Department dated the 14th of December 2009.</p> <p>Letter from the Department to the Linking Melbourne Authority dated the 20<sup>th</sup> of January 2010.</p> <p>Letter from the Department to the Linking Melbourne Authority dated</p>	I found that measures to mitigate and enhance habitat for the Dwarf Galaxias were included by the Linking Melbourne Authority in the Threatened Species Management Plan which is why the plan was approved.	Compliant



6.1	<p>The approval holder may, at any time, apply to the Minister for a variation to a plan approved by the Minister, by submitting an application in accordance with the requirements of section 143A of the EPBC Act. If the Minister approves a revised plan then, from the date specified, the approval holder must implement the revised plan in place of any previous version of the plan.</p>	<p>Review of any revised management plan approved by the Minister</p>	<p>A letter sent from the Linking Melbourne Authority to the Department in late October 2012 showed that an updated version of the Southern Brown Bandicoot Management Plan (September 2012) was sent to the Department in early October 2012 for approval.</p> <p>The approval holder then sought to vary the Southern Brown Bandicoot Management Plan on two more occasions which were in 2014 and 2015.</p> <p>The Minister approved the revised plan for 2014.</p> <p>The Minister approved the revised plan for 2015.</p> <p>Refer to Table 2 of this audit report for details about the implementation of the revised Southern Brown Bandicoot Management Plan for 2015.</p>	<p>Letter from the Linking Melbourne Authority to the Department dated the 30<sup>th</sup> of October 2012.</p> <p>Southern Brown Bandicoot Management Plan - The Pines Flora and Fauna Reserve (February 2014)</p> <p>Letter from the Linking Melbourne Authority to the Department dated the 20<sup>th</sup> of April 2015.</p> <p>Southern Brown Bandicoot Management Plan - The Pines Flora and Fauna Reserve (May 2015)</p> <p>Letter from the Department to Vic Roads dated the 29<sup>th</sup> of February 2016.</p>	<p>I found that the approval holder did apply to the Minister for a variation of the Southern Brown Bandicoot Management Plan on at least three occasions. I also found however that the current version of the Southern Brown Bandicoot Management Plan has not been fully implemented.</p>	Non-Compliant
8. The approval holder must publish each plan on the website within 15 business days of the date of this variation decision, or should the Minister approve a revised version of a plan, within 15 business days of the Minister's approval of the plan.						
8.1	<p>The approval holder must publish each plan on the website within 15 business days of the date of this variation decision, or should the Minister approve a revised version of a plan, within 15 business days of the Minister's approval of the plan.</p>	<p>Review of the website file upload log</p>	<p>The current varied approval decision is dated the 28<sup>th</sup> of August 2024.</p> <p>No website file upload logs to verify when each plan was uploaded onto the Victorian government EPBC commitments webpage</p>	<p>Publication accessed and viewed on the 14<sup>th</sup> of March 2025:  <a href="https://www.vic.gov.au/sites/default/files/2024-">https://www.vic.gov.au/sites/default/files/2024-</a></p>	<p>I found that there was no documentation available to verify that the approved plans were published on the Victorian government EPBC commitments webpage within 15 business days of</p>	Non-Compliant

			<a href="https://www.vic.gov.au/epbc-commitments#frankston-bypass-penlink-carrum-downs-to-mount-martha-victoria-epbc-20073480">https://www.vic.gov.au/epbc-commitments#frankston-bypass-penlink-carrum-downs-to-mount-martha-victoria-epbc-20073480</a>	<a href="#">08/Southern-Brown-Bandicoot-Management-Plan-May-2015002.pdf</a>  Publication accessed and viewed on the 14 <sup>th</sup> of March 2025: <a href="https://www.vic.gov.au/sites/default/files/2025-03/Peninsula-Link-Threatened-Species-Management-Plan-December-2010.pdf">https://www.vic.gov.au/sites/default/files/2025-03/Peninsula-Link-Threatened-Species-Management-Plan-December-2010.pdf</a>  Published appendices unable to be accessed on the 14 <sup>th</sup> of March 2025: <a href="https://www.vic.gov.au/sites/default/files/2024-08/SBBEMP-2015-Appendices-1-7.pdf">https://www.vic.gov.au/sites/default/files/2024-08/SBBEMP-2015-Appendices-1-7.pdf</a>	the date of Varied Approval (EPBC 2007/3480) decision.	
9. The approval holder must keep all plans, including superseded versions of plans, published on the website in a format that is easily accessible and downloadable, from the date which that plan must be published and until the expiry of this approval.						
9.1	The approval holder must keep all plans, including superseded versions of plans, published on the website in a format that is easily accessible and downloadable, from the date which that plan must be published and until the expiry of this approval.	Review of the website file maintenance log	This audit is unable to verify compliance with this condition given that the audit will be completed prior to the expiry of the approval.			Not applicable
10. The approval holder is required to exclude or redact sensitive ecological data from any version of a plan before that plan is published on the website or otherwise provided to a member of the public. 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.						
10.1	The approval holder is required to exclude or redact sensitive ecological data from any version of a plan before that plan is published on the website or otherwise provided to a member of the public. If sensitive ecological data is excluded or redacted from a plan, the approval holder must notify the department in writing what exclusions	Review of the management plans published on the website and review of the notifications	The appendices to the Threatened Species Management Plan were found to have sensitive ecological data.	Peninsula Link: Threatened Species Management Plan – Peninsula Link	I found that there was no documentation available to verify that the department had been notified in writing that exclusions and redactions have been made	Non-Compliant

	and redactions have been made in the version published on the website.	sent to the department		Project (December 2010)	in the appendices of the Threatened Species Management Plan that were to be published on a website.	
11. By 25 April 2025 the approval holder must: a. Ensure an independent audit of compliance with the conditions of this approval and all plans is completed; and b. submit an audit report to the department for agreement.						
11.1	By 25 April 2025 the approval holder must: a. Ensure an independent audit of compliance with the conditions of this approval and all plans is completed;	Review of the audit report	Following a request from the Department of Transport and Planning, the department has indicated that the due date of the audit is now the 25 <sup>th</sup> of June 2025.			Not Applicable
11.2	By 25 April 2025 the approval holder must: b. submit an audit report to the department for agreement.	Review of the audit report correspondence with the department	Following a request from the Department of Transport and Planning, the department has indicated that the due date of the audit is now the 25 <sup>th</sup> of June 2025.			Not Applicable
12. The independent audit must: a. be conducted by an independent auditor in accordance with the <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i> Independent Audit and Audit Report Guidelines, Commonwealth of Australia 2019; b. determine and demonstrate the status of compliance with: i. each condition of this approval; and ii. each commitment made in each plan.						
12.1	The independent audit must: a. be conducted by an independent auditor in accordance with the <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i> Independent Audit and Audit Report Guidelines, Commonwealth of Australia 2019;	Review of the audit report	Appendices A and B of this audit report signify that this element of the condition has been met.			Compliant
12.2	The independent audit must: b. determine and demonstrate the status of compliance with: i. each condition of this approval;	Review of the audit report	Section 4 of this audit report signifies that this element of the condition has been met.			Compliant
12.3	The independent audit must: b. determine and demonstrate the status of compliance with: ii. each commitment made in each plan.	Review of the audit report	Section 4 of this audit report signifies that this element of the condition has been met.			Compliant
13. The approval holder must publish each audit report on the website, in a format that is easily accessible and downloadable, within 10 business days of the date on which the department agrees to the audit report in writing						
13.1	The approval holder must publish each audit report on the website, in a format that is easily accessible and downloadable, within 10 business days of the date on which the department agrees to the audit report in writing	Review of the website file upload log and the agreement with the department	This audit is unable to verify compliance with this condition given that the audit will be completed prior to audit report being published on the website.			Not Applicable
14. The approval holder must notify the department within 5 business days of the date the audit report is published on the website. In this notification, the approval holder must provide the department with the web address for where the audit report is published on the website.						
14.1	The approval holder must notify the department within 5 business days of the date the audit report is published on the website. In this notification, the approval holder must provide the department with the web address for where the audit report is published on the website.	Review of the audit report notifications to the department	This audit is unable to verify compliance with this condition given that the audit will be completed prior to department being notified about the report being published on the website.			Not Applicable
15. The approval holder must keep each audit report published on the website from the first date which that audit report must be published and until the expiry date of this approval.						
15.1	The approval holder must keep each audit report published on the website from the first date which that audit report must be published and until the expiry date of this approval.	Review of the website file maintenance log	This audit is unable to verify compliance with this condition given that the audit will be completed prior to the date which that audit report is published.			Not Applicable

16. The approval holder must notify the department electronically, within 2 business days of becoming aware of any potential or actual non-compliance with the conditions of this approval or commitment made in plans. The approval holder must specify in each notification: a) the condition and/or plan commitment which has been or may not have been complied with; b) a short description of the non-compliance.

