

Our Ref: 16001 EPBC 2011-5898 Annual Compliance 2015-16
Via: email

Date: 24 May 2016

Attn: [REDACTED]
Commonwealth Department of the Environment
GPO Box 787
epbcmonitoring@environment.gov.au
Canberra ACT 2601

Dear [REDACTED]

RE: HUNTLEE NEW TOWN, BRANXTON EPBC (2011/5898) ANNUAL COMPLIANCE 2015-16

MJD Environmental has been commissioned by Huntlee Pty Ltd to prepare an annual compliance report for the 2015 -16 period detailing the measures undertaken to address approval conditions granted under the Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act) for the Huntlee New Town at Branxton (EPBC No. 2011/5898) on the 15 October 2013 (with variations approved on 17th February 2014 and 27th May 2015). This report includes an overview of all works undertaken to comply with conditions to date.

The current status of each condition of approval is summarised in Table 1 below.

Table 1: EPBC Approval 2011/5898 Condition Tracking (at 24-5-2016)

Condition	Status	Comment
1.	Approved	Via email from [REDACTED] 2-12-2013
2.	Approved	Via email from [REDACTED] 2-12-2013
3.	Note	No action required at this time. Independent scientific expert approved via letter from Shane Gaddes 30-5-2014.
4.	Approved	Via email from [REDACTED] 21-1-2014
5. (a)	Approved	Via letter from Shane Gaddes 14-1-2015
(b)		
(c)		
6.	Approved	Via email from [REDACTED] 11-12-2013
7.	Approved	Via email from [REDACTED] 11-12-2013
8.	Note	Condition 8 satisfied via the implementation of Condition 15(a).
9.	Approved	Via letter from Shane Gaddes 14-1-2015
10. (a)	Approved	Via letter from Shane Gaddes 14-1-2015

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Condition	Status	Comment
(b)		
(c)		
11.(a – k)	Approved	Via letter from Shane Gaddes 14-1-2014
12.	Approved	Independent scientific expert approved via letter from Shane Gaddes 8-11-2013. Independent expert approval for <i>Persoonia pauciflora</i> population Management Plan 10-1-2014
13.	Approved - Stage 1	Pre-clearance surveys within the Stage 1 development areas to date have not discovered any new plants (dead or alive). Via email from [REDACTED] 16-6-2015 No further action required
	Note	Future pre-clearance surveys to be undertaken for the remaining development areas outside Stage 1.
14.	Approved - Stage 1	Satisfied for Stage 1 via Condition 13. No further action required.
	Note	Future pre-clearance surveys to be undertaken for the remaining development area outside Stage 1.
15.(a-o)	Approved	Via letter from Shane Gaddes 14-1-2014
16.	Approved	Independent scientific expert approved via letter from Shane Gaddes 8-11-2013. Independent expert approval for Huntlee Conservation Management Plan 9-1-2014
17.	Approved	Via letter from Shane Gaddes 5-12-2013 Variation to Condition 17 & 18 of the EPBC Act approved via letter from Shane Gaddes 27-5-2015 Revised Huntlee Conservation Coordinator Contractual Arrangements and Work Plan approved via letter from Shane Gaddes 8-9-2015
18.(a)	Approved	Satisfied via Condition 17.
(b)		
(c)		
19.	Approved	Variation to Condition 19 of the EPBC Act approved via letter from Shane Gaddes 17-2-2014 First payment of \$100,000 made 14-7-2014 Second payment of \$141,700 made 14-7-2015 <i>Future payments due:</i> <i>14-7-2016 of \$100,000</i>
20.	Approved	Via letter from Shane Gaddes 14-1-2015. Conservation land transferred to NSW Government. Land now being managed by NSW NPWS.

Condition	Status	Comment
21.(a)	Approved	Via letter from Shane Gaddes 14-1-2015
(b)		
(c)		
22	Note	No action required at this time. Compliance monitoring inspection of Condition 11 completed by DoE Officers [REDACTED] & [REDACTED] 10-9-2015. DoE officers issued advice on 12-10-2015 stating, the Department is satisfied that the action is being undertaken in accordance with the conditions of approval.
23.	Approved	Commencement of Action 24 February 2014 Via email from [REDACTED] 26-2-2014
24.	Approved	2014-15 compliance monitoring report submitted 22-5-2015. Report approved by DoE via email from [REDACTED] 4-6-2015 and instructed to publish. Report available online - https://www.lwppropertygroup.com.au/our-communities/huntlee/caring-for-the-environment
	Pending	2015-16 compliance monitoring report (this report) submitted 24-5-2016. Report to be published online following DoE approval.
25.	Note	No action required at this time.
26.	Note	No action required at this time.
27.	Note	No action required at this time.
28.	Approved	Satisfied via Condition 23 Commencement of Action 24 February 2014 Via email from [REDACTED] 26-2-2014
29.	Note	No action required at this time.
30.	Approved	Management Plans have been published and made available on the Huntlee website (https://www.lwppropertygroup.com.au/our-communities/huntlee/caring-for-the-environment http://www.lwppropertygroup.com.au/our-communities/huntlee/epbc-approved-management-plans). Via email from [REDACTED] 14-2-2014.

