



Preliminary Post- Construction Rehabilitation Plan

Cattle Creek Wind Farm

PREPARED FOR

RWE Cattle Creek Onshore Wind
Pty Ltd

DATE

10 July 2026

REFERENCE

0706881



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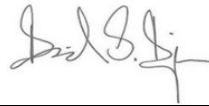
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Preliminary Post-Construction Rehabilitation Plan

Cattle Creek Wind Farm
0706881



Jessica Kwok
Managing Consultant



David Dique
Lead Partner

Environmental Resources Management
Australia Pty Ltd
Level 14, 207 Kent Street
Sydney NSW 2000
T +61 2 8584 8888

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ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

Acronyms	Description
BESS	Battery Energy Storage System
CEMP	Construction Environment Management Plan
DA	Development Application
ERM	Environmental Resources Management Australia Pty Ltd
ha	Hectares
LGA	Local Government Area
MSES	Matters of State Environmental Significance
PO	Performance Outcome
PPCRP	Preliminary Post Construction Rehabilitation Plan
State Code 16	State Code 16: Native vegetation clearing
State Code 23	State Code 23: Wind farm development
State Code 27	State Code 27: Battery storage facility development
VM Act	<i>Vegetation Management Act 1999</i>
WTG	Wind Turbine Generator

KEY TERMS

Key Term	Description
The Applicant	RWE Cattle Creek Onshore Wind Pty Ltd
The Project	Cattle Creek Wind Farm
Disturbance Footprint	The area of maximum direct disturbance associated with the construction, operation and decommissioning of the Proposed Development in the Project Area, which is approximately 2,221.2 ha.
Temporary Use Areas	Areas of temporary disturbance within mapped regulated vegetation that will not be required for ongoing operations and maintenance or decommissioning (423.5 ha), as defined under the Guide to State Development Assessment Provisions – State Code 16: Natural vegetation clearing (State Code 16 Guide).
Natural Regeneration	Rehabilitation of groundcover species, including native grasses and shrubs that will regenerate either naturally or with minimum intervention.
Progressive Restoration Areas	Areas subject to Natural Regeneration activities that occur progressively throughout the construction and post-construction phases.
Project Area	The wind farm and BESS project area comprising twelve separate lots, and adjacent road reserves with a total area of approximately 20,404.5 ha.
Rehabilitation	Rehabilitation measures that aim to return nominal temporary pre-disturbance areas to full ecological functionality.
Rehabilitation Areas	Areas subject to Rehabilitation or Restoration activities during the post-construction phase, 1,185.4 ha (53.4% ha of the Disturbance Footprint).

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 BACKGROUND

RWE Cattle Creek Onshore Wind Pty Ltd (the Proponent), a wholly owned subsidiary of RWE Renewables Europe & Australia GmbH, is developing the Cattle Creek Wind Farm (the Project), located approximately 60 km southwest of Dalby and 110 km west of Toowoomba, existing across both the Toowoomba Regional Council and Western Downs Regional Council Local Government Areas (LGAs) in Queensland. The Project includes the construction, operation, maintenance, and decommissioning of up to 135 Wind Turbine Generators (WTGs), Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) of up to 450 MW as well as ancillary infrastructure (supporting infrastructure) consisting of:

- WTG foundations, crane hardstands, crane boom laydown, blade laydown and rotor assembly area;
- Access tracks, including:
 - New and upgraded access tracks within the Project Area, generally consisting of a nominal range of 5.5 m – 10 m wide permanent access, and a maximum 50 – 90 m wide cleared corridor of Oversize Overmass (OSOM) vehicles.
- Low voltage (LV) and medium voltage (MV) underground cabling, as well as MV and high voltage (HV) overhead transmission lines;
- Internal collector substations;
- A switching station adjacent to the existing 330 kV Powerlink transmission line. This has been accounted for within the Disturbance Footprint, thereby allowing the clearing of the site to be assessed as part of the impacts associated with the Proposed Development (noting, however, that the switching station infrastructure will be constructed, owned and operated by Powerlink);
- Permanent meteorological masts;
- Construction compounds and laydown areas;
- Operational and maintenance facilities; and
- A construction workers accommodation facility.

Further, there is the potential for the inclusion of the below infrastructure:

- Concrete batching plants;
- Borrow pits; and
- Communications tower.

Environmental Resources Management Australia Pty Ltd (ERM) has been engaged by the Applicant, to prepare a Preliminary Post-Construction Rehabilitation Plan (PPCRP) for the Project to support the Development Application (DA) material under the *Planning Act 2016* (Planning Act). As such, the PPCRP should be read in conjunction with these documents.

1.2 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this document is to adequately address Performance Outcome (PO) 4 of State Code 23: Wind farm development (State Code 23), as well as PO12 of State Code 16: Native vegetation clearing (State Code 16).

As such, this PPCRP will assist in facilitating post-construction rehabilitation of the Project Area, as well as outlining a pathway to mitigate the environmental impacts of construction. Subsequent to construction completion, an opportunity exists to rehabilitate 1,170.7 ha of the total 2,221.2 ha Disturbance Footprint (52.3%), which is not required for operation, resulting in an operational footprint of 1,035.8 ha. This PPCRP provides detail around the potential approaches to post-construction rehabilitation which may be undertaken for the various 'temporary use areas', as defined under State Code 16.

In addition, this document provides a framework for key rehabilitation outcomes and includes a description of the rehabilitation principles, methods, and performance indicators which may be implemented to achieve the objectives of PO4 of State Code 23 and PO12 of State Code 16, including:

- A description of the existing environment and the phases of development which relate to the rehabilitation objectives;
- A description of appropriate methods implemented across the entirety of the Project Area, and relate to post-construction phases of the Project;
- A description of how rehabilitation can apply to Project Area-specific infrastructure and scenarios, including cross-sections for each scenario;
- Consideration of impacts both during the construction and operational phases of development;
- Consideration for existing land use practices prior to the commencement of construction activities; and
- Consideration for species-specific requirements across the Project Area.

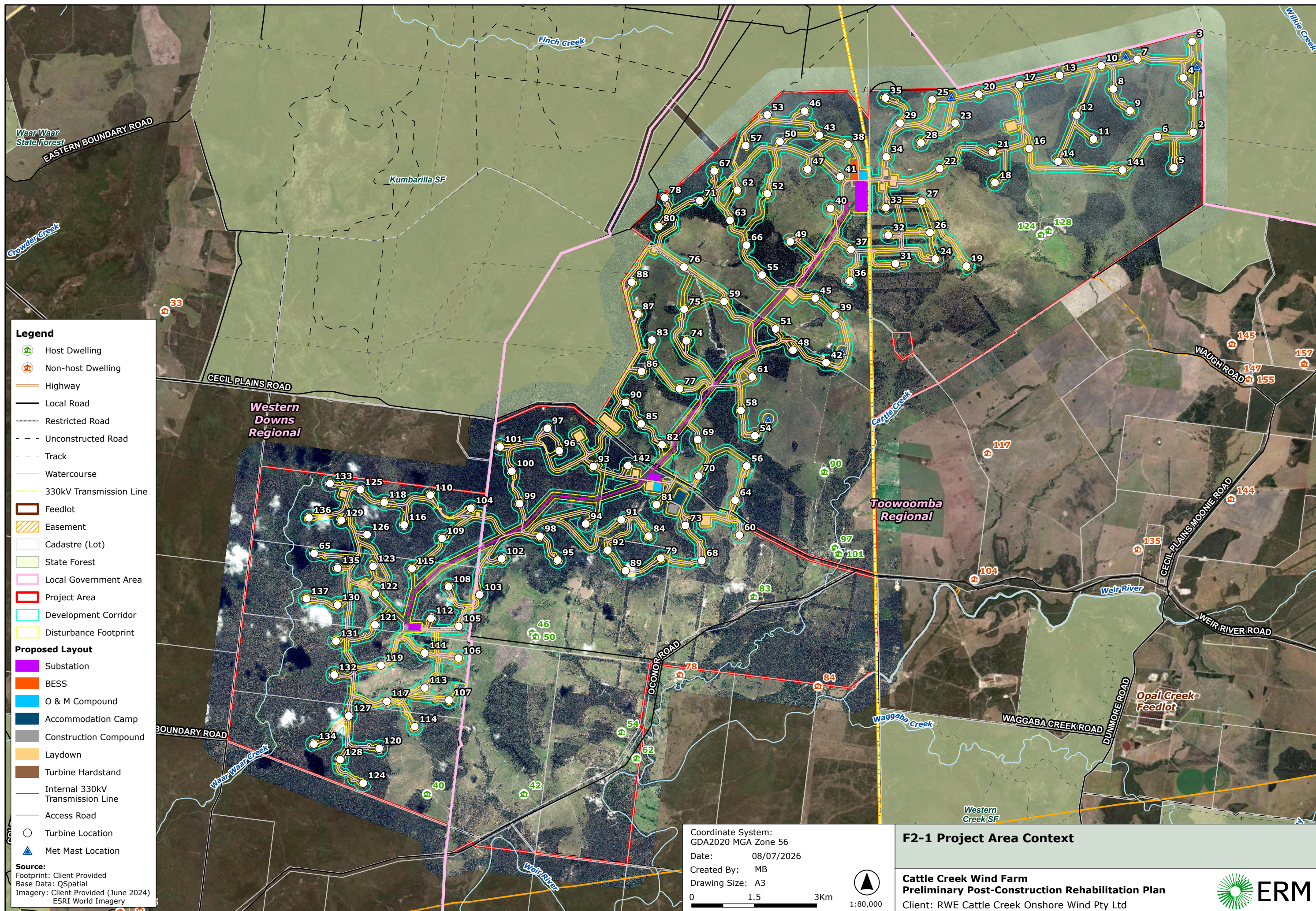
2. EXISTING ENVIRONMENT

Table 2-1 outlines the characteristics of the existing environment of the Project Area.