16.1	The approval holder must notify the department electronically, within 2 business days of becoming aware of any potential or actual non-compliance with the conditions of this approval or commitment made in plans.	Review of the compliance register and departmental notifications	<p>Section 4.1.2 of the approved Threatened Species Management Plan includes a measure that no-go zones will be clearly marked and fenced, and all construction activities will be undertaken within the construction area ensuring that the minimal width of the construction area is identified and maintained. Section 4.1.2 also states that access routes for vehicles and machinery will be restricted to specific, ecologically-safe locations that are identified prior to construction; and all vehicles, machinery and construction activities are prohibited in areas of known or possible habitat areas outside the construction area.</p> <p>Abigroup environmental incident report (No. 0007) said that in September 2010, vegetation had been disturbed by a fencing contractor in The Pines Flora and Fauna Reserve, outside the clearing limits of the construction works. The fencing contractor had driven through an area outside of the clearing limits and disturbed vegetation and had not reported the incident. Abigroup notified the Victorian Department of Sustainability and Environment a day after becoming aware of the incident however there is no documentary evidence to show that the Australian Government's Environment Department was also notified.</p> <p>Abigroup environmental incident investigation report (No. 11) said that in February 2011, there was a breach of a no-go zone and an impact to Plains Grassy Wetland. Several days later DSE, LMA and IR were notified of the incident however there is no documentary evidence to show that the Australian Government's Environment Department was also notified.</p> <p>Section 4.2.6 of the approved Threatened Species Management Plan includes a commitment to avoiding the creation of stormwater runoff and sediment problems.</p>	<p>Abigroup Environmental Incident Report, Peninsula Link Report No. 0007, dated the 8<sup>th</sup> of September 2010</p> <p>Peninsula Link: Threatened Species Management Plan – Peninsula Link Project (December 2010)</p> <p>Letter dated the 24<sup>th</sup> of September 2010 from Robert Cairns, Construction Director, Abigroup to Mark Winfield, Group Manager Biodiversity, Department of Sustainability and Environment</p> <p>Abigroup Environmental Incident Investigation Report, Peninsula Link Report No. 11, dated the 2<sup>nd</sup> of May 2011.</p> <p>Threatened Species Management Plan: Audit of Swamp River</p>	I found no documentary evidence to verify that the department had been electronically notified within 2 business days about four actual non-compliance matters relating to commitments made in the Threatened Species Management Plan including a potential impact to Dwarf Galaxias.	Non-Compliant
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			<p>In July 2011, notifiable incident (No. 28) occurred when stormwater runoff from the construction site was not contained and allowed to flow into adjacent wetlands. There was no indication that departmental notifications occurred.</p> <p>An audit undertaken in 2012 showed that an environmental incident investigation report (No. 0008) was prepared and noted that the incident had not been reported to DEWHA (now DSEWPaC). According to an AbiGroup Non-Conformance Report, the incident associated with investigation report No.8 involved dirty water from the site affecting Tuerong Creek (which is known to be inhabited by Dwarf Galaxias).</p>	<p>Wallaby Grass Management (April 2012). Report prepared by Telford Environmental Consulting Services for the Linking Melbourne Authority.</p> <p>AbiGroup Non-Conformance Report No.00001, Dated Raised: 13 January 2011.</p>		
16.2	<p>The approval holder must specify in each notification:</p> <p>a) the condition and/or plan commitment which has been or may not have been complied with;</p>	Review of each non-compliance notification	Refer to audit criterion 16.1 which is listed above.			Non-Compliant
16.3	<p>The approval holder must specify in each notification:</p> <p>b) a short description of the non-compliance.</p>	Review of each non-compliance notification	Refer to audit criterion 16.1 which is listed above.			Non-Compliant

Table 2: Southern Brown Bandicoot Management Plan (May 2015)

Management Activity	Timing	Verification Method	Evidence	Documents Sighted	Determination	Compliance Finding
Table 5 – Summary of SBB Management Measures						
8.1.1 SBB monitoring	Autumn and Spring until 2015	Documentation check of monitoring results	<p>Ecology and Heritage Partners undertook Southern Brown Bandicoot Monitoring surveys in the south-west portion of The Pines Flora and Fauna Reserve in 2014 between January to March.</p> <p>Biosis undertook Southern Brown Bandicoot Monitoring surveys in the south-west portion of The Pines Flora and Fauna Reserve in 2014 between November to December.</p> <p>Biosis undertook Southern Brown Bandicoot Monitoring surveys in the south-west portion of The Pines Flora and Fauna Reserve in 2015 between February to March.</p>	<p>Southern Brown Bandicoot Monitoring at The Pines Flora and Fauna Reserve – Spring / Summer 2013/ 14 (April 2014), report prepared by Ecology and Heritage Partners for the Linking Melbourne Authority</p> <p>Southern Brown Bandicoot Monitoring at The Pines Flora and Fauna Reserve: 2014-2015 (17 February 2015), report prepared by Biosis for the Linking Melbourne Authority.</p> <p>Southern Brown Bandicoot Monitoring at The Pines Flora and Fauna Reserve: Summer-Autumn 2015 (16 April 2015), report prepared by Biosis for the Linking Melbourne Authority.</p>	I found that there was insufficient documentary evidence to verify that Parks Victoria had undertaken a monitoring program for a period of seven years in The Pines Flora and Fauna Reserve, as required by the plan, during autumn and spring, until 2015.	Non-Compliant

8.1.2 Monitoring of effectiveness of underpass	Spring/early Summer and late Summer/early Autumn until 2015	Documentation check of monitoring results	<p>Ecology and Heritage Partners undertook monitoring of the fauna underpass in 2014 between January to March.</p> <p>Biosis undertook monitoring of the fauna underpass in 2014 between November to December.</p> <p>Biosis undertook monitoring of the fauna underpass in 2015 between February to March.</p>	<p>Southern Brown Bandicoot Monitoring at The Pines Flora and Fauna Reserve: 2014-2015 (17 February 2015), report prepared by Biosis for the Linking Melbourne Authority.</p> <p>Southern Brown Bandicoot Monitoring at The Pines Flora and Fauna Reserve: Summer-Autumn 2015 (16 April 2015), report prepared by Biosis for the Linking Melbourne Authority.</p>	I found that there was insufficient documentary evidence to verify that Parks Victoria had undertaken a monitoring program for a period of seven years in The Pines Flora and Fauna Reserve, as required by the plan, during spring/early summer and late summer/early autumn, until 2015.	Non-Compliant
8.2 Mortality	Autumn and Spring 2014	Documentation check of mortality results			I found no documentary evidence to verify that the Linking Melbourne Authority had checked fauna mortality along the road alignment for a 3-month during autumn and spring in 2014.	Non-Compliant
8.3 Predator Control	Yearly until 2020	Documentation check of trapping and fumigation results	<p>A report by Weed &amp; Wildlife Control (Vic) shows trapping and fumigation results for the periods between the 15<sup>th</sup> of February to the 28<sup>th</sup> of March 2012 and the 18<sup>th</sup> of April to the 2<sup>nd</sup> of May 2012.</p> <p>A report by Weed &amp; Wildlife Control (Vic) shows trapping and fumigation results for the periods between the 7<sup>th</sup> to the 23<sup>rd</sup> of November 2012 and the 18<sup>th</sup> to the 31<sup>st</sup> of May 2013.</p> <p>A report by Weed &amp; Wildlife Control (Vic) shows trapping and fumigation results for the periods</p>	<p>Pines Flora &amp; Fauna Reserve, Integrated Pest Control Program, 2011-2012, report prepared by Weed &amp; Wildlife Control (Vic).</p> <p>Pines Flora &amp; Fauna Reserve, Integrated Pest Control Program, 2012-2013, report prepared by</p>	I found that a trapping and fumigating program, which was under the control of Parks Victoria, was undertaken for several years, up until 2020 in The Pines Flora and Fauna Reserve.	Compliant

			<p>between the 5<sup>th</sup> to the 20<sup>th</sup> of May 2013 and the 10<sup>th</sup> to the 25<sup>th</sup> of February 2014.</p> <p>A report by Enviroforce (Vic) shows trapping and fumigation results for the periods between the 16<sup>th</sup> to the 30<sup>th</sup> of March 2015 and the 12<sup>th</sup> of April to the 5<sup>th</sup> of May 2015.</p> <p>An activity report compiled by Timberscope shows trapping and fumigation results for the duration between the 4<sup>th</sup> of January 2020 and the 1<sup>st</sup> of February 2020.</p> <p>An activity report compiled by Timberscope shows trapping and fumigation results for the duration between the 30<sup>th</sup> of March to the 27<sup>th</sup> of April 2020.</p>	<p>Weed &amp; Wildlife Control (Vic).</p> <p>Pines Flora &amp; Fauna Reserve, Integrated Pest Control Program, 2013-2014, report prepared by Weed &amp; Wildlife Control (Vic).</p> <p>Pines Flora &amp; Fauna Reserve, Integrated Pest Control Program, 2015, report prepared by Enviroforce (Vic).</p> <p>Pines Flora &amp; Fauna Reserve, Monitoring Results, January – February 2020, prepared by Timberscope.</p> <p>Pines Flora &amp; Fauna Reserve, Monitoring Results, March – April 2020, prepared by Timberscope.</p>		
8.4.1 Weed Management	<p>Zone 1 - Five-year plan to be implemented by 2015</p> <p>Zone 2 - Until 2017/18</p>	Documentation check that weed control works undertaken	<p>An undated Weed Management Plan was published by the Linking Melbourne Authority for The Pines Flora and Fauna Reserve. Table 2 of this Weed Management Plan contains a work plan for Zones 1 and 2.</p>	<p>The Pines Flora and Fauna Reserve Weed Management Plan (2010), prepared by Ecology and Heritage Partners for the Linking Melbourne Authority.</p>	<p>I found that there was insufficient documentary evidence to verify that weed management actually occurred in Zones 1 and 2 of The Pines Flora and Fauna Reserve over the required time period.</p>	Non-Compliant

8.4.2 Fire Management	Burns integrated into ongoing Fire Operations Plan	Documentation check that ecological burning was undertaken	A map of The Pines Flora and Fauna Reserve shows the history of past planned burns.	The Pines FFR, Planned Burn History, 2010-2024, map prepared by Parks Victoria	I found that there are documents which verify that the burning of parts of The Pines Flora and Fauna Reserve appears to have been undertaken by Parks Victoria.	Compliant
8.4.3 Revegetation of Former Orchard	Ten-year plan to be implemented by 2020.	Documentation check that rehabilitation was undertaken	<p>In 2010, a revegetation plan was publishing by the Linking Melbourne Authority for the former orchard site. Table 12 of this plan details the revegetation management actions that are required to be implemented over a 10-year period.</p> <p>In August 2018, Parks Victoria spent \$7,540 on revegetation maintenance of the former orchard site under Purchase Order 133524.</p> <p>In January 2019, Parks Victoria spent \$12,209.64 on revegetation maintenance of the former orchard site under Purchase Order 140392.</p>	<p>The Pines Flora and Fauna Reserve Revegetation Plan for the Former Orchard Site (2010), prepared by Ecology and Heritage Partners for the Linking Melbourne Authority.</p> <p>2015-21 Project Life Expenditure Spreadsheet</p>	I found that there was insufficient documentary evidence to verify that the actions specifically listed in ten-year plan for the former orchard site had been implemented by Parks Victoria.	Non-Compliant
8.5 Monitoring of Habitat Condition	<p>Zone 1 - until 2014/15</p> <p>Zone 2 - until 2017/18</p>	Documentation check of monitoring results	Between May and June 2020, Parks Victoria spent \$20,000 on habitat condition monitoring under Purchase Order 157128.	2015-21 Project Life Expenditure Spreadsheet	I found that there was insufficient documentary evidence to verify that Parks Victoria had undertaken habitat condition monitoring with respect to the Zones 1 and 2 of The Pines Flora and Fauna Reserve between 2014 to 2018.	Non-Compliant
8.5.1 Weed monitoring	<p>Zone 1 - Five-year plan to be implemented by 2015</p> <p>Zone 2 - Until 2017/2018</p>	Documentation check of monitoring results	<p>An undated Weed Management Plan was published by the Linking Melbourne Authority for The Pines Flora and Fauna Reserve. Section 5.7 of this Management Plan states that the monitoring should include: Photographs taken from the same place during each monitoring period; A record of the distribution and abundance of key weeds using GIS mapping; and Details on the effectiveness of weed control.</p> <p>In January 2017, Parks Victoria spent \$4,000 on vegetation monitoring under Purchase Order 110984.</p>	<p>The Pines Flora and Fauna Reserve Weed Management Plan (2010), prepared by Ecology and Heritage Partners for the Linking Melbourne Authority.</p> <p>2015-21 Project Life Expenditure Spreadsheet</p>	I found that there was insufficient documentary evidence to verify that Parks Victoria had undertaken weed monitoring within Zones 1 and 2 of The Pines Flora and Fauna Reserve between 2015 to 2018.	Non-Compliant

