

# **Goyder North Wind Farm**

Pygmy Blue-tongue Lizard Management Plan

### **Draft**

September 2025







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### **Draft**

Prepared by Umwelt (Australia) Pty Limited

On behalf of Neoen Australia Pty Ltd

Project Director: Alison Derry
Project Manager: Jessica Skewes
Technical Director: Emma Tremain
Report No.: 31669\_R011
Date: September 2025



112 Hayward Avenue, Torrensville, SA 5031



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#### **Document Status**

Rev No.	Reviewer Name	Date	Approved for Issue Name	Date
V0	J. Carpenter	27/03/2025	-	-
V1	J. Skewes	9/07/2025	A. Derry	9/07/2025
V1.1	Neoen, Lathwida	14/08/2025	-	
V2	J. Skewes	09/09/2025	A. Derry	11/09/2025



## **Declaration of Accuracy**

In making this declaration, I am aware that section 491 of the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act) (Commonwealth [Cth]) make 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 Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Regulation 2000 (Cth). The offence is punishable on conviction by imprisonment or a fine, or both. I am authorised to bind the approval holder to this declaration and that I have no knowledge of that authorisation being revoked at the time of making this decision.

Full name: Position:
Position:
Organisation: Neoen Australia Pty Ltd

EPBC Referral Number: EPBC 2024/09929

 ${\bf Name\ of\ Action\ Management\ Plan\ this\ document\ and\ declaration\ refers\ to:\ Goyder\ North\ Wind\ Farm\ Action\ Plan\ Pla$ 

Project Pygmy Blue-tongue Lizard (PBTL) Management Plan.

Date:



## **Abbreviations**

Abbreviation	Description
BAM	Bushland Assessment Methodology
BDBSA	Biological Database of South Australia
BESS	Battery Energy Storage Facility
CEMP	Construction Environmental Management Plan
DCCEEW	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (Commonwealth)
DEW	Department of Environment and Water (South Australia)
DotE	Department of the Environment (Australian Government; now DCCEEW)
DotEE	Department of the Environment and Energy (Australian Government; now DCCEEW)
EBS	Environment and Biodiversity Services Pty Ltd – trading as EBS Ecology
EPBC Act	Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Commonwealth)
GNWF	Goyder North Wind Farm Project (includes WF and OTL)
GNREF	Goyder North Renewable Energy Facility
GRZ	Goyder Renewables Zone
GS	Goyder South
GSS1	Goyder South Stage 1
GSHREP	Goyder South Hybrid Renewables Energy Project
ha	hectare(s)
HSE Manager	Health, Safety and Environment Manager
IUCN	International Union for the Conservation of Nature
km	kilometre(s)
MNES	Matter(s) of National Environmental Significance
MW	Megawatts
Neoen	Neoen Australia Pty Ltd
NPW Act	National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972 (South Australia)
NV Act	Native Vegetation Act 1991
NVC	Native Vegetation Council
OEMP	Operational Environmental Management Plan
OTL	Overhead Transmission Line
PBTL	Pygmy Blue-tongue Lizard ( <i>Tiliqua adelaidensis</i> )
Pers. comms.	Personal communications
RAMP	Revised action management plan
SA	South Australia(n)
SEB	Significant Environmental Benefit
sp.	Species (singular)
spp.	Species (plural)
VA	Vegetation Association (s)
WF	Boundary around the windfarm infrastructure components in GNWF
WTG	Wind Turbine Generators



# **Glossary**

Terminology	Definition
Action	The Action includes both construction and operation of the proposed Project, and any change from existing activities which are required to undertake these tasks safely and effectively.
Department	The Australian Government agency responsible for administering the EPBC Act.
Development Envelope (DE)	A 'buffered' version of the Disturbance Footprint that represents the spatial extent within which the Disturbance Footprint is expected to occur.
Disturbance Footprint (DF)	The area where permanent and temporary infrastructure is proposed and the maximum spatial extent of vegetation clearance and/or earthworks to allow for construction of the GNWF.
Met mast	Meteorological mast (mast or tower equipped with instruments to measure windspeed and climatic conditions).
Micro siting	Micro siting is defined as a slight shift or adjustment of infrastructure components within the Development Envelope which may occur prior to construction works to further avoid or minimise impacts to MNES or other currently unknown project constraints, such as buried artefacts or remains which may not be discovered until civil works begin, or in the case of unacceptable geotechnical conditions in a given position.
Minister	The Australian Government Minister administering the EPBC Act including any delegate thereof.
New or increased impact	A new or increased environmental impact or risk relating to any protected matter, when compared to the likely impact of implementing the action management plan that has been approved by the Minister under conditions 3 and 4, including any subsequent revisions approved by the Minister, as outlined in the Guidance on 'new or increased impact' relating to changes to approved management plans under EPBC Act environmental approvals, Commonwealth of Australia 2017.
Operation	All activities that occur after the components of the final wind turbine generator are installed and the usage of the transmission line and substation for the purposes of transforming and/or redistributing electric current.
Project	The Goyder North Wind Farm Project, inclusive of Wind Turbine Generators (WTG), overhead power transmission lines, expansion of existing Bundey substation, on-site battery energy storage solution (BESS), access tracks and temporary facilities and infrastructure to enable construction. The Project is part of the broader Goyder North Renewable Energy Facility for which planning consent was granted in 2024, but has since been refined to incorporate up to 99 turbines at a nameplate capacity of 600MW.
Plan(s)	Any of the documents required to be prepared, approved by the Minister, implemented by the approval holder and published on the website in accordance with the EPBC Act approval (2024) conditions (includes action management plans and/or strategies).
Project Area	All Project components within GNWF including WF and OTL.
<b>Project Components</b>	Includes boundaries of GNREF, GNWF, Development Envelope, Disturbance Footprint and Search Area.
Project Elements	Distinct functional elements of the GNWF Project including WF, OTL and Site Access.



Terminology	Definition
Residual Impact	Impacts which are important, notable, or of consequence, having regard to their context or intensity, and assessed within the framework of the Matters of National Environmental Significance – Significant Impact Guidelines 1.1, Commonwealth of Australia 2013.
Search Area	5 km buffer around GNREF applied to all database searches and desktop study.
Significant Impact(s)	Impacts which are important, notable, or of consequence, having regard to their context or intensity, and assessed within the framework of the Matters of National Environmental Significance – Significant Impact Guidelines 1.1, Commonwealth of Australia 2013.



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Appendix 3	Variations of Conditions attached to EPBC Act Approval (2024/09929)
Appendix 4	PBTL Relocation (including Monitoring) Risk Assessment and Management



### 1.0 Introduction

Neoen Australia Pty Ltd (Neoen) is developing the Goyder Renewables Zone (GRZ) (**Figure 1.1**), a highly efficient energy generation project, with world class wind resources and strong external support demonstrated by it being declared the only wind generation Priority Project in South Australia and being awarded a Capacity Investment Scheme contract by DCCEEW. The GRZ is ideally located to complement Project EnergyConnect (PEC), a large transmission line interconnector between South Australia (SA) and New South Wales (NSW) currently under construction by ElectraNet (in SA) and TransGrid (in NSW).

The broader GRZ includes both the Goyder South Hybrid Renewables Energy Project (Development Approval granted in 2021, with Goyder South Stage 1 (GSS1) currently under construction) (GS; GSHREP) and the Goyder North Renewable Energy Facility (GNREF).

The GNREF Project Area is located north-east of Burra and east of the Mount Bryan township in the Goyder Regional Council area, approximately 150 kilometres (km) north of Adelaide, South Australia. Planning consent was achieved for the GNREF in 2024. Since the Planning consent was achieved, Neoen is progressing a refined the design for up to 600 MW of wind generation and 225 MW/ 900MWh of BESS located in the southern portion of the GNREF, titled Goyder North Wind Farm Project (GNWF; the Project), which has a proposed Disturbance Footprint of approximately 536.82 ha. Neoen has no current plan to develop further stages and should further stages be progressed in the future they would be subject to their own approval processes and stakeholder engagement.

This Pygmy Blue-tongue Lizard (*Tiliqua adelaidensis*) (PBTL) Management Plan has been prepared for GNWF to outline the likely direct and potential indirect impacts to PBTL and its habitat during construction and operation of the Project, and the proposed management measures that will be implemented to avoid, minimise and/or mitigate them.

This PBTL Management Plan must be read and implemented in conjunction with the Goyder North Wind Farm Construction Environmental Management Plan (*in draft*), which is referred to as the CEMP, the Goyder North Wind Farm the Operational Environmental Management Plan (OEMP), to be prepared prior to commissioning completion of the GNWF, and any sub-plans prepared as part of the CEMP and / or OEMP.

Furthermore, and in accordance with specific conditions of approval associated with the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) approvals obtained for the Project from the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW; the Department), this PBTL Management Plan is required to be implemented for the duration of the EPBC Act approval, or the life of the Project. More information on the EPBC Act approval obtained for the Project is provided in the following section, while more information on the specific conditions of the EPBC Act approval and compliance is provided in **Section 2.0**.



### 1.1 Overview of the Goyder North Wind Farm

GNWF incorporates the southern two thirds of the GNREF Project Area and includes an Overhead Transmission Line (OTL) traversing approximately 48 km south-east, where it connects to the existing Bundey Substation. GNWF is comprised of:

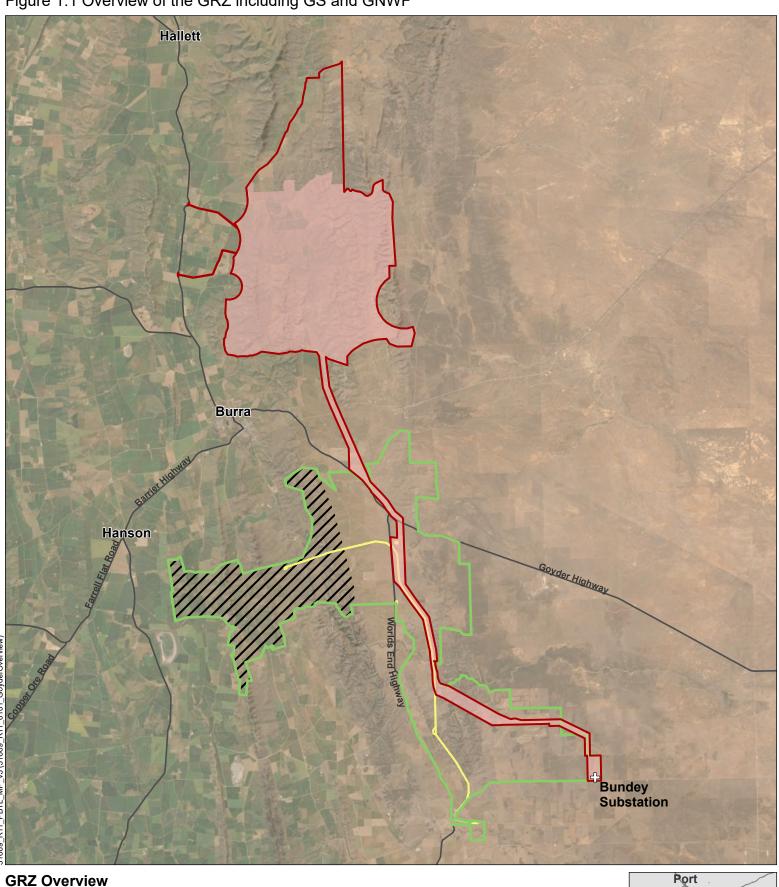
- Up to 99 WTGs with a total nameplate capacity of up to 600 MW, a maximum hub height of 160 m, a maximum blade length of 95 m, and an overall maximum height of 240 m.
- Associated infrastructure for connection to the electricity grid including underground cables, substations (one or two at the wind farm and the other as an extension of the existing Bundey Substation) and ~48 km of OTL between the wind farm at the Bundey Substation.
- One Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) in the main wind farm (WF) area.
- Access tracks (permanent and additional temporary tracks for construction access).
- Temporary and permanent laydown areas, temporary concrete batching plant facilities, temporary construction compounds and site offices as well as permanent operations and maintenance facilities.
- This Plan relates to GNWF, which is currently under development, and is hereafter referred to as
  the Project or the Project Area. If any subsequent future stages were proposed to be developed, a
  separate Management Plan would be developed and implemented, if applicable. An overview of
  GNWF along with the corresponding EPBC approval sought and obtained is outlined in Table 1.1.

PBTL and its habitat will be impacted by the GNWF Project. As such, this PBTL Management Plan has been prepared to outline the likely and potential direct and indirect impacts to PBTL and its habitat during construction and operation of the GNWF, and the proposed management measures that will be implemented to avoid, minimise and / or mitigate them.

Table 1.1 EPBC Approval Details for GNWF

Proposed Action	Legal Entity	EPBC Referral Reference	EPBC Referral Decision	Date EPBC Approval Achieved
GNWF	TBC	EPBC2024/09929	Controlled Action	Pending Approval
(99 WTGs and				
associated				
infrastructure)				

Figure 1.1 Overview of the GRZ including GS and GNWF



GNREF

**GNWF** 

GS

/// GSS1

**GS OTL** 

Main road

**Bundey Substation (existing)** 





Data Source: Umwelt (2025), ESRI (2025), DEW (2022), DIT (2022) Neoen (2025)
Date Exported: 5/09/2025 8:53 AM Created by: sophie.haswell

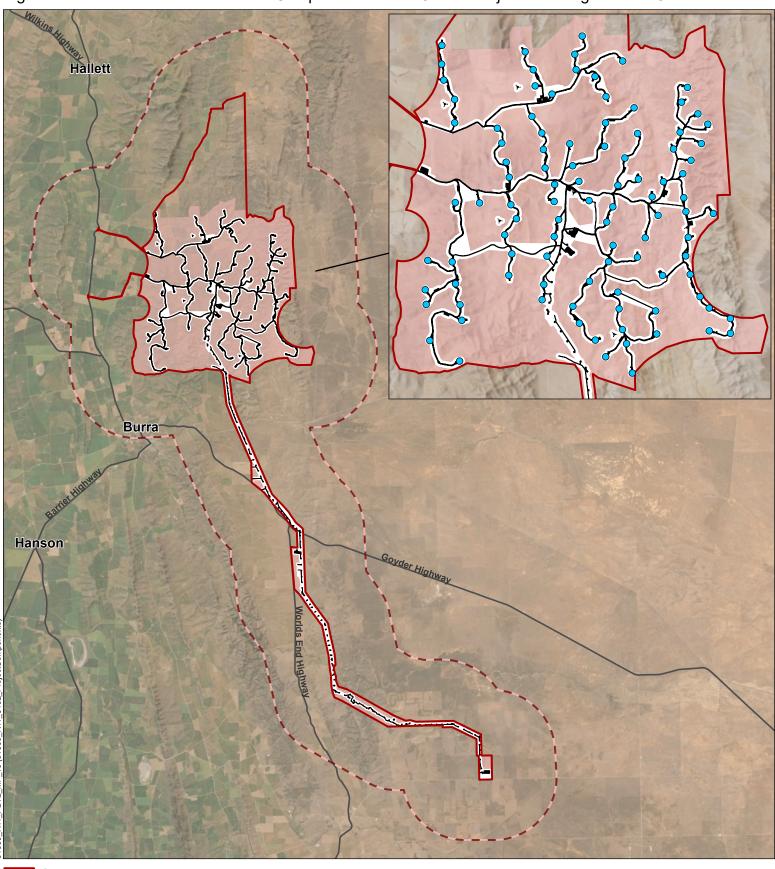
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Figure 1.2 Location and Infrastructure Components on the GNWF Project including WF and OTL





Disturbance Footprint **Development Envelope** 

Search Area

Main road

Wind Turbine Generator



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### 1.1.1 Relevant Project Terminology and Definitions

Several project specific terminology and abbreviations which are referred to repeatedly throughout the report. Project boundaries components are described below in **Table 1.2**.

Table 1.2 Project Specific Terminology and Abbreviations

Term	Abbreviation	Description
Goyder North Renewable Energy Facility	GNREF	The broader area for which Planning Consent was granted in October 2024 which bounds the direct wind farm infrastructure of access roads and WTGs, which includes GNWF as well as the OTL that connects into the existing Bundey Substation, and expansion of the Bundey Substation.
Goyder North Wind Farm	GNWF	The portion of the GNREF which is currently proposed for development and is the focus of this assessment and management plan. Includes all wind generation infrastructure (generating up to 600 MW) and associated infrastructure, including access roads, underground cables, substations, OTL, construction and operation compounds and met masts, required to transmit and connect into the existing Bundey Substation.
Disturbance Footprint	DF	The total initial clearance area required for safe and efficient construction of the proposed GNWF Project, including both permanent and temporary clearance for construction buffers, laydown areas, stockpile areas and construction access routes for the Wind Farm generation components and the OTL.
Development Envelope	DE	A 'buffered' version of the Disturbance Footprint that represents the outer spatial extents within which the Disturbance Footprint will occur. Design is well developed and optimised to minimise cut and fill, avoid known sites of significance or value, and to minimise the Disturbance Footprint. The Development Envelope is an extra measure to enable final adjustments to the Disturbance Footprint in alignment with the Mitigation Hierarchy to avoid or minimise impacts on environmental values, cultural heritage or any other potential constraints that emerge during design finalisation and construction.
PBTL Search Area		Infrastructure layout supplied by Neoen, current on 5 February 2024, which was surveyed on-ground for PBTL. A search corridor of up to 10 m width (i.e. 2.5 m either side of each observer) was searched. Additional PBTL Search Area was added following revision of design in March 2025. Several smaller targeted searches have been undertaken in the Development Envelope and Project Area to inform micro siting of infrastructure and for micro siting of early works such as met mast installation and geotechnical investigations. The combination of each of these searches is referred to as the PBTL Search Area, current as of July 2025.

The naming conventions and related Project Area boundaries of GNWF have evolved throughout the design and approval process, with various supporting documents referring to the Project as Goyder North Renewable Energy Facility Stage 1, Goyder North Stage 1 (GN1) and Goyder North Wind Farm Stage 1 and Stage 2. With no further stages currently planned beyond the 99-turbine configuration, the Project is hereafter referred to as Goyder North Wind Farm (GNWF).



### 1.1.2 Relevant Previous Reports

The following reports and documentation should be referred to for important background and supporting information:

- EBS Ecology (2022). Goyder North Renewable Energy Facility Ecological Assessment Report. Adelaide: Report to Neoen Australia Pty Ltd.
- EBS Ecology (2023a). Goyder North Ecological Constraints Mapping. Adelaide: Letter Report to Neoen Australia Pty Ltd.
- EBS Ecology (2024b). Goyder North Stage 1 and Stage 2 Wind Farm Ecological Assessment Report. Report to Neoen Australia Pty Ltd. EBS Ecology, Adelaide.
- Umwelt (2025a Goyder North Wind Farm Targeted Pygmy Blue-tongue Lizard Survey Report. Report to Neoen. Umwelt (Australia) Pty Ltd.

### 1.2 Purpose and Objectives

### 1.2.1 Purpose

This PBTL Management Plan has been prepared by Umwelt on behalf of Neoen. This PBTL MP applies to construction and operation activities carried out for GNWF and has been prepared as a sub-plan of the Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) (Umwelt, 2025b – in draft) and Operational Environmental Management Plan (OEMP) (to be adapted).

### 1.2.2 Objectives

The objectives of this PBTL Management Plan are to:

- Provide species profile information on the PBTL.
- Provide information on the location of PBTLs within the GNWF Project.
- Avoid and minimise impacts to PBTL individuals and their habitat during construction and operation phases of GNWF.
- Satisfy regulatory requirements and approval conditions.

