

Hinze Dam Stage 3 project:

Coordinator-General's change report No. 3 Compensatory habitat land tenure arrangements

November 2014

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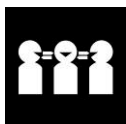
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D14/181137

Background

The Hinze Dam Stage 3 project – Coordinator-General's change report - compensatory habitat land tenure arrangements (Change Report No. 2), was released in April 2010, pursuant to section 35J of the *State Development and Public Works Organisation Act 1971* (Qld) (SDPWO Act).

On 30 September 2014, the proponent applied to the Coordinator-General to evaluate a proposed change to the Hinze Dam Stage 3 project, under Division 3A, section 35C of the SDPWO Act (the Act).

In accordance with section 35H of the Act, the Coordinator-General has evaluated the environmental effects of the proposed change, its effect on the project and any other related matters, and prepared this Coordinator-General's change report under section 35I of the SDPWO Act.

The project proponent	Seqwater
The project	Hinze Dam Stage 3 project
Proposed changes to the project	<p>Seqwater applied to the Coordinator-General seeking changes to Appendix 1, Condition 1a of the Coordinator-General's Change Report No. 2.</p> <p>The amendment is proposed to provide that land acquired as an offset for the project's environmental impacts may be owned not only by the state or a statutory authority, but also by a local government. In this instance, the secured land offset area is owned, and will continue to be owned by the Gold Coast City Council.</p> <p>The amendment also proposes to delete the proponent's 12 month timeframe obligation to make application for declaration of a nature refuge on acquiring the offset property, as the proponent is not the owner of the land. An agreement to establish the nature refuge for the project was executed by the State and Gold Coast City Council in September 2014.</p>
Decision	Changes approved as outlined in Appendix 1
Date of effect	Pursuant to section 35J of the SDPWO Act, approved changes take effect from the date of the decision.
Decision authorised by	Barry Broe
Position	Coordinator-General
Signature	 Date of decision 6 November 2014

Pursuant to section 35K of the SDPWO Act, the Coordinator-General's report on the EIS for the project, and the Coordinator-General's change report, both have effect for the project. However, if the reports conflict, the Coordinator-General's change report prevails to the extent of any perceived inconsistency.

Appendix 1. Change to Hinze Dam Stage 3 Project Conditions

Coordinator-General's Change Report No. 2 Current Condition	Coordinator-General Change Report No. 3 New Condition
<p>Appendix 1, Schedule D, Condition 1a</p> <p>Compensatory Habitat Strategy</p> <p>The Proponent will implement and undertake a Compensatory Habitat Strategy to offset the loss of approximately 318ha of mapped remnant vegetation that will occur as a result of the project works.</p> <p>The Compensatory Habitat Strategy must involve the following actions in relation to at least 318 ha:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the acquisition (and management) of freehold land containing advanced regrowth or remnant vegetation (or the potential to support remnant vegetation), ideally within the Gold Coast area; ownership and management of the acquired land by the state or a statutory authority, subject to, in the case of a statutory authority, the statutory authority making application to the relevant authority for the declaration of a nature refuge over the land under the provisions of the <i>Nature Conservation Act 1992</i> within 12 months of the purchase date. translocation and propagation of affected NES species within parts of the above areas and/or Lot 4 SP164198 so that there is no net loss of these NES species (noting that any land used within Lot 4 SP164198 for these actions is not to be accounted as part of the 318 ha that must be acquired to satisfy the wider Strategy outcomes); revegetation and rehabilitation of existing cleared or disturbed areas within non-privately owned land within and adjacent to the study area. 	<p>Delete/Insert</p> <p>Appendix 1, Schedule D, Condition 1a</p> <p>Compensatory Habitat Strategy</p> <p>The Proponent will implement and undertake a Compensatory Habitat Strategy to offset the loss of approximately 318ha of mapped remnant vegetation that will occur as a result of the project works.</p> <p>The Compensatory Habitat Strategy must involve the following actions in relation to at least 318 ha:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the acquisition (and management) of freehold land containing advanced regrowth or remnant vegetation (or the potential to support remnant vegetation), ideally within the Gold Coast area; ownership and management of the land by the state, a local government or a statutory authority, subject to, in the case of a statutory authority or local government, application to the relevant authority for the declaration of a nature refuge over the land under the provisions of the <i>Nature Conservation Act 1992</i>; translocation and propagation of affected NES species within parts of the above areas and/or Lot 4 SP164198 so that there is no net loss of these NES species (noting that any land used within Lot 4 SP164198 for these actions is not to be accounted as part of the 318 ha that must be acquired to satisfy the wider Strategy outcomes); revegetation and rehabilitation of existing cleared or disturbed areas within non-privately owned land within and adjacent to the study area.

Appendix 1, Schedule D, Condition 1a (Cont.)

If the proponent identifies, and demonstrates to the satisfaction of the Coordinator-General, practical difficulties in achieving the above actions in relation to at least 318 hectares of land, it may propose a suitable contribution of funds into the Queensland Trust for Nature Fund (administered by the EPA) or other green invest broker, to secure a proportion of the necessary offset outcome.

The Compensatory Habitat Strategy is to target no net loss to flora species, and no net loss of habitat for fauna species, listed as endangered, vulnerable or rare (EVR) under the EPBC Act or endangered under the NCA, taking account of the positive and negative impacts of the dam construction and operation and the implementation of the offset actions.

If detailed analysis and/or practice shows this is unavoidable for a particular species, then compensatory activities to enhance outcomes for other EVR species, as an alternative, should be proposed for approval by the Coordinator-General. This particular requirement expires at 31 December 2012.

The Compensatory Habitat Strategy is to provide offsets for project impacts to riverine habitat that equate over time to no net loss of habitat.

The Compensatory Habitat Strategy will be developed and implemented over a twelve month period from the date of the Commonwealth's decision on the controlling provisions for the project.

The details of this Strategy will be completed, in consultation with the EPA, by December 2010 and submitted to the Coordinator-General for approval.

Appendix 1, Schedule D, Condition 1a (Cont.)

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