TABLE 2-1 CHARACTERISTICS OF EXISTING ENVIRONMENT

Site Characteristics	Description
Existing land use	The Project Area is classified as being within the Rural Zone under both the Toowoomba Region Planning Scheme and the Western Downs Regional Council Planning Scheme, with the land predominantly used for cattle grazing, animal husbandry, and related rural activities.
Existing structures	There are 12 dwellings within the Project Area. These are identified in Figure 2-1.
Access	All internal access within the Project Area is by a network of private roads. The Project Area interfaces with the broader road network via Cecil Plains-Moonie Road, O'Connor Road and a number of unnamed local roads.
Topography and views	The Proposed Development is located in the Queensland Brigalow Belt South Bioregion which comprises a mixed landscape, including flat alluvial plains and undulating to hilly areas with low ridges and deep valleys. The elevation throughout the Project Area ranges from approximately 380 m to 310 m.

Site Characteristics	Description
Existing vegetation	The majority of the Disturbance Footprint (1,407.4 ha or 63%) has previously been cleared and is currently being utilised for either grazing or cropping activities and is associated with alluvial plains near watercourses. The remaining 37% of the Disturbance Footprint (813.82 ha) is mapped as remnant or regrowth native vegetation. Remnant vegetation is associated with upper slopes.
Existing fauna	Field surveys and desktop assessment of the Project Area confirm the presence of two Threatened Ecological Communities as well as three Matters of National Environmental Significance species. One species is likely to occur, and eight listed species have the potential to occur within the Project Area. Matters of State Environmental Significance identified within the Project Area include regulated vegetation, connectivity areas, protected wildlife habitat (for the species threatened under the <i>Nature Conservation Act 1992</i>).
Existing waterways	There are multiple waterways intersecting the Project Area, including Cattle Creek, Weir River and Waar Waar Creek. There are also no High Ecological Value waterways present in the Project Area, nor any High Ecological Significance wetlands that occur within the Project Area. There are low to major risk Queensland waterways for waterway barrier works within the Project Area that may provide fish passage. There are also several other waterways around the Project Area which may be impacted through site access arrangements.
Surrounding land uses	The Project Area lies adjacent to several State Forests, namely: • The Kumbarilla State Forest is located on the northern boundary of the Project Area; • The Western Creek State Forest is located approximately 5 km south-east; • Dunmore State Forest is located approximately 10 km east; • Waar Waar State Forest is located approximately 9 km west; and • Boondandilla State Forest is located approximately 5 km south-west. Transmission lines intersect through the Project Area as part of three separate easements including GSP112990, HSP112991 and JSP109190. The nearest pipeline, Moonie to Brisbane Oil pipeline, is 340 m south of the Project Area.



3. PHASES OF DEVELOPMENT

3.1 CONSTRUCTION

The Principal Contractor for the Proposed Project will be responsible for the detailed construction methodology. A Preliminary Construction Environment Management Plan (CEMP) has been prepared, and it is expected that this will be updated by the Principal Contractor prior to the commencement of any construction activities. The CEMP includes details of the construction program, construction techniques to be employed, mitigation measures to control construction impacts, and contact details for queries and reporting incidents. The CEMP will be implemented in accordance with the permits and the State Code 23 and State Code 27 approvals issued to the Proposed Project.

A Disturbance Footprint of 2,221.2 ha will be required to facilitate construction. This will include the clearing of up to 818.2 ha of Regulated Vegetation. Key aspects of the Project that could result in impacts on biodiversity include:

- Habitat clearance for permanent and temporary construction facilities, with potential vegetation impacts including:
 - Direct loss of listed flora and vegetation habitat, typically as a result of clearing activities;
 - Fragmentation of connectivity areas;
 - Introduction and spread of priority weeds and pathogens; and
 - Indirect impacts to adjacent habitat areas as a result of such impacts as greater noise, blasting, dust, and runoff and erosion. Further, these impacts may affect the downstream environments;
- Following the completion of the construction phase of the Project, construction laydown areas may be rehabilitated to pre-clearance conditions; and
- The widened access tracks not required for operation will undergo progressive rehabilitation of grass species.

Rehabilitation activities will be undertaken as part of the post-construction phase, with more information included in Section 4 below.

3.1.1 CLEARING METHODOLOGIES

The proposed clearing methodologies will be confirmed by the Principal Contractor. However, it is anticipated that clearing will largely be undertaken mechanically using dozers and other heavy equipment. No chemical spraying or burning is proposed. Trees can be mulched and used during rehabilitation activities.

Clearing of vegetation will occur during the construction phase of the Project, which is estimated to be 24 – 48 months. The rehabilitation and/or progressive restoration of areas cleared for construction will take place after construction has been completed.

The area of overlap between the Disturbance Footprint and affected Matters of State Environmental Significance (MSES) are provided in Table 3-1.

TABLE 3-1 AFFECTED ENVIRONMENTAL VALUES AND DISTURBANCE FOOTPRINT

MSES	Habitat Type	Amount in Project Area (ha)	Amount in Disturbance Footprint (ha)	Rehabilitation Area (ha)	Maximum Permanent Impact (ha)	% Permanently Impacted
Regulated vegetation and Regional Ecosystems						
Category B Endangered or Of Concern RE	-	362.2	0.0	NA	0	0
Category B Essential Habitat	-	0.8	0	NA	0	0
Category B RE Intersecting a Watercourse	-	529.5	5.2	NA	2.1	0.4
Category B Least Concern regional ecosystems	-	7,540	813.8	442.6	371.2	45.6
Category B Regulated Vegetation within a Road Reserve	-	107.5	16.0	10.4	5.6	34.9
Protected Species						
Kogan waxflower	Supporting habitat	4.8	1.1	NA	1.1*	22.9
Diamond firetail	Breeding habitat	6,379.2	311.5	34.3	277.1	4.3
	Foraging/ dispersal habitat	1,973.2	185.8	29.1	156.6	8.0
Glossy black cockatoo (south-eastern)	Foraging habitat	809.3	57.5	NA	57.5	7.1

MSES	Habitat Type	Amount in Project Area (ha)	Amount in Disturbance Footprint (ha)	Rehabilitation Area (ha)	Maximum Permanent Impact (ha)	% Permanently Impacted
White-throated needletail	No habitat mapped	Potential impacts will not impede species aerial foraging.				
Koala	Breeding/ foraging/ core dispersal habitat	10,471.0	644.0	NA	644.0	6.1
	Safe intervening ground matrix	5,642.8	484.5	82.5	0.0	0.0
Greater glider (central and southern)	Potential denning/ breeding habitat	2,941.4	200.1	NA	200.1	6.8
	Potential foraging/ future denning habitat	1,844.1	53.1	NA	53.1	2.9
Yellow-bellied glider (south-eastern)	Potential foraging/ future denning habitat	2,036.5	62.8	NA	62.8	3.1
Squatter pigeon (southern)	Potential breeding habitat	5,690.7	365.8	NA	365.8	6.4
	Potential foraging/ dispersal habitat	3,971.0	220.7	30.1	190.6	4.7
Short-beaked echidna	Suitable habitat	20,404.5	2,221.2	1,050.5	1,170.7	5.7
Latham's snipe	Potential habitat	65.7	0.2	NA	0.1	0.2
Southern whiteface	Potential habitat	653.5	28	2.6	25.4	3.9
Fork-tailed swift	No habitat mapped	Potential impacts will not impede species aerial foraging				

NA = not applicable. Rehabilitation will not restore directly impacted habitat to its former functional state.

* = 'actual' area of direct impact to species habitat which will not be functionally restored through rehabilitation is likely to be substantially less than the Maximum Permanent Impact cited in this Table.

- = impact to koala safe intervening ground matrix is not considered a permanent impact, as dispersal opportunities for this species will be maintained.