To fulfil these objectives for the GNWF this PBTL MP will:

- Outline measures which ensure that there is no disturbance to PBTL habitat outside of the designated (and approved) Disturbance Footprint.
- Outline measures to ensure the disturbance and impact of works on PBTL habitat is strictly limited to only that which is critical for the construction and operations of the Project.
- Outline measures which ensure that micro siting does not result in additional disturbance to PBTL habitat above the approved disturbance limits specified in the EPBC Approval Conditions and Native Vegetation Approval Conditions (pending). [Placeholder update when conditions are known].
- Provide a procedure for relocating PBTLs from within the Disturbance Footprint, including monitoring post relocation.



 Review and adopt any learning from Goyder South Stage 1A / 1B which have been effective (or otherwise) in PBTL management.

Neoen is committed to implementing this PBTL Management Plan during construction and operation, for the duration of the EPBC Act approval. A table of commitments to achieve the above objectives and a reference to where the commitments are detailed in this PBTL Management Plan is provided in **Table 1.3**. Neoen will not commence construction or operation unless this PBTL Management Plan has been approved by the Australian Government Minister administering the EPBC Act, in writing.

Table 1.3 Commitments to achieve the objectives of the PBTL Management Plan

Objectives	Commitment	Reference (linked)
Provide profile information on the PBTL.	Profile information on the PBTL is provided in this PBTL Management Plan.	Section 3.0
Provide information on the location of PBTLs within GNWF.	This PBTL Management Plan will be revised to include new information on the location of PBTLs found within the GNWF Project Area post-EPBC Act approvals (as well as PBTLs found pre-EPBC Act approvals).	Section 3.4
Avoid and minimise impacts to PBTL individuals and their habitat during construction and operation phases of the GNWF Project.	Neoen is committed to avoiding and minimising impacts to PBTL individuals and their habitat during construction and operation phases of the GNWF Project.	Section 4.2
Ensure that there is no disturbance to PBTL habitat outside of the Disturbance Footprint.	Neoen is committed to ensuring that there is no disturbance to PBTL habitat outside of the Disturbance Footprint via implementation of this PBTL Management Plan, including specific management targets, performance indicators and triggers, construction and operation management measures.	Section 7.0 Section 9.0 Section 9.3
Ensure that micro siting within the Development Envelope does not result in additional disturbance to PBTL habitat.	Infrastructure will not be micro sited if it does not result in a reduction of potential impacts to PBTLs and PBTL habitat and Neoen commits that micro siting will not increase impacts to PBTL and/or PBTL habitat or other Matters of National Ecological Significance (MNES) (for example Iron-grass Natural Temperate Grassland Threatened Ecological Community).	Section 9.1
Provide a procedure for relocating PBTLs.	Neoen is committed to implementing the PBTL relocation procedure, which is provided in this PBTL Management Plan.	Section 9.2



## 2.0 Compliance

This PBTL Management Plan has been prepared by Umwelt in accordance with the relevant legislation, policies and guidelines summarised in **Table 2.1**. Relevant Approval Conditions for the GNWF in relation to the EPBC Act and NV Act are outlined in **Table 2.2** and **Table 2.3**.

 Table 2.1
 Relevant Legislation, Policies and Guidelines

Jurisdiction	Legislation, policies and guidelines
Commonwealth	Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act). Conditions of approval under the EPBC Act are listed in <b>Table 2.2</b>
	Recovery Plan for the Pygmy Blue-tongue Lizard (herein referred to as the PBTL Recovery Plan) (Duffy, Pound, & How, 2012)
	Environmental Management Plan Guidelines, Commonwealth of Australia (DCCEEW, 2024)
	Conservation Advice for <i>Tiliqua adelaidensis</i> (pygmy blue-tongue lizard) (DCCEEW, 2023)
	Survey guidelines for Australia's threatened reptiles. EPBC Act survey guidelines 6.6 (DSEWPaC, 2011)
State (South Australia)	Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016 (PDI Act). Development Approval (Application ID: 23036148) received on 28 October 2024
	Hydrogen and Renewable Energy Act 2023
	Native Vegetation Act 1991 (NV Act) and associated Native Vegetation Regulations 2017
	An application to the Native Vegetation Council (NVC) for clearance of native vegetation associated with the GNWF construction is currently with the NVC.
	National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972 (NPW Act). A number of Permits are required (refer to <b>Section 9.3</b> for more detail)
	Animal Welfare Act 1985
	Pygmy Bluetongue Lizards: Best Practice Management Guidelines for Landholders (Schofield, 2006)
Local	There are no relevant local policies, legislation, guidelines and approval conditions as of July 2024.



[Placeholder – tables to be updated when conditions are known]

Table 2.2 Relevant Conditions of Approval to PBTL Received as Part of the EPBC Approval

Condition Number	Approval Condition Description	Relevant Section in this Report

### Table 2.3 Relevant Conditions of Approval to PBTL Received as Part of the NV Act Approval

Condition Number	Approval Condition Description	Relevant Section in this Report



### 3.0 PBTL Profile

### 3.1 Conservation Status

The PBTL (**Figure 3.1**) is listed as Endangered under the EPBC Act and Endangered under the NPW Act. These classifications are consistent with the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) (2001) criteria for listing species on the IUCN Red List System (IUCN, 2012, Duffy et al., 2012).



Figure 3.1 Pygmy Blue-tongue Lizard (Tiliqua adelaidensis)

Photo by EBS Ecology

### 3.2 Ecology and Biology

### 3.2.1 Description

The PBTL is the smallest member of the genus *Tiliqua*, which consists of seven terrestrial lizard species commonly known as Bluetongues. The PBTL is a moderate sized skink that has a total length of less than 20 cm and a relatively heavy body, large head and short limbs. Its body colour varies from grey, brown to orange brown and may include a series of black flecks along the back and flanks. The distinct orange coloured eye and black pupil are other distinguishing features of the species. Unlike other members of its genus, the PBTL has a pink tongue (Hutchinson et al., 1994; Duffy et al., 2012).



#### 3.2.2 Historical and Current Distribution

The PBTL is endemic to South Australia, where its population is severely fragmented and occupies less than 500 square km (km²) (Duffy et al., 2012). The PBTL is now known from 31 sites extending from Peterborough in the north to Kapunda in the south, and to the South Hummocks (north of Port Wakefield) in the west (Duffy et al., 2012). The full extent of most populations is yet to be determined. Therefore, it is possible that some apparently isolated populations may form part of larger, more contiguous populations (Schofield, 2006).

Very little information exists on the past distribution of the species. The relative abundance of PBTL in European collections of specimens in the 19th century suggests that the species was formerly more common and has undergone a marked decrease in distribution (Shea, 1992).

#### 3.2.3 Habitat

PBTLs are known to occupy native grassland habitats. Even highly degraded grasslands (dominated by exotic species) are potential habitat, providing that the area is un-ploughed, and the soil structure remains intact (Milne 1999). The species has been recorded at sites dominated by grass species including *Austrostipa* spp. (Spear-grasses), *Rytidosperma* spp. (Wallaby Grasses), *Maireana* spp. (Bluebush), *Aristida behriana* (Brush Wire-grass) and *Lomandra* spp. (Iron-grasses) (Hutchinson et al. 1994, Souter et al. 2007). All known habitat is considered critical to the survival of the species (Duffy et al. 2012).

### 3.2.4 Populations

The total population size of the PBTL is uncertain. Prior to 2000, the population was estimated to be around 5,000 lizards, based on 10 known populations (Milne et al., 2000). Since this time, there are now 31 known PBTL populations (Duffy et al., 2012). Suitable habitats are largely on private land and historically may have been under-surveyed due to access considerations. All PBTL populations are considered important due to the restricted and fragmented distribution of the species (Duffy et al., 2012).

More recently, due to the PBTL Recovery Plan efforts, university studies and proposed wind farm flora and fauna assessments, surveys of PBTLs have increased. Despite this, overall population size is hard to estimate due to natural fluctuations in numbers (caused by a number of factors including climatic conditions such as drought, habitat conditions, food availability and breeding opportunities) as well as accessibility to data arising across different projects and studies.

#### 3.2.5 Behaviour

PBTLs use unoccupied burrows of trapdoor (Mygalomorphae) and wolf (Lycosidae) spiders as refuges, basking sites and ambush points (Milne et al., 2003) (**Photo 3.1**). The burrow entrances are circular in cross section, up to 20 mm in diameter, and lack any sign of excavated soil at the entrances (Hutchinson et al., 1994). The average depth of burrows is approximately 25 cm, ranging from 10 to 75 cm (Souter et al., 2007).

PBTLs make no obvious external modifications to the burrows, except for a slight bevelling of the edges caused by their movement in and out of the burrows (Hutchinson et al., 1994). Burrow entrances are used as vantage points from which PBTLs can make short forays after any prey detected



nearby. PBTLs are sensitive to both movement and noise, retreating to their burrow if disturbed. They may deposit scats near the perimeter of the burrow entrance (Fenner & Bull, 2010). Only one adult PBTL is found in each active burrow and individuals may utilise the same burrow for extended periods of time, with one study observing burrows occupied by the same individual for at least a two-year period (Bull et al., 2015).





Photo 3.1 A PBTL basking at the entrance its burrow entrance

Photograph by EBS Ecology

Photo 3.2 An adult and two juvenile PBTLs in a burrow

Photograph by EBS Ecology

#### 3.2.6 **Diet**

PBTLs are omnivorous, mostly feeding on medium-sized arthropods that they ambush from their burrow (Hutchinson et al., 1994). Analyses of scats and stomach contents have recorded the remains of grasshoppers, ants, small spiders, beetles, snails, cockroaches and plant material (including *Dianella* spp. seed, possible chenopod material, and several leaves and flowers of introduced *Medicago* spp.) (Ehmann, 1982; Hutchinson et al., 1994; Milne, 1999; Fenner et al., 2007). PBTLs have been found to change their prey items opportunistically over spring and summer, with plant material incorporated in the diet to a greater extent as summer progresses (Fenner et al., 2007). Based on these dietary studies, it is likely that PBTLs require a high abundance of arthropod prey, habitat where efficient prey capture is possible, and particular plant species which form part of their diet (Fenner et al., 2007).

### 3.2.7 Reproduction

The PBTL has a spring mating season (October and November) (Milne & Bull, 2000) and gives birth to live young, like the other Tiliqua species (**Photo 3.2**). Males can reproduce from one year of age and females are sexually mature from approximately three years of age and can have up to four young each season. Young are born between January and March and disperse from the mother's burrow within weeks of their birth to find burrows of their own (Clarke, 2000; Duffy et al., 2012; Milne & Bull, 2000).



### 3.2.8 Activity Timeframes

PBTL activity varies significantly throughout the year and is summarised in **Table 3.1** and explained further below. Optimal and sub-optimal timeframes for monitoring PBTLs are explained further below.

Table 3.1 PBTL Activity throughout the Year

DDTI A - 15-5to		Month										
PBTL Activity	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Mating Season												
Females Heavily												
Gravid												
Females with Young												
Neonate Dispersal												
Winter Brumation												

The PBTL mating season is October to November. Females are heavily gravid (pregnant) in January and have young with them in their burrows from mid-January to mid-March. Neonate dispersal occurs in February and March. PBTLs go into brumation (a state of torpor exhibited by reptiles) over winter (June to August).

Males are more active during the mating season, moving away from their burrows to seek female mating partners (Schofield et al., 2012). Neonates and females are more active during late summer (February and March) as they disperse, with females shifting burrows if neonates do not leave the maternal burrow.

PBTL can be surveyed and detected year-round, but the optimal timeframe is late summer to early autumn when grass cover is typically low, allowing higher visibility of spider burrows. This period also enables the detection of juveniles if needed. At other times of the year, PBTL may be more difficult to detect due to long grass and weed cover (winter and spring) or the movement patterns of male PBTL during the spring mating period, resulting in a lower probability of detection in burrows due to time spent above ground.

For relocation or surveys requiring extraction of PBTL from their burrow, the same optimal and suboptimal timeframe applies, with additional temperature considerations. High temperatures (above 36°C) pose a risk to PBTL health due to their inability to regulate body temperature in such conditions. During the winter brumation period, PBTL may be disturbed from temporary torpor, leading to heightened susceptibility to cold and difficulty readjusting in burrows, which can compromise their health.

#### 3.3 Known and / or Potential Threats

The PBTL Recovery Plan (Duffy et al., 2012) documents known and potential threats to the PBTL, along with known and/or potential impacts, which are summarised in **Table 3.2**. Note that not all threats documented in the PBTL Recovery Plan are necessarily relevant to the GNWF Project.

All PBTL habitats and populations, apart from one population which is formally protected (Tiliqua Nature Reserve), are considered potentially at risk from threats summarised in **Table 3.2** (Duffy et al., 2012).



Table 3.2 Known and Potential Threats to the PBTL and Associated Impacts (adapted from Duffy et al., 2012)

Known and / or	Known and / or Potential Impact
Potential Threat	Diverture at all the end disults are set of both DDT and eniders
Changed land use - Ploughing	Direct mortality and displacement of both PBTLs and spiders.  Destruction of PBTL and spider burrows.
	Soil destabilisation making any burrows subsequently dug by spiders (likely to be very
	few) unstable and unsuitable for PBTLs.
Changed land use -Ripping	Destruction of PBTLs and their burrows in the direct path of the ripping lines.
Changed land use - Inappropriate	Heavy grazing by hard-hoofed stock may lead to soil destabilisation, the filling of burrows in the dry season and the collapse of burrows in the wet season.
grazing regimes	Heavy grazing may also increase PBTL exposure to predators and/or reduce the availability of PBTL prey.
	Complete removal of grazing may lead to increased weed growth and/or a reduction in inter-tussock spaces, which may impact foraging and basking opportunities.
Changed land use - Other agricultural development	Any changes in areas occupied by PBTLs involving soil disturbance, clearing or habitat modification (e.g. establishment of saltbush pasture and viticulture) may be detrimental to the species.
Changed land use - Urban, industrial and infrastructure	The establishment of buildings, roads, wind farms and telecommunications infrastructure may directly destroy PBTLs and their burrows or disturb their native grassland habitat.
development	Although wind farm WTGs are typically installed on hill slopes and crests, which are often not optimal PBTL habitat, access roads, underground cabling and other associated infrastructure, which are often developed on flats and lower slopes, have the potential to cause further loss and fragmentation of PBTL habitat, weed invasion and hydrological changes such as extra water runoff affecting soil structure.
	Shadow flicker, vibration and noise from WTGs may affect the ability of PBTLs to bask, feed and move around.
Weeds	High and dense growth of Wild Oats ( <i>Avena barbata</i> ) and other weeds may reduce opportunities for PBTLs to bask, catch insects and find mates.
	May render habitat unsuitable for burrowing spiders (Souter, 2003).
	High disturbance weed control or control that affects native plant species may be detrimental to PBTL habitat.
Pesticides (Insecticides)	While direct impacts of insecticides on PBTLs are unknown, insecticides are known to cause illness or death in some reptiles (Khan & Law, 2005; Pauli <i>et al.</i> , 2010).
	Indirect impacts could include a reduction in the main food source group for PBTLs, which could affect their survivorship or reproduction rates; cumulative secondary poisoning; or a reduction in the abundance of burrowing spiders, which may reduce the availability of burrows suitable for PBTLs.
Herbicides	While direct impacts of herbicides on PBTLs are unknown, herbicides are known to cause fertility problems for small vertebrates (Pauli <i>et al.</i> , 2010) and are therefore a potential threat to PBTLs.
Inappropriate fire regimes	Fires that occur in spring, when males are active, or in late summer and early autumn, when juveniles are dispersing, could be particularly detrimental.
	Fires at other times of the year (mid-summer, late autumn, early spring) may be of less consequence. Indeed, PBTLs have been found to take refuge from fire in their deep burrows, as a fire in December 2005 did not kill adult lizards or affect the subsequent fecundity of females. Declines initially observed in activity, foraging, body condition and juvenile survivorship following the fire were short lived, with no adverse impacts in subsequent years (Fenner & Bull, 2007).



Known and / or	Known and / or Potential Impact				
Potential Threat	Known and 7 of 1 otential impact				
Habitat fragmentation	Small, isolated populations may suffer from inbreeding and are vulnerable to extinction from stochastic events (Smith, 2006; Smith <i>et al.</i> , 2009).				
Planting (tall trees and shrubs)	There are no records of PBTLs living under trees, even in areas adjacent to open grassland where the species occurs. Furthermore, experiments have shown that artificial burrows established under trees quickly fill with soil and debris (Souter, 2003). Planting trees and shrubs will alter the characteristics of the soil, litter and understorey				
	plant community beneath their canopy, which may be detrimental to PBTLs.				
	May increase predation risks for PBTLs by providing perches for birds to stalk burrows (compared to only hovering birds in open grassland).				
	Will reduce the level of sunlight at ground level, which may result in PBTLs having to move further away from their burrows to bask, increasing predation risk.				
Predators	Domestic dogs are known to take PBTLs.				
	Foxes and cats are potential predators.				
	Natural predators include Nankeen Kestrels ( <i>Falco cenchroides</i> ) and Eastern Brown Snakes ( <i>Pseudonaja textilis</i> ).				
Fertilisers	May affect PBTLs by encouraging weed growth at the expense of native grasses.				
Poaching	Despite the large fines and/or jail terms associated with poaching and smuggling threatened species, there is a risk that poachers could target PBTLs as Australian reptiles are generally in demand.				
Climate change	Higher temperatures and altered rainfall regimes that are predicted under climate change may impact PBTLs, their prey and habitat.				
	While the effects of climatic conditions on PBTLs remains largely unknown, surveys have recorded significantly lower fecundity, lower grass cover and more bare earth in 2007 and 2008 than in 2006, which may be linked to the prolonged drought in the region (A. Fenner <i>pers. comm.</i> , J. Schofield <i>pers. comm.</i> , as cited in Duffy <i>et al.</i> 2012).				
	PBTLs may be particularly vulnerable due to the isolation and small extent of the remaining populations and suitable habitat, and the very limited opportunities for dispersal if the current area of occupancy becomes unsuitable.				

### 3.4 PBTL Occurrence within the Project Area

Understanding of PBTL occurrence and habitat within the GNWF Project Area has improved significantly since environmental surveys began in 2019. This is largely due to the intensive survey of the proposed Disturbance Footprint in February and March 2024, and subsequent surveys in a revised layout in April 2025.

The results of these intensive surveys are documented in:

• Umwelt (2025a) Goyder North Wind Farm Targeted Pygmy Blue-tongue Lizard Survey. Report to Neoen Pty Ltd. Umwelt (Australia) Pty Ltd.

### 3.4.1 Targeted PBTL Survey Results

Six targeted field surveys have been conducted within the Project Area as of April 2025, each contributing to the knowledge and understanding of the distribution of PBTLs within the Project Area. The comprehensive targeted PBTL survey was undertaken within the proposed Disturbance Footprint current at the time of the survey (February 2024). Subsequent surveys were conducted with specific objectives including micro siting for design, mitigation for geotechnical works and surveying additional



areas added to the early Disturbance Footprint (April 2025). An additional two sites were surveyed for the micro siting of met masts in November 2023 and July 2024.