8.5.2 Revegetation site monitoring	Ten-year plan to be implemented by 2020	Documentation check of monitoring results	In January 2017, Parks Victoria spent \$4,000 on vegetation monitoring under Purchase Order 110984.	2015-21 Project Life Expenditure Spreadsheet	I found that there was insufficient documentary evidence to verify that Parks Victoria had undertaken revegetation monitoring of the former orchard site over a ten-year period.	Non-Compliant
8.6 Habitat connectivity	Completed	No verification required				
8.7.1 SBB Management Plan	September 2014	Documentation check of SBB population and habitat and fox population monitoring results	<p>A Southern Brown Bandicoot and fox baseline population survey along with a habitat assessment was undertaken at the Adams Creek Nature Conservation Reserve in late 2014 and early 2015.</p> <p>A Southern Brown Bandicoot and fox baseline population survey along with a habitat assessment was undertaken at the Wonthaggi Heathlands Nature Conservation Reserve in late 2014 and early 2015.</p>	<p>Southern Brown Bandicoot and Fox Baseline Monitoring at Adams Creek Nature Reserve – Peninsula Link Project, Southern Brown Bandicoot Predator Control Program (December 2015), Report prepared for VicRoads by Ecology and Heritage Partners.</p> <p>Southern Brown Bandicoot and Fox Baseline Monitoring at Wonthaggi Heathlands Nature Reserve – Peninsula Link Project, Southern Brown Bandicoot Predator Control Program (December 2015), Report prepared for VicRoads by Ecology and Heritage Partners.</p>	I found that VicRoads, on behalf of Parks Victoria, had commissioned a Southern Brown Bandicoot and Fox baseline population survey and habitat assessment for the Adams Creek and the Wonthaggi Heathlands Nature Conservation Reserves.	Compliant
8.7.1 SBB Management Plan	September 2014	Check that Adams Creek and Wonthaggi Heathlands	A combined Southern Brown Bandicoot action plan was prepared in 2016 for the Adams Creek Nature Conservation Reserve and the Wonthaggi Heathlands Nature Conservation Reserve.	Southern Brown Bandicoot Action Plan: Adam Creek Nature	I found that Parks Victoria had commissioned a Southern Brown Bandicoot action plan in 2016 for the	Compliant

		NCRs action plans were prepared		Conservation Reserve (NCR), Wonthaggi Heathland NCR and Kilcuda – Harmers Haven Coastal Reserve (CR) July 2016, prepared by Parks Victoria by Ecology and Heritage Partners.	Adams Creek and the Wonthaggi Heathlands Nature Conservation Reserves.	
8.7.2 Fox baiting and cat trapping on key public land sites	September 2014 to December 2024	Documentation check of fox control program results for Adams Creek and Wonthaggi Heathlands NCRs	<p>Pest animal program data shows fox and cat baiting and trapping records for Adams Creek for specific weekly intervals during the period between December 2015 to December 2024.</p> <p>Pest animal program data shows fox and cat baiting and trapping records for the Wonthaggi coastline for specific weekly intervals during the period between March 2015 to December 2024.</p>	<p>End of week pest animal program records compiled by Peter Wright for Adams Creek:</p> <p>16/12/2015 27/02/2016 30/03/2016 20/04/2016 21/05/2016 22/06/2016 26/07/2016 23/08/2016 27/09/2016 26/10/2016 21/12/2016 21/02/2017 30/03/2017 26/05/2017 29/06/2017 29/09/2017 24/10/2017 17/01/2018 27/02/2018 29/05/2018 29/06/2018 28/08/2018 26/09/2018 24/10/2018</p>	I found that Parks Victoria had commissioned a fox baiting and cat trapping program from March 2015 to December 2024 for the Adams Creek and Wonthaggi Heathlands Nature Conservation Reserves but had failed to have the program begin in September 2014.	Non-Compliant

				20/02/2019 02/05/2019 29/05/2019 27/08/2019 23/10/2019 20/12/2019 26/02/2020 22/04/2020 24/06/2020 04/09/2020 28/10/2020 23/12/2020 25/02/2021 14/04/2021 23/06/2021 31/08/2021 27/10/2021 22/12/2021 230/2/2022 27/04/2022 22/06/2022 31/08/2022 26/10/2022 21/12/2022 22/02/2023 19/04/2023 21/06/2023 13/09/2023 25/10/2023 19/12/2023 07/02/2024 11/04/2024 24/04/2024 05/06/2024 19/09/2024 30/10/2024 20/12/2024		
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				<p>End of week pest animal program records compiled by Peter Wright for the Wonthaggi coastline:</p> <p>03/03/2015 25/11/2015 17/02/2016 19/03/2016 09/04/2016 11/05/2016 26/05/2016 13/07/2016 09/08/2016 13/09/2016 11/10/2016 09/11/2016 14/12/2016 09/02/2017 14/03/2017 09/05/2017 16/06/2017 19/09/2017 11/10/2017 05/02/2018 18/05/2018 08/06/2018 15/08/2018 12/09/2018 01/10/2018 06/02/2019 10/04/2019 15/05/2019 13/08/2019 09/10/2019 16/12/2019 12/02/2020 08/04/2020</p>		
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				17/06/2020 24/08/2020 14/10/2020 04/01/2021 10/02/2021 28/04/2021 11/06/2021 18/08/2021 13/10/2021 06/02/2022 13/04/2022 08/06/2022 23/06/2022 08/08/2022 05/10/2022 12/10/2022 07/12/2022 08/02/2023 05/04/2023 07/06/2023 31/08/2023 11/10/2023 07/12/2023 18/12/2023 09/02/2024 19/02/2024 08/05/2024 19/06/2024 16/10/2024 09/12/2024		
8.7.2 Fox baiting and cat trapping on key public land sites	Late 2014 (once) and 2015 (twice)	Documentation check of cat trapping removal results for Adams Creek and Wonthaggi Heathlands NCRs	<p>Pest animal program data shows fox and cat baiting and trapping records for Adams Creek indicates no baiting or trapping occurred in late 2014 or twice in 2015.</p> <p>Pest animal program data shows fox and cat baiting and trapping records for the Wonthaggi indicates no baiting or trapping occurred in late 2014. Baiting and trapping did however occur twice in 2015</p>	<p>End of week pest animal program records compiled by Peter Wright for Adams Creek: 16/12/2015</p> <p>End of week pest animal program records compiled</p>	<p>I found that there was no documentary evidence to verify that fox baiting or cat trapping, commissioned by Parks Victoria, occurred in late 2014 or twice in 2015 in the Adams Creek Nature Conservation Reserve.</p>	Non-Compliant

				by Peter Wright for the Wonthaggi coastline: 03/03/2015 25/11/2015	I also found that there was no documentary evidence to verify that fox baiting or cat trapping, commissioned by Parks Victoria, occurred in late 2014 in the Wonthaggi Heathlands Nature Conservation Reserve.	
8.7.3 Ongoing habitat enhancement at the Pines FFR	2014-2018	Documentation check for \$80,000 expenditure	<p>In September 2017, Parks Victoria spent \$19,218.42 on revegetation works at The Pines Flora and Fauna Reserve under Purchase Order 119897.</p> <p>In December 2017, Parks Victoria spent \$10,992.50 on revegetation works at The Pines Flora and Fauna Reserve under Purchase Order 123608.</p> <p>In January 2018, Parks Victoria spent \$3,890 on revegetation works at The Pines Flora and Fauna Reserve under Purchase Order 125136.</p> <p>In January 2018, Parks Victoria spent \$3,769.50 on revegetation works at The Pines Flora and Fauna Reserve under Purchase Order 125137.</p> <p>In March 2018, Parks Victoria spent \$2,925 on revegetation works at The Pines Flora and Fauna Reserve under Purchase Order 126788.</p> <p>In April 2018, Parks Victoria spent \$1,170 on revegetation works at The Pines Flora and Fauna Reserve under Purchase Order 127987.</p> <p>In March 2019, Parks Victoria spent \$57,936.78 on revegetation works at The Pines Flora and Fauna Reserve under Purchase Order 142343.</p>	2015-21 Project Life Expenditure Spreadsheet	I found that between 2017 to early 2019, Parks Victoria spent over \$80,000 on revegetation works which would have enhanced habitat.	Compliant
8.7.4 Fox baiting on private land	Late 2014	Documentation check of consultation documentation			I found that there was no documentary evidence to verify that Parks Victoria and DEPI had consulted with the West Gippsland Catchment Management Authority and the Mornington Peninsula and Western Port Biosphere	Non-Compliant

					Reserve Foundation Ltd to find opportunities to undertake fox baiting on key private land sites.	
8.7.4 Fox baiting on private land	2015 and 2016	Documentation check that fox baiting occurred on key private land sites			I found that there was no documentary evidence to verify that Parks Victoria and DEPI had implemented any fox baiting on key private land sites.	Non-Compliant

Table 3: Threatened Species Management Plan (December 2010)