3.2 OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE FACILITIES

To monitor and maintain the Project during the operation and maintenance phase, an Operations and Maintenance (O&M) facility will be established within the Project Area. The O&M facility will include, but may not be limited to, management offices, workshops, storage, equipment laydown, and warehousing facilities.

The activities during operation which may impact upon the environment include routine maintenance and servicing of turbines, maintenance of access tracks and electrical installations and infrastructure as required. These activities may result in incidents of injury or mortality for fauna as a result of vehicle collisions, habitat loss (though on a considerably smaller scale when compared to construction phase activities), habitat disturbance, and exposure to potentially hazardous materials.

Operational phase activities, though longer in duration than those of construction phase activities, are anticipated to be more indirect, of lower frequency, and smaller in intensity

Rehabilitation activities will be undertaken at the post-construction phase as per the Preliminary Post-Construction Rehabilitation Plan. A detailed End of Life Decommissioning Plan will be prepared as required and will include overarching principles for the decommissioning phase.

3.3 DECOMMISSIONING AND END-OF-LIFE REHABILITATION

The WTGs have an expected operational life of up to 35 years, at the end of which, a number of options are being considered by the Applicant:

- Continue the use of the Project Area as a wind farm using the existing WTGs (subject to condition of equipment);
- Replace the WTGs with updated technology, and continue the use of the Project Area as a wind farm for a further term; or
- Decommission the Project and remove the WTGs and ancillary infrastructure in accordance with a Decommissioning Plan prepared for the Project.

BESS facilities are typically operational for 20 to 30 years, at the end of which, a number of options are being considered by the Applicant:

- Refurbish the existing infrastructure with the consideration of new BESS technology; or
- Decommission the BESS and rehabilitate the land.

When decommissioning occurs:

- All above-ground infrastructure not required for the ongoing agricultural use of the land, including the WTGs, BESS, substations, and O&M facilities, will be removed and the land rehabilitated;
- Any access tracks and hardstands not wanted or required by the landowner will be removed, and the land will be rehabilitated and returned to agricultural use;
- Below ground infrastructure, including cabling and the WTG foundations, will be left in situ to avoid further disturbance and minimise clearing of revegetated areas. Rehabilitated areas will be adequately graded to reflect the slope of the surrounding area and to mitigate the risk of soil erosion; and

- All materials removed from the Project Area will be sorted and packaged for reuse and/or recycled where possible in accordance with the waste hierarchy.

An End-of-Life Decommissioning and Rehabilitation Plan will be prepared for the Project no less than five years in advance of decommissioning action, and/or in accordance with any Project approval requirements. It is anticipated that the decommissioning and rehabilitation phase may take up to 18 months to complete, with the Project Area being returned to its condition prior to the commencement of construction.

4. POST-CONSTRUCTION REHABILITATION

Following the completion of the construction phase of the Project, construction laydown areas and widened access tracks no longer required are anticipated to be rehabilitated. Two forms of rehabilitation will occur across the site:

- **Natural regeneration** – Rehabilitation of groundcover species, including native grasses and shrubs, which will regenerate either naturally or with minimum intervention; and
- **Rehabilitation of Temporary Use Areas** - Rehabilitation/revegetation measures that aim to return nominal temporary use areas to full ecological functionality. Reinstated to equivalent pre-construction vegetation without height restrictions (423.5 ha of the Disturbance Footprint).

The extent of natural regeneration and rehabilitation will be as per the required bushfire setback and minimum offset requirement for electrical cabling.

Where appropriate, areas of disturbance only required for construction are to be rehabilitated in accordance with a post-construction rehabilitation plan. This document identifies areas of disturbance associated with construction activities that will no longer be required as part of the operation of the Project. Rehabilitation objectives have been developed with consideration for the existing condition, potential ongoing direct and indirect impacts, the need to maintain setbacks to reduce bushfire risk, and the need for disturbance for decommissioning. It is expected that rehabilitation will be required following end-of-life decommissioning of the Project.

Figure 4-1 presents the turbine layout and associated linear infrastructure corridors across the Project Area, including access tracks and transmission and reticulation corridors, and illustrates the spatial relationship between this infrastructure and areas proposed for post-construction rehabilitation. The figure identifies the overall Disturbance Footprint and delineates those components of the linear corridors and turbine hardstand areas that are not required for ongoing operation and maintenance and are therefore available for rehabilitation or natural regeneration following construction. This integrated layout enables clear identification of rehabilitation opportunities associated with both point infrastructure (WTG hardstands) and linear infrastructure elements, consistent with the rehabilitation approach outlined in this PPCRP.

Typical rehabilitation for access corridors and WTGS has been provided in Appendix A.

4.1 PROPOSED REHABILITATION AREAS

The Project will require temporary disturbance to Regulated Vegetation to facilitate construction activities. Following the completion of construction, areas identified as not being required for operation and maintenance have the potential to be rehabilitated, in accordance with a Final Post-Construction Rehabilitation Plan to be developed for the Project.

Upon completion of construction activities, 1,185.5 ha of the Disturbance Footprint will be rehabilitated, which includes the following:

- Rehabilitation of 423.5 ha defined as 'temporary use area' under State Code 16. Active rehabilitation of these areas includes returning these areas to a pre-development regional ecosystem present prior to clearing activities; and
- Natural regeneration of 747.2 ha. The Disturbance Footprint that is not required for operation will be rehabilitated with ground cover to promote the return of habitat and stability of ground disturbance, while recognising that these areas may be required for maintenance or decommissioning works and therefore will be fully rehabilitated as part of end-of-life decommissioning and rehabilitation.

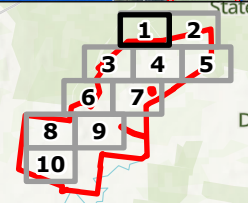
Figure 4-1 depicts the Project Area showing the Project Disturbance Footprint and the proposed area for rehabilitation after the construction phase.



Source:
Boundaries: Client Provided (Dec 2025)
Basedata: QSpatial
Imagery: Client Provided | ESRI World Imagery

Legend

- | | | |
|--------------------------|---|-----------------------------|
| — Local Road | □ Cadastre (Lot) | □ Disturbance Footprint |
| --- Restricted Road | □ State Forest | □ Operation Footprint |
| - - - Unconstructed Road | ■ Regulated Vegetation Mapping Category B | ▣ Temporary Use Area |
| - - - Track | □ Project Area | ▣ Natural Regeneration Area |
| — VMA Watercourse | | |



Coordinate System:
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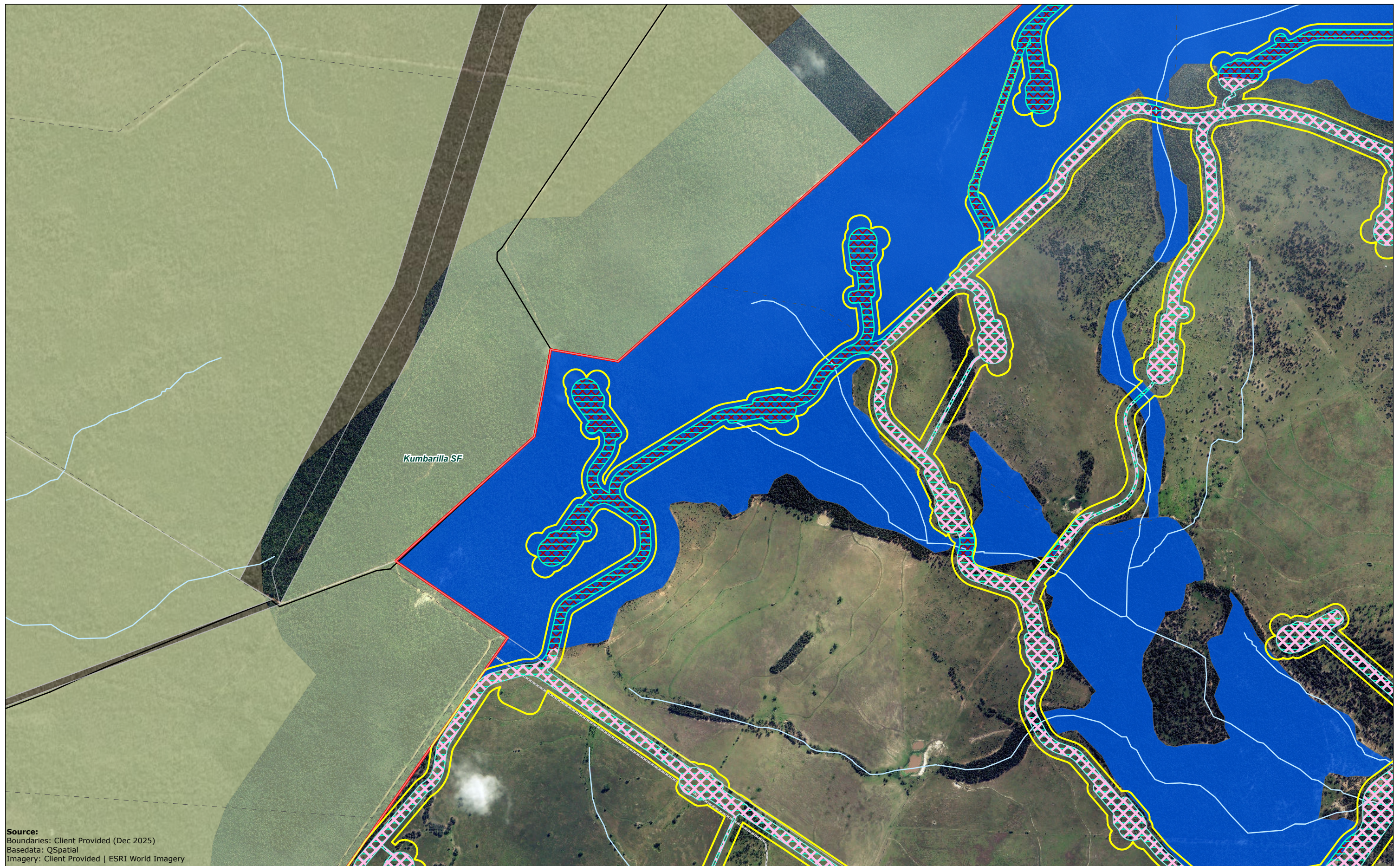