PBTL were recorded across the GNWF Project Area in grassland and grassy shrubland habitats. EBS (now Umwelt) targeted field surveys in February-March 2024 found 138 individuals in the GNWF Disturbance Footprint, and a further 16 during subsequent micro siting surveys in the Development Envelope. Additional targeted surveys were undertaken in February, March and April 2025 for micro siting works and to cover updates to the Disturbance Footprint. A total of 186 PBTL have now been recorded from approximately 21,641 spider burrows during targeted PBTL surveys in GNWF (Table 3.3). No PBTL have been detected along the OTL route outside of the WF, though some potentially suitable habitat occurs in the northern portion. A total of 3,898 historical records of PBTL (obtained from the Department for Environment [DEW] and Water Biological Database of South Australia [BDBSA]) are also reported from within a desktop Search Area (5 km buffer around the GNREF) between 1950 and 2023.

Table 3.3 Summary of PBTL Targeted Survey Results

Survey	Timing	Number of PBTL	Number of Burrows Searched
Disturbance Footprint Targeted	February / March 2024	138	15,534
Micro siting in Development Envelope	February / March 2024	16	758
Geotechnical Investigations	January to March 2025	19	3,270
Updated Disturbance Footprint Targeted	April 2025	10	1,795
Other micro siting	Various	3	284

PBTLs were predominantly detected in grassland habitats, particularly within the Native *Austrostipa* sp. grassland (VA11) and Lomandra grassland (VA6) vegetation associations. Notably, a high density of PBTLs was observed in the *Maireana rohrlachii* shrubland (VA9), despite its limited coverage within the wind farm area, with 29 individuals recorded. Two lizards were also found in exotic grassland areas previously used for cropping. The number of PBTLs recorded in each vegetation association is detailed in **Table 3.4**. Density estimates, calculated based on a 10-meter search corridor within each vegetation association, indicate that VA9 had the highest density at 1.63 PBTLs per hectare, influenced by a localised hotspot. VA6 and VA11 had similar densities of 0.55 and 0.54 PBTLs per hectare, respectively. These figures suggest that the GNWF project may directly impact an estimated 206 individuals (**Table 3.4**). However, these population estimates do not account for the species' patchy distribution across the landscape, characterised by dense 'hotspots' of PBTLs, sparsely distributed individuals, and large tracts with no known individuals. This distribution pattern may lead to underestimation or overestimation of impact in certain areas.

No PBTL were detected on the OTL alignment outside of the GNWF Project Area, and much of the habitat within the OTL alignment was considered 'unlikely' due to lack of elevation, lack of grassy understorey or otherwise non-preferred vegetation associations. As such, the OTL is not displayed on **Figure 3.2**.



Habitat within GNWF was characterised by the confidence level of detecting PBTL, either high, medium or low confidence, based on the cover of grass (height, density, thatch) present at the site during the survey, which impacts visibility of spider burrows. Areas surveyed and confidence levels are shown on the map in **Figure 3.3**.



Table 3.4 PBTL Search Effort, Records and Estimated Densities Listed by Vegetation Association

Vegetation Association	Approx Search Area (ha)	No. PBTL Detected	PBTL Density Estimate per ha	Impacted (Permanent and Temporary) (ha) WF and OTL	Estimate of Impacted PBTL (individual count)	Estimate of PBTL within the GNWF Project Area Based on Mapped Habitat (ha)
VA6	14.47	8.00	0.55	7.22	3.99	955.56
Lomandra grassland						
VA9	17.78	29.00	1.63	16.54	26.98	887.70
Maireana rohrlachii open shrubland						
VA11a	262.43	141.00	0.54	325.44	174.86	4,673.99
Native grassland						
VA11b	0.50	0.00	0.00	0.9	0.00	0.00
Native grassland and emergent						
trees						
Exotic	10.24	0.00	0.00	17.39	0.00	0.00
Cropped	5.54	2.00	0.36	0.01	0.00	0.71
Existing clearance	24.99	3.00	0.12	0.6	0.07	0.36
All other VAs	24.39	0.00	0.00	168.72	0.00	0.00
Total or average (^)	360.33	183.00*	0.51^	536.82	205.90	6,519.04

<sup>\*</sup>Does not include the three PBTL observed during the 2023 and 2024 Met Mast surveys



Figure 3.2 Figure intentionally removed



Figure 3.3 Figure intentionally removed



### 3.4.2 Habitat Suitability in GNWF

Habitat within the GNWF Project Area has been characterised as either 'known', 'likely' or 'unlikely' PBTL habitat. This followed intensive survey efforts of the Development Envelope in February and March 2024 (Umwelt, 2025a). Habitat suitability was mapped according to the criteria summarised in **Table 3.5**. Habitat suitability mapping, showing areas of known, likely and unlikely habitat, is provided as **Table 3.5**.

Table 3.5 Habitat Suitability Definitions

<b>Habitat Suitability</b>	Definition
Known	Vegetation associations in which records of PBTL occur. Records include those collected by Umwelt (and formerly EBS) and historical records sourced from the BDBSA BDBSA (Recordset number: DEWNRBDBSA240207-2).
Likely	Vegetation associations in which there are no PBTL records but are considered potentially suitable habitat.
Unlikely	Vegetation associations in which there are no PBTL records and are not considered suitable habitat.  Vegetation associations that occur in the Murray Darling Depression bioregion and are outside the known distribution of the PBTL.



Figure 3.4 Figure intentionally removed



## 4.0 Impacts to PBTLs

The following PBTL characteristics and/or traits have been taken into consideration when assessing potential and/or likely impacts to PBTLs associated with the Project:

- PBTLs use unoccupied burrows of trapdoor (*Mygalomorphae*) and wolf (*Lycosidae*) spiders as refuges, basking sites and ambush points (Milne et al. 2003).
- PBTLs are sensitive to both movement and noise, retreating to their burrow if disturbed.
- PBTLs generally don't move far from their burrow (no more than 20 30 m) (Schofield 2015).
   Movements during juvenile dispersal or mating are less well known.
- PBTLs go into brumation (a state of torpor exhibited by reptiles) over winter (June/July/August) and many burrows become covered by debris, until the lizards become active again in spring (Schofield 2006).
- PBTLs breed in spring (October and November) and young are born from mid-January to mid-March, with juveniles dispersing from the mother's burrow within weeks of their birth to find burrows of their own (Clarke 2000; Duffy et al. 2012; Milne and Bull 2000).
- When PBTLs are not in brumation, the majority of the time they are either taking refuge within their burrow or basking with their back legs or tip of the tail remaining in the entrance of their burrow, waiting for passing invertebrate prey (Duffy et al. 2012). The only exception to this would be during the breeding season (October and November) when males are searching for mates (Hutchinson et al. 1994) and in February and March when juveniles are dispersing in search of their own burrow.

### 4.1 Project Disturbance Footprint

Current assessment of the Project design information has determined that the GNWF Project has the potential to directly impact up to 20.04 ha of Known PBTL habitat and up to 348.06 ha of Likely PBTL habitat (**Table 4.1**). A total of 55 individual PBTLs are recorded in the current Wind Farm Disturbance Footprint, with no PBTLs known to occur within the OTL and Substation Disturbance Footprints at the time of writing (from Umwelt and historical BDBSA data).

A Development Envelope (~200 m buffer around Disturbance Footprint) allows further application of the mitigation hierarchy to avoid and minimise impacts to areas where higher densities of PBTL occur. A further 119 PTBL are mapped as known to occur within the Development Envelope based on targeted surveys, and historical BDBSA records. However, these records may not all be current and areas which have not been subject to targeted searches may contain additional individuals.

Likely direct impacts and potential indirect impacts to PBTL individuals and/or populations associated with development (i.e., construction) and/or operation of the GNWF Project Area are presented in **Table 4.2**. Note that current impacts presented represent the worst-case assessment of impacts and through ongoing design refinements and micro siting, Neoen will seek to reduce these impacts.



Table 4.1 Summary of Potential Direct Impacts to PBTL Habitat and PBTL Individuals

	Known PBTL habitat (ha)	Likely PBTL habitat (ha)	Total PBTL habitat (ha)	Number of individual PBTL records	Comment on impact to individual PBTLs
GNWF Disturbance Footprint (WF and OTL)	20.04	348.06	368.10	55	Intensive surveys recorded 52 PBTL within the current Disturbance Footprint, a further three historical BDBSA records also occur. Survey effort indicates that the estimated number of PBTLs present, proportional to area of habitat present
					within the Disturbance Footprint, is 206 PBTL (range 192-274).



Table 4.2 Likely Direct Impacts and Potential Indirect Impacts to PBTLs during Construction and Operation of the GNWF Project Area

During Construction	During Operation	Comment
Likely Direct Impacts		
Direct loss of approximately 20.04 ha of 'Known' and 348.06 ha of 'Likely' PBTL habitat located within the Disturbance Footprint (Section 3.4 and Table 4.1).	None	Neoen will continue to seek to minimise these direct impacts through design refinements throughout development and construction. In addition, the location of infrastructure, including, but not limited to, vehicle access tracks, WTGs and underground electrical reticulation (installed via trenching), will be micro sited within the Development Envelope away from PBTLs, when practicable during preconstruction surveys to further avoid and/or minimise direct impacts.
Potential loss of PBTLs located within the Disturbance Footprint ( <b>Table 4.1</b> ).	None.	Where possible, the final location of underground cables and access tracks, will be micro sited away from PBTLs during pre-construction surveys to avoid and/or minimise impacts to PBTLs as much as possible.  Where micro siting cannot avoid direct impact to PBTLs, the individual(s) will be relocated to the nearest suitable release site in accordance with the method outlined in the <i>Goyder North Renewable Energy Facility - PBTL Management Plan</i> (this document) <b>Section 9.2.</b>
Potential Indirect Impacts		
Clearance of 'Known' and/or 'Likely' PBTL habitat outside the Disturbance Footprint.	Clearance of 'Known' and/or 'Likely' PBTL habitat outside the Disturbance Footprint.	Avoidable through specific controls and management measures.
Vehicles and/or machinery driving over PBTL habitat leading to degradation of PBTL habitat and possibly mortality of PBTLs.	Vehicles and/or machinery driving over PBTL habitat leading to degradation of PBTL habitat and possibly mortality of PBTLs.	Avoidable through specific controls and management measures.
Pitfall (PBTLs getting trapped in trenches, pits and other open excavations).	Pitfall (PBTLs getting trapped in electrical pits).	Avoidable through specific controls and management measures.
Dust emissions smothering flora and suppressing photosynthesis leading to loss of vegetation condition and PBTL habitat suitability.	None	Short term impact during construction only, which can be minimised through specific controls and management measures.



During Construction	During Operation	Comment
Altered grazing regimes (increased grazing, preferential grazing, reduction or loss of grazing, altered grazing times).	Altered grazing regimes (increased grazing, preferential grazing, reduction or loss of grazing, altered grazing times).	Difficult to predict likelihood and/or level of occurrence and likely consequence. During construction, any potential impact is expected to be short-term in nature and temporary. Furthermore, the Project Owner (Neoen) will not have any direct control over grazing regimes as it is controlled by land holders / land managers.  However, potential impacts will be identified during monitoring and corrective action undertaken if required.
Sedimentation of PBTL burrows and/or PBTL habitat from construction run-off (soil).	Sedimentation of PBTL burrows and/or PBTL habitat from run-off from access tracks.	Avoidable through specific controls and management measures.
Noise and vibration disturbance during construction.	Potential disturbance to PBTLs in close proximity to turbines from turbine noise and/or vibration.	Short-term impact during construction. Potential impacts of turbine noise and/or vibration are unknown.
Introduction of new weeds to the Project Area, or increase in weeds, through use of contaminated construction material, machinery and vehicles, leading to loss of vegetation condition and PBTL habitat suitability.	Introduction and/or spread of weeds from vehicles leading to loss of vegetation condition and PBTL habitat suitability.	Avoidable through specific controls and management measures.
Division and isolation of PBTL sub-populations by construction of vehicular access tracks.	Division and isolation of PBTL sub-populations through existence of vehicular access tracks.	Avoided and/or minimised through design process.
Stockpiling of equipment and materials and introduction of rubbish and waste materials causing degradation of PBTL habitat.	Stockpiling of equipment and materials and introduction of rubbish and waste materials causing degradation of PBTL habitat.	Avoidable through specific controls and management measures.
Chemical spills (e.g. fuel/diesel) causing degradation of PBTL habitat.	Chemical spills (e.g. fuel/diesel) causing degradation of PBTL habitat.	Avoidable through specific controls and management measures.



During Construction	During Operation	Comment
	Potential disturbance to PBTLs in close proximity to turbines from blade glint or shadow flicker impacts such as:  Potential increase in predation of PBTLs by birds of prey (due to PBTLs becoming accustomed to shadows);  potential decrease in PBTL body condition due to PBTLs basking less; and potential decrease in breeding due to PBTLs taking refuge in their burrow more often.	The potential or likelihood of this impact actually occurring is currently not known as there is limited data available. A 10 year research project is underway to further understand this.



# 4.2 Mitigation Measures to Avoid and/or Minimise Potential Direct and Indirect Impacts

Project infrastructure has been specifically designed and/or located to avoid direct impacts to PBTLs and their habitat as much as possible, through the ongoing application of the Mitigation Hierarchy. The current assessment represents a worst-case scenario in terms of potential impacts.

In addition, infrastructure will be micro sited within the Development Envelope away from individual PBTLs wherever possible, prior to the commencement of construction works, to avoid and/or minimise direct impacts to PBTLs. Neoen commits that micro siting will not increase impacts to PBTLs and/or PBTL habitat. Furthermore, pre-construction surveys will allow for the identification of any PBTLs and PBTL habitat within the Disturbance Footprint that were not previously known.

Where micro siting cannot avoid direct impact to PBTLs, identified individual(s) within the Disturbance Footprint will be relocated to the nearest suitable release site in accordance with the procedure outlined in **Section 9.2**. While every effort will be made to successfully relocate PBTLs impacted by Project infrastructure and ensure their ongoing survival, offsetting for PBTL will be implemented for residual impacts and is based on the entire area of habitat lost (rather than factoring in relocated PBTL).

While the Project has the potential to cause indirect impacts to PBTLs, such as, but not limited to, sedimentation of burrows, noise and vibration, weeds, herbicide use and feral animals, these indirect impacts will be avoided and/or minimised during construction and operation of the Project via implementation of specific management measures contained within this PBTL Management Plan (Section 9.0 and 9.3). As such, the potential indirect impacts associated with erosion and stormwater drainage (i.e., sedimentation of PBTL burrows), weeds, herbicide use, and feral animals are not expected to cause a significant impact on PBTLs. Where indirect impacts cannot be avoided (e.g. potential impacts to 0.20 ha arising from shadow flicker over 501 hours per year), offsetting will be implemented for that area.

Avoidance and mitigation measures implemented during detailed design, and those proposed as part of ongoing project refinements, as well as during construction and operational phases, are outlined in **Table 4.3.** 

Table 4.3 Avoidance and Mitigation Measures Applied and Proposed

Avoidance / Mitigation measure	Description	Effectiveness			
Pre-construction / design					
Alignment with existing infrastructure	6.76% of the Disturbance Footprint (36.31 ha) has been placed within existing cleared areas (such as existing roads), despite only ~1.19% of the GNWF Project Area comprising existing cleared areas. A further 28.9 ha has been placed in cropped, or amenity vegetation which is not suitable for PBTL.	Approximately 65.16 ha of potential PBTL habitat has been avoided through these methods. Plus, an additional: 17.73 ha of exotic pasture (may constitute poor quality PBTL habitat).			



Avoidance / Mitigation measure	Description	Effectiveness
	Aligning electrical layout with temporary DF associated with upgrades to existing roads and proposed access tracks and utilising existing access track infrastructure for GS OTL to reduce access track requirements for GNWF OTL.	Approximately 68.71 ha of PBTL habitat avoided through this method, representing a 78.59% reduction between the Referred and current design.
Non-conventional stringing methods	Removal of stringing corridor through application of non-conventional stringing methods (e.g. helicopter stringing).	Approximately 7.93 ha of PBTL habitat avoided through this method. An additional 31.75 ha of other habitat avoided through this method (total 39.68 ha of native vegetation avoided).
PBTL Surveys in DF	Entire DF searched for PBTL to determine extent of population and guide final placement of infrastructure.	Determined areas of high density PBTL populations. Resulted in micro siting of turbines /roads to minimise impacts.
PBTL Pre-clearance Surveys and Micro siting for Geotechnical Investigations	Early works (Geotechnical Investigations) included preclearance surveys for all test pit and bore hole sites in PBTL habitat, with requirement to avoid all located PBTL.	No reported impacts to individual PBTLs during Geotechnical Investigations.
WTG defined setback around high value conservation reserves such as Tiliqua Nature Reserve	Set back of over 500 m applied for WTGs around Tiliqua Nature Reserve to reduce potential shadow flicker impacts. Set back developed in consultation with PBTL Recovery Team.	Shadow flicker modelling indicates that there are minimal impacts to conservation reserves where PBTL are known to occur.
Use of low reflective blades for WTGs within the GNWF	Low-reflective treated blades will be selected during final design and applied to all WTGs throughout the GNWF.	Industry accepted method for reducing blade glint impacts to sensitive receivers, including potential impacts to fauna.
Construction		
Pre-clearance surveys	Preclearance surveys in all areas of Project Area which contain suitable habitat. With the aim of locating any PBTL individuals within DF. If substantial PBTL populations or 'hotspots' are detected, implement micro siting procedure to avoid or minimise impact on individuals.	Determines presence and numbers of PBTL in DF. Allows for micro siting to minimise impacts.
Micro siting infrastructure	Micro-adjustments to infrastructure to avoid populations or PBTL 'hotspots' identified during pre-clearance surveys.	No net increase in impact to PBTL or PBTL habitat. Micro siting will only be considered if it reduces impact on MNES.
Relocation	Relocation of individual PBTL detected and marked in preclearance surveys, if unable to be avoided by micro siting.	Relocation implemented for scattered individuals. Survivorship unknown, however, studies have demonstrated the ability of PBTL to survive following relocation.



Avoidance / Mitigation measure	Description	Effectiveness
Translocation	Translocation is considered as an alternative for larger populations of PBTL or where relocation of individuals is assessed as potentially causing negative impact to surrounding existing populations.	Translocation implemented, with individuals translocated to suitable offset site(s), to be protected in perpetuity. Short-term success of translocation demonstrated at Goyder South Wind Farm Offset Site (World's End Gorge), including high survivorship in the first two years and evidence of breeding.
Operation		
Operational Environmental Management Plan	Management measures enforced to ensure no unforeseen direct or indirect impacts occur to PBTL during the operational phase of the GNWF.	Ensures that direct impacts to PBTL during operational works are avoided and indirect impacts are minimized through appropriate management measures.
Maintenance works	Any maintenance works (including ripping of rabbit warrens for pest control) will require additional surveys to determine the presence of PBTL within the impact footprint.	Determines presence and numbers of PBTL in area affected by maintenance works. Allows for micro siting of works to avoid additional direct or indirect impacts or adoption of alternative methods if PBTL is unavoidable.
Other		
On-ground Native Vegetation Significant Environmental Benefit (SEB) Offset establishment	Neoen has purchased a 1,300 ha property to the north of GNWF to be utilized as a native vegetation offset site (SEB). Additional onground offsets will be sought to achieve the remainder of the SEB Offset obligations and EPBC Offset obligations, which are likely to comprise additional habitat suitable for PBTL.	High – the site provides up to 284.13 ha of potential habitat for PBTL.
EPBC Offset	Additional EPBC Offsets will be established specifically for PBTL, via securing habitat within their known range. An Offset Management Plan will be developed, specific to the site, to be managed for the life of the Project.	The EPBC Offset will result in a net gain for PBTL in the region to account for direct and indirect impacts which cannot be managed. The Offset will aim to rehabilitate habitat in areas of former range, using managed grazing and supplementary habitat such as installation of artificial burrows. This has been demonstrated to be effective at sites such as Tiliqua Nature Reserve.