The EPBC approval required the preparation, approval and implementation of two management plans as follows:

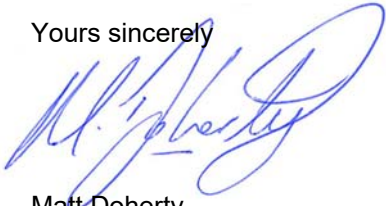
1. Condition 11 – *Persoonia pauciflora* Population Management Plan (PPPMP)
2. Condition 15 – Huntlee Conservation Management Plan (HCMP)

The current status of required actions as listed within the PPPMP and HCMP is provided in **Attachment 1** and **Attachment 2** respectively. All required actions are considered to be on track to achieve the management plan outcomes.

A review of previous and ongoing works conducted to comply with the EBPC approval conditions (and associated Management Plans) for the Huntlee New Town at Branxton has determined that the conditions are being complied with. On this basis we submit this annual compliance report for review and approval by the department in accordance with Condition 24. Ongoing works are scheduled during the forthcoming 2016-17 period as required under the approval to maintain compliance and meet management plan outcomes.

We trust this is sufficient for your purposes, however should you require any further information or clarification, please do not hesitate to contact the writer.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'M. Doherty', is written over a faint, larger version of the same signature.

Matt Doherty
Director
MJD Environmental Pty Limited

Encl: Attachment 1 – HCMP Status
Attachment 2 – PPPMP Status



Attachment 1 – HCMP Status

Sect.	Item	Timing / Trigger	Status	Progress Commentary
s4.1	Communication: Training & Awareness All contractors to undergo environmental induction with the induction to be developed by the Huntlee Conservation Officer.	Upon commencement	Active Ongoing	Induction programme has been developed and is being implemented.
s4.2	Communication: Sign-In Protocol All persons entering the conservation areas are to sign-in with details recorded on the sign in sheet.	Upon commencement and ongoing	Active Ongoing	This protocol was established by the HCO and is being implemented in conjunction with 4.1 above by the Huntlee Academy. An induction register and separate sign-in register has been maintained.
s6	Weed Control: Primary Phase Target: Weed cover of large infestations to be reduced in first 2 years. Performance targets to be developed during the 2 years of active works.	Reduced within two years of commencement	Active For Action	An audit has commenced by the HCO in conjunction with the Huntlee Academy. Weed management has commenced with large infestations prioritised for treatment. Future works will be conducted in collaboration with the NSW NPWS following transfer of conservation lands the NSW Government.
s6	Weed Control: Secondary Phase Target: No large infestations remain, only active management at least twice per year for former large sites and medium sites.	Within three years of commencement and then yearly	Dormant Future Action	To commence following Primary Weed Control Phase.
s6	Weed Control: Maintenance Phase Target: Weeds kept under control through annual control programme.	Ongoing	Dormant Future Action	To commence following Secondary Weed Control Phase.
s7	Pest Control: Animal Population Assessment Carry out an assessment of the impact and estimated population of feral and/or domestic animals.	Within the first year of commencement	Open For Action	In conjunction with NSW NPWS, baiting/trapping for feral dogs occurred in 2014-2015 period as this was deemed a priority by NSW NPWS. Population assessments are now ongoing. Future works will be conducted in collaboration with the NSW NPWS following transfer of conservation lands the NSW Government.

Sect.	Item	Timing / Trigger	Status	Progress Commentary
s7	Pest Control: Animal Control Implement control measures based on annual monitoring.	As required	Open In progress	In conjunction with NSW Parks & Wildlife, baiting/trapping for feral dogs occurred in 2014-2015 period as this was deemed a priority by NSW NPWS. Future works will be conducted in collaboration with the NSW NPWS following transfer of conservation lands the NSW Government.
s7	Pest Control: Animal Monitoring Carry out annual pest monitoring.	Annual	Open For Action	Baiting programme for feral dogs conducted in 2014-2015 period. Monitoring ongoing. Future works will be conducted in collaboration with the NSW NPWS following transfer of conservation lands the NSW Government.
s8	Grazing Prevention: Fence Inspection & Programme	Within 3 months of HCO commencement	Complied No further action required	Fencing audit completed.
s8	Grazing Prevention: Stock Removal Remove stock from the Conservation Lands.	Within 3 months of fences being determined as adequate	Complied No further action	All stock has been removed from the Conservation Lands.
s8	Grazing Prevention: Monitoring Monitor for domestic grazing.	Weekly for the first month and then ongoing	Active In Progress	Monthly inspections occurring. To date, no evidence of further grazing in the conservation lands has been identified. Minor incursions from neighbouring properties to be dealt with on an as needs basis and in collaboration with NSW NPWS.
s9	Fencing: Fencing Works Conduct an audit of the fencing to Conservation Areas 1, 2 and 3 and implement repairs or new fencing and signage as required. Persoonia Park is also to be fenced in conjunction with the development front.	Within 24 months of commencement	Active In Progress	Fencing audit has been completed. Planning has commenced for the repair, replacement and installation of new fencing. Ongoing fencing maintenance occurring as needs and in collaboration with the NSW NPWS. Current priority is the fencing along the northern boundary of Conservation Area 1. This is to be completed in collaboration with NSW NPWS. Following conservation land dedication to the NSW NPWS, a program of internal fence line removal has been identified by the Park Ranger.