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**F4-1 Proposed Rehabilitation Areas
Map 1**

**Cattle Creek Wind Farm
Preliminary Post-Construction Rehabilitation Plan**
Client: RWE Cattle Creek Onshore Wind Development Pty Ltd

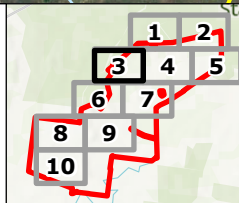




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Basedata: QSpatial
Imagery: Client Provided | ESRI World Imagery

Legend

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|---------------------|---|-----------------------------|
| — Local Road | □ Cadastre (Lot) | □ Disturbance Footprint |
| --- Restricted Road | □ State Forest | □ Operation Footprint |
| - - - Track | ■ Regulated Vegetation Mapping Category B | ▤ Temporary Use Area |
| — VMA Watercourse | ■ Project Area | ▤ Natural Regeneration Area |



Coordinate System:
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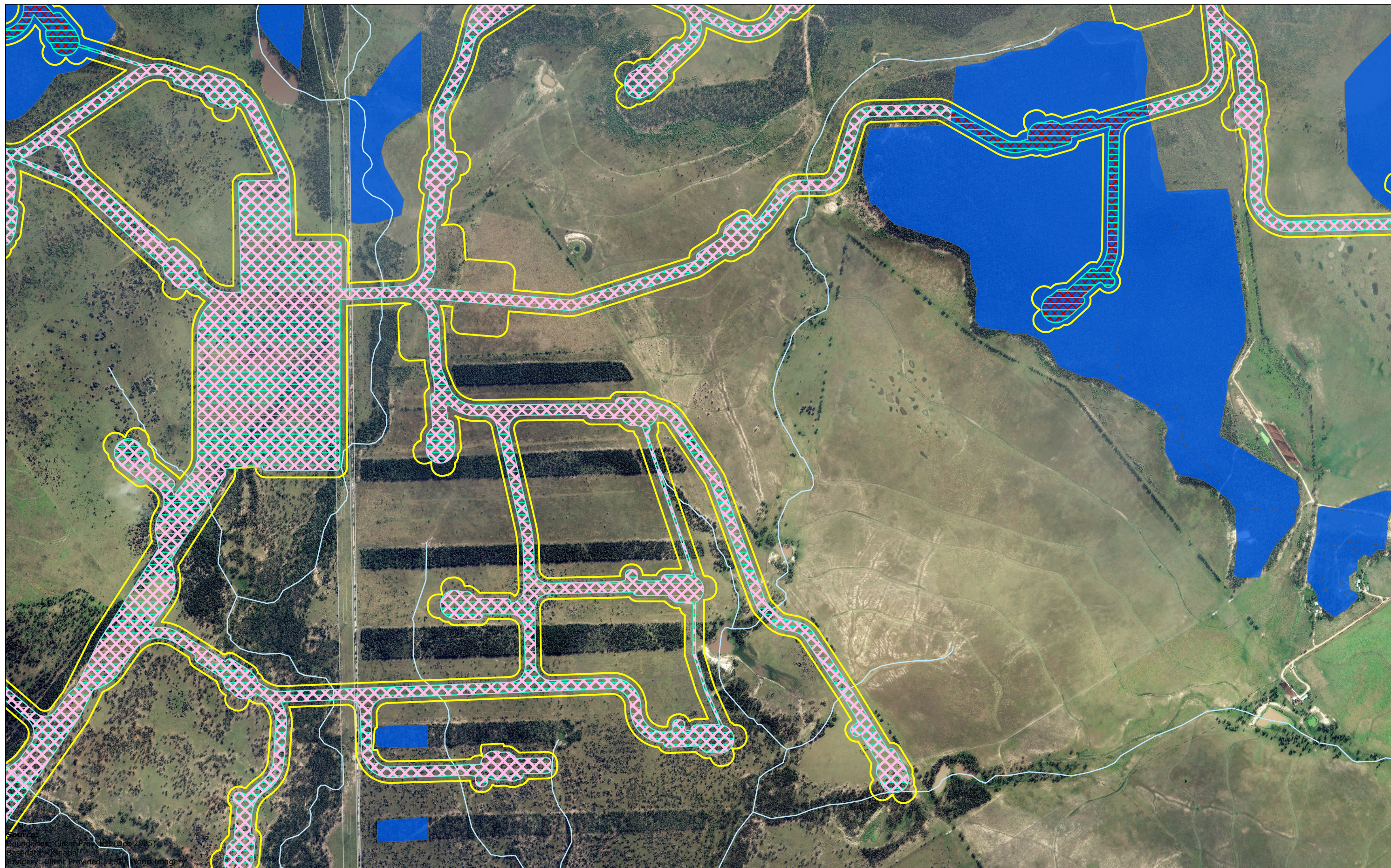


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F4-1 Proposed Rehabilitation Areas Map 3

**Cattle Creek Wind Farm
Preliminary Post-Construction Rehabilitation Plan**
Client: RWE Cattle Creek Onshore Wind Development Pty Ltd

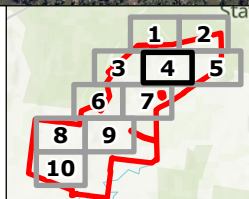




Source:
Boundaries: Client Provided (Dec 2025)
Base Data: QSpatial
Imagery: Client Provided / ESRI World Imagery

Legend

- - - Track
- VMA Watercourse
- Cadastre (Lot)
- Regulated Vegetation Mapping Category B
- Project Area
- Disturbance Footprint
- Operation Footprint
- Temporary Use Area
- Natural Regeneration Area



Coordinate System:
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Date: 08/07/2026
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F4-1 Proposed Rehabilitation Areas Map 4

Cattle Creek Wind Farm
Preliminary Post-Construction Rehabilitation Plan
Client: RWE Cattle Creek Onshore Wind Development Pty Ltd

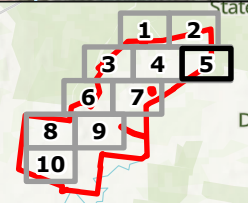




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Basedata: QSpatial
Imagery: Client Provided | ESRI World Imagery

Legend

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|-------------------|---|---------------------------|
| — Local Road | State Forest | Disturbance Footprint |
| - - - Track | Regulated Vegetation Mapping Category B | Operation Footprint |
| — VMA Watercourse | Project Area | Temporary Use Area |
| — Cadastre (Lot) | | Natural Regeneration Area |



Coordinate System:
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Date: 08/07/2026
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**F4-1 Proposed Rehabilitation Areas
Map 5**

**Cattle Creek Wind Farm
Preliminary Post-Construction Rehabilitation Plan**
Client: RWE Cattle Creek Onshore Wind Development Pty Ltd

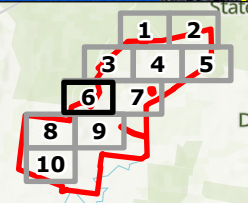




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Boundaries: Client Provided (Dec 2025)
Basedata: QSpatial
Imagery: Client Provided, ESRI World Imagery

Legend

- | | | |
|--------------------------|---|-----------------------------|
| — Local Road | □ Cadastre (Lot) | □ Disturbance Footprint |
| --- Restricted Road | □ State Forest | □ Operation Footprint |
| - - - Unconstructed Road | ■ Regulated Vegetation Mapping Category B | □ Temporary Use Area |
| - - - Track | □ Project Area | □ Natural Regeneration Area |
| — VMA Watercourse | | |