Avoidance / Mitigation measure	Description	Effectiveness
Relocation success study	Proposed research project (developed separately to this plan as part of the EPBC Offset proposal) by Flinders University to monitor relocated portion of PBTL to determine effectiveness of mitigation strategy.	Success of relocation is currently unknown, however preliminary studies of translocation suggest that PBTL are able to survive being moved in the short to medium term (i.e. relocated), with varying success dependent on methods utilized. Recent practical studies have also shown that trapdoor spiders, which create suitable PBTL habitat through burrow construction, can be successfully translocated to different burrows when the lids of their burrows are also translocated. Co-relocation of trapdoor spiders and PBTL may improve long-term relocation success by helping to establish suitable habitat in new locations and warrants further investigation.

# 4.3 Estimated Residual Impact to PBTLs Within the Project Area

While Project infrastructure has specifically been designed and/or located to avoid impact to PBTLs and their habitat as much as possible, the current assessment of Project design information, specifically the Disturbance Footprint, has determined that the Project will directly impact (clear) up to a total of 368.10 ha of '*Known*' and '*Likely*' PBTL habitat, noting that this is a worst-case assessment of impacts and efforts to reduce this through further design refinements will occur (**Table 4.1**). Furthermore, shadow flicker modelling has been undertaken for the Project Area, which has been verified with the PBTL Recovery Team, confirming that 0.20 ha of likely habitat, subject to over 500 hours per year of shadow flicker, may result in a significant impact to PBTL occurring within that area. Together this direct and indirect impact is considered a residual impact of 368.18 ha, an EPBC Offset is required.

An assessment of the appropriateness and validity of the approach in terms of survey methodology, survey effort, described limitations, habitat suitability mapping and population estimates has been validated by PBTL Recovery Team Chair. This includes confirmation that surveys were taken after a few years of PBTL population 'booms' caused by favourable conditions, and thus estimates are likely to be a worst-case scenario, as previously stated.

### 4.3.1 Offset

Neoen is committed to establishing high-quality on-ground offsets for any impacts to native vegetation and MNES to fulfill requirements under both the NV Act and the EPBC Act. Neoen is also committed to rehabilitating all temporarily disturbed areas above and beyond the offset requirement which translates to rehabilitating approximately 43% of the total footprint in addition to offsetting 100% of the permanent and temporary footprint. Neoen is not seeking an offset obligation reduction



for temporary clearance and rehabilitation that could have translated to a \$2-3M saving, demonstrating commitment to generating a net positive outcome.

Neoen has secured a Significant Environmental Benefit (SEB) offset site to compensate for approximately half of the NV Act offset obligations, for impacts to native vegetation. The SEB offset site is located to the northeast of the GNWF Project Area and comprises approximately 1,300 ha of formerly agricultural grazing land with a mixed covering of vegetation associations similar to those mapped within the GNWF Project Area. This includes up to 284.13 ha of native grasslands with attributes suitable for PBTL, though PBTL have not yet been detected at the site. This, and the remainder of the site, will be managed to improve vegetation condition, as required under the NV Act, to offset approximately half of the proposed native vegetation disturbance. A draft SEB Offset Management Plan has been developed for this area. Further investigations are underway to determine if this site hosts an existing population of PBTL, which may then deem the site suitable as part of an EPBC Offset, through implementation of additional management actions, above and beyond that which is required to improve vegetation condition and would specifically benefit PBTL. Under this scenario, the PBTL habitat within the NV SEB Offset area will also be used to fulfill an approved portion of the EPBC Offset obligations pertaining to PBTL.

Neoen is also developing an additional EPBC Offset Proposal and Offset Management Plan to offset residual impacts to PBTL habitat under the EPBC Act. Investigations are currently ongoing to secure an additional suitable site that will be utilized as an EPBC Offset Area. It is proposed to secure existing PBTL habitat within or nearby to the GNWF site, or within the known range of PBTL, which will be protected, maintained, and improved to achieve a measurable conservation gain and potential increase in PBTL carrying capacity. A PBTL EPBC Offset Management Plan (s) will be developed for the final selected EPBC Offset site(s).

Refer to the Goyder North Wind Farm EPBC Offset Strategy (Umwelt, 2025c) for more detail.



# 5.0 Implementation of PBTL Management Plan

This PBTL Management Plan is proposed to be implemented as a sub-plan of the CEMP (Umwelt, 2025b – in draft). It is anticipated that the CEMP will be implemented during the construction phase of the GNWF Project to reduce as far as practicable any associated adverse environmental impacts and satisfy regulatory requirements.

Refer to the CEMP for information on the following aspects:

- Work stages (schedule of works).
- Environmental Management System.
- Project commitments and regulatory requirements.
- Roles and responsibilities.
- Implementation:
  - o Induction.
  - Meeting and communication.
  - Monitoring, inspections and auditing.
  - Reporting.
  - o Review.
  - Permit System (also outlined below).
  - Incident reporting and non-compliance.
  - o Complaints procedure.
  - Management of Sub-contractors.
  - Records distribution and control.
- Management and mitigation measures.
- Management sub-plans.

This PBTL Management Plan will be implemented as a sub-plan of the CEMP and in conjunction with all other relevant sub-plans.

Once the construction phase has been completed, this PBTL Management Plan is proposed be implemented as a sub-plan of the Operational Environmental Management Plan.

# **5.1** Permit System

Site inspections will be used to control work activities on site. To proceed with work (that involves ground disturbing activities, such as, but not limited to clearing and grubbing and excavation) in an undisturbed area, an inspection will be required, and this will need to be signed off by the Project, Construction or Environmental Manger. Following the same process, an inspection can bring about a stop work when signed off by the Project, Construction or Environment Manager.



This Permit System will be used in conjunction with the pre-construction micro siting procedure and PBTL relocation procedure presented in **Section 9.1** and **Section 9.2** to ensure that work in an undisturbed area (such as, but not limited to, clearing and grubbing, and excavation) will not commence until (1) survey for PBTLs, (2) micro siting of infrastructure to avoid and/or minimise impacts to PBTLs and their habitat, and (3) relocation of PBTLs (if required) has been completed and approval provided for works to commence.

## **5.2** Pre-construction Timeframes

Table 5.1 Pre-construction Timeframes Relevant to PBTL

Activity	Timeframe	Comments
External Permits, Licenses and Approvals required for all PBTL surveys and relocation works	DEW Permits: allow a minimum of <u>4</u> weeks for processing applications. WEC Approvals: allow for a <u>2-week</u> submission deadline <u>prior to WEC</u> meetings held every <u>2 months</u> , as well as <u>2 weeks processing</u> ). See Section 9.3 for further details.	To be obtained by suitably qualified ecologist(s) prior to field surveys and relocations.
Pre-clearance Checks (PCC) and micro siting	Approximately 1-4 weeks prior to any construction works commencing.	Construction works that involve ground disturbing activities, such as, but not limited to clearing and grubbing, and excavation, will not commence until pre-clearance surveys, and if required PBTL relocations, have been completed. Approval must then be obtained for construction works to commence, in accordance with the Permit System outlined in Section 5.1 of the CEMP. PCCs should be undertaken with a timeframe adequate to accommodate potential micro siting design changes (to be advised by construction contractor) and also minimise time between survey and construction commencement. This ensures that the PCC represents the most current information on the number and location of PBTL and minimises the potential for additional PBTL to enter the Disturbance Footprint prior to construction.

# 5.3 PBTL Management Plan Roles and Responsibilities

As stated previously, this PBTL Management Plan is proposed to be implemented as a sub-plan of the CEMP, which will be implemented during the construction phase of the GNWF Project. As outlined in the CEMP, both Neoen and the Construction Contractor (within the Engineering, Procurement and Construction (EPC) Contractor) have a role in implementing the requirements of the CEMP and



associated sub-plans, such as the PBTL MP. Refer to the CEMP for more detail on the roles and responsibilities of Neoen, the Construction Contractor and sub-contractors.

Once the construction phase has been completed, this PBTL Management Plan is proposed to be implemented as a sub-plan of the Operational Environmental Management Plan, which will be implemented by Neoen and the Project's Operation and Maintenance Contractors.

It is anticipated that there will be three main roles associated with implementation of this Plan, the Construction Project Manager / Asset Manager (Neoen); the Engineering, Procurement and Construction (EPC) Contractor and an Ecological Consultant (Contractor). The specific personnel fulfilling these roles may change over time, particularly across the lifetime of the Project. The aspects and/or tasks that each role is likely to be responsible for are outlined in **Table 5.2**.

Project employees, contractors and sub-contractors will also have a role, as will the Department, which is also outlined in **Table 5.2**.

Table 5.2 Overview of Roles and Responsibilities Associated with Implementation of this Plan

Role	Aspects and/or tasks the role is responsible for
Construction Project Manager / Asset Manager (Neoen)*	<ul> <li>Currently Neoen is the project developer and is responsible for the planning of the entire GNWF Project, including seeking and obtaining relevant planning and environmental approvals under State and Federal legislation, as well as construction and operation of the Project. Neoen intends to own and operate the GNWF Project in the future.</li> </ul>
	• The Construction Project Manager / Asset Manager (Neoen)* will be responsible for implementing this Plan.
	• It is anticipated that the Construction Project Manager / Asset Manager (Neoen)* will engage a suitably qualified Ecological Consultancy to assist with implementation of this Plan, including undertaking PBTL relocation/translocation, monitoring and reporting. However, implementation of this Plan will remain the responsibility of the Construction Project Manager / Asset Manager (Neoen)*.
	<ul> <li>The Construction Project Manager / Asset Manager (Neoen)* must ensure that they do not commence operation** of the Project unless the Plan has been approved by the Minister in writing.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Should the Construction Project Manager / Asset Manager (Neoen)* change in future, implementation of this Plan will remain the responsibility of whoever is the Construction Project Manager / Asset Manager (Neoen)*.</li> </ul>
EPC Contractor	The EPC Contractor is constructing GNWF Project and is responsible for implementing the CEMP, and sub-plans such as this PBTL Management Plan. As such, the EPC Contractor will also be responsible for implementing this Plan during construction, including the management measures associated with construction works (Section 9.0).
Ecological Consultant (Contractor)	• It is proposed that a suitably qualified and experienced Ecological Consultant (Contractor) will be responsible for assisting the Construction Project Manager / Asset Manager (Neoen)* to implement this Plan.
	<ul> <li>The same Ecological Consultant (Contractor) is likely to be required to undertake PBTL relocation/translocation, monitoring and reporting activities and likely to be responsible for reviewing and analysing monitoring data and results to determine the success (or failure) of management actions and recommending refinement/improvement, if required.</li> </ul>



Role	Aspects and/or tasks the role is responsible for		
Project employees, contractors and sub- contractors	All Project employees, contractors and sub-contractors are responsible for reporting any PBTL sightings, including any individuals injured or killed, to the Construction Contractor, HSE Manager and/or Construction Project Manager / Asset Manager (Neoen)*, who shall report it as an environmental incident and undertake an environmental incident investigation (in accordance with Section 8.0.		
The Department and the Minister	<ul> <li>Review and approve this Plan (if appropriate).</li> <li>Review and approve a revised version of this Plan (if required).</li> </ul>		

<sup>\*</sup>The Construction Project Manager (Neoen) will change to Asset Manager (Neoen) once Practical Completion is achieved under the Engineering, Procurement and Construction Contract.

# 5.4 Risks to Implementation of this Plan

There are several potential risks to achieving this Plan's environmental objectives, including the following:

- Indifference and/or lack of understanding of requirement for this Plan (EPBC Act approval conditions) leading to poor implementation of this Plan.
- Change of wind farm owner and/or operator (potentially leading to poor implementation of this Plan).
- Change of staff responsible for implementation of this Plan (i.e., Construction Project Manager / Asset Manager (Neoen)) and lack of understanding of requirements within this Plan.
- Change of Ecological Consultancy assisting Neoen to implement this Plan and lack of understanding of requirements within this Plan.

These risks are detailed in Section 7 of the CEMP (Umwelt, 2025b - in draft), along with further commentary on each risk, the likelihood rating of each risk occurring, the consequence rating of each risk, the overall risk rating, risk management strategies and/or proposed contingency measures and who will be responsible for managing the risk.

### 5.5 Review and Revision of this Plan

This PBTL Management Plan is proposed to be reviewed and updated as required during construction and/or operation of the Project, for example if circumstances change, approvals are varied, or to incorporate alternate management measures or methods, such as new technologies.

### 5.6 Submission and Publication of this Plan

Section 143A of the EPBC Act allows the approval holder to submit a revised action management plan (RAMP), such as this PBTL Management Plan, to the Minister for approval at any time. In anticipation of the approval conditions being implemented, a revised action management plan will be submitted to the Minister for approval unless the conditions state otherwise. Specifically, if the taking of the action in accordance with the RAMP would not be likely to have a new or increased impact, the approval

<sup>\*\*</sup>Refer to the Glossary and Abbreviation of Terms for a definition of 'operation'.



holder may choose to revise the action management plan without submitting it for approval under section 143A of the EPBC Act.

As such, any revisions of this Plan will be submitted to the Department either for information or for approval by the Minister, in accordance with the anticipated conditions of approval. Furthermore, any revisions of this Plan will be published on the Project's website as required by the anticipated conditions of approval. It will remain on the Project's website until the end date of the relevant EPBC Act approvals.

Due to the risk of poaching of PBTLs, sensitive ecological data (such as information identifying the location of PBTLs and PBTL habitat) will be redacted from this Plan when it is published on the Project's website or provided to a member of the public.

If Neoen decides to revise this Plan without submitting it for approval by the Minister, Neoen will:

- Notify the Department in writing that the approved action management plan has been revised and provide the Department with:
  - o an electronic copy of the RAMP (i.e., this Plan);
  - an electronic copy of the RAMP marked up with track changes to show the differences between the approved action management plan and the RAMP;
  - an explanation of the differences between the approved action management plan and the RAMP;
  - the reasons Neoen considers that taking the action in accordance with the RAMP would not be likely to have a new or increased impact; and
  - written notice of the date on which Neoen will implement the RAMP (RAMP implementation date), being at least 20 business days after the date of providing notice of the revision of the action management plan, or a date agreed to in writing with the Department.

Neoen will implement the RAMP from the RAMP implementation date.



# 6.0 Risk Assessment of Potential Impacts

The potential impacts involved with construction of the Project, are outlined in the following sections for each relevant environmental aspect. The primary objective for management of each aspect is included, along with broad management measures for the design and construction phases of the Project to minimise potential adverse impacts.

For each environmental aspect, each potential impact has been numbered and given a rating in terms of likelihood (**Table 6.1**) and consequence (**Table 6.2**), which are then combined to generate a risk rating (**Table 6.3**), associated with likely management actions (**Table 6.4**). The likelihood and consequence ratings have been assessed prior to consideration of any control measures.

Table 6.1 Likelihood of Risk Occurring

Likelihood	Description	
<b>Almost Certain</b>	Expected to occur in most circumstances	
Likely	Will probably occur in most circumstances	
Possible	Might occur occasionally	
Unlikely	Could occur at some time, but unlikely	
Rare	May occur only in exceptional circumstances	

Table 6.2 Consequence of Risk Rating

Consequence	Description
Insignificant	Minor incident of environmental damage that can be reversed
Minor	Isolated but substantial instances of environmental damage that could be reversed with intensive efforts
Moderate	Substantial instances of environmental damage that could be reversed with intensive efforts
Major	Major loss of environmental amenity and real danger of continuing, with regulatory concerns.
Severe	Severe widespread loss of environmental attribute and irreversible environmental harm

Table 6.3 Risk Assessment Matrix

Consequence ® Likelihood -	Insignificant (no impact)	Minor (low impact, localised)	Moderate (manageable, some environmental harm)	Major (significant damage, regulatory concerns)	Severe (catastrophic impact, irreversible harm)
Rare (highly unlikely)	Low	Low	Low	Medium	High
Unlikely (could happen, but not likely)	Low	Low	Medium	High	High
Possible (might occur at some point)	Low	Medium	Medium	High	Extreme
<b>Likely</b> (expected to occur)	Medium	Medium	High	High	Extreme



Consequence ® Likelihood -	Insignificant (no impact)	Minor (low impact, localised)	Moderate (manageable, some environmental harm)	Major (significant damage, regulatory concerns)	Severe (catastrophic impact, irreversible harm)
Almost certain (occurs frequently)	Medium	High	High	Extreme	Extreme

Table 6.4 Management Actions Required for Each Risk Rating

Risk Rating	Management Actions Required
Low	Acceptable risk level with infrequent review. Standard control and monitoring measures to be identified and implemented. Monitor and review locally as necessary. Report to local manager(s).
Medium	Acceptable risk level but must be reviewed regularly. Specific control and monitoring measures to be identified and implemented. Measures and risk level to be reviewed and improved as further information becomes available.
High	Undesirable risk level – consultation with manager(s) prior to activity. Specific control and monitoring measures to be identified and implemented. Measures and risk level to be reviewed and improved as further information becomes available.
Extreme	Unacceptable risk level. Do not proceed with activity. Requires immediate attention and consideration. Detailed risk assessment and management plan to be prepared by relevant senior manager(s) or suitably qualified consultant. Strict control and monitoring measures to be identified and implemented. Any action that has, will have, or is likely to have a significant impact on matters of national environmental significance requires referral under the EPBC Act.

**Table 6.5** and **Table 6.6** detail the risk assessment for potential impacts during construction and operation, respectively. Implementation of specific construction and operational management measures (outlined in **Section 9.0** and **Section 10.0**, respectively) for each identified risk to PBTL and/or their habitat, is expected to avoid and/or minimise the potential impacts and as such, reduce the risk rating. Therefore, a residual risk rating is also provided, as is the risk after implementation of control measures.

Several additional sub-plans are referred to where more detailed, specific management actions are required. Each of these sub-plans should be referred to as and when required for a complete understanding of the construction management measures required to be implemented to avoid and minimise environmental impacts during construction.