Management Activity	Timing	Verification Method	Evidence	Documents Sighted	Determination	Compliance Finding
<b>Table 3. General Timings and Responsibilities</b>						
Pre-construction targeted flora surveys.	February 2010	Document check for findings sent to DES and DEWHA	Targeted species search undertaken from September 2009 to January 2010.	Peninsula Link - Carrum Dows to Mount Martha, Victoria: Threatened Species Targeted Searches Report prepared by Practical Ecology Pty Ltd for the Linking Melbourne Authority, Dated the 22 <sup>nd</sup> of January 2010.	I found that pre-construction targeted flora surveys were undertaken however no documentary evidence was available to verify that the survey findings were sent to DES and DEWHA.	Non-Compliant
Environmental Management Strategy	Prior to on-site construction commencing – February 2010.	Documentation check that Flora and Fauna Management Plan and Site or Activity Environmental Management Plan was prepared	<p>A Flora and Fauna Management Plan was initially prepared and approved by AbiGroup in April 2010 which is understood to be before construction had commenced. This document was revised on several occasions.</p> <p>A Site-Specific Management Plan for Devilbend and Tuerong Creek (PLG-E-MP-0204) was prepared and submitted the Linking Melbourne Authority in October 2010.</p> <p>A Site-Specific Environmental Management Plan for Boggy Creek / Balcombe Creek (PLG-E-MP-0206) was prepared and submitted the Linking Melbourne Authority in October 2010.</p> <p>A Site-Specific Environmental Management Plan for Zone B was prepared by AbiGroup. Revision 1 of this document was approved in November 2011.</p> <p>A Site-Specific Environmental Management Plan for the Edithvale Seaford Wetlands Shared Use</p>	<p>Peninsula Link Project - Flora &amp; Fauna Management Plan, AbiGroup Document No: PLG-E-MP-0005</p> <p>Letter from Southern Way to the Linking Melbourne Authority dated the 13<sup>th</sup> of October 2010.</p> <p>Letter from Southern Way to the Linking Melbourne Authority dated the 15<sup>th</sup> of October 2010.</p>	<p>I found that prior to construction, a Flora and Fauna Management Plan was prepared and subsequently approved on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of April 2010.</p> <p>I also found that around the time construction commenced, several Site-Specific Environmental Management Plans were prepared and that some of these plans were later updated in 2011.</p>	Compliant

			<p>Path was prepared and approved by AbiGroup in February 2011.</p> <p>A Site-Specific Environmental Management Plan for the Asphalt Plant was prepared and approved by AbiGroup in November 2011.</p>	<p>Peninsula Link Project: Site-Specific Environmental Management Plan, AbiGroup Document No: PLB-MP-E-0016</p> <p>Peninsula Link Project: Site-Specific Environmental Management Plan – Edithvale Seaford Wetlands Shared Use Path, AbiGroup Document No: PLG-MP-E-0237</p> <p>Peninsula Link Project: Site-Specific Environmental Management Plan – Asphalt Plant, AbiGroup Document No: PLG-MP-E-0331</p>		
Seed collection River Swamp Wallaby-grass within the Pines Flora and Fauna Reserve.	February to March 2010	Documentation check that seed collection occurred	Although no documentary evidence was available to verify that seed was collected in early 2010, it is noted that in March 2011, River Swamp Wallaby Grass plants were salvaged from the construction footprint and re-planted in the Tamarisk Creek re-alignment.	Peninsula Link Project - River Swamp Wallaby Grass Monitoring Report (September 2011), AbiGroup Document No: PLG-RP-E-0310, Dated the 28 <sup>th</sup> of November 2011.	No documentary evidence was available to verify that River Swamp Wallaby Grass seed was collected from The Pines Flora and Fauna Reserve.	Non-Compliant
Construction Environmental Management Plan – River Swamp Wallaby grass the Pines Flora and Fauna Reserve.	Prior to and during construction in the wetland area of the Pines Flora	Documentation check that CEMP was prepared and implemented			No documentary evidence was available to verify that a CEMP, relating to the River Swamp Wallaby Grass in the Pines Flora and Fauna	Non-Compliant

	and Fauna Reserve				Reserve, was prepared and implemented.	
If required - seed collection of threatened species located during targeted searches.	September to January	Documentation check that seed collection occurred	No documentary evidence was available to indicate that seed collection of the targeted threatened flora species was required.			Not Applicable
If required - seed collection of threatened species located during construction phase	After February 2010 if required.	Documentation check that seed collection occurred	No documentary evidence was available to indicate that seed collection of threatened flora species was required.			Not Applicable
If appropriate – translocation of identified threatened species.	Prior to on-site construction commencing – in an appropriate timeframe.	Documentation check that translocation occurred	No documentary evidence was available to indicate that the translocation of a threatened species prior to on-site construction would be appropriate.			Not Applicable
EVC seed collection 2009	In the appropriate season i.e. spring/summer 2009/2010 prior to commencement of construction.	Documentation check that seed collection occurred	A letter from the Linking Melbourne Authority indicates that seed was collected from various locations between November 2009 to March 2010 for use in the revegetation works in The Pine Flora and Fauna Reserve.	Letter from the Linking Melbourne Authority to Australian Ecosystems, dated the 8 <sup>th</sup> of February 2011.	I found that seed from different ecological vegetation classes was collected prior to the commencement of construction.	Compliant
Mitigation measures for Dwarf Galaxias	Prior to construction near Tuerong creek and all other waterway areas	Documentation check that measures implemented prior to construction	<p>Section 6.4 of the approved Threatened Species Management Plan comprises details of several specific mitigation measures for the Dwarf Galaxias along with several general mitigations measures. The pre-construction mitigation measures included, but are not limited, to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A no-go zone will be established both upstream and downstream of the construction zone. This no-go zone will encompass the 1 in 100 year flood boundary with an adjacent 20m Buffer.</li> <li>- All road designs in the vicinity of the important population of Dwarf Galaxias inhabiting Tuerong Creek in the vicinity of Tuerong Road will be developed in close consultation with a suitably qualified aquatic ecologist to ensure this population is protected.</li> <li>- The proposed methods to be used for construction, determination of no-go zones and measures to minimise the footprint of the works both during construction and after completion of the road is to be undertaken in consultation with a suitably qualified aquatic ecologist, Melbourne Water and DSE.</li> <li>-The Project Company will undertake the detailed design of any other waterway crossings in consultation with an aquatic ecologist, DSE and Melbourne Water to ensure habitat connectivity is protected and maintained.</li> </ul>		I found that there is insufficient documentary evidence available to verify that all of these pre-construction related mitigation measures for the Dwarf Galaxias were implemented near Tuerong creek and at all other waterway areas.	Non-Compliant

			<p>-The design of the waterway crossings will allow for unimpeded fish passage and will ensure all waterway and floodplain crossings allow for unimpeded Dwarf Galaxia dispersal under majority of flood conditions (where appropriate, in consultation with Melbourne Water and DSE).</p> <p>- The Project Company will train (by a suitably qualified aquatic ecologist) the Site Environmental Officer in identification of Dwarf Galaxias and develop a site induction program which includes the induction of all staff, contractors and sub-contractors.</p> <p>- Design and strategically locate proposed stormwater treatment/retention ponds offline in close consultation with a suitably qualified aquatic ecologist and DSE.</p> <p>- Design waterway crossings to allow for unimpeded fish passage and ensure all waterway and floodplain crossings allow for unimpeded Dwarf Galaxias dispersal under flood conditions.</p>			
Establishment of Net Gain Offset targets (in accordance with Victoria's Native Vegetation Management Framework) and other offsets	Prior to the post construction phase	Documentation check that Net Gain Offsets established	A letter received by the Linking Melbourne Authority in January 2013 confirms that a native vegetation offset for the Peninsula Link Project which involves the Belvedere Bushland Reserve, has been approved.	Letter from the Department of Sustainability and Environment to the Linking Melbourne Authority dated the 25 <sup>th</sup> of January 2013.	I found that the establishment of the required native vegetation offset was gained prior to construction being completed.	Compliant

**Table 4. Timings and responsibilities for River Swamp Wallaby Grass within the Pines Flora and Fauna Reserve**

Seed collection of River Swamp Wallaby-grass within the Pines Flora and Fauna Reserve.	February to March 2010	Documentation check that seed collection occurred	Although no documentary evidence was available to verify that seed was collected in early 2010, it is noted that in March 2011, River Swamp Wallaby Grass plants were salvaged from the construction footprint and re-planted in the Tamarisk Creek re-alignment.	Peninsula Link Project - River Swamp Wallaby Grass Monitoring Report (September 2011), AbiGroup Document No: PLG-RP-E-0310, Dated the 28 <sup>th</sup> of November 2011.	No documentary evidence was available to verify that River Swamp Wallaby Grass seed was collected from The Pines Flora and Fauna Reserve.	Non-Compliant
Pre-construction phase	Pre-construction	Documentation check that a Site Environmental Management Plan for the River Swamp Wallaby-grass and wetland within the Pines Flora and Fauna			No documentary evidence was available to verify that a Site Environmental Management Plan for the River Swamp Wallaby Grass and wetland within the Pines Flora and Fauna was developed.	Non-Compliant

		Reserve was developed				
Pre-construction phase	Pre-construction	Documentation check that the Site Environmental Officer was trained in the identification of River Swamp Wallaby-grass	During November 2010, River Swamp Wallaby Grass training was undertaken for the site environmental team by Australian Ecosystems.	Peninsula Link Project - River Swamp Wallaby Grass Monitoring Report (September 2011), AbiGroup Document No: PLG-RP-E-0310, Dated the 28 <sup>th</sup> of November 2011.	I found documentary evidence which verifies that site environmental staff received training in the identification of River Swamp Wallaby Grass during the pre-construction phase.	Compliant
Pre-construction phase	Pre-construction	Documentation check that fencing was erected to establish a no-go zone to protect remaining River Swamp Wallaby-grass population.	In July 2010, a fauna exclusion fencing was erected in the wetland area which contains the River Swamp Wallaby Grass.	Peninsula Link Project - River Swamp Wallaby Grass Monitoring Report (September 2011), AbiGroup Document No: PLG-RP-E-0310, Dated the 28 <sup>th</sup> of November 2011.	I found documentary evidence which verifies that fencing was erected to establish a no-go zone to protect the River Swamp Wallaby Grass in the wetland area during the pre-construction phase.	Compliant
Construction phase	During construction	Documentation check that vegetation to be removed was surveyed and clearly marked and that no more than 0.04ha of vegetation containing River Swamp Wallaby Grass was removed.	In March 2011, Biosis informed AbiGroup that 108m <sup>2</sup> (0.0108ha) of River Swamp Wallaby Grass had been removed so far.	Peninsula Link Project - River Swamp Wallaby Grass Monitoring Report (September 2011), AbiGroup Document No: PLG-RP-E-0310, Dated the 28 <sup>th</sup> of November 2011.	I found documentary evidence which verifies that a check was made during construction on at least one occasion about the amount of River Swamp Wallaby Grass that had been removed which was calculated at the time to be 0.0108ha.	Compliant
Construction phase	During construction	Documentation check that spoil, construction materials, stormwater and sediment were contained within the	An audit conducted in 2012 of the management River Swamp Wallaby Grass indicated that fencing of the boundary of the construction zone was resulting in soil material being located within the construction footprint. This audit also indicated that however that on one occasion, stormwater and sediment had not been contained within The Pines Flora and Fauna Reserve. This incident occurred on the 26 <sup>th</sup> of	Threatened Species Management Plan: Audit of Swamp River Wallaby Grass Management (April 2012). Report prepared	I found documentary evidence which verifies that during construction in July 2011, stormwater and sediment was not contained within the construction area on one occasion.	Non-Compliant