Coordinate System:
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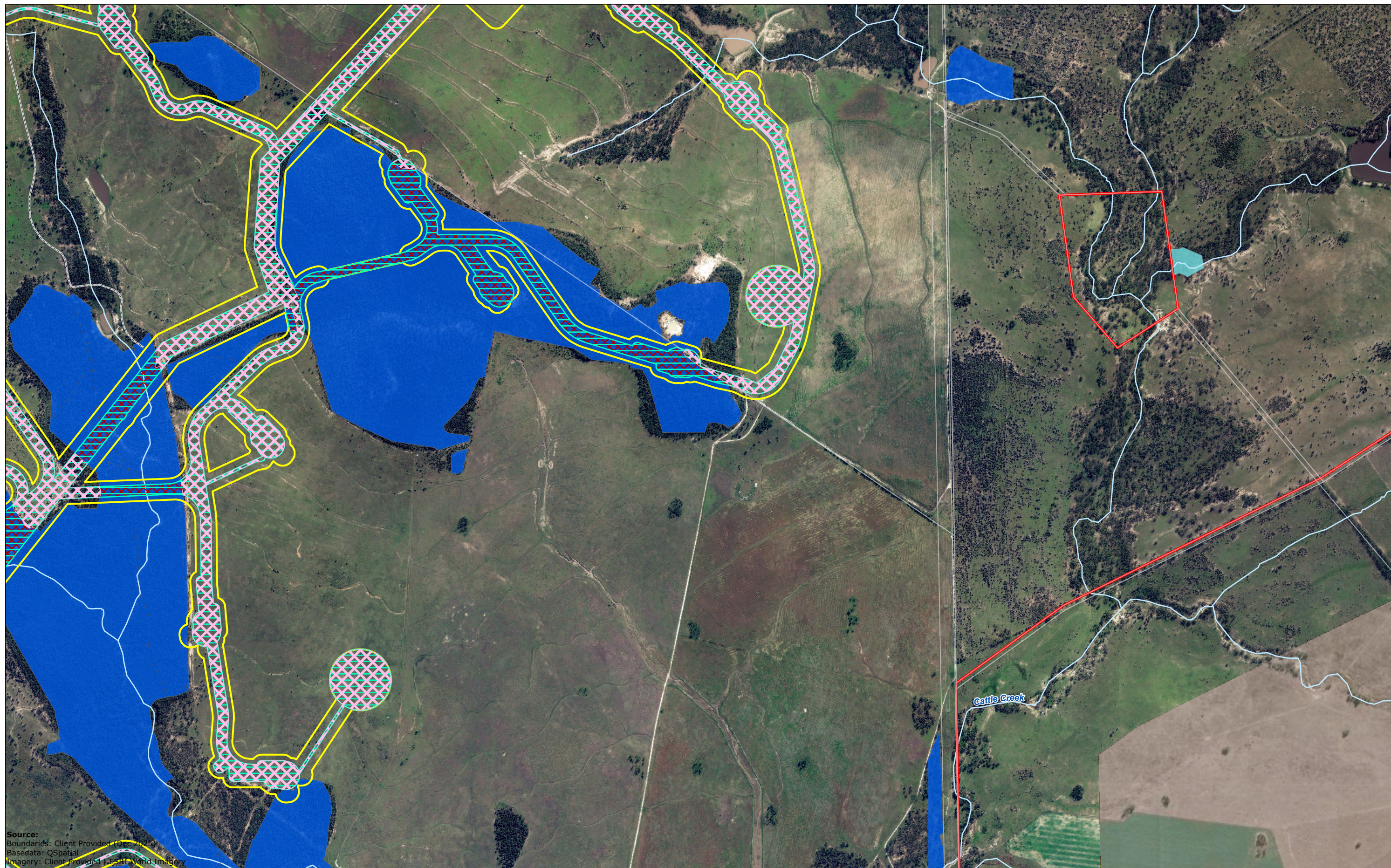
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**F4-1 Proposed Rehabilitation Areas
Map 6**

**Cattle Creek Wind Farm
Preliminary Post-Construction Rehabilitation Plan**

Client: RWE Cattle Creek Onshore Wind Development Pty Ltd





Source:
Boundaries: Client Provided (Dec 2025)
Basedata: QSpatial
Imagery: Client Provided / ESRI World Imagery

Legend

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
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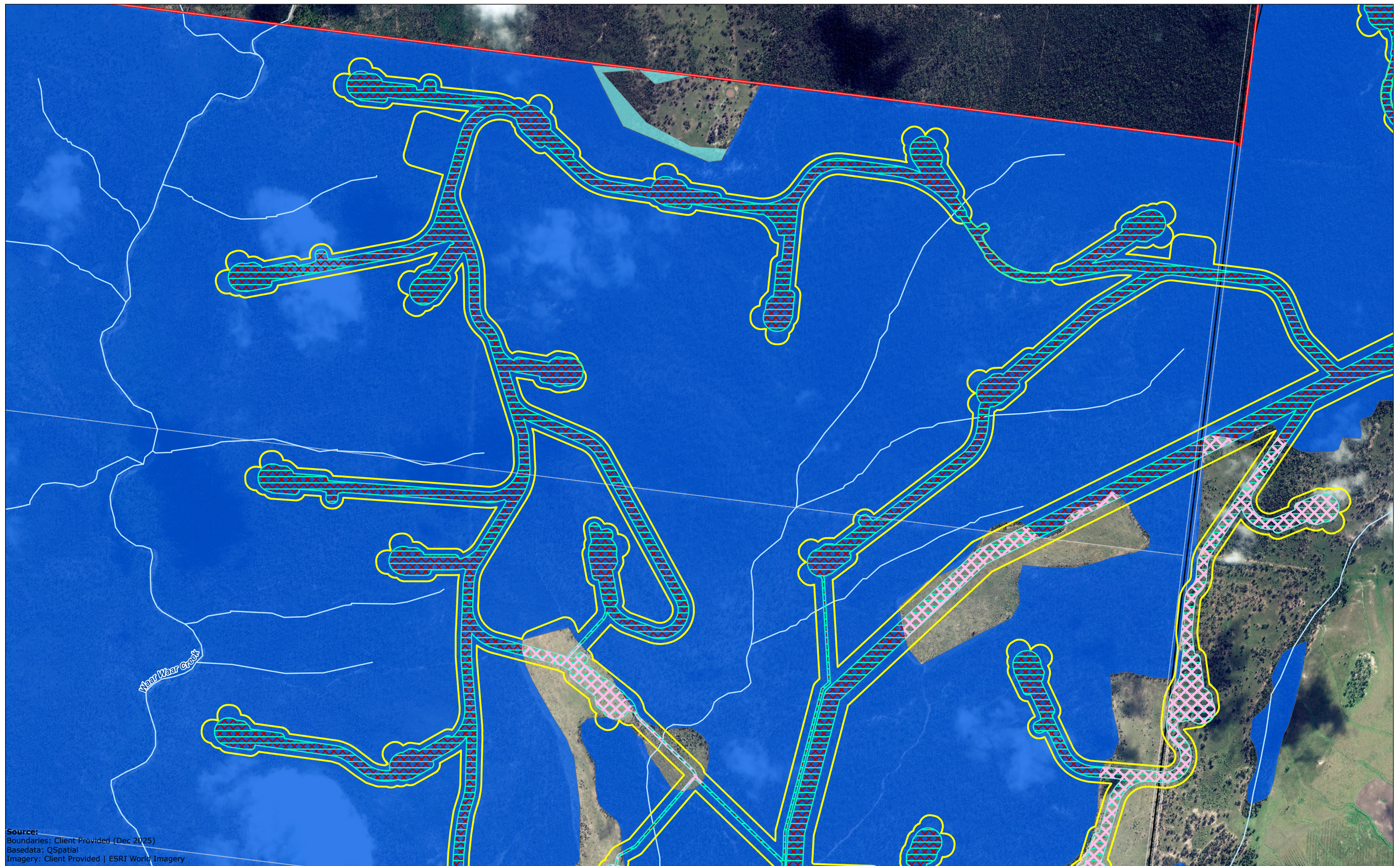
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F4-1 Proposed Rehabilitation Areas Map 7

**Cattle Creek Wind Farm
Preliminary Post-Construction Rehabilitation Plan**

Client: RWE Cattle Creek Onshore Wind Development Pty Ltd

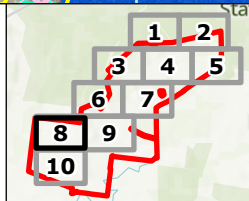




Source:
Boundaries: Client Provided (Dec 2025)
Basedata: QSpatial
Imagery: Client Provided | ESRI World Imagery

Legend

- | | | |
|-------------------|---|---------------------------|
| — Local Road | Regulated Vegetation Mapping Category B | Disturbance Footprint |
| - - - Track | Regulated Vegetation Mapping Category C | Operation Footprint |
| — VMA Watercourse | | Temporary Use Area |
| — Cadastre (Lot) | | Natural Regeneration Area |
| | Project Area | |