Table 6.5 Risk Assessment of Potential Impacts during Construction

Potential Impact	Likelihood	Consequence	Inherent Risk Rating	Residual risk rating (after controls implemented)
Unapproved Clearance				
Clearance of PBTL habitat outside the approved clearance area	Possible	Major	High	Medium
Vehicles and/or machinery driving over PBTL habitat leading to degradation of PBTL habitat and possibly striking PBTLs	Likely	Major	High	Low
Earthworks				
Potential loss of PBTLs located within the Disturbance Footprint	Almost certain	Major	High	Medium
Pitfall (PBTLs getting trapped in trenches, pits and other open excavations)	Likely	Major	High	Low
Division and isolation of PBTL sub-populations by construction of vehicular access tracks	Possible (?)*	Moderate (?)*	Medium (?)*	Medium (?)*
Weeds, Pests and Grazing				
Altered grazing regimes (increased grazing, preferential grazing, reduction or loss of grazing, altered grazing times)	Unlikely	Moderate	Medium	Low
Introduction of new weeds to the Project Area, or increase in weeds, through use of contaminated construction material, machinery and vehicles, leading to loss of vegetation condition and PBTL habitat suitability	Likely	Major	High	Low
Soil Erosion, Sedimentation and Altered Hydrology				
Dust emissions smothering flora and suppressing photosynthesis leading to loss of vegetation condition and PBTL habitat suitability	Likely	Moderate	High	Low
Sedimentation of PBTL burrows and/or PBTL habitat from construction run-off (soil)	Likely	Major	High	Low
Stockpiling of equipment and materials and introduction of rubbish and waste materials causing degradation of PBTL habitat	Likely	Moderate	High	Low



Potential Impact	Likelihood	Consequence	Inherent Risk Rating	Residual risk rating (after controls implemented)
Hazardous Materials and Spillages				
Chemical spills (e.g. fuel/diesel) causing degradation of PBTL habitat	Possible	Moderate	Medium	Low
Noise and Vibrations				
Noise and vibration disturbance during construction (potential impacts are unknown)	Possible (?)*	Minor (?)*	Medium (?)*	Medium (?)*

<sup>(?)\*</sup> Potential impacts are unknown

## Table 6.6 Risk Assessment of Potential Impacts during Operation

Potential Impact	Likelihood	Consequence	Inherent Risk Rating	Residual risk rating (after controls implemented)
Unapproved Clearance				
Clearance of PBTL habitat outside the approved clearance area	Unlikely	Moderate	Medium	Low
Vehicles and/or machinery driving over PBTL habitat leading to degradation of PBTL habitat and possibly striking PBTLs	Unlikely	Moderate	Medium	Low
Earthworks				
Pitfall (PBTLs getting trapped in electrical pits)	Unlikely	Moderate	Medium	Low
Division and isolation of PBTL sub-populations through existence of vehicular access tracks	Possible (?)*	Moderate (?)*	Medium (?)*	Medium (?)*
Weeds, Pests and Grazing				
Altered grazing regimes (increased grazing, preferential grazing, reduction or loss of grazing, altered grazing times)	Unlikely	Moderate	Medium	Low



Potential Impact	Likelihood	Consequence	Inherent Risk Rating	Residual risk rating (after controls implemented)
Introduction and/or spread of weeds from vehicles leading to loss of vegetation condition and PBTL habitat suitability	Unlikely	Moderate	Medium	Low
Soil Erosion, Sedimentation and Altered Hydrology				
Sedimentation of PBTL burrows and/or PBTL habitat from run-off from access tracks	Unlikely	Moderate	Medium	Low
Hazardous Materials and Spillages				
Chemical spills (e.g. fuel/diesel) causing degradation of PBTL habitat	Unlikely	Moderate	Medium	Low
Noise and Vibration				
Potential disturbance to PBTLs in close proximity to turbines from turbine noise and/or vibration (potential impacts are unknown)	Possible (?)*	Major (?)*	High (?)*	High (?)*
Shadow Flicker				
Potential disturbance to PBTLs in close proximity to turbines from turbine blade shadow flicker impacts such as:	Possible (?)*	Major (?)*	High (?)*	High (?)*
<ul> <li>potential increase in predation of PBTLs by birds of prey (due to PBTLs becoming accustomed to shadows);</li> </ul>				
potential decrease in PBTL body condition due to PBTLs basking less; and				
<ul> <li>potential decrease in breeding due to PBTLs taking refuge in their burrow.</li> </ul>				
Note that a Flinders University study is currently underway to investigate the potential impacts of shadow flicker (and other indirect impacts such as noise and vibration) on PBTL.				

<sup>(?)\*</sup> Potential impacts are uncertain



### 6.1 Limitations Associated with the Risk Assessments

The potential impact of noise and vibration during construction, and from turbines during operation, on PBTLs is not known as the potential impact of noise and vibration on PBTLs in general is poorly understood. Similarly, the potential impact of division and isolation of PBTL sub-populations by construction of vehicular access tracks and their existence during operation is not known, as it is not known if PBTLs will cross or not cross vehicular access tracks.

Furthermore, the potential impact of turbine blade shadow flicker on PBTLs during operation is not well understood. It may lead to impacts such as:

- Potential increase in predation of PBTLs by birds of prey (due to PBTLs becoming accustomed to shadows); or
- Potential decrease in PBTL body condition (due to PBTLs taking refuge in their burrow more often and basking less); and/or
- Potential decrease in breeding (due to PBTLs taking refuge in their burrow more often).

As such, it is difficult to determine the likelihood of these aspects having an impact on PBTLs and the consequence of any impact on the PBTLs. To address the current uncertainty one of the outcomes of the GS project is a 10-year spanning research project conducted by species experts at Flinders University and funded by Neoen to assess the impacts of shadow flicker, noise and vibration on PBTLs. In the absence of further information now, only an indicative risk rating can be provided.

## **6.1.1** Review of Goyder South Learnings

Neoen is nearing completion of the construction phase of GS, for which a similar PBTL Management Plan was implemented. As they move forward with the GNWF Project, Neoen is committed to using best practices by incorporating learnings from the various phases of the GSWF Project. By systematically capturing and applying insights gained from previous projects, organizations can enhance processes, prevent recurring mistakes, and refine best practices. This approach not only improves efficiency and effectiveness but also drives better outcomes in future initiatives. Neoen aims to leverage these benefits to ensure the successful implementation of the GNWF Project. **Table 6.7** details the learnings from the planning, pre-construction and construction phases of GSWF, and the adapted approach that GNWF has, or intends to adopt.

Table 6.7 Learnings from Phases of Development of GSWF

Phase	GSWF Lesson	GNWF Adapted Approach
Planning and Design	PBTL habitat suitability is challenging to map and does not always align with descriptions in the available literature. PBTL can occur in highly disturbed areas previously considered unsuitable (e.g., heavily grazed and trampled cattle paddocks).	Conduct intensive surveys across all grassland conditions and non-preferred habitats during the planning and design phase to better understand habitat suitability, patchiness, and distribution of PBTL in GNWF. Significant survey effort implemented, and endorsed by PBTL Recovery Team Chair as valid, appropriate and likely to have identified populations / patches of PBTL if present, given the methodology used. Surveys are estimated to have covered approximately 27.46% of



Phase	GSWF Lesson	GNWF Adapted Approach
		the entire current Disturbance Footprint (upper estimate based on 10 m search corridor), including up to 39.5% of 'suitable' vegetation associations (VA6, VA9, VA11a/b and exotic), demonstrating a high confidence in estimates for this area, which can also be extrapolated into the surrounding habitat. This is significantly higher than the search effort applied to a recent published and peer reviewed study on PBTL population estimates at nearby Tiliqua Nature Reserve, which surveyed 11.79% of suitable habitat and 7.72% of the total reserve area to determine population numbers with confidence (Bilby, et al., 2025).
Pre-construction	Pre-clearance surveys were thorough and time-consuming.	Implement CEMP conditions to improve construction scheduling, allowing longer lead times for pre-clearance and relocation site searches, and micro siting.
	Pre-clearance surveys identified more PBTL than anticipated, necessitating more intensive relocation efforts than expected	Conduct intensive surveys and population estimates to more accurately reflect the anticipated impact on PBTL and the potential need for relocation.
	This also required the last-minute requirement to create and implement a translocation plan to accommodate PBTL in a previously unidentified densely populated area.	As above. Intensive surveys have identified existing known PBTL hotspots, which have been avoided as much as possible. Potential translocation sites will be identified in advance to accommodate this need if required, including at proposed EPBC Offset sites, yet to be confirmed.
Construction	Civil design was not fully developed, leading to design changes and updates during construction.	Ensure civil design is more developed and optimized for GNWF.
	In addition to micro siting for PBTL, late changes to civil design made it difficult to keep track of changes, resulting in instances where the entire construction team was not working from the same design, leading to some unauthorized clearances.	The CEMP outlines the requirement for the construction contractor to have detailed spatial data and a specific system to communicate design changes and record all modifications. All changes go through a single database and are distributed to all team members, including machinery operators, to ensure everyone is on the same page.



# 7.0 Management Targets, Performance Indicators and Triggers

Table 7.1 Management Targets, Performance Indicators and Triggers

Targets	Performance Indicators	Triggers
Unapproved Clearance		
Access tracks and electrical cables are micro sited to avoid or minimize impacts to individual PBTL, and	Access tracks and electrical cables are micro sited where practicable.	Any injured, trapped or killed PBTL.
subsequent need for relocation of PBTLs (where practicable).		Any impact to retained PBTL habitat outside of the approved clearance area and/or the Disturbance
All PBTLs located within the Disturbance Footprint (that can't be avoided by micro siting) are relocated	All PBTLs located within the Disturbance Footprint (that can't be avoided by micro siting) are relocated	Footprint.
into adjacent suitable habitat prior to construction works.	prior to construction works.	Discovery of PBTL individual or population (outside of previously observed areas) (i.e. in habitat mapped as
Construction and operation do not result in clearance of Pygmy Blue-tongue Lizard habitat in excess of the limits stated in the EPBC Act approvals (refer to <b>Table 2.2</b> and EPBC Act approval documentation).	No clearance of Pygmy Blue-tongue Lizard Habitat in excess of the limits stated in the EPBC Act approvals (refer to <b>Table 2.2</b> and EPBC Act approval documentation).	ʻunlikely').
Construction and operation do not result in clearance of PBTL habitat outside of the approved clearance area.	No clearance of PBTL habitat outside of the approved clearance area.	
Construction and operation do not result in injury to or death of PBTLs.	No injury to or death of PBTLs due to construction or operation activities.	_
No vehicle or machinery impacts within retained PBTL habitat.	No vehicle or machinery impacts observed within retained PBTL habitat.	_
Division and isolation of PBTL sub-populations is avoided and/or minimised.	No avoidable division and isolation of PBTL subpopulations.	
Earthworks		
No PBTLs subject to pitfall.	No PBTLs observed in trenches or pits.	Any injured, trapped or killed PBTL.



Targets	Performance Indicators	Triggers
Weeds, Pest and Grazing		
Construction and operation do not result in a significant alteration of grazing regime.	No significant alteration of grazing regime due to construction or operation.  No communication from landholders to indicate a change in grazing regime has occurred as a result of the infrastructure.	Significant alteration to grazing regime within Disturbance Footprint (e.g. increased grazing, preferential grazing), as communicated by the landowner (s) / manager (s).
No introduction of new weed species or increase in weeds within retained PBTL habitat.	No introduction of new weed species or increase in weeds observed within retained PBTL habitat.	New weed species or an increase in weed distribution or abundance observed within retained INTG TEC.
Soil Erosion, Sedimentation and Altered Hydrology		
No excessive dust deposition within retained PBTL habitat as a result of project activities.	No excessive dust deposition observed within retained PBTL habitat.	Excessive dust deposition observed within retained PBTL habitat.
No erosion or sedimentation of retained PBTL burrows or PBTL habitat.	No erosion or sedimentation of retained PBTL burrows or PBTL habitat observed.	Any notable erosion or sediment accumulation as a result of uncontrolled surface water flows within retained PBTL habitat.
Noise and Vibrations		
Construction noise and vibration are minimised, where possible.	No excessive construction noise and vibration observed.	Any injured or killed PBTL.  Discovery of PBTL individual or population (outside of previously observed areas).
Waste, Hazardous Materials and Spillages		
No rubbish, waste materials or stockpiles within retained PBTL habitat.	No rubbish, waste materials or stockpiles observed within retained PBTL habitat.	Rubbish, waste materials or stockpiles observed within retained PBTL habitat.
No hazardous chemicals or dangerous goods within retained PBTL habitat.	No hazardous chemicals or dangerous goods observed within retained PBTL habitat.	Hazardous chemicals or dangerous goods observed within retained PBTL habitat.



# 8.0 Response Measures and Corrective Actions

If a trigger value occurs (**Table 7.1**), it will be reported as an environmental incident. An investigation will then be conducted to determine the extent and cause of the incident, and to prevent it from occurring again. For example, the proposed management measure for that management target, performance indicator and trigger will be reviewed to ensure it is being effectively implemented, operated and / or maintained. If it is not, it will be repaired and / or improved.

# 8.1 Direct Impact

If clearance occurs outside of the approved Development Envelope, or in excess of the approved Disturbance Footprint, appropriate mitigation strategies must be implemented immediately. It should be noted that the specific approval conditions are not yet known and will be added/updated to the section below once they become available. General approval conditions which must be adhered to include:

- The applicant must ensure that only native vegetation approved for removal in accordance
  with the relevant decisions under the NV Act and EPBC Act decision is removed. Prior to
  clearance commencing, the applicant must advise all persons undertaking the vegetation
  removal or working on site, of all relevant conditions of approval and associated statutory
  requirements.
- If there is any change to the clearance requirements for the development, Neoen is to confirm the final clearance area and SEB offset requirements upon finalising the detailed design of the Project, prior to undertaking any clearance that varies from this decision.
- As such, Neoen must be notified of any clearance outside of the approved Disturbance Footprint and / or Development Envelope so that DCCEEW can be notified.
- A variation to the approval decision(s) will need to be made if impacts are proposed outside
  of the approved Project Area boundary or are in exceedance of the approved impact upon
  native vegetation, MNES or MNES habitat.

If injured or dead PBTL are found, the appropriately qualified ecologist will be notified immediately to investigate and determine the best course of action. The ecologist will be responsible for contacting the PBTL Recovery Team and providing notification of the incident (refer to for contact details).

If live PBTL individuals or populations are discovered (in areas not previously identified as PBTL habitat), the following actions are to be taken:

- All works will cease in the immediate vicinity until an appropriately qualified ecologist provides advice and relocates/translocates PBTLs if necessary.
- The area will be designated as PBTL habitat and the management measures outlined in **Section 10** and **Section 11** are to be implemented.
- The PBTL Recovery Team is to be notified (refer to Table 11.1 for contact details).



# 8.2 Indirect Impact

If an indirect impact trigger occurs (e.g. erosion and/or sedimentation, excessive dust, new weed species or increase in weeds, and others outlined in **Table 7.1**), it must be investigated to determine the extent and cause, and appropriate mitigation measures must be implemented to prevent it from occurring again. Remediation and/or rehabilitation should also be undertaken, provided it does not cause any further adverse impact (such as undesirable soil disturbance).

Indirect impact triggers may result in an adaptive management approach and resulting update or change to the measures outlined in this PBTL MP, the CEMP, OEMP or associated sub plans to ensure that the most effective management actions are being implemented. Any material changes to the management plan must be submitted to the Minister for approval prior to the change occurring.



# 9.0 Construction Management Measures

The types of construction management measures are divided into five categories, based on the Standard Hierarchy of Controls, described in **Table 9.1**. For each management measure, the table also identifies the location, timing, frequency and person responsible for ensuring the action is implemented.

The person or position responsible is indicative only, and the position title or responsibility may change depending on the specific EPC contractor. These tables should be updated to reflect the specific EPC Contractor positions and responsibilities.

Management measures relevant PBTL to be implemented during construction are outlined in **Table 9.2**. Please refer to the CEMP (Umwelt, 2025b) for further details on broad management measures for GNWF.

Table 9.1 Description of the Types of Construction Management Measures

Туре	Description
Elimination	Physical removal of the hazard. Most elimination measures have been undertaken in the planning and design phase of the project to avoid impacts to environmental aspects.
Substitution	Replace the hazard with something likely to be less hazardous to the environment, such as using low impact methods of construction; use of targeted herbicides for weed control; and planning of stockpile areas to reduce hazard potential.
Engineering	Measures to avoid environmental harm, such as erosion control, dust suppression, and waste management protocols, to isolate the environmental aspect from the hazard.
Administrative	Measures that change the way work is done to reduce environmental harm, such as through training programs for workers on environmental policies, best practices, and the importance of compliance; monitoring, inspection and audits to assess effectiveness of controls; reporting and emergency response procedures; spatial data systems.
Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)	Protect the worker (or environmental aspect) with PPE.



 Table 9.2
 General Construction Management Measures

Construction Management Measures	Туре	Location	Timing	Frequency	Responsibility
Pre-construction Micro siting Surveys					
The PBTL Relocation Procedure detailed in Section 9.2 is to be implemented. In summary:  Where any construction works (including, but not limited to, ground disturbing works such as clearing and grubbing and earthworks for vehicle access tracks, infrastructure and trenching) are required within 'Known' and/or 'Likely' PBTL habitat, a targeted PBTL search will be undertaken, by a suitably qualified ecologist(s) to establish the location of PBTLs.  Wherever practicable, the final location of infrastructure (WTGs, access tracks and underground electrical reticulation) within 'Known' and/or 'Likely' PBTL habitat will be micro sited (shifted slightly) to avoid and/or minimise impacting any PBTLs and the need to relocate PBTLs as much as possible.  Any PBTLs within the Disturbance Footprint that cannot be avoided will be relocated to the nearest suitable release site to avoid direct impact (i.e. destruction) to PBTLs.  Construction works (that involve ground disturbing activities, such as, but not limited to clearing and grubbing, and excavation) will not commence until PBTL relocation within specific areas or zones has been completed and approval provided for construction works to commence, in accordance with the Permit System outlined in Section 5.1 and the CEMP (Umwelt, 2025c – in draft).	Engineering	Within 'Known' and/or 'Likely' PBTL habitat within the Disturbance Footprint.	Approximately 1-4 weeks prior to any construction works commencing.	As required and ongoing during design.	EPC Contractor, Neoen and Ecological Consultant
Unexpected Find Procedure: If pre-clearance surveys within the Disturbance Footprint detect areas of PBTL habitat which have not previously be mapped, a 'Stop Work' procedure should be in place.	Administrative	Disturbance Footprint	Pre-construction / construction	As required	EPC Contractor, Neoen and Ecological Consultant
General Management Measures					
<u>Inductions:</u> All staff and contractors will complete a detailed, site-specific induction which provides an overview of PBTLs and potential impacts to PBTLs, as well as management measures associated with protection of PBTLs.	Administrative	Site Office.	Prior to commencing any work on site.	Once (for each staff member and/or contractor).	EPC Contractor



Construction Management Measures	Туре	Location	Timing	Frequency	Responsibility
Fact Sheets: Display a fact sheet on PBTLs (including images of PBTLs, habitat mapping, i.e. 'Known' and/or 'Likely' PBTL habitat and breeding season dates when PBTLs are more active and dispersing, as a minimum) at all Site Offices.	Administrative	On site notice boards and in lunchrooms.	During construction.	Ongoing.	EPC Contractor
Toolbox Meetings: Hold toolbox meetings to assist in identification and highlight the importance of PBTL. During the meetings, highlight PBTL habitat included in the Disturbance Footprint; as well as PBTL outside of the Disturbance Footprint, including all 'Known' and/or 'Likely' PBTL habitat and ensure that all staff and contractors are aware of the control measures to avoid, minimise and mitigate impacts to PBTL's and their habitat.	Administrative	Site Office (or anywhere elsewhere suitable).	Prior to commencing any construction works within 'Known' and/or 'Likely' PBTL habitat.	Weekly.	EPC Contractor
<u>Toolbox Meetings:</u> Remind all staff and contractors to be vigilant when driving, to remain on designated access tracks and to look out for and record any sightings of PBTLs.	Administrative	Disturbance Footprint.	Regularly during daily pre-start meetings or during toolbox meetings (as required).	Ongoing, particularly during the PBTL breeding season (Oct to Nov).	EPC Contractor
Vehicle and Construction Equipment Access: Apart from initial earthworks to construct access tracks and hardstand areas, ensure all vehicles and construction equipment always utilise existing farm tracks and dedicated access tracks and hardstands and avoid travel outside of these areas.	Engineering	Project Area.	During construction.	Ongoing.	EPC Contractor / All site personnel
Reporting: Report any PBTL sightings in the path of construction or otherwise in danger (i.e. such as in trenches or pits), including any individuals alive, injured or killed, to the Environment Manager. For individuals found injured or killed, collect information such as location and cause of death if known (i.e. vehicle strike). The environmental Manager shall report it as environmental incident and undertake an environmental incident investigation.	Administrative	Disturbance Footprint.	During construction.	As required.	EPC Contractor / All site personnel
Clearance Delineation and PBTL Protection Measures					
Mapping and Spatial Data: Provide clear maps and spatial data indicating Disturbance Footprints, tracks, approved turnaround areas, car parks, equipment laydown areas and materials storage areas to ensure that no unapproved disturbances occur which may	Administrative	Provide to those involved in earthworks	Prior to commencing any work on site.	Ongoing.	EPC Contractor