		construction area.	July 2011 when stormwater runoff from Zone B of the construction site was not contained and allowed to flow into the adjacent wetlands.	by Telford Environmental Consulting Services for the Linking Melbourne Authority.		
Construction phase	During construction	Documentation check that natural hydrological flows within Tamarisk Creek and the wetland area were maintained.	An audit conducted in 2012 of the management River Swamp Wallaby Grass indicated that the requirement that flows of Tamarisk Creek be maintained, was being achieved, thanks to the staged construction process.	Threatened Species Management Plan: Audit of Swamp River Wallaby Grass Management (April 2012). Report prepared by Telford Environmental Consulting Services for the Linking Melbourne Authority.	I found documentary evidence which verifies that during construction, flows within Tamarisk Creek were being maintained.	Compliant
Construction phase	During construction	Documentation check that daily inspections of no-go fencing were conducted and that breaches were promptly remediated (within 48 hours).	An audit conducted in 2012 of the management River Swamp Wallaby Grass indicated that construction engineers, rather than environmental personnel inspect the no-go fencing on a daily basis.	Threatened Species Management Plan: Audit of Swamp River Wallaby Grass Management (April 2012). Report prepared by Telford Environmental Consulting Services for the Linking Melbourne Authority.	I found documentary evidence which verifies that during construction, daily inspections of no-go fencing associated with the River Swamp Wallaby Grass were conducted.	Compliant
Construction phase	During construction	Documentation check that a Weed Management Plan was prepared and implemented for the	A Weed Management Plan was prepared in June 2010.  An audit conducted in 2012 of the management River Swamp Wallaby Grass indicated that the Weed Management Plan was being implemented in that weed inspections were being conducted and that weeds were being controlled by a	Peninsula Link: The Pines Flora and Fauna Reserve - Weed Management Plan (June 2010), prepared by Ecology Partners Ptd for the Linking	I found that a Weed Management Plan had been prepared and that there was documentary evidence to verify that during construction, the Weed Management Plan was being implemented.	Compliant

		construction area.	landscape contractor who was conducting weed spraying.	Melbourne Authority  Threatened Species Management Plan: Audit of Swamp River Wallaby Grass Management (April 2012). Report prepared by Telford Environmental Consulting Services for the Linking Melbourne Authority.		
Construction phase	During construction	Documentation check that daily inspections were conducted of protected areas of remnant River Swamp Wallaby-grass population.	An audit conducted in 2012 of the management River Swamp Wallaby Grass indicated that construction engineers, were checking the site on a daily basis for any stress on threatened species.	Threatened Species Management Plan: Audit of Swamp River Wallaby Grass Management (April 2012). Report prepared by Telford Environmental Consulting Services for the Linking Melbourne Authority.	I found documentary evidence which verifies that during construction, daily inspections were conducted of the River Swamp Wallaby Grass population.	Compliant
Construction phase	During construction	Documentation check that plants / populations adjacent to construction area were monitored on a weekly basis.	An audit conducted in 2012 of the management River Swamp Wallaby Grass indicated that environmental officers were inspecting plants adjacent to the construction area on a weekly basis.	Threatened Species Management Plan: Audit of Swamp River Wallaby Grass Management (April 2012). Report prepared by Telford Environmental Consulting Services for the	I found documentary evidence which verifies that during construction, weekly monitoring was conducted of River Swamp and Wallaby Grass plants / populations adjacent to construction area.	Compliant

				Linking Melbourne Authority.		
Construction phase	During construction	Documentation check that observed threats or impacts were reported to DSE and DEWHA.	An audit conducted in 2012 of the management River Swamp Wallaby Grass indicated that on one occasion, an incident involving the mixing of site drainage water with wetland water, had not been reported to DSE and DEWHA	Threatened Species Management Plan: Audit of Swamp River Wallaby Grass Management (April 2012). Report prepared by Telford Environmental Consulting Services for the Linking Melbourne Authority.	I found documentary evidence which verifies that during construction, impacts were not reported to DSE and DEWHA.	Non-Compliant
Construction phase	During construction	Documentation check that the results of monitoring and maintenance were reported to DSE, DEWHA and LMA annually.	<p>A letter by the Linking Melbourne Authority in April 2012 confirms that monitoring of River Swamp Wallaby Grass occurred during 2011 and was reported DSEWPaC (which then became DEWHA from 2013).</p> <p>A letter in November 2012 by Southern Way confirms that the monitoring of River Swamp Wallaby Grass occurred during 2012 and was reported to the Linking Melbourne Authority.</p>	<p>Letter from the Linking Melbourne Authority to DSEWPaC dated the 12<sup>th</sup> of April 2012.</p> <p>Peninsula Link Project - River Swamp Wallaby Grass Monitoring Report (September 2011), AbiGroup Document No: PLG-RP-E-0310, Dated the 28<sup>th</sup> of November 2011.</p> <p>Letter from Southern Way Pty Ltd to the Linking Melbourne Authority, dated the 14<sup>th</sup> of November 2012.</p>	I found that there was no documentary evidence to verify that River Swamp Wallaby Grass monitoring and maintenance results during construction, were reported to DSE in 2011 and to both DSE and DEWHA in 2012.	Non-Compliant

				Peninsula Link Project: River Swamp Wallaby Grass – Annual Monitoring Report 2012, AbiGroup Document No: PLG-RP-E-0384, Dated the 9 <sup>th</sup> of October 2012.		
Post-construction phase	Prior to completion of construction within the Pines Flora and Fauna Reserve	Documentation check that areas adjacent to and within the remnant River Swamp Wallaby-grass population are revegetated and rehabilitated as required to mitigate impacts.			No documentary evidence was available to verify that areas adjacent to and within the remnant River Swamp Wallaby-grass population are revegetated and rehabilitated.	Non-Compliant
Post-construction phase	Prior to completion of construction within the Pines Flora and Fauna Reserve	Documentation check that a minimum of twice of area that was taken of River Swamp Wallaby grass is now established within the aquatic margin of Tamarisk Creek (or alternate site).	Although no documentary evidence was available to verify that a minimum of twice the area that was taken of River Swamp Wallaby grass is now established within the aquatic margin of Tamarisk Creek, there is documentation which confirms that a planting mix which comprised River Swamp Wallaby Grass translocated from the works site was planted within the wetland edge of Tamarisk Creek.	Peninsula Link: Zone B – Ballarto Road to Skye Road, Landscape Plan. 'As Built' Drawing: PLB-DRG-L-2120_AB1	No documentary evidence was available to verify that a minimum of twice the area that was taken of River Swamp Wallaby grass is now established within the aquatic margin of Tamarisk Creek (or an alternate site).	Non-Compliant
Post-construction phase	At completion of construction activities.	Documentation check that protective fencing is removed, and permanent fencing is established.			No documentary evidence was available to verify that the temporary protective fencing is removed, and a permanent fencing is now established.	Non-Compliant
Post-construction phase	Monitoring Plan completed prior to completion of	Documentation check that a remnant River			No documentary evidence was available to verify that a remnant River Swamp	Non-Compliant

	construction (early 2013)	Swamp Wallaby-grass population monitoring and reporting plan was prepared.			Wallaby-grass population monitoring and reporting plan was prepared.	
Post-construction phase	Implement plan at completion of the construction phase for 10 years.	Documentation check that the implementation of the remnant River Swamp Wallaby-grass population monitoring plan was being reported to DSE, DEWHA and LMA annually.			No documentary evidence was available to verify that since construction was completed, the implementation of the remnant River Swamp Wallaby-grass population monitoring plan has been reported each year to DSE, DEWHA and LMA, over a 10-year period.	Non-Compliant

**Table 5. (if found) River Swamp Wallaby-grass, Clover Glycine, Swamp Fireweed and Purple Blown-grass timings and responsibilities**

Targeted searches	September 2009 to January 2010	Documentation check that targeted searches were conducted to identify additional populations of threatened flora taxa, that a register populations / individuals on site maps was established, and that protective fencing was established.	Between September 2009 to January 2010, a targeted species search was undertaken for threatened flora. Purple Blown-grass was located during the targeted searches amongst a number of patches of vegetation and in the proposed alignment for the Peninsula Link.	Threatened Species Targeted Searches, Dated the 22 <sup>nd</sup> of January 2010, Report prepared by Practical Ecology Pty Ltd for the Linking Melbourne Authority.	I found that targeted searches were conducted to identify additional populations of threatened flora, and that the Purple Blown-grass was discovered.	Compliant
	September 2009 to January 2010	Documentation check that seed collection and/or translocation programs of threatened species located during targeted	No documentary evidence was available to indicate that seed collection of Purple Blown-grass was needed.			Not Applicable

		searches was implemented, if required.				
Pre-construction phase	Pre-construction	Documentation check that no-go zones around threatened flora were clearly marked and fenced and that all construction activities were undertaken within the construction area.			No documentary evidence was available to verify that during pre-construction, no-go zones around the Purple Blown-grass were clearly marked and fenced.	Non-Compliant
Pre-construction phase	Pre-construction	Documentation check that Site Environmental Officer was trained in identification of threatened species and a site induction program was developed.			No documentary evidence was available to verify that during pre-construction, the Site Environmental Officer was trained in identification of Purple Blown-grass, and that the presence of Purple Blown-grass was mentioned in the site induction documents.	Non-Compliant
Construction phase	Pre-construction	Documentation check that targeted surveys were undertaken in critical areas for significant species in consultation with DSE prior to construction to identify any additional populations of threatened flora taxa within the construction footprint and that temporary protective	Between September 2009 to January 2010, a targeted species search was undertaken across 16 sites which were previously identified as having potential habitat for threatened species. DSE staff undertook background research for this targeted species search and the search findings were made available to LMA and later DSE/DEWHA.	Threatened Species Targeted Searches, Dated the 22 <sup>nd</sup> of January 2010, Report prepared by Practical Ecology Pty Ltd for the Linking Melbourne Authority.	I found that targeted searches were undertaken in consultation with DSE during pre-construction and that the search findings were subsequently made available by the LMA to DSE/DEWHA by having the search report attached as an appendix to the Threatened Species Management Plan.	Compliant