Coordinate System:
GDA2020 MGA Zone 56

Date: 08/07/2026

Created By: MB

Drawing Size: A3

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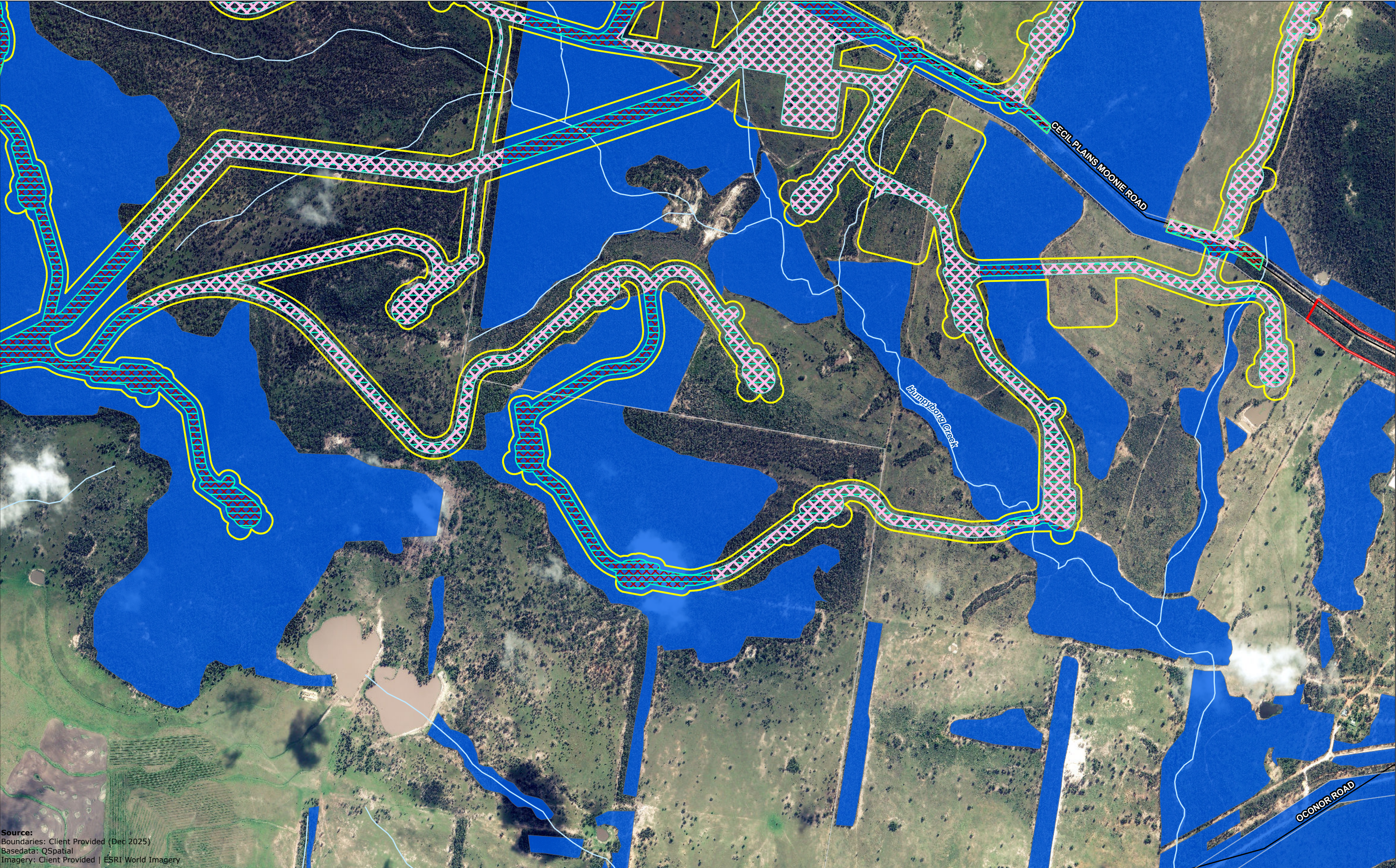
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F4-1 Proposed Rehabilitation Areas Map 8

Cattle Creek Wind Farm
Preliminary Post-Construction Rehabilitation Plan

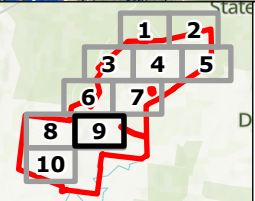
Client: RWE Cattle Creek Onshore Wind Development Pty Ltd





Source:
Boundaries: Client Provided (Dec 2025)
Basedata: QSpatial
Imagery: Client Provided | ESRI World Imagery

- Legend**
- Local Road
 - Track
 - VMA Watercourse
 - Cadastre (Lot)
 - Regulated Vegetation Mapping Category B
 - Project Area
 - Disturbance Footprint
 - Operation Footprint



Coordinate System:
GDA2020 MGA Zone 56
Date: 08/07/2026
Created By: MB
Drawing Size: A3
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F4-1 Proposed Rehabilitation Areas Map 9

**Cattle Creek Wind Farm
Preliminary Post-Construction Rehabilitation Plan**
Client: RWE Cattle Creek Onshore Wind Development Pty Ltd





Source:
 Boundaries: Client Provided (Dec 2024)
 Basedata: QSpatial
 Imagery: Client Provided | ESRI World Imagery

Legend

- | | | |
|-------------------|---|---------------------------|
| — Local Road | Regulated Vegetation Mapping Category B | Disturbance Footprint |
| - - Track | Regulated Vegetation Mapping Category C | Operation Footprint |
| — VMA Watercourse | Project Area | Temporary Use Area |
| — Cadastre (Lot) | | Natural Regeneration Area |



Coordinate System:
 GDA2020 MGA Zone 56

Date: 08/07/2026

Created By: MB

Drawing Size: A3

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F4-1 Proposed Rehabilitation Areas Map 10

Cattle Creek Wind Farm
Preliminary Post-Construction Rehabilitation Plan

Client: RWE Cattle Creek Onshore Wind Development Pty Ltd



4.2 REHABILITATION ACTIVITIES

Depending on the location of disturbance and potential continued use through the life of the Project, the rehabilitation activities are anticipated to include:

- Spreading of cleared vegetation over the additional road verge;
- Retention of cleared trees and other habitat features for potential reuse during rehabilitation to provide habitat;
- Topsoil stockpiling for reuse in rehabilitated areas;
- Natural regeneration of groundcover;
- Hydro-seeding of battered slopes to promote growth and bank stability;
- Direct seeding of native plant and grass species; and
- Planting of native species tube-stock where appropriate, in areas where no future disturbance is required.

4.3 REHABILITATION MANAGEMENT

Rehabilitation aims to implement environmental management practices and procedures that look to:

- Restore areas disturbed during the construction phase;
- Reinstate connectivity of fauna habitats, thus improving ecological processes;
- Minimise soil erosion and sedimentation;
- Prevent/minimise the outbreak of exotic species within the area of rehabilitation;
- Ensure that topsoil is managed effectively; and
- Monitor, inspect and maintain the revegetated areas.

It is important to note that the principles and methods detailed in Table 4-1 provides a more detailed and focused rehabilitation methodology around areas cleared for each infrastructure type.

Table 4-2, despite their focus on post-construction rehabilitation, should be implemented at the earliest possible opportunity.

4.4 REHABILITATION OBJECTIVES

Rehabilitation efforts for flora and fauna will focus on maintaining ecosystem functionality through minimising the disturbance and rehabilitating in accordance with pre-clearance vegetation, bushfire setbacks and minimum offset requirements for electrical cabling.

Key objective for this Preliminary Post-Construction Rehabilitation Plan include:

- Weed levels are no greater than pre-construction levels, with no new weeds having been established;
- Surface water flows have been reinstated, and all areas are stabilised from erosion;
- Landowner requirements have been addressed, in relation to reinstatement, fencing, removal of materials, etc;
- Minimise the risk of damage to installed infrastructure;

- Ensure that the rehabilitation of vegetation post-construction is properly planned in a manner which promotes self-sustaining ecosystems;
- Ensure rehabilitation continues until ecosystems and all impacted areas are self-sustaining;
- Restore pre-clearance levels of biodiversity and ecosystem functionality;
- Re-planting to be consistent with the pre-disturbance REs where development is planned within these REs, especially for ecosystems and vegetation communities known to provide habitat for known threatened species in the medium-long term;
- Ensure connectivity for native wildlife through species-specific management practices, including:
 - Groundcover revegetation focused on establishing a diverse grassy understorey suitable for foraging, to provide for small native mammals;
 - Maintain connectivity for koala and greater glider habitat;
 - Larger logs that are cleared from the development site would be placed within the revegetation area to provide additional micro-habitat features; and
 - Ensuring a fauna spotter-catcher is on-site to relocated fauna within designated areas to be cleared.
- Reusing topsoil and utilising mulch made from cleared vegetation; and
- Preventing erosion of soil, particularly on sloped terrain.