Construction Management Measures	Туре	Location	Timing	Frequency	Responsibility
affect PBTL including impacts to areas of 'Known' and/or 'Likely' PBTL habitat.					
Exclusion Zones: Install signage and/or exclusion barriers/bunting (or other relevant control measures such as use of spatial data) around areas of 'Known' and/or 'Likely' PBTL habitat which adjoins the Disturbance Footprint.	Engineering	Around the outside of 'Known' and/or 'Likely' PBTL habitat adjacent to the Disturbance Footprint.	After PBTL relocation and prior to commencing any construction works in the Disturbance Footprint.	Ongoing.	EPC Contractor
Clearly Delineate Boundary of Disturbance Footprint: Prior to commencing large scale clearing, the outer extents of the approved Disturbance Footprint will be clearly identified and indicated through spatial mapping. Often this will occur through sending the grader through first using GPS control with preloaded spatial data, to make a mark at outer extents, or in some instances signage or bunting may be used to delineate the boundary and prevent vehicles and construction equipment damaging 'Known' and/or 'Likely' PBTL habitat beyond the Disturbance Footprint.	Engineering	On the edge of the Disturbance Footprint within 'Known' and/or 'Likely' PBTL habitat.	As soon as possible during construction works.	Ongoing.	EPC Contractor
Maintain Disturbance Boundaries: Ensure spatial data is current and boundaries are clearly identified, indicated, maintained and accessible to all relevant construction personnel. Any physical PBTL control measures, such as windrows, sediment fencing, signage and exclusion barriers/bunting are checked and maintained on a regular basis (weekly as a minimum).	Administrative	Wherever all physical PBTL control measures are located.	During construction.	Weekly (as a minimum).	EPC Contractor
Approved Clearances: Clearly delineate on site PBTL habitat that is included in the approved Disturbance Footprint. As a minimum, this is to be done using spatial data management system and process in place to clearly and promptly communicate and implement design changes to ensure that all works are in accordance with the latest design (i.e. to ensure micro siting or other changes are communicated in a clear and timely manner).	Engineering	Disturbance Footprint	Prior to clearing any ' <i>Known'</i> and/or ' <i>Likely'</i> PBTL habitat	Ongoing.	EPC Contractor



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Construction Management Measures	Туре	Location	Timing	Frequency	Responsibility
Earthworks					
Trenches/Pits: Minimise duration that trenches and pits are left open to the greatest extent possible, ideally less than 24 hours. For trenches being actively worked on, inspections are carried out twice daily for PBTLs and any trapped PBTLs will be released. For pits or excavations that remain open for longer periods of time (i.e. over 24 hours) an appropriate egress is constructed to allow animals to escape the pit.	Engineering	Within ' <i>Known'</i> and/or ' <i>Likely'</i> PBTL habitat.	During construction.	Ongoing.	EPC Contractor
Checking Trenches/Pits: For trenches being actively worked on, inspections are carried out twice daily for PBTLs and any trapped PBTLs will be released. For pits or excavations that remain open for longer periods of time (i.e. over 24 hours) an appropriate egress is constructed to allow animals to escape the pit, including egress at a frequency and nature suitable for PBTLs.	Engineering	Within ' <i>Known'</i> and/or ' <i>Likely'</i> PBTL habitat.	First thing in the morning and again in the afternoon prior to works finishing for the day.	Twice daily (morning and afternoon).	EPC Contractor
Weeds, Pests and Grazing Management					
<u>Pre-construction Weed Surveys:</u> Undertake a weed survey within the Development Envelope to understand existing weed conditions and potential impacts (e.g. spread) during construction which may impact ' <i>Known</i> ' and/or ' <i>Likely</i> ' PBTL habitat in the Project Area.	Engineering	Development Envelope and Development Footprint	Prior to commencing any construction works.	Ongoing	Neoen
Ongoing Weed Monitoring: Undertake periodic weed monitoring and control to mitigate potential impacts (e.g. spread) during construction and operation which may impact 'Known' and/or 'Likely' PBTL habitat.	Engineering	Development Envelope and Development Footprint	During construction	Winter and early spring, or opportunistical ly as required.	EPC Contractor
Ensure that any weed control uses a method which is in accordance with minimum disturbance techniques and does not have a significant adverse impact on PBTL including 'Known' and/or 'Likely' PBTL habitat.					
Ensure all monitoring and control activities are recorded, including extent, date and findings.					
Weed Control Measures: Ensure weed control methods are in accordance with the following from the Recovery Plan for the Pygmy Bluetongue Lizard (Duffy et al. 2012):  Use minimal disturbance weed control methods wherever possible; If herbicide use is required:	Engineering	Within 'Known' and/or 'Likely' PBTL habitat in the Disturbance Footprint.	During weed control works.	Ongoing.	EPC Contractor



Construction Management Measures	Туре	Location	Timing	Frequency	Responsibility
Read and adhere to the guidelines and recommended quantities stated on the label of the herbicide container; Ensure application occurs on a calm day to minimise drift and off-target damage; Wherever possible, spot spray directly onto the target species; and Avoid broadscale application of herbicide. Ensure any sub-contractor engaged to undertake weed control is aware of the above requirements.					
Vehicle and Equipment Hygiene: Ensure all vehicles, earthmoving equipment and construction equipment are clean and free of soil material, including materials containing weed seed or propagules, prior to arriving onsite.  If vegetative material or earth is present, ensure that the equipment is washed down at an appropriate facility to prevent vegetative material or earth potentially containing weed seeds being brought into the site and into areas of 'Known' and/or 'Likely' PBTL habitat.	Engineering	Site entrance.	Prior to arriving on site and prior to commencing works within, or in close proximity to 'Known' and/or 'Likely' PBTL habitat.	As required.	EPC Contractor / All site personnel
Wash-down Bays: Wash-down Bays: Ensure that designated wash-down bays to clean vehicles and construction equipment during construction works are appropriately contained with a capture dam to withhold dirt and organic matter, with only water filtered through a sediment fence or similar, eventually being released to the environment. Water release point will be designed in a way to avoid water runoff impacts to PBTL habitat.	Engineering	Site Compound.	Prior to commencing and during construction works.	Ongoing.	EPC Contractor
Soil Stockpiles: Where stockpiles in dedicated stockpile zones are required to remain for over seven days, regular monitoring to ensure dust suppression is effective will need to occur, including monitoring for weeds.  If soil or fill material stockpiles become infested with weeds, ensure weed control is undertaken in accordance with minimum disturbance techniques and does not have a significant adverse impact on PBTL.	Engineering	Disturbance Footprint.	As soon as practicable and at least 10 – 14 days prior to moving material.	As required.	EPC Contractor
<u>Livestock Grazing Regimes</u> :  If a significant alteration of grazing regime (for example increased grazing or preferential grazing in particular areas) is observed (as part	Administrative	Within ' <i>Known'</i> and/or ' <i>Likely'</i> PBTL habitat.	During construction.	Ongoing, as required.	HSE Manager /Neoen Liaison /



Construction Management Measures	Туре	Location	Timing	Frequency	Responsibility
of monitoring) and considered to be potentially impacting PBTL, then it will need to be investigated by a suitably qualified ecologist and mitigation measures, or additional monitoring implemented where possible.  Landholder to advise Neoen if any substantial changes to usual grazing regime and / or placement of watering points is required because of the construction of GNWF. Proposed alternative locations should be reviewed by ecological consultant to ensure no adverse impacts to INTG could be reasonably expected due to the					Ecological Contractor
proposed change.  Infrastructure, such as hardstands and access tracks, should not be used to install new watering points or feed-lots if these did not previously occur in the same or similar location.					
Native and Invasive Herbivores:  Prevent stockpiling of equipment which may harbor pest animal species such as rabbits. Undertake regular auditing of construction areas such as hardstands, laydowns, stockpiles and compounds to ensure that pest animals are not residing in these locations.  Landholder to communicate with Neoen Community Liaison personnel any observations in change in land use by native or invasive herbivores such as kangaroos, goats, hares and rabbits has changed due to construction works (i.e. increased grazing pressure or preferential grazing pressure). EPC contractor to coordinate any required pest management actions at / on construction sites.	Engineering	Within 'Known' and/or 'Likely' PBTL habitat.	During construction.	Ongoing, as required.	EPC Contractor, Neoen Community Liaison, Landholders
Rip and fill-in Rabbit Warrens: Where any rip or fill-in works are required for rabbit warrens within 'Known' and/or 'Likely' PBTL habitat, a targeted PBTL search will be undertaken, by a suitably qualified ecologist(s) to establish the location of PBTLs.  If PBTL are found, approval will be required for works to commence, in accordance with the Permit System outlined in Section 5.1 and the CEMP.	Engineering	Within 'Known' and/or 'Likely' PBTL habitat within the Disturbance Footprint.	Approximately 1-4 weeks prior to any rip and fill-in works commencing.	Once.	EPC Contractor, Neoen and Ecological Consultant
Soil Erosion, Dust Management and Drainage Management					
Rehabilitation: Rehabilitate exposed and disturbed soils as soon as possible. Prioritise rehabilitation to temporary construction areas impacting 'Known' and/or 'Likely' PBTL habitat.	Engineering	Disturbance Footprint.	As soon as practical.	Ongoing.	EPC Contractor



Construction Management Measures	Туре	Location	Timing	Frequency	Responsibility
Erosion and Sediment Controls: Ensure all erosion and sediment controls are checked for effective operation and maintained, repaired or improved, particularly in areas of 'Known' and/or 'Likely' PBTL habitat.	Engineering	Disturbance Footprint.	During construction.	Regularly (weekly as a minimum), particularly prior to any significant rainfall event.	Asset Manager (Neoen)
<u>Dust Deposition:</u> Monitor for visual signs of excessive dust deposition on PBTL habitat within 50 m of Disturbance Footprint.	Administrative	INTG within 50 m of Disturbance Footprint	Regular (weekly inspections).	Ongoing	HSE Manager
Soil Stockpiles: Stockpiles will be managed in accordance with the EPA Guideline for stockpile management (EPA, 2020) and Stormwater Pollution Prevention, Code of Practice for the Building and Construction Industry (EPA, 1999). Separation distances to be maximized as much as possible from Known PBTL habitat, with additional measures imposed for those within 200 m of Known PBTL habitat, including: prompt redistribution of topsoil following construction, appropriate dust suppression through watering, covering or application of soil binders	Engineering	Disturbance Footprint	Construction	Ongoing	HSE Manager
<u>Traffic Speed Limits:</u> A maximum speed limit of 40 km/hr enforced on all access tracks.	Administrative	Project Area	During construction.	Ongoing	HSE Manager
Minimise Disturbance or Soil and Vegetation: Minimise disturbance of soil and vegetation during all activities undertaken throughout the construction phase (including vehicle access, general infrastructure, and site maintenance, weed control, fire management, grazing and fauna surveys) within the Project Area, particularly within 'Known' and/or 'Likely' PBTL habitat, by: only driving on designated vehicle access tracks and utilising only designated turnaround points; ensuring that all designated vehicle access tracks and site stormwater drainage is well maintained to prevent erosion and sedimentation from occurring; and	Engineering	Disturbance Footprint.	During construction.	During all activities.	Asset Manager (Neoen)



Construction Management Measures	Туре	Location	Timing	Frequency	Responsibility
minimising digging and soil disturbance to only that which is required to implement the approved action, including ripping of rabbit warrens to control rabbits.					
Waste Management and Hazardous Material and Goods Management					
Hazardous materials and Dangerous Goods: Hazardous materials and dangerous goods containers and storage areas, including refuelling areas will be stored and managed in accordance with applicable Australian Standards, Safety Data Sheets and sitespecific Safe Work Method Statements.	Engineering	Disturbance Footprint.	Ongoing.	Ongoing.	Asset Manager (Neoen)
General and Food Waste: Lidded bins for office / food waste to minimise odours and attraction of pests and native animals or birds which may impact PBTL.	Engineering	Disturbance Footprint.	During construction.	Ongoing.	Asset Manager (Neoen)
Noise and vibration management					
Noise and Vibration: Ensure all reasonable and practicable noise mitigation measures are implemented in accordance with the Project's Construction Noise and Vibration Management Plan. This includes having vehicles and machinery regularly serviced and well maintained and ensuring vehicles which are not in use are turned off.	Engineering	Disturbance Footprint.	During construction.	Ongoing.	EPC Contractor



# 9.1 Pre-clearance Checks and Micro siting

Infrastructure will be micro sited (shifted and/or adjusted slightly) prior to construction works to further minimise/reduce impacts to MNES such as (but not limited to) PBTLs and their habitat, where possible. The only purpose of micro siting any infrastructure will be:

- To reduce potential impacts to MNES from the levels previously identified (i.e. the impact levels detailed in the EPBC referral documentation).
- To avoid other project constraints, such as buried artefacts or remains which may not be discovered until civil works begin.
- In case of unacceptable geotechnical conditions in a given position, such as an underground cavity.

Notwithstanding any of the above, Neoen commits that micro siting will not increase impacts to MNES.

Where micro siting cannot avoid direct impact to PBTLs, the individual(s) will be relocated to the nearest suitable release site in accordance with the procedure outlined in **Section 9.2**. While the success of relocation is currently unknown, preliminary studies of translocation suggest that PBTL can survive being moved in the short to medium term (i.e. relocated), with varying success dependent on methods utilized. Every practicable effort will be made to successfully relocate PBTLs impacted by Project infrastructure and ensure their ongoing survival, which will include an adaptive approach to enable adoption of altered methods if new information comes to light which may improve outcomes for relocated individuals.

# 9.1.1 Proposed Approach

The majority of micro siting has already been achieved through the design development process to date, and the design layout and Disturbance Footprint submitted as part of the EPBC referral reflects a largely complete design layout and infrastructure footprint. However, Neoen wishes to apply an adaptive approach to further minimise impacts to MNES such as (but not limited to) PBTL's and their habitat, and therefore infrastructure may be micro sited (shifted and / or adjusted slightly). The approach will be undertaken in the order of avoid, minimise and then mitigate as follows.

### PCC survey:

- Conduct a PCC survey on site in advance of construction commencement, where the Disturbance Footprint overlaps with the known location of PBTL's and any known and likely habitat.
- If a population of PBTL is identified within a proposed access track or electrical cable route, investigate the potential to shift or narrow the track or cable route slightly to avoid individuals or population. If possible, ensure that access track or cable route does not divide a localised population (cluster) of PBTL. Survey possible alternative locations in the immediate vicinity to verify that micro siting would be effective in minimising impact.
- If another infrastructure component is found to encroach on a known patch of PBTL, such as hardstand or met mast, consider viability to relocate to less sensitive location nearby, or reduce / adjust proposed design slightly to avoid or further minimise impact on PBTL.



- If a PBTL not previously mapped is detected within the Disturbance Footprint in habitat mapped as 'unlikely', a Stop Work procedure will be in place. The area will be assessed for extent and likely impact and escalated to relevant manager. A review process may need to be undertaken, including ecological survey, with potential for variation to approvals.
- If information comes to light that indicates a reasonable opportunity to avoid said impacts, a micro siting assessment will be undertaken.

### Micro siting assessment:

- 1. Consult with construction engineer to determine if the infrastructure can be feasibly micro sited into lower impact area based on information gathered during the PCC.
- 2. Aim to avoid impacts if there is a reasonable opportunity to do so.
- 3. Undertake additional PCC in areas determined as suitable for micro siting if not previously assessed.
- 4. Pre-clearance surveys will also assess for presence of any other potential constraints such as EPBC-listed threatened plant species, EPBC-listed Threatened Ecological Communities, and previously unrecorded cultural heritage in those locations.
- 5. Select feasible option with least impact on MNES.

If PBTL are present within the Disturbance Footprint and cannot be avoided through micro siting, individuals will be relocated in accordance with the PBTL Relocation Procedure outlined in **Section 9.2.** 

### 9.2 Relocation Procedure

If PBTL are detected in the DF during PCC and the design is unable to be micro sited to avoid impacts, the relocation of PBTL is required prior to construction. Individuals will be relocated by a suitably qualified and licensed ecologist, and all relocations will be undertaken in accordance with the procedures detailed in this section of the management plan. The PBTL relocation procedure will involve the following main steps, which are expanded upon further below in **Table 9.3**.

- Pre-construction PBTL survey:
  - within 'Known' and/or 'Likely' PBTL habitat within the Disturbance Footprint to identify location of PBTL individuals in the Disturbance Footprint and micro site the location of infrastructure, including but not limited to access tracks, WTGs and underground electrical reticulation, to avoid impact to PBTLs and determine which PBTLs, if any, need to be relocated (if impact to them cannot be avoided via micro siting); and
  - at potential relocation release sites ('Likely' PBTL habitat located outside of the Disturbance Footprint) to understand the current condition of each potential release site (presence of suitable burrows and any resident PBTLs).
- PBTL capture and relocation:
  - where impacts to PBTLs within the Disturbance Footprint cannot be avoided via micro siting of infrastructure; and
  - includes temporary housing and transport of captured PBTLs, as well as release of captured PBTLs.



#### Table 9.3 PBTL Relocation Procedure

#### **PBTL Relocation Procedure**

#### **Pre-construction PBTL survey methodology**

The pre-construction PBTL survey will occur approximately 1-4 weeks prior to any construction works (as advised by EPC Contractor) (including, but not limited to, ground disturbing works such as clearing and grubbing and earthworks for vehicle access tracks, infrastructure and trenching) commencing within 'Known' and/or 'Likely' PBTL habitat within the Disturbance Footprint.

Neoen and Ecological Consultant (Contractor)

A minimum of two suitably qualified ecologists will undertake the pre-construction PBTL survey using the following method:

Ecological Consultant (Contractor)

- The survey area / extent will be marked using survey pegs (for example on the outer corners) (multiple survey areas / extents will be required throughout the Disturbance Footprint).
- The surveyors will start at one end of the marked survey area and move to the other end of the marked survey area and move along in parallel transects at approximate 5 m intervals to identify spider burrows. Transect intervals may be adjusted to be closer (i.e. less than 5 m) if visibility is low.
- Each surveyor will use a GPS to check and log their tracks as they work to ensure the 5 m transects are aligned.
- All spider burrows within the survey area will be temporarily marked using a survey peg (different colour to survey area boundary pegs).
- After all spider burrows have been identified and temporarily marked, they will be checked for PBTL occupancy using an optic fibre 'burrowscope'.
- A GPS waypoint and the contents of the burrow will be recorded for each burrow checked.
- If a PBTL is observed, burrow depth will be recorded to provide insight into the burrow requirements at the release site. PBTL body length will be accounted for by adding 10 cm to the recorded depth. The survey peg will be replaced with a different coloured survey peg to identify the burrow as containing a PBTL.
- Survey pegs at burrows found not to contain a PBTL will be removed after checking the
  burrow to avoid checking the same burrow more than once. If construction is scheduled
  to commence within two weeks of the PCC, empty burrows can be destroyed to prevent
  occupation by identified individuals in the immediate vicinity. Burrows containing
  spiders should be vacated using the end of a survey peg or similar, with the entrance
  subsequently destroyed to prevent re-entry.
- The GPS waypoints of PBTL locations will be mapped/overlaid onto the Disturbance Footprint in order to micro site the location of infrastructure to avoid impact to PBTLs and determine which PBTLs, if any, need to be relocated (if impact to them cannot be avoided via micro siting).