		fencing was erected and that findings of site surveys were reported to the LMA and DSE / DEWHA.				
Construction phase	Pre-construction	Documentation check that management protocols for any populations to be managed in-situ were established and incorporated into Site Environmental Management Plans.			No documentary evidence was available to verify that during pre-construction, management protocols for any Purple Blown-grass populations to be managed in-situ were established and incorporated into Site Environmental Management Plans.	Non-Compliant
Construction phase	Pre-construction	Documentation check that spoil, construction materials, stormwater and sediment was contained within the construction area.			No documentary evidence was available to verify that during construction, spoil, construction materials, stormwater and sediment was contained within the construction area at locations near Purple Blown-grass.	Non-Compliant
Construction phase	Pre and during construction	Documentation check that daily inspections of no-go fencing were conducted and that breaches were promptly remediated (within 48 hours).			No documentary evidence was available to verify that inspections of no-go fencing were conducted at locations near Purple Blown-grass during the construction phase.	Non-Compliant
Construction phase	During construction	Documentation check that a suitable recipient site for plants to be translocated			No documentary evidence was available to verify that during construction, a suitable recipient site for Purple Blown-grass plants to be translocated and/or plants	Non-Compliant

		and/or plants propagated from seed was established.			propagated from seed was established.	
Construction phase	During construction	Documentation check that the translocation program was conducted and that propagated plants were established.			No documentary evidence was available to verify that during construction, a Purple Blown-grass translocation program was conducted and that propagated plants were established.	Non-Compliant
Construction phase	Implement at completion of the translocation phase or establishment phase	Documentation check that maintenance and reporting programs for translocation and propagated populations were established.			No documentary evidence was available to verify that during construction, maintenance and reporting programs for Purple Blown-grass translocation and propagated populations were established.	Non-Compliant
Construction phase	Pre and during construction	Documentation check that any impacts and the monitoring results were reported to the Responsible Authorities.			No documentary evidence was available to verify that pre and during construction, impacts and the monitoring results in relation to Purple Blown-grass were reported to the Responsible Authorities.	Non-Compliant
Post-construction phase	During construction and following completion	Documentation check that weeds around translocation / in-situ sites were eradicated.			No documentary evidence was available to verify that post-construction, weeds around Purple Blown-grass translocation / in-situ sites were eradicated.	Non-Compliant
	As required for up to 10 years	Documentation check that translocated / propagated populations were maintained.			No documentary evidence was available to verify that post-construction, translocated / propagated populations of Purple Blown-grass were maintained for up to 10 years.	Non-Compliant
	As required for up to 10 years	Documentation check that in-			No documentary evidence was available to verify that	Non-Compliant

		situ populations were maintained.			post-construction, in-situ populations of Purple Blown-grass were maintained for up to 10 years.	
	Implement at completion of the construction phase for 10 years	Documentation check that translocation population monitoring occurred and was reported to DSE, DEWHA and LMA.			No documentary evidence was available to verify that post-construction, translocation population monitoring of Purple Blown-grass occurred and was reported to DSE, DEWHA and LMA.	Non-Compliant

**Table 6. (if found) Maroon Leek Orchid, Purple Diuris or Frankston Spider Orchids timings and responsibilities**

Targeted searches	September 2009 to January 2010	Documentation check that targeted searches were conducted to identify additional populations of threatened flora taxa, that a register populations / individuals on site maps was established, and that protective fencing was established.	Between September 2009 to January 2010, a targeted species search was undertaken for threatened flora.	Threatened Species Targeted Searches, Dated the 22 <sup>nd</sup> of January 2010, Report prepared by Practical Ecology Pty Ltd for the Linking Melbourne Authority.	I found that targeted searches were conducted to identify additional populations of threatened flora.	Compliant
Targeted searches	September 2009 to January 2010	Documentation check that seed collection and/or translocation programs of threatened species located during targeted searches were implemented, if required.	No Maroon Leek Orchids, Purple Diuris or Frankston Spider Orchids were found.			Not Applicable
Pre-construction phase	Pre-construction	Documentation check that no-go zones	No Maroon Leek Orchids, Purple Diuris or Frankston Spider Orchids were found.			Not Applicable

		around threatened flora were clearly marked and fenced and all construction activities were undertaken within the construction area.		
Pre-construction phase	Pre-construction	Documentation check that the Site Environmental Officer was trained in the identification of threatened species and that a site induction program was developed.	No Maroon Leek Orchids, Purple Diuris or Frankston Spider Orchids were found.	Not Applicable
Construction phase	Pre-construction	Documentation check that targeted surveys were undertaken in critical areas for significant species in consultation with DSE prior to construction to identify any additional populations of threatened flora taxa within the construction footprint and that temporary protective fencing was erected and that the findings of site surveys was reported to	No Maroon Leek Orchids, Purple Diuris or Frankston Spider Orchids were found.	Not Applicable

		the LMA and DSE / DEWHA.		
Construction phase	Pre-construction	Documentation check that management protocols for any populations to be managed in-situ were established and incorporated into Site Environmental Management Plans.	No Maroon Leek Orchids, Purple Diuris or Frankston Spider Orchids were found.	Not Applicable
Construction phase	Pre and during construction	Documentation check that spoil, construction materials, stormwater and sediment were contained within the construction area.	No Maroon Leek Orchids, Purple Diuris or Frankston Spider Orchids were found.	Not Applicable
Construction phase	Pre and during construction	Documentation check that daily inspections of no-go fencing were conducted and that any remediation was promptly conducted (within 48 hours).	No Maroon Leek Orchids, Purple Diuris or Frankston Spider Orchids were found.	Not Applicable
Construction phase	During construction	Documentation check that a suitable recipient site for plants to be translocated and/or plants propagated from seed was established.	No Maroon Leek Orchids, Purple Diuris or Frankston Spider Orchids were found.	Not Applicable

Construction phase	During construction phase	Documentation check that the translocation program and the propagated plants were established.	No Maroon Leek Orchids, Purple Diuris or Frankston Spider Orchids were found.	Not Applicable
Construction phase	Implement at completion of the translocation phase or establishment phase	Documentation check that the maintenance and reporting program for translocation and propagated populations was established.	No Maroon Leek Orchids, Purple Diuris or Frankston Spider Orchids were found.	Not Applicable
Post-construction phase	During construction and following completion	Documentation check that weeds around translocation / in-situ sites were eradicated.	No Maroon Leek Orchids, Purple Diuris or Frankston Spider Orchids were found.	Not Applicable
Post-construction phase	During construction and following completion	Documentation check that weeds at translocation / in-situ sites were controlled.	No Maroon Leek Orchids, Purple Diuris or Frankston Spider Orchids were found.	Not Applicable
Post-construction phase	As required for up to 10 years	Documentation check that translocated / propagated populations were maintained.	No Maroon Leek Orchids, Purple Diuris or Frankston Spider Orchids were found.	Not Applicable
Post-construction phase	As required for up to 10 years	Documentation check that in-situ populations were maintained.	No Maroon Leek Orchids, Purple Diuris or Frankston Spider Orchids were found.	Not Applicable
Post-construction phase	At completion of construction activities	Documentation check that protective fencing was removed, and	No Maroon Leek Orchids, Purple Diuris or Frankston Spider Orchids were found.	Not Applicable

		that permanent fencing was established, as required.		
Post-construction phase	Implement at completion of the construction phase for 10 years	Documentation check that the translocation population monitoring was implemented and reported to DSE, DEWHA and LMA	No Maroon Leek Orchids, Purple Diuris or Frankston Spider Orchids were found.	Not Applicable

**Table 8. Dwarf Galaxias timings and responsibilities**

Pre-construction phase	Pre-construction	Documentation check that targeted searches were conducted in critical areas, in consultation with DSE.	Between March to April 2010, targeted searches were conducted at one site on Boggy Creek, at one site on an upper Watsons Creek drainage line, and at ten sites in the Balcombe Creek catchment. DSE were consulted about the targeted searches and provided access to ecological databases.	Peninsula Link: Follow up targeted survey of Dwarf Galaxias <i>Galaxiella pusilla</i> in the Boggy, Watsons and Balcombe Creek Catchments, Victoria (24 June 2010), Report prepared by Biosis Research Pty Ltd for AbiGroup Contractors Pty Ltd.	I found documentary evidence which verified that during pre-construction, targeted searches were conducted in critical areas, in consultation with DSE.	Compliant
Pre-construction phase	Pre-construction	Documentation check that detailed design was undertaken of any waterway crossing in consultation with DSE and Melbourne Water to ensure habitat connectivity is protected and maintained.	AbiGroup consulted with Melbourne Water about water crossing W12 and W13.  AbiGroup consulted with DSE about the detailed designs of waterway crossings associated with Balcombe Creek.	Letter from Melbourne Water to AbiGroup dated the 6 <sup>th</sup> of September 2010.  General correspondence from AbiGroup to DSE dated the 5 <sup>th</sup> of November 2010.	I found that DSE and Melbourne Water were consulted in relation waterway crossing designs.	Compliant

Pre-construction phase	Pre-construction	Documentation check that a Site or Activity Specific Environmental Management Plan was developed for the Dwarf Galaxias population at Tuerong Creek (and any additional population found as a result of the targeted searches).	<p>A Site-Specific Environment Management Plan was prepared for Devilbend Creek and Tuerong Creek</p> <p>A Site-Specific Environment Management Plan was prepared for Boggy Creek, Balcombe Creek and Watsons Creek.</p>	<p>Peninsula Link Project, Site-Specific Environment Management Plan: Devilbend Creek and Tuerong Creek. Dated the 12<sup>th</sup> of October 2010, prepared by AbiGroup (Document No: PLG-E-MP-0204)</p> <p>Peninsula Link Project, Site-Specific Environment Management Plan: Boggy Creek, Balcombe Creek, Watsons Creek. Dated the 13<sup>th</sup> of October 2010, prepared by AbiGroup (Document No: PLG-MP-E-0206)</p>	I found documentary evidence which verifies that a Site-Specific Environment Management Plans were developed for the Dwarf Galaxias for the Tuerong Creek and other creeks associated with the targeted searches where additional populations were found.	Compliant
Pre-construction phase	Pre-construction	Documentation check that the freeway is designed so that run-off is isolated from catchment run-off and treated using 'water sensitive' design practices prior to discharging into receiving waterways.	Pre-constructions design packages indicated that water sensitive road design would be applied during construction.	<p>Design Package - Water Sensitive Road Design: Bullarto Road to Skye Road. Report prepared by SKM &amp; Aurecon for AbiGroup (Revision 0) dated the 30<sup>th</sup> of March 2011.</p> <p>Design Package - Water Sensitive Road Design: Robinson Park to Baxter. Report prepared by SKM &amp; Aurecon for</p>	I found documentary evidence to verify that 'water sensitive' design practices were incorporated into the project during the pre-construction phase.	Compliant