TABLE 4-1 REHABILITATION METHODS FOR INFRASTRUCTURE

Infrastructure Type	Rehabilitation Methods
Access Corridors	• Determine progressive restoration opportunities post-construction based on rehabilitation opportunity areas identified in Figure 4-1; • Roads and access tracks to be constructed with suitable gravel road base and will remain unsealed. In sections where the access tracks will be remediated, gravel will be removed from access tracks and treated; and • Every possible attempt being made to avoid vegetation in habitat crossings. Where this is unavoidable, cleared wooden vegetation will be placed within or near to the cleared area, where possible, to encourage fauna habitat continuation.
Turbine Hardstand Areas	• After construction, disturbed areas not covered by infrastructure are to undergo progressive restoration; • Ensure the bushfire protection zone is maintained; • Monitor for weeds post-construction and treat them; and • Evaluate how the hardstand areas can be utilised in the future for tasks such as regular maintenance of the wind turbines and monitoring the overall performance and condition of the wind farm.
Watercourse Crossings	• After construction, disturbed areas of the bed and banks of the waterway outside the permanent Disturbance Footprint have been returned to their original profile and stabilised in order to promote the regeneration of natural aquatic habitats;

Infrastructure Type	Rehabilitation Methods
	• Rehabilitation criteria for watercourse crossings are to be consistent with the Erosion and Sediment Control measures as described in the Stormwater Assessment (refer to Appendix J and Appendix K of the Planning Report); • Fertiliser and sedimentation management are required when working close to watercourses; and • Installed crossings and culverts would likely be retained after rehabilitation of the Project Area, at the discretion of host landowners.
Transmission and Reticulation	• Where there are ditches for underground cabling, these will be backfilled and the area above the cables rehabilitated with low-growing species which will not constitute a risk to the installed infrastructure; • Respread topsoil and cleared vegetation across installed infrastructure; and • Monitor for weeds post-construction and treat them.
Construction Facilities & Laydown Compounds (Temporary Use Areas)	• Avoid sealing temporary construction laydown areas; • Monitor for weeds post-construction and treat them; • Clear the infrastructure not required for future operation and management, and rehabilitate in accordance with Table 4-2 and temporary use areas as defined in State Code 16; and • Cleared areas will be rehabilitated by scarifying to break up compaction and rehabilitation. Where it is identified that regeneration is not progressing satisfactorily, seeding of areas will be undertaken.

Table 4-2 provides a more detailed and focused rehabilitation Principles, methodology and performance outcomes of each methodology.

TABLE 4-2 REHABILITATION PRINCIPLES, METHODS, AND PERFORMANCE

Rehabilitation Methods	Performance Outcomes	Responsibility	Monitoring	Infrastructure Associated
Progressive Restoration				
In areas identified for progressive restoration, it will likely be appropriate to stabilise and revegetate cleared areas with grass species, with weed management processes in place.	Land stability and grass cover with a successful establishment of 70% neighbouring grass species.	The Applicant	Visual and monitoring assessment for a 12-24 month period.	- Access corridors; - WTG hardstands; - Watercourse crossings; - Transmission and reticulation cabling; and - Construction facilities and laydown compounds ('temporary use areas').
Temporary Use Areas as defined under State Code 16 – rehabilitation in accordance with pre-clearance vegetation				
- The use of native tube-stock (in 50x70mm pots) that reflects the surrounding environment will assist in speeding up the rehabilitation process in areas outside of the operational corridor; - Matting also helps to conserve soil moisture, improves water infiltration and soil structure, and moderates soil temperatures, thereby improving plant growth;	70% height and 50% cover rehabilitation achieved in accordance with the <i>Vegetation Management Act 1999</i> (VM Act) for defining remnant vegetation with a successful establishment of native species representative of the existing RE or vegetation: Rehabilitated vegetation will reflect pre-existing REs; and	The Applicant	- Completion of rehabilitation task sheets; - Visual and monitoring assessment; and - Chronological photographic documentation.	Construction facilities and laydown compounds ('temporary use areas')

Rehabilitation Methods	Performance Outcomes	Responsibility	Monitoring	Infrastructure Associated
- Plastic tree guards, held away from a seedling by 3 stakes, will be placed in order to protect against grazing by feral pests, and provide protection from dying winds; - Revegetation will range from grassing areas with species that were common within the Project Area before construction, planting trees, and/ or allowing for natural regrowth; - Approximately 70% understory cover to be successfully established of native species representative of the existing Regional Ecosystems or of neighbouring vegetation. This serves to protect and cover soils and vegetation, to minimise the risk of erosion, and provide homogeneity with the surrounding vegetation; - Newly rehabilitated areas will be provided with pre-clearance values and ecological secondary succession through planting and regenerating native species in line with pre-existing RE values; - Replacement of native trees along the second order streams within the Project Boundary to increase vegetation density along creek-lines and enhance its value as a linking corridor with remnant vegetation fragments; and	Post-construction and post-rehabilitation, there will be no loss of ecosystem function.			

Rehabilitation Methods	Performance Outcomes	Responsibility	Monitoring	Infrastructure Associated
Strong focus and ongoing management of rehabilitation of koala fodder eucalypt species.				
Topsoil Management				
- Topsoil to be replaced before seeding takes place - Topsoil to be separated from subsoil and stockpiled where appropriate and used in the rehabilitation process - Topsoil's to be routinely inspected for weed germination - Topsoil from similar vegetation communities to be respread at similar depths (~5 cm) to those originally removed.	Appropriate topsoil stockpiled and reused where appropriate; and Weeds are prevented from germinating in topsoil stockpiles	Construction Contractor	- Completion of topsoil records; - Soil testing; and - Workplace inspections.	- Access corridors; - WTG hardstands; - Watercourse crossings; - Transmission and reticulation corridor; and - Construction facilities and laydown compounds ('temporary use areas').
Erosion and Sedimentation Management				
- Where seasonally appropriate, hardstand areas, post-construction, can be stabilised with vegetation, through the planting of tube-stock, hydro-seeding and direct seeding - Hydroseeding from seed mixes that reflect pre-existing vegetation should be implemented soon after the construction phase, where seasonally appropriate - At least 70% of understory cover to be successfully established with a	- Sloped areas to be appropriately revegetated as soon as the disturbance period is finalised; and - Effective revegetation methodology to be identified.	Construction Contractor	- Visual inspection and maintenance of erosion and sediment controls until the surface is stabilised; and - Receipt and review of monitoring reports.	- Watercourse crossings; and - Transmission and reticulation corridor.

Rehabilitation Methods	Performance Outcomes	Responsibility	Monitoring	Infrastructure Associated
successful establishment of native species. This meets the suitable stability threshold as per international erosion and sediment controls. Cleared areas will be rehabilitated by scarifying to break up compaction and natural regeneration.				
Weed and Pest Animal Management				
- Weeds within the Project Area and access areas will be controlled in accordance with a Weed Management Plan; - Presence of weeds and pests listed under the <i>Biosecurity Act 2014</i> will be controlled regularly throughout a 24-month period post-construction, and where possible, regularly throughout the operational phase within the rehabilitation area; and - In some areas of rehabilitation, it might be appropriate to regenerate the track naturally, with weed management processes in place.	Weeds will not be allowed to be established in rehabilitated areas	The Applicant and Construction Contractor	Annual weed and pest monitoring.	- Access corridors; - WTG hardstands; - Watercourse crossings; - Transmission and reticulation corridor; - Construction & laydown compounds (areas not required post-construction); and - Construction & laydown compounds (areas that are required post-construction).

4.5 MONITORING AND REPORTING

Monitoring of proposed rehabilitation areas and annual progress reports will occur for five years, then every five years until the performance objectives are met. Monitoring plans will be developed in conjunction with the Final PCR. P.

The monitoring will be undertaken by a suitably qualified person as defined under the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*, depending on the methodology to be applied as part of the monitoring.

As part of the monitoring, the following are considered:

- Plant growth, percent of cover and survival rates;
- Plant losses through a variety of means, including but not limited to predation through herbivory, disease, vandalism, storm damage;
- Weed regrowth and control measures; and
- Plant replacement.

The intent of the monitoring report is to inform ongoing management actions and to provide adaptive management recommendations to ensure the performance objectives are achieved.

The monitoring reports will be kept for 3 years after rehabilitation objects have been achieved and will be provided to appropriate regulators upon request.

5. CONCLUSION

This report has been prepared to demonstrate the Proponent's commitment to post-construction rehabilitation of the Project and to demonstrate compliance with PO4 of State Code 23 and PO12 of State Code 16. The Proponent is committed to upholding the requirements of the PO by progressively rehabilitating any land cleared for the Project.