A minimum of two suitably qualified ecologists will also survey potential relocation release sites (PBTL habitat located outside of the Disturbance Footprint) to understand the current condition of each potential release site (presence of suitable burrows and any resident PBTLs). It is anticipated that release sites will be in adjacent suitable habitat at least 50 m from the edge of the Disturbance Footprint. A maximum distance of 200 m from the capture site will be used for release locations. It is considered that this can be achieved within the Project Area given the known habitat and PBTL locations. The following method will be used:

Ecological Consultant (Contractor)

- The survey area / extent will be marked using survey pegs (for example on the outer corners) or using digital data collection applications (i.e. ArcGIS Field Maps).
- The surveyors will start at one end of the marked survey area and move the other end of the marked survey area and move along in parallel transects at approximate 5 m intervals to identify spider burrows. Transect intervals may be adjusted to be closer (i.e. less than 5 m) if visibility is low.



#### **PBTL Relocation Procedure**

- Each surveyor will use a GPS to check and log their tracks as they work to ensure the 5 m transects are aligned.
- All spider burrows within the survey area will be temporarily marked using a survey peg (different colour to survey area boundary pegs).
- After all spider burrows have been identified and temporarily marked, they will be checked for PBTL occupancy using an optic fibre 'burrowscope' and burrow depth will be recorded to provide insight into burrows available within the potential relocation release site. The burrowscope will be marked at 10 cm and 25 cm to quickly determine if there are burrows deep enough for juvenile and adult PBTLs, respectively.
- A GPS waypoint and the contents of the burrow will be recorded for each burrow checked.
- If a PBTL is observed within the burrow the survey peg will be replaced with a different coloured survey peg to identify the burrow as containing a resident PBTL (and therefore unsuitable for releasing a relocated PBTL into).
- If no PBTL is observed within the burrow, or within 1m of the burrow, and the burrow is considered suitable for releasing a PBTL into, the survey peg will be left in place to identify it as a suitable burrow for releasing a relocated PBTL into.
- Survey pegs at burrows found not to contain a PBTL and not suitable for releasing a PBTL into will be removed after checking the burrow to avoid checking the same burrow more than once.
- Survey pegs left in-situ (for identifying resident PBTLs or burrows suitable for releasing a relocation PBTL into) will remain in-situ until they are no longer required, which is likely to be after completion of PBTL relocation.
- If release sites are within sight of publicly accessible infrastructure such as roads or
  walking trails (i.e. Heysen Trail), relocation burrows and existing PBTL will be marked
  with less visible markers (such as survey spray paint) instead of highly visible flags.
  Preferably, publicly visible relocation sites will be selected within a short timeframe of
  the relocation date, to minimise the chance of outside interaction (i.e. poaching).
- If relocation sites are found to contain suitable habitat, but are otherwise lacking an abundance of suitable burrows, artificial burrows may be installed.

The information collected at each potential relocation release site will be saved to a database for reference during the relocation (capture and release stages). Refer to *release of PBTLs methodology* further down in this table for more specific information on releasing PBTLs.

Based on the findings of the pre-construction PBTL survey, an ecologist(s) must be present to assist the engineering surveyor(s) to peg out micro sited infrastructure following the pre-construction PBTL survey, to ensure that PBTLs are not impacted by micro sited infrastructure.

Construction Project Manager / Asset Manager (Neoen)

### **PBTL Capture Methodology**

Where impacts to PBTLs within 'Known' and 'Likely' PBTL habitat cannot be avoided (i.e. via micro siting of infrastructure) PBTLs will be captured and relocated as outlined below. The relocation process will commence 1-2 weeks prior to the commencement of construction works that involve ground disturbing activities (including, but not limited to, clearing and grubbing, and excavation).

Construction Project Manager / Asset Manager (Neoen)

associated mitigation measures.

A minimum of two suitably qualified ecologists will survey *'Likely'* and *'Potential'* PBTL habitat located within the Disturbance Footprint using the following method:

Refer to Appendix 5 for a detailed risk assessment of the PBTL relocation process and

Ecological Consultant (Contractor)

• The survey area / extent will be marked using survey pegs (for example on the outer corners) (multiple survey areas / extents will be required throughout the Disturbance Footprint).



### **PBTL Relocation Procedure**

- The surveyors will start at opposite ends of the survey area and move towards each other along parallel transects at 5 m intervals to identify spider burrows.
- Each surveyor will use a GPS to check and log their tracks as they work to ensure the 5 m transects are aligned.
- All spider burrows will be temporarily marked using a survey peg (different colour to survey area boundary pegs).
- After all spider burrows have been identified and temporarily marked, they will be checked for PBTL occupancy using an optic fibre 'burrowscope'.
- Any PBTL burrows identified during the pre-construction PBTL survey (marked with specific coloured survey pegs) will also be checked for PBTL occupancy using an optic fibre 'burrowscope'.
- A GPS waypoint and the contents of the burrow will be recorded for each burrow checked.
- If a PBTL is observed within the Disturbance Footprint, burrow depth will be recorded to provide insight into the burrow requirements at the release site. PBTL body length will be accounted for by adding 10 cm to the recorded depth; The survey peg will be replaced (if required) with a different coloured survey peg to identify the burrow as containing a PBTL that requires relocation.
- Survey pegs at burrows found not to contain a PBTL will be removed after checking each burrow to avoid checking the same burrow more than once.
- Survey pegs identifying a burrow within the Disturbance Footprint as containing a PBTL will be removed after the PBTL has been captured.
- The GPS waypoints of PBTLs identified for relocation, will be saved to a database.

The following steps will be taken by a suitably qualified ecologist(s) to capture individual PBTLs identified for relocation:

Ecological Consultant (Contractor)

- The ecologist(s) will lure PBTLs from their burrows using live meal worms tethered to fishing line on a fishing rod (Milne & Bull 2000); and
- Once a PBTL is lured from its burrow, the ecologist(s) will capture it by hand.
- If luring from the burrows is unsuccessful, the PBTL will be carefully excavated from the burrow (see section below).

Over-feeding a PBTL by attempting to capture it too many times in a day will be avoided. Attempts at capture will be limited to three per day, with a minimum of 30 minutes between attempts (J Clayton *pers. comm.* 2019). A maximum of three meal worms will be offered per capture attempt with a maximum of nine meal worms offered, regardless of if consumed.

Ecological Consultant (Contractor)

If a PBTL cannot be lured from its burrow, the ecologist(s) the following technique will be undertaken:

Ecological Consultant (Contractor)

- A suitably qualified ecologist will carefully dig-up the PBTL using hand tools.
- A hand trowel will be used to slowly excavate each hole in 30 mm increments. At each 30 mm depth, the burrow scope will be utilised to check the position of the lizard and to ensure it is safe.
- Once the burrow has been excavated to a depth that allows access, a small paint brush
  may be used to loosen dirt around the body of the lizard to allow access via hand, where
  the lizard can be gently clasped around its neck and shoulders and gently pulled from
  the burrow.

The following data will be collected immediately from captured PBTLs and their burrow to provide baseline PBTL condition data for relocation monitoring and inform burrow preference requirements at the release site(s):

Ecological Consultant (Contractor)

- snout-vent length (mm)
- weight (g)
- sex (if possible)



PBTL Relocation Procedure	
age class (Adult: snout-vent >82 mm; Sub-adult: ≤82 mm) (Milne et al. 2002)	
condition score (see below)	
burrow depth (cm)	
burrow entrance width (mm).	
The data will be saved to a database for future reference. Additional data may need to be collected dependent on development of an associated Research Plan for relocated PBTL.	
If a PBTL is suspected to have been injured because of capture its condition will be scored. The following condition scores (1 point for each) will be recorded:	Ecological Consultant
any signs of discharge from eyes or nose	(Contractor)
any signs of abnormal body shape	
swelling / recent fighting injuries	
abnormal movement	
abnormal level of activity	
abnormal respiration	
excess diarrhoea.	
If a PBTL has a condition score of 5 or more it will be temporarily housed (in accordance with the next section) and the Fauna Permits section of DEW, Wildlife Ethics Committee Executive Officer, SA Museum, Flinders University or PBTL Recovery Team will be consulted as soon as possible and not more than 24 hours from when the PBTL was assessed for the best course of action.	Ecological Consultant (Contractor)
Should a PBTL that is seriously injured require euthanasia (following consultation with the SA Museum, Flinders University or PBTL Recovery Team), this must be conducted by a suitably qualified ecologist(s). Individuals will be processed and provided to the SA Museum. An adverse incident report will be submitted to the WEC Executive Officer (DEW) within 24 hours.	Ecological Consultant (Contractor)
PBTLs will only be handled for the minimum amount of time required to gather the required information and not exceeding 10 minutes in any one instance.	Ecological Consultant (Contractor)
No capture of PBTLs will take place when the weather forecast by the Bureau of Meteorology at the nearest weather station (Clare) is 36°C or above or less than 15°C. No PBTLs will be captured during the colder months (June to mid-August).	Ecological Consultant (Contractor)
The number of PBTLs captured in a day will be capped to ensure there is enough time to process, transport and release each individual in a single day, preventing the need to house PBTLs for an extended period of time, including overnight.	Ecological Consultant (Contractor)
Temporary housing and transport of captured PBTLs	
Temporary housing and transport of PBTLs will be conducted by a suitably qualified ecologist(s) and will only be required in exceptional circumstances. Exceptional circumstances would include sudden adverse weather events, bushfire or construction site shutdown where staff had to leave site. PBTL will be relocated to the release location and released within one hour of capture. Each captured individual PBTL will be placed into a separate calico bag and placed into a ventilated plastic crate. Each crate will hold a maximum of eight individual lizards. PTBLs will be carried in this crate to their release site.	Ecological Consultant (Contractor)
If PBTLs are required to be held for an extended period (exceptional circumstances would include sudden adverse weather events, bushfire or construction site shutdown where staff had to leave site), captured PBTLs will be temporarily housed (for no more than 24 hours) in calico bags (one PBTL per bag) and stored temporarily in well-ventilated plastic crates with snap lock lids in a cool location (e.g. in shade of vehicle canopy with doors / windows open) and transported to the nearest suitable release site by foot, within 24 hours.	Ecological Consultant (Contractor)
Where transport of PBTLs by foot is not possible/practicable, then temporarily housed PBTLs will be transported to the nearest suitable release site by vehicle. Plastic crates will be stored securely so they cannot move around within the vehicle.	Ecological Consultant (Contractor)



	<u> </u>
PBTL Relocation Procedure	
Vehicles transporting PBTLs will follow approved access routes to the nearest suitable release site, drive at a pace that prevents unnecessary bumping and be temperature controlled (air conditioned) to maintain an ambient temperature between 15°C and 30°C.	Ecological Consultant (Contractor)
The ambient temperature where PBTLs are temporarily housed will range between 15°C and 30°C (J Clayton <i>pers. comm.</i> 2019).	Ecological Consultant (Contractor)
Temporarily housed PBTLs and housing conditions, including temperature, will be checked every 1-2 hours depending on climatic conditions during the survey.	Ecological Consultant (Contractor)
An adequate supply of meal worms will be on hand to feed PBTLs if required, taking into consideration the number of meal worms eaten during capture attempts.	Ecological Consultant (Contractor)
If a PBTL is suspected to have been injured because of housing or transport, its condition will be scored (as outlined in the PBTL capture methodology above).	Ecological Consultant (Contractor)
If a PBTL has a condition score of 5 or more, the SA Museum, Flinders University or PBTL Recovery Team will be consulted within 24 hours for the best course of action.	Ecological Consultant (Contractor)
Should a PBTL that is seriously injured require euthanasia (following consultation with the SA Museum, Flinders University or PBTL Recovery Team), this must be conducted by a suitably qualified ecologist(s). Individuals will be processed and provided to the SA Museum. An adverse incident report will be submitted to the WEC Executive Officer by email as soon as possible within 24 hours.	Ecological Consultant (Contractor)
Release of PBTLs methodology	
PBTL release is to be conducted by a suitably qualified ecologist(s).	Ecological Consultant (Contractor)
PBTLs will only be handled for the minimum amount of time required to release each individual.	Ecological Consultant (Contractor)
PBTLs will be relocated to the nearest suitable relocation release site(s) as identified by the ecologist(s).	Ecological Consultant (Contractor)
If the ecologist(s) identifies a low number of PBTLs (up to ten) required to be relocated from a given area, and there is a population directly adjacent (e.g. within approximately 50 – 100 m), the ecologist(s) may decide to release the PBTLs into an adjacent area of suitable habitat further than 200 m but no greater than 500 m from the capture site, following assessment of the release site. Providing the habitat is continuous, this would still be considered the same population.	Ecological Consultant (Contractor)
Prior to the capture of PBTLs, the ecologist(s) will assess and prepare the release site (whether it is adjacent to the capture site or further away) as outlined below, to identify suitable burrows at an appropriate distance from resident PBTLs before releasing a captured PBTL.	Ecological Consultant (Contractor)
Burrows at the release site(s) will be inspected to identify those suitable for PBTLs prior to releasing any individuals. The burrowscope(s) will be marked at 10 cm and 25 cm to quickly determine if there are burrows deep enough for juvenile and adult PBTLs, respectively.	
<ul> <li>PBTLs will not be released into burrows containing another PBTL or spiders, or near ant nests (burrows will be checked with a burrowscope).</li> </ul>	
• If suitable empty burrows cannot be located by the ecologist(s) at the release site, two to three artificial burrows (see below) will be installed within a 50 cm radius to provide available habitat.	
• Sediment fencing will be installed on the outer edge of the Disturbance Footprint (if required; see below).	



#### **PBTL Relocation Procedure** PBTLs will be released at least 2 m from any other PBTL, and any artificial burrows installed. An ecologist(s) will ensure each PBTL enters a suitable burrow following release. The location of each relocated PBTL will be recorded with a GPS waypoint and the burrow will be marked with an inconspicuous marker to locate for monitoring Released PBTLs will be confined to the area immediately surrounding their burrow for 1 day by installing a temporary barrier (For example, approximately 50cm long, 50cm wide and 30cm high and constructed out of a smooth, solid material). Released PBTLs will be given up to three meal worms immediately following release. All data collected on release sites and individual PBTLs will be saved to a database for reference during monitoring events. Artificial burrows can be constructed, for example, from wooden dowelling approximately 30 **Ecological** cm in length, with a 2 cm diameter hole drilled into the centre, which are then hammered into Consultant the ground until flush with the surface. A range of sizes (e.g. shallower/shorter and/or (Contractor) narrower in diameter) will be constructed prior to relocation to accommodate captured PBTLs of varying sizes. A burrowscope will be used to check the integrity of installed artificial burrows prior to release of PBTLs. In the unlikely event that a PBTL is required to be released within 50 m of the Disturbance Ecological Footprint, sediment fencing will be installed on the outer edge of the Disturbance Footprint Consultant (facing the PBTL) to prevent the relocated PBTL(s) (which is likely to be prone to an increased (Contractor) level of movement) from re-entering the Disturbance Footprint. A theoretical buffer of 60 m will be placed around the PBTL and the placement and length of the sediment fencing at the edge of the Disturbance Footprint will be sufficient to cover the extent of the buffer zone. Released PBTLs will be confined to the area immediately surrounding their burrow for 1 day **Ecological** by installing a temporary barrier (for example, approximately 50 cm long, 50 cm wide and 30 Consultant cm high and constructed out of a smooth, solid material). (Contractor) Captured PBTLs will not be released when weather forecast by the Bureau of Meteorology is Ecological 36°C or above or less than 15°C at the nearest weather station, or any temperature specified Consultant in the relevant WEC approval. The ecologist(s) must check the weather forecast and local (Contractor) weather conditions prior to commencing the release process. If a PBTL is suspected to have been injured because of release its condition will be scored (as Ecological outlined in PBTL capture methodology above). Consultant (Contractor) If a PBTL has a condition score of 5 or more, the SA Museum, Flinders University or PBTL Ecological Recovery Team will be consulted within 24 hours for the best course of action. Consultant (Contractor) Should a PBTL that is seriously injured require euthanasia (following consultation with the SA Ecological Museum, Flinders University or PBTL Recovery Team), this must be conducted by a suitably Consultant qualified ecologist(s). Individuals will be processed and provided to the SA Museum. An (Contractor) adverse incident report will be submitted to the WEC Executive Officer by email as soon as possible within 24 hours. Database records will be updated.

### 9.3 Permits, Licences and Approvals

The following permits, licences and approvals are required during both construction (PBTL survey, relocation and monitoring) and operation (PBTL monitoring) phases of the GNWF Project), to be obtained by the ecological consultant undertaking work related to PBTL relocation (refer back to **Table 5.1**):

- Permit to Destroy Wildlife under the NPW Act (Sections 53(1)(c), 53(1)(d)).
- Permits to 'take' and to 'release' PBTLs under the NPW Act (Wildlife Management (Controller) Permit) (Sections 53(1)(d) and 55 respectively) (DEW Fauna Permit Unit).



- Scientific research permit to monitor PBTLs (Sections 53(1)(a) and 53(1)b) of NPW Act) (DEW Research Permits).
- Licence for teaching, research or experimentation involving animals, required under the Animal Welfare Act 1985, (DEW Animal Welfare).
- Relevant South Australian Wildlife Ethics Committee (WEC) approvals must be obtained for the purposes of teaching, research or experimentation (required under the licence for teaching, research or experimentation involving animals).

Note: Allow a minimum of 4 weeks for processing applications for permits from DEW. For WEC approvals, allow for a 2-week submission deadline prior to WEC meetings held every 2 months, as well as 2 weeks processing).



# **10.0 Operational Management Measures**

Management measures to be implemented during operation are outlined in **Table 10.1**. The location, timing, frequency, and responsibility associated with each management measure is also listed in each table.