				AbiGroup (Revision 0) dated the 8 <sup>th</sup> of April 2011.		
Pre-construction phase	Pre-construction	Documentation check that the waterway crossing is designed to allow for unimpeded fish passage and ensure all waterway and floodplain crossings allow for unimpeded Dwarf Galaxia dispersal under flood conditions.	A certified design package indicated that waterway crossings associated with Balcombe Creek would allow for unimpeded fish passage.	Design Package: Drainage, Waterway Crossings – Balcombe Creek. Report prepared by SKM & Aurecon for AbiGroup (Revision F) dated the 9 <sup>th</sup> of November 2010.	I found documentary evidence to verify that waterway crossings were designed to allow for unimpeded fish passage and Dwarf Galaxias dispersal.	Compliant
Pre-construction phase	Pre-construction	Documentation check that the Site Environmental Officer is trained in the identification of Dwarf Galaxias and that a site induction program is developed.			No documentary evidence was available to verify that the Site Environmental Officer is trained in the identification of Dwarf Galaxias and that a site induction program is developed during the pre-construction phase.	Non-Compliant
Construction phase	During and after construction	Documentation check for the reinstatement of natural overland flows and establish favourable habitat for Dwarf Galaxias at the existing wetland and the realigned sections of the Tamarisk Creek within the Pines	The realignment of Tamarisk Creek was successfully completed according to a construction package notification issued in October 2012 by AbiGroup.	Letter from AbiGroup to Southern Way dated the 17 <sup>th</sup> of October 2012.	I found documentary evidence to verify that the realignment of sections of the Tamarisk Creek within the Pines Flora and Fauna Reserve.	Compliant

		Flora and Fauna Reserve.				
Construction phase	During and after construction	Documentation check that the riparian zones within the road reserve in the immediate vicinity of waterway crossings were remediated to increase shade and reduce water temperature in consultation with Melbourne Water			No documentary evidence was available to verify that during and after construction, the riparian zones within the road reserve in the immediate vicinity of waterway crossings were remediated to increase shade and reduce water temperature in consultation with Melbourne Water.	Non-Compliant
Construction phase	During and after construction	Documentation check that the stormwater / retention ponds were designed to create an aquatic habitat that favours Dwarf Galaxias	A detailed design drawing prepared for AbiGroup by Phillip Liston Landscape Consultants for the Tuerong Creek Crossing shows how Dwarf Galaxia habitat will be created during construction of realigned/modified drainage channels.	Peninsula Link: Tuerong Creek Crossing – Dwarf Galaxias Habitat Creation Details. Drawing No. PLF-SK-L-1008 (Revision A)	I found documentary evidence that to verify that stormwater / retention ponds were designed to create an aquatic habitat that favours Dwarf Galaxias	Compliant
Construction phase	Construction	Documentation check that no-go zone was established both upstream and downstream of the construction zone which encompassed the 1 in 100 year flood boundary with an adjacent 20m buffer and that works inside the 1 in 100 year zone was limited to			No documentary evidence was available to verify that a no-go zone was established both upstream and downstream of the construction zone which encompassed the 1 in 100-year flood boundary with an adjacent 20m buffer and that works inside the 1 in 100-year zone was limited to habitat creation and revegetation.	Non-Compliant

		habitat creation and revegetation.				
Construction phase	Construction	Documentation check that the upstream or downstream fish passage under a vast majority of flow conditions at Tuerong Creek was maintained.			No documentary evidence was available to verify that during construction, the upstream or downstream fish passage under a vast majority of flow conditions at Tuerong Creek was maintained.	Non-Compliant
Construction phase	Construction	Documentation check that where additional crossings were required to provide fish passage, habitat creation and improvements in bed and bank morphology, at creek realignments, consultation occurred with MW and DSE.			No documentary evidence was available to verify that during construction, where additional crossings may have been required to provide fish passage, habitat creation and improvements in bed and bank morphology, at creek realignments, this was undertaken in consultation occurred with MW and DSE.	Non-Compliant
Construction phase	During and after construction	Documentation check that the Dwarf Galaxias monitoring and reporting program was implemented.	Monitoring occurred during construction in 2011 given that DESWPaC was provided with a Dwarf Galaxias Monitoring Report for 2011.	Letter from the Linking Melbourne Authority to DSEWPaC dated the 14 <sup>th</sup> of November 2011.	I found that monitoring of the Dwarf Galaxias occurred during construction in 2011 however no documentary evidence was available to verify that monitoring occurred throughout the construction phase.	Non-Compliant
Construction phase	During construction	Documentation check that in the event that surveys identify Dwarf Galaxias within water bodies in the construction footprint, and	<p>A letter from DSEWPaC to the Linking Melbourne Authority in February 2012 indicated that the Dwarf Galaxias Translocation Plan dated 10 February 2012 was approved however any further Dwarf Galaxias translocations must be approved by the Department.</p> <p>A report prepared Biosis in June 2021 indicated that Dwarf Galaxias were translocated by</p>	Letter from DSEWPaC to the Linking Melbourne Authority, Dated the 16 <sup>th</sup> of February 2012.	I found that translocation of Dwarf Galaxias had occurred during construction however there was no documentary evidence was available to verify that DSEWPaC had approved the relocation of any Dwarf Galaxias in 2021.	Non-Compliant

		<p>that these individuals will be translocated to the nearest suitable permanent water body and that translocation will be undertaken in consultation with a qualified aquatic ecologist, Melbourne Water, DSE and DPI and that any relocation of Dwarf Galaxias will only be undertaken if approved by DSEWPaC.</p>	<p>qualified persons in consultation with DSE, DELWP and the Victoria Fisheries Authority however there was no indication in the report that DSEWPaC approved the relocation.</p>	<p>Peninsula Link: Dwarf Galaxias <i>Galaxiella pusilla</i> translocation – Final Report (25 June 2021), prepared for Lendlease by Biosis.</p>	
Construction phase	During construction	<p>Documentation check that should any additional Dwarf Galaxias populations to be discovered in the vicinity of Peninsula Link during the construction monitoring period, the size and extent of this population and the potential for this population to be impacted by construction and operation of Peninsula Link will be investigated</p>	<p>No documentary evidence was available to verify that additional Dwarf Galaxias populations were discovered in the vicinity of Peninsula Link and would be impacted by the construction and operation of Peninsula Link.</p>		Not-Applicable

		and the requirement for regular monitoring would be determined in consultation with DSE, Melbourne Water and DSEWPaC.				
Construction phase	During construction	Documentation check that fish passage requirements are designed and implemented, and meet the specified performance criteria	According to an 'As Built' drawing for the Tamarisk Creek Crossing, the designed fish passage requirements were implemented during construction. A rock ford was installed so that the finished surface levels were below the invert of the channel to therefore maintain a fish passage.	Peninsula Link: Zone B – Ballarto Road to Skye Road, W9 Tamarisk Creek Crossing. 'As Built' Drawing: PLB-DRG-L-2161_AB1	I found that documentary evidence was available to verify that during construction, fish passage requirements were designed and implemented along Tamarisk Creek.	Compliant
Construction phase	During construction	Documentation check that habitat creation will incorporate an inline habitat pool, where fish passage is given a high priority and where habitat creation is required	According to an 'As Built' drawing for the Tamarisk Creek Crossing, the creation of inline habitat pools for the Dwarf Galaxias did occur during construction.	Peninsula Link: Zone B – Ballarto Road to Skye Road, W9 Tamarisk Creek Crossing. 'As Built' Drawing: PLB-DRG-L-2161_AB1	I found that documentary evidence was available to verify that during construction, an inline habitat pool, was created along Tamarisk Creek.	Compliant
Construction phase	During construction	Documentation check that habitat creation requirements as specified for Tuerong Creek implemented: Anabranh with 3 deep pools *** Steep sided pools, allowing for shading for			No documentary evidence was available to verify that during construction, habitat creation requirements as specified for Tuerong Creek were implemented.	Non-Compliant

		<p>cool summer temperatures</p> <p>***</p> <p>Assortment of appropriate submerged and ephemeral aquatic vegetation</p> <p>***</p> <p>Sediment basin to convey treated road run-off to the middle pool.</p>				
Post-construction phase	Implement at completion of the construction phase	Documentation check that the monitoring and reporting program was implemented and reported to DSE, DEWHA and LMA.	Population monitoring of the Dwarf Galaxias occurred in 2017.	Peninsula Link Dwarf Galaxias: Population monitoring 2017 (28 March 2018), Report prepared for Lendlease Developments by Biosis.	I found that monitoring of the Dwarf Galaxias did occur during post-construction however there was documentary evidence to verify the monitoring report was sent to DSE, DEWHA and LMA (now VicRoads).	Non-Compliant

## 5 COMPLIANCE FINDINGS

### 5.1 Compliant

This audit has found that the approval holder is **compliant** with 3 of the 15 conditions listed in the Varied Approval (EPBC 2007/3480) dated the 23<sup>rd</sup> of August 2024.

### 5.2 Non-Compliant

This audit has found that the approval holder is **non-compliant** with 6 of the 15 conditions listed in the Varied Approval (EPBC 2007/3480) dated the 23<sup>rd</sup> of August 2024. Provided below is a summary of each non-compliant condition.

#### Condition 2

The approved Southern Brown Bandicoot Management Plan must be implemented.

#### Finding

Insufficient documentary evidence was available to verify that the current and approved version of the Southern Brown Bandicoot Management Plan was fully implemented.

#### Condition 4

The approved Threatened Species Management Plan must be implemented.

#### Finding

Insufficient documentary evidence was available to verify that the approved Threatened Species Management Plan was fully implemented.