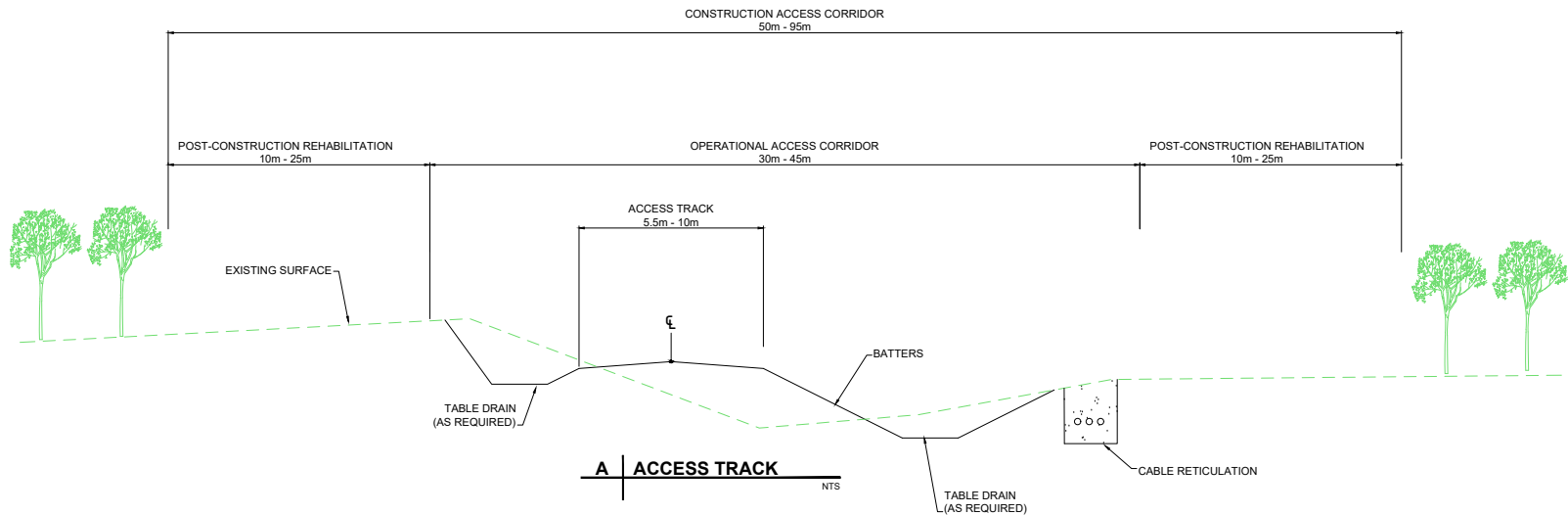
The key outcomes and actions of this PPCRP, as outlined in Section 4, focus on successfully rehabilitating the Project Area that enhances that of pre-clearance levels. It is recognised that the implementation of careful avoidance measures is the most significant step in minimising habitat disturbance at the construction phase. Furthermore, efforts to maximise the efficiency and successful rehabilitation of the Project Area will result in rehabilitation being performed sequentially and as an ongoing process throughout the pre-construction, construction, and operational phases, as well as into the decommissioning phase of the Project. A key component of this rehabilitation plan is the area of rehabilitation opportunity, totalling 1,170.7 ha (52.3% of the total Disturbance Footprint).

The key principles of this plan were based on the post-construction rehabilitation phase, and include management of progressive restoration, temporary use areas, weeds and pest animals, topsoil, minimisation and the prevention of erosion. These principles are to be implemented across areas cleared for construction including access tracks, waterway crossings, wind turbine pads, construction and laydown compounds, underground cabling, transmission system and all infrastructure built upon slopes. It is important to note that a more detailed Post-Construction Rehabilitation Plan will be developed and based on detailed disturbance and actual rehabilitation areas, which will identify and map specific locations and associated objectives.

The methodologies and principles discussed within the PPCRP are to be subject to ongoing implementation and monitoring in an effort to ensure best practice rehabilitation guidelines are met.



APPENDIX A DISTURBANCE CROSS SECTIONS



DATE	REV	DRAWN	REVISION
	-		

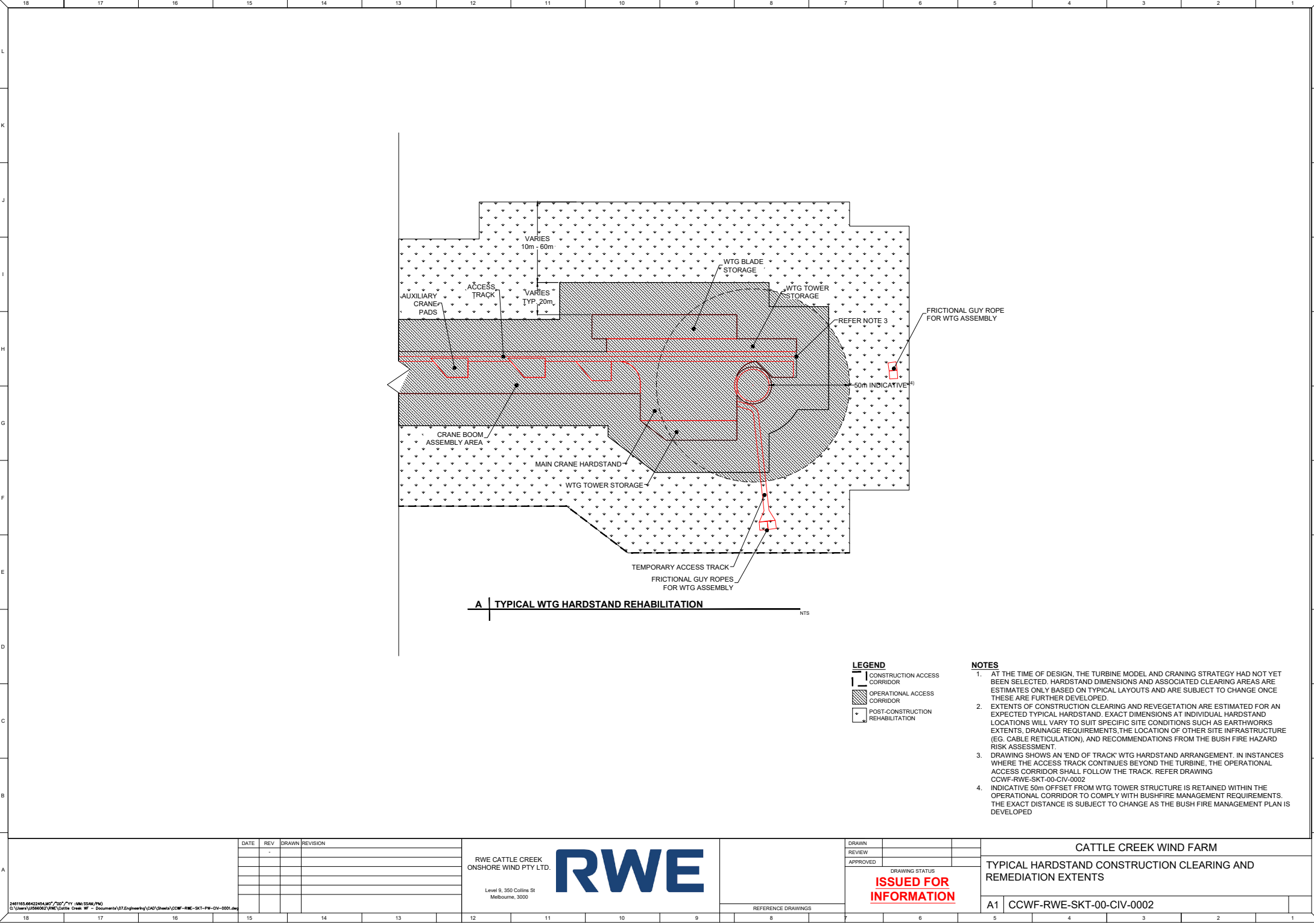
RWE CATTLE CREEK
ONSHORE WIND PTY LTD.

RWE

Level 9, 350 Collins St
Melbourne, 3000

DRAWN		
REVIEW		
APPROVED		
DRAWING STATUS		
ISSUED FOR INFORMATION		
REFERENCE DRAWINGS		

CATTLE CREEK WIND FARM		
ACCESS TRACK TYPICAL SECTION CLEARING AND REMEDIATION EXTENTS		
A1	CCWF-RWE-SKT-00-CIV-0001	



A													DATE		REV	DRAWN	REVISION													DRAWN				CATTLE CREEK WIND FARM									
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																														RWE CATTLE CREEK ONSHORE WIND PTY LTD.													
																														Level 9, 350 Collins St Melbourne, 3000													



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ERM's Brisbane Office

Level 9

260 Queen Street

Brisbane QLD 4000

T +61 (7) 3839 8393

www.erm.com