Sect.	Item	Timing / Trigger	Status	Progress Commentary
s9	Fencing: Macropod Thoroughfares Construct macropod thoroughfares and install temporary monitoring points.	Ongoing	Open Future Action	Fencing audit has been completed. Planning has commenced for the repair, replacement and installation of new fencing and introduction of Macropod thoroughfares as required.
s10	Pathogen Control: Baseline	Ongoing	Active In progress	Sampling has been undertaken around the Northern Population, Conservation Area 1 and Persoonia Park. The soils tests returned a negative result for Phytophthora from each sample location.
s10	Pathogen Control: Protocols	Ongoing	Active In Progress	Protocols have been developed. Hygiene kits have been set up and are actively being used by site personnel and visitors.
s11	Revegetation	Within 10 years of commencement	Active In Progress	An audit of areas identified for revegetation has been scheduled to determine state of natural rehabilitation post removal of grazing pressure. Follow up monitoring of areas previously mulched (with mulch from native vegetation cleared off the development site) to aid in weed suppression and assist natural regeneration is ongoing.
s13	Monitoring	Ongoing	Open For Noting	Monitoring programme prepared by HCO.
s14	Reporting	Ongoing	Active In Progress	Reporting and maintenance of records is ongoing in accordance with the annual reporting requirements of the EBPC Approval.

Attachment 2 – PPPMP Status

Sect.	Item	Timing / Trigger	Status	Progress Commentary
3.1	<p>Measures to protect and conserve <i>P. pauciflora</i></p> <p>Huntlee to develop a range of programmes to protect <i>P. pauciflora</i>, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - protection from stock - habitat restoration - pathogen control - propagation trials 	Various timing triggers	<p>Active</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	Programmes have been developed that cover both the HCMP and PPMP. All implementation measures will fall under one or more of the programmes. All programmes are currently being implemented.
3.2	Unauthorised access deterrence	Various timing triggers	<p>Active</p> <p>In Progress</p>	Being completed as part of ongoing fencing works outlined in HCMP table.
3.3	<p>Community Engagement: Fact Sheet</p> <p>Prepare a fact sheet about <i>P. pauciflora</i>.</p>	Within 3 months of commencement	<p>Complied</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	<p>The fact sheet has been prepared and is hosted on the Huntlee website (https://www.lwppropertygroup.com.au/our-communities/huntlee/caring-for-the-environment).</p> <p>The fact sheet is also freely available in print at the Huntlee Sales & Project Office.</p> <p>The fact sheet may be updated from time to time to provide updates and additional information as required.</p>
3.3	<p>Community Engagement: Microsite</p> <p>Microsite for <i>P. pauciflora</i> to be hosted on proponent website and is to include information, links and progress reports.</p>	Within 6 months of commencement	<p>Complied</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Both the PPMP and HCMP are hosted on the Huntlee website. A dedicated environmental page with information, links and compliance reports has been established and can be found at the following link - https://www.lwppropertygroup.com.au/our-communities/huntlee/caring-for-the-environment.</p> <p>The microsite will be updated from maintained to provide updates and additional information as required.</p>
3.3	<p>Community Engagement: Signage</p> <p>Provide information signage and conservation signage around / near the conservation areas.</p>	Various timing triggers – with nearby construction works.	<p>Active</p> <p>In Progress</p>	Conservation signs have been prepared for conservation boundaries and shall be deployed as part of ongoing works. Signs may be updated in collaboration with NPWS.

Sect.	Item	Timing / Trigger	Status	Progress Commentary
3.3	<p>Community Engagement: Interaction Programme</p> <p>Prepare a <i>P. pauciflora</i> PowerPoint presentation and provide updates on compliance through the website.</p>	Within 6 months of commencement and ongoing	<p>Complied</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	Presentation has been completed. Presentation is available on Huntlee Environment microsite as a component of available community education material.
3.3	<p>Community Engagement: Evaluation</p> <p>Formal assessment of the success of community education to be done at key milestones.</p>	Various timing triggers – with annual report following first residents (community) living at Huntlee	<p>Open</p> <p>Future Action</p>	With the arrival of new residents forming the growing Huntlee community, regular updates, bulletins and announcements are being posted on the My-Huntlee Residents Facebook page by the Huntlee Community Development Manger (https://www.facebook.com/myhuntlee/?fref=nf).
4.0	<p>Monitoring</p>	Various timing triggers	<p>Active</p> <p>In progress</p>	<p>Ongoing monitoring of all known <i>P. pauciflora</i> has occurred during the reporting period.</p> <p>Camera traps were not deployed during the monitoring period as no Macropod fauna thoroughfares have been installed as part of ongoing fencing works. Regular observations have been made of Macropods within the conservation and development areas throughout the reporting period.</p> <p>The compliance report provides the required AMR for the 2015-16 period.</p>