#### Condition 6

The approval holder may, at any time, apply to the Minister for a variation to a plan approved by the Minister, by submitting an application in accordance with the requirements of section 143A of the EPBC Act. If the Minister approves a revised plan then, from the date specified, the approval holder must implement the revised plan in place of any previous version of the plan.

#### Finding

The Southern Brown Bandicoot Management Plan was first approved in 2010 with later variations of the plan prepared in 2012, 2014 and 2015. Insufficient documentary evidence was available to verify that the current version of the Southern Brown Bandicoot Management Plan was fully implemented.

#### Condition 8

The approval holder must publish each plan on the website within 15 business days of the date of this variation decision, or should the Minister approve a revised version of a plan, within 15 business days of the Minister's approval of the plan.

#### Finding

The current version of Southern Brown Bandicoot Management Plan was approved in 2016 while the Threatened Species Management Plan was approved earlier, in 2010. No documentary evidence was available to verify that each of these plans were published within 15 business days of the Minister's approval of each plan.

#### Condition 10

The approval holder is required to exclude or redact sensitive ecological data from any version of a plan before that plan is published on the website or otherwise provided to a member of the public. 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.

#### Finding

The appendices to the approved Threatened Species Management Plan were found to have sensitive ecological data. No documentary evidence was available to verify that the department had been notified in writing about what exclusions and redactions have been made in the approved Threatened Species Management Plan that was published on a website.

#### Condition 16

The approval holder must notify the department electronically, within 2 business days of becoming aware of any potential or actual non-compliance with the conditions of this approval or commitment made in plans.

#### Finding

The approved Threatened Species Management Plan includes measures that no-go zones will be clearly marked and fenced and that there will be no stormwater or surface water runoff from the construction area into the adjacent wetlands. During construction, at least four non-compliance incidents are known to have occurred. Two of these incidents involved breaches to no-go zones which resulted in impacts to native vegetation and a wetland. The other two incidents involved sediment-laden or dirty stormwater escaping from the construction site and flowing into the adjacent wetlands including a creek known to be inhabited by Dwarf Galaxias. No documentary evidence was available to verify that the department had been notified electronically about these four non-compliance incidents associated with the commitments made in the approved Threatened Species Management Plan.

## 5.3 Not applicable

This audit has found that 6 of the 15 conditions listed in the Varied Approval (EPBC 2007/3480) dated the 23<sup>rd</sup> of August 2024 were **not applicable** and that this is primarily due to the timing of the audit.

## **APPENDIX A – AUDITOR DECLARATION**

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# Auditor's Declaration of Independence

I, RICHARD SHARP of ECOLOGY AND HERITAGE PARTNERS PTY LTD at 292 MT ALEXANDER ROAD, ASCOT VALE, VICTORIA declare that to the best of my knowledge and belief I and my organisation do not have any conflicting or competing interests with:

The Auditee the VICTORIAN DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT AND PLANNING the Auditee's staff or representatives or other persons associated with the Auditee, including any personal, financial, business or employment relationship, except to the extent detailed below.

The project to be audited is the FRANKSTON BYPASS – CARRUM DOWNS TO MOUNT MARTHA, VICTORIA (EPBC 2007/3480).

I shall notify the Department of the Environment within seven days of any change in these circumstances or any other change that may affect my independent status.

I shall at all times observe any professional code of conduct and/or ethics applicable to undertaking audits (i.e. – as prescribed by the agency with which I hold accreditation/membership). I take full responsibility for any factual inaccuracy or mistake made in giving this declaration, particularly to the extent that others rely upon the truth of this declaration. I acknowledge that the Department of the Environment may request further information to verify my independence at any time.

*Details of any personal, financial, business or employment relationship with the Auditee, the Auditee's staff, representatives or associated persons. (This is in the context of both the person making the declaration and the organisation that they are employed by – specify 'nil' if none):*

NIL

*Details of any personal, financial, business or employment relationship with the project to be audited. (This is in the context of both the person making the declaration and the organisation that they are employed by - specify 'nil' if none):*

NIL

*Details of audit qualifications and professional accreditations/memberships. (Include copies of current audit qualifications and current professional accreditations/memberships):*

EXEMPLAR GLOBAL AUDITOR CERTIFICATE No. 205575

EIANZ CERTIFIED ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTITIONER CERTIFICATE No. 30

In making this declaration, I am aware that section 491 of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) makes it an offence in certain circumstances to knowingly provide false or misleading information or documents to specified persons who are known to be performing a duty or carrying out a function under the EPBC Act or the regulations. The offence is punishable on conviction by imprisonment for not more than 1 year, a fine not more than 60 penalty units, or both.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Sharp', with a stylized flourish extending from the end.

Signed

Full name

RICHARD GLANVILLE SHARP

Organisation

ECOLOGY AND HERITAGE PARTNERS PTY LTD

Date

02/10/2024

## **APPENDIX B – AUDITOR APPROVAL**

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Australian Government

Department of Climate Change, Energy,  
the Environment and Water

Our reference: EPBC 2007/3480

Hossein Jafari  
Private Roads Lead  
Maintenance Operations  
Department of Transport and Planning  
110 Maroondah Highway  
RINGWOOD VIC 3134

Dear Hossein

**Frankston Bypass – Carrum Downs to Mount Martha, VIC EPBC 2007/3480**

I refer to your correspondence dated 22 October 2024, nominating an independent auditor from Ecology & Heritage Partners for the Frankston Bypass – Carrum downs to Mount Martha project (EPBC 2007/3480) independent audit of compliance with conditions of approval.

Frankston Bypass – Carrum downs to Mount Martha project was approved under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*, on 20 August 2009.

I approve the nominated auditor from Ecology & Heritage Partners to conduct the independent audit required under condition 11 and 12 of the EPBC 2007/3480 approval. I request that you submit the proposed audit criteria to the Department no later than 20 business days from the date of this letter.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Keith Horwood at [audit@dcceew.gov.au](mailto:audit@dcceew.gov.au).

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'H. Hodgkins'.

Helen Hodgkins  
A/g Director Environmental Audit  
Compliance and Enforcement Branch  
25 October 2024

## **APPENDIX C – AUDIT CRITERIA APPROVAL**

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Australian Government

Department of Climate Change, Energy,  
the Environment and Water

Our reference: EPBC 2007/3480

Hossein Jafari  
Private Roads Lead  
Department of Transport and Planning  
110 Maroondah Highway  
RINGWOOD VIC 3134

Dear Hossein

**Frankston Bypass – Carrum Downs to Mount Martha, VIC EPBC 2007/3480**

I refer to your correspondence dated 18 November 2024, submitting the audit criteria for the Frankston Bypass – Carrum downs to Mount Martha project (EPBC 2007/3480), approved under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* on 20 August 2009.

I approve the audit criteria prepared by Ecology & Heritage Partners, and request that you submit the independent audit report to the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water by 25 April 2025 in accordance with condition 11 of the EPBC 2007/3480 approval. I look forward to receiving a copy of the audit report.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Keith Horwood at [audit@dcceew.gov.au](mailto:audit@dcceew.gov.au).

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Th' followed by a stylized flourish.

Thomas Long  
Director Environmental Audit  
Compliance and Enforcement Branch  
28 November 2024

**DCCEEW.gov.au**

John Gorton Building, King Edward Terrace, Parkes ACT 2600 Australia  
GPO Box 3090 Canberra ACT 2601 ABN: 63 573 932 849

## **APPENDIX D – AUDIT REPORT EXTENSION DATE APPROVAL**

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[EXTERNAL] RE: Request for Extension-Independent Audit EPBC 2007/3480 [SEC=OFFICIAL]

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**From** Chris KERIN <Chris.Kerin@dcceew.gov.au>

**Date** Wed 19/03/2025 10:17 AM

**To** Shree P Pant (DTP) <Shree.Pant@transport.vic.gov.au>

**Cc** Kelly M Blackall (DTP) <Kelly.Blackall@transport.vic.gov.au>; Jack D Tate (DTP) <jack.tate@transport.vic.gov.au>; Bradley J Pryor (DTP) <Bradley.Pryor@transport.vic.gov.au>; Audit <Audit@dcceew.gov.au>

OFFICIAL

Hi Shree,

Thank you for your email and extension request. Noting the reason for the request we agree to the extension and the Audit report is now due on the 25 June 2025.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss please reach out.

Kind regards

Chris

**Chris Kerin**

Environmental Audit Section  
Compliance and Enforcement Branch | Environmental Permitting and  
Compliance Division  
Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water  
Ngunnawal Country, John Gorton Building, King Edward Terrace, Parkes ACT  
2600 Australia, GPO Box 3090

**DCCEEW.gov.au** ABN 63 573 932 849



**Acknowledgement of Country**

Our department recognises the First Peoples of this nation and their ongoing connection to culture and country. We acknowledge Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples as the Traditional Owners, Custodians and Lore Keepers of the world's oldest living culture and pay respects to their Elders past, present and emerging.



*Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail.*

**OFFICIAL**

**From:** Shree P Pant (DTP) <Shree.Pant@transport.vic.gov.au>

**Sent:** Tuesday, 18 March 2025 8:41 AM

**To:** Audit <Audit@dcceew.gov.au>

**Cc:** Kelly M Blackall (DTP) <Kelly.Blackall@transport.vic.gov.au>; Jack D Tate (DTP) <jack.tate@transport.vic.gov.au>; Bradley J Pryor (DTP) <Bradley.Pryor@transport.vic.gov.au>

**Subject:** Request for Extension-Independent Audit EPBC 2007/3480 [SEC=OFFICIAL]

**OFFICIAL**

Hi Kieth,

Please find attached letter requesting for an extension of time to submit an Independent Audit report of EPBC approval 2007/3480.

Kind Regards

Shree Pant

**Manager Asset Interface**

**Maintenance Operations**

**Department of Transport and Planning**

110 Maroondah Highway, RINGWOOD, VIC, 3134.

Ph (03) 9881 8749

M 0437 004 691

E [Shree.Pant@transport.vic.gov.au](mailto:Shree.Pant@transport.vic.gov.au)

W [dtp.vic.gov.au](http://dtp.vic.gov.au)

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Department  
of Transport  
and Planning

*I acknowledge the Traditional Aboriginal Owners of Country throughout Victoria and pay my respect to Elders past, present and emerging and to the ongoing living culture of Aboriginal people.*

My weekly typical flexible working arrangements are:

M        T                W                T                F

WFH Ringwood WFH Ringwood Ringwood

OFFICIAL

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