 Table 10.1
 General Operational Management Measures

Operational Management Measures	Location	Timing	Frequency	Responsibility
General Management Measures				
Inductions: All staff and contractors will complete a detailed, site-specific induction which provides an overview of PBTLs and potential impacts to PBTLs, as well as management measures associated with protection of PBTLs.	Site Office.	Prior to commencing any work on site.	Once (for each staff member and/or contractor).	EPC Contractor
Fact Sheets: Display a fact sheet on PBTLs (including images of PBTLs, habitat mapping, i.e. 'Known' and/or 'Likely' PBTL habitat and breeding season dates when PBTLs are more active and dispersing, as a minimum).	On site notice boards and in lunchrooms.	During operations.	Ongoing.	EPC Contractor
Toolbox Meetings: Hold toolbox meetings to highlight the importance of the species and ensure all staff and contractors are aware of the control measures to prevent impacting them.	Site Office.	Prior to commencing any operational or maintenance works within 'Known' and/or 'Likely' PBTL habitat.	Weekly.	EPC Contractor
Toolbox Meetings: Remind all staff and contractors to be vigilant when driving, to remain on designated access tracks and to look out for PBTLs.	Project Area.	Regularly during daily pre-start meetings or during toolbox meetings (as required).	Ongoing, particularly during the PBTL breeding season (Oct to Nov).	EPC Contractor
Vehicle and Construction Equipment Access: Ensure all vehicles and construction equipment utilise existing formed and approved access tracks and hardstands and avoid travel outside of these areas, particularly in areas of 'Known' and/or 'Likely' PBTL habitat.	Project Area.	During operations.	Ongoing.	EPC Contractor / All Staff
Reporting: Report any PBTL sightings, including any individuals found alive, injured or killed, to the Environment Manager. For individuals found injured or killed, collect information such as location, and cause of death if known (i.e. vehicle strike). The Environment Manager shall report as an environmental incident and undertake an environmental incident investigation.	Project Area.	During operations.	As required.	EPC Contractor / All staff
Clearance Delineation and PBTL Protection Measures				
Mapping and Spatial Data: Provide clear maps and spatial data indicating Disturbance Footprints, tracks, approved turnaround areas, car parks, equipment laydown areas and materials storage areas to ensure that no unapproved disturbances occur which may affect PBTL including impacts to areas of 'Known' and/or 'Likely' PBTL habitat.	Provide to those involved in operational and maintenance works.	At the end of construction.	Ongoing	EPC Contractor



Operational Management Measures	Location	Timing	Frequency	Responsibility
Weeds, Pests and Grazing Management				
Ongoing Weed Monitoring: Undertake periodic weed monitoring and control to mitigate potential impacts (e.g. spread) during operation and maintenance works which may impact 'Known' and/or 'Likely' PBTL habitat.  Ensure that any weed control uses a method which is in accordance with minimum disturbance techniques and does not have a significant adverse impact on PBTL including 'Known' and/or 'Likely' PBTL habitat.	Development Envelope and Disturbance Footprint	During operations.	Ongoing.	EPC Contractor
<ul> <li>Weed Control Measures: Ensure weed control methods are in accordance with the following from the Recovery Plan for the Pygmy Bluetongue Lizard (Duffy et al. 2012):</li> <li>Use minimal disturbance weed control methods wherever possible.</li> <li>If herbicide use is required:</li> <li>Read and adhere to the guidelines and recommended quantities stated on the label of the herbicide container.</li> <li>Ensure application occurs on a calm day to minimise drift and off-target damage.</li> <li>Wherever possible, spot spray directly onto the target species.</li> <li>Avoid broadscale application of herbicide.</li> <li>Ensure any sub-contractor engaged to undertake weed control is aware of the above requirements.</li> </ul>	Within 'Known' and/or 'Likely' PBTL habitat in the Disturbance Footprint.	During weed control works.	Ongoing.	EPC Contractor
Vehicle and Equipment Hygiene: No vehicles will be required to work off existing formed roads during operation of the wind farm. Ensure all vehicles and maintenance equipment are clean and free of soil material, including materials containing weed seed or propagules, prior to arriving on site, and prior working in close proximity to 'Known' and/or 'Likely' PBTL habitat.  If vegetative material or earth is present, ensure that the equipment is washed down at an appropriate offsite facility to prevent vegetative material or earth potentially containing weed seeds being brought into the site and into areas of 'Known' and/or 'Likely' PBTL habitat.	Site entrance.	Prior to arriving on site and prior to commencing works within, or in close proximity to 'Known' and/or 'Likely' PBTL habitat.	As required.	EPC Contractor / All site personnel
<u>Livestock Grazing Regimes:</u> If a significant alteration of grazing regime (for example increased grazing or preferential grazing in particular areas) is observed (as part of monitoring) and considered to be potentially impacting	Within ' <i>Known'</i> and/or ' <i>Likely'</i> PBTL habitat.	During operations.	As required.	EPC Contractor, Neoen Community



Operational Management Measures	Location	Timing	Frequency	Responsibility
'Known' and/or 'Likely' PBTL habitat, then it will need to be investigated by a suitably qualified ecologist and mitigation measures (or additional monitoring implemented.  Landholder to advise Neoen if any substantial changes to usual grazing regime and / or placement of watering points is required because of the construction of GNWF. Proposed alternative locations should be reviewed by ecological consultant to ensure no adverse impacts to PBTL Known habitat could be reasonably expected due to the proposed change.  Infrastructure, such as hardstands and access tracks, should not be used to install new watering points or feed-lots if these did not previously occur in the same or similar location.				Liaison, Landholders
Native and Invasive Herbivores:  Prevent stockpiling of equipment which may harbor pest animal species such as rabbits. Undertake regular auditing of site, including areas such as hardstands, laydowns, stockpiles and compounds to ensure that pest animals are not residing in these locations.  Landholder to communicate with Neoen Community Liaison personnel any observations in change in land use by native or invasive herbivores such as kangaroos, goats, hares and rabbits has changed due to construction works (i.e. increased grazing pressure or preferential grazing pressure). O&M contractor to coordinate any required pest management actions at / on site.	Within ' <i>Known</i> ' and/or ' <i>Likely</i> ' PBTL habitat.	During operations.	As required.	EPC Contractor, Neoen Community Liaison, Landholders
Rip and fill-in Rabbit Warrens: Where any rip or fill-in works are required for rabbit warrens within 'Known' and/or 'Likely' PBTL habitat, a targeted PBTL search will be undertaken, by a suitably qualified ecologist(s) to establish the location of PBTLs.  If PBTL are found, approval will be required for works to commence, in accordance with the Permit System outlined in <b>Section 5.1</b> and the CEMP.	Within 'Known' and/or 'Likely' PBTL habitat within the Disturbance Footprint.	Approximately 1-4 weeks prior to any rip and fill-in works commencing.	Once.	EPC Contractor, Neoen and Ecological Consultant
Soil Erosion, Dust Management and Drainage Management				
<u>Dust Deposition:</u> Monitor for visual signs of excessive dust deposition on 'Known' and/or 'Likely' PBTL habitat within 50 m of Disturbance Footprint, during regular site auditing.	INTG within 50m of Infrastructure	Regular (quarterly inspections).	Ongoing	HSE Manager
<u>Traffic Speed Limits:</u> Enforce a maximum speed limit of 40 km/hr on sealed and unsealed access tracks. Ensure maximum speed limits are signposted and monitored for compliance.	Project Area	During operation.	Ongoing	Site Supervisor



Operational Management Measures	Location	Timing	Frequency	Responsibility
Minimise Disturbance or Soil and Vegetation: Minimise disturbance of soil and vegetation during all activities undertaken throughout the operational phase (including vehicle access, general infrastructure, and site maintenance, weed control, fire management, grazing and fauna surveys) within the Project Area, particularly within 'Known' and/or 'Likely' PBTL habitat, by:	Disturbance Footprint.	During operations.	During all activities.	Asset Manager (Neoen)
<ul> <li>only driving on designated vehicle access tracks and utilising designated turnaround points;</li> </ul>				
<ul> <li>ensuring that all designated vehicle access tracks and site stormwater drainage is well maintained to prevent erosion and sedimentation from occurring; and</li> </ul>				
<ul> <li>minimising digging and soil disturbance to only that which is required to implement the approved action, including ripping of rabbit warrens to control rabbits.</li> </ul>				
Waste Management and Hazardous Material and Goods Management				
Hazardous materials and Dangerous Goods: Hazardous materials and dangerous goods containers and storage areas will be stored and managed in accordance with applicable Australian Standards, Safety Data Sheets and site specific Safe Work Method Statements.	Disturbance Footprint.	During operations.	Ongoing.	Asset Manager (Neoen)
General and Food Waste: Lidded bins for office / food waste to minimise odours and attraction of pests and native animals or birds which may impact PBTL.	Disturbance Footprint.	During operations.	Ongoing.	Asset Manager (Neoen)
Noise and vibration management				
Noise and Vibration: Any new requirements or research findings related to the impacts of noise and vibration on PBTL should be incorporated into future revisions of this management plan where relevant and as they become available.	Disturbance Footprint.	During operations.	Ongoing.	EPC Contractor



# **11.0 Important Contacts**

**Table 11.1** Important Contacts

Contact	Email	Phone
DEW (Fauna Permits Unit)	dewfaunapermitsunit@sa.gov.au	(08) 8124 4972
DEW (Scientific Research Permits)	DEWResearchPermis@sa.gov.au	(08) 8124 4856
DEW (Animal Welfare - Licence for teaching,	DEWAnimalWelfare@sa.gov.au	(08) 8207 7731
research or experimentation involving		
animals)		
WEC	DEW.WildlifeEthicsCommittee@sa.gov.au	(08) 8463 6851
PBTL Recovery Team	-	(08) 8841 3403
Threatened Fauna Ecologist		
Northern and Yorke Region		
Department for Environment and Water		
6/17 Lennon Street, Clare, SA.		

## 11.1 PBTL Recovery Team

The PBTL recovery team includes representation from:

- South Australian Department for Environment and Water
- South Australian Museum
- Flinders University
- Zoos South Australia
- Regional Council of Goyder
- Landholders of Pygmy Blue-tongue sites
- Mid North Grassland Working Group
- Nature Foundation.



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# **Initial EPBC Act Approval**







[Placeholder: EPBC Act approval conditions]

# Letter from the Department DATE XXXX







[Placeholder: Letter from DCCEEW]

# Variations of Conditions attached to EPBC Act Approval (2024/09929)







[Placeholder: EPBC Act condition variations]

A3-2

# PBTL Relocation (including Monitoring) Risk Assessment and Management







### **Likelihood of Risk Occurring**

Likelihood	Description
Almost Certain	Expected to occur in most circumstances
Likely	Will probably occur in most circumstances
Possible	Might occur occasionally
Unlikely	Could occur at some time, but unlikely
Rare	May occur only in exceptional circumstances

### **Consequence of Risk Rating**

Consequence	Description
Insignificant	No or negligible impact to PBTLs
Minor	Mild pain or distress to PBTLs
Moderate	Injury and / or mortality to five or less PBTLs
Major	Injury and / or mortality to more than five PBTLs
Severe	Significant impact to PBTL population in the Project Area

### **Risk Assessment Matrix**

Consequence ® Likelihood -	Insignificant (no impact)	Minor (low impact, localised)	Moderate (manageable, some environmental harm)	Major (significant damage, regulatory concerns)	Severe (catastrophic impact, irreversible harm)
Rare (highly unlikely)	Low	Low	Low	Medium	High
Unlikely (could happen, but not likely)	Low	Low	Medium	High	High
Possible (might occur at some point)	Low	Medium	Medium	High	Extreme
Likely (expected to occur)	Medium	Medium	High	High	Extreme
Almost certain (occurs frequently)	Medium	High	High	Extreme	Extreme

### **Management Actions Required for Each Risk Rating**

Risk Rating	Management Actions Required
Low	Acceptable risk level with infrequent review. Standard control and monitoring measures to be identified and implemented. Monitor and review locally as necessary. Report to local manager(s).
Medium	Acceptable risk level but must be reviewed regularly. Specific control and monitoring measures to be identified and implemented. Measures and risk level to be reviewed and improved as further information becomes available.
High	Undesirable risk level – consultation with manager(s) prior to activity. Specific control and monitoring measures to be identified and implemented. Measures and risk level to be reviewed and improved as further information becomes available.
Extreme	Unacceptable risk level. Do not proceed with activity. Requires immediate attention and consideration. Detailed risk assessment and management plan to be prepared by relevant senior manager(s) or suitably qualified consultant. Strict control and monitoring measures to be identified and implemented. Any action that has, will have, or is likely to have a significant impact on matters of national environmental significance requires referral under the EPBC Act.



### **PBTL Relocation Risk Assessment and Management**

A risk assessment of the PBTL relocation procedure, with initial risk rating, associated management / mitigation measures and residual risk rating, is presented below. Refer to previous tables for the likelihood criteria, the consequence criteria, the risk rating matrix and the management actions required for each risk rating. After implementation of management / mitigation measures, no residual risk rating is higher than medium.

Activity	Hazard	Potential impact	Likelihood	Consequence	Risk rating	Management / mitigation measures	Residual risk rating
Pre- construction survey(s)	Optic fibre 'burrowscope' placed briefly into burrows to determine PBTL presence.	Mild pain or distress to PBTLs from burrowscope light source and/or unnecessary contact.	Almost certain	Insignificant	Medium	Ensure surveyor looks at video screen of burrowscope when checking each burrow to prevent unnecessary contact with PBTLs. Remove burrowscope as soon as PBTL occupancy is confirmed.	Low
Capture	PBTLs subject to too many capture attempts.	Mild pain or distress.	Possible	Minor	Medium	Attempts at capture should be limited to two or three per day if possible (J Clayton <i>pers. comm.</i> 2019).	Low
	Improper or excessive handling.	Mild pain or distress.	Unlikely	Minor	Low	Only suitably qualified ecologist(s) to handle PBTLs.  PBTLs will only be handled for the minimum amount of time required to gather the necessary information.	Low
	PBTLs stressed from capture attempts during extreme heat.	Mild pain or distress, reduction in body condition or mortality in extreme cases.	Possible	Moderate	Medium	No capture of PBTLs will take place when weather forecast by the Bureau of Meteorology is 36°C or above at Burra (nearest weather station), or any temperature specified in the relevant WEC approval. The ecologist(s) must check the weather forecast and local weather conditions on a daily basis, prior to commencing the capture process.	Low
Housing	PBTLs housed in too warm/cool area.	Mild pain or distress.	Possible	Insignificant	Low	PBTLs housed in calico bags will be kept in well-ventilated plastic crates with snap lock lids in a cool location (e.g. in shade of vehicle canopy with doors/windows open).	Low
	PBTLs housed in extreme temperature conditions.	Mild pain or distress, reduction in body condition or mortality in extreme cases.	Unlikely	Moderate	Medium	The ambient temperature where PBTLs are housed will range between 15°C and 30°C (J Clayton <i>pers. comm.</i> 2019).	Low



Activity	Hazard	Potential impact	Likelihood	Consequence	Risk rating	Management / mitigation measures	Residual risk rating
						Housed PBTLs and housing conditions will be checked every 1-2 hours depending on climatic conditions during the survey.	
	PBTLs housed for extended time period(s).	Mild pain or distress, reduction in body condition or mortality in extreme cases.	Possible	Moderate	Medium	Housed PBTLs and housing conditions will be checked every 1-2 hours depending on climatic conditions during the survey.  An adequate supply of meal worms will be on hand to feed	Low
						PBTLs if required, taking into consideration the number of meal worms eaten during capture attempts.	
						If a PBTL is suspected to have been injured as a result of housing its condition will be scored (see condition scores in PBTL capture methodology <b>Table 9.3</b> ). If a PBTL has a condition score of 5 or more, the SA Museum, Flinders University or PBTL Recovery Team will be consulted within 24 hours for the best course of action.	
Transport	Bumpy transportation route and/or housing moving around vehicle.	Mild pain or distress, reduction in body condition or mortality in extreme cases.	Possible	Moderate	Medium	Where relocation by foot is not practicable, PBTLs in calico bags stored in well-ventilated plastic crates with snap lock lids will be transported to the nearest suitable release site by vehicle.	Low
						Plastic crates will be stored so they cannot move around within the vehicle transporting PBTLs.	
						Vehicles transporting PBTLs will follow approved access routes to the nearest suitable release site, drive at a pace that prevents unnecessary bumping and be temperature controlled (air conditioned) to maintain an ambient temperature between 15°C and 30°C.	
Release	Unsuitable habitat.	Indirect loss of relocated individuals through short-term impacts related to unsuitable habitat at	Possible	Major	High	Assess habitat in release site(s) prior to release. Burrows at the release site(s) will be inspected to identify those suitable for PBTLs prior to releasing any individuals. The burrowscope(s) will be marked at 10 cm and 25 cm to	Medium



Activity	Hazard	Potential impact	Likelihood	Consequence	Risk rating	Management / mitigation measures	Residual risk rating
		the relocation release site (e.g. exposure due to lack of suitable burrows or grass cover, low food resources).				quickly determine if there are burrows deep enough for juvenile and adult PBTLs, respectively.  If considered necessary by the ecologist(s), two to three artificial burrows will be installed within a 50 cm radius surrounding the suitable burrow each PBTL is released into.	
	Predation.	Indirect loss of relocated individuals through short-term impacts of predation at the release site.	Possible	Major	High	Ensure PBTLs enter burrow upon release. Provide artificial burrows (if considered necessary by the ecologist(s)). Release sites selected with suitable tussock grass cover (where possible) to reduce predation risk.	Medium
	Disorientation.	Indirect loss of relocated individuals through short-term impacts of disorientation at the release site (e.g. emigration from the release site).	Possible	Major	High	Released PBTLs will be confined to the area immediately surrounding their burrow for 1 day by installing a temporary barrier (for example, approximately 50 cm long, 50 cm wide and 30 cm high and constructed out of a smooth, solid material).  Released PBTLs will be given up to three meal worms immediately following release (depending on how many meal worms were required to capture them), to discourage emigration from the release site. They will be fed up to three meal worms the following day before the temporary confinement barrier is removed.	Medium
	PBTL activity (emigration from the release site)	Indirect loss of relocated individuals that move into/across the Disturbance Footprint.	Possible	Moderate	Medium	Released PBTLs will be confined to the area immediately surrounding their burrow for 1 day by installing a temporary barrier (for example, approximately 50 cm long, 50 cm wide and 30 cm high and constructed out of a smooth, solid material).  Released PBTLs will be given up to three meal worms immediately following release (depending on how many meal worms were required to capture them), to discourage	Low



Activity	Hazard	Potential impact	Likelihood	Consequence	Risk rating	Management / mitigation measures	Residual risk rating
						three meal worms the following day before the temporary confinement barrier is removed.	
						Where a PBTL is released within 60 m of the Disturbance Footprint, sediment fencing will be installed on the outer edge of the Infrastructure footprint (facing the PBTL) to prevent the relocated PBTL (which is likely to be prone to an increased level of movement) from entering the Infrastructure footprint. A theoretical buffer of 60 m will be placed around the PBTL and the placement and length of the sediment fencing at the edge of the Infrastructure footprint will be sufficient to cover the extent of the buffer zone.	
	Conspecifics (e.g. other resident or relocated PBTLs).	Mild pain or distress, reduction in body condition or mortality in extreme cases.	Possible	Moderate	Medium	Burrows at the release site(s) will be inspected to identify those suitable for PBTLs prior to releasing any individuals. The burrowscope(s) will be marked at 10 cm and 25 cm to quickly determine if there are burrows deep enough for juvenile and adult PBTLs, respectively.	Low
						If considered necessary by the ecologist(s), two to three artificial burrows will be installed within a 50 cm radius surrounding the suitable burrow each PBTL is released into.	
						PBTLs will be released at least 2 m from any other PBTL and any artificial burrows installed around their release burrow.	
						Released PBTLs will be confined to the area immediately surrounding their burrow for 1 day by installing a temporary barrier (for example, approximately 50 cm long, 50 cm wide and 30 cm high and constructed out of a smooth, solid material).	
						Released PBTLs will be given up to three meal worms immediately following release (depending on how many meal worms were required to capture them), to discourage emigration from the release site. They will be fed up to	



Activity	Hazard	Potential impact	Likelihood	Consequence	Risk rating	Management / mitigation measures	Residual risk rating
						three meal worms the following day before the temporary confinement barrier is removed.	
Euthanasia	Correct euthanasia procedures not followed (i.e. incorrect needle and/or dose used).	Unnecessary pain or distress.	Possible	Moderate	Medium	Should a PBTL that is seriously injured require euthanasia (following consultation with the SA Museum, Flinders University or PBTL Recovery Team), this will be conducted by a suitably qualified ecologist(s) trained in field euthanasia of animals.	Low



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