

**REGIONAL INTERESTS DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION
SUPPORTING INFORMATION REPORT -
CONDABRI BRINE POND 7 AND STOCKPILE
AREA (ASSOCIATED WITH PONDS 5, 6 AND 7) -
REGIONAL INTERESTS DEVELOPMENT
APPLICATION**



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REVISION SCHEDULE

Rev No.	Date	Description	Signature or Typed Name (documentation on file)			
			Prepared by	Checked by	Reviewed by	Approved by
0	02/12/16	Draft for Client Review	KS	KH	DL	DG
1	02/02/17	Draft for Client Review following amendments to proposed works scope	KS	PC	DL	DG
2	14/02/17	Final Report	KS	DL	DL	DG
3	27/08/18	Updated with SCL Report	DL	KS	KS	PF

Origin Energy

Supporting Information Report - Condabri Brine Pond 7 And Stockpile Area (Associated with Ponds 5, 6 and 7) - Regional Interests Development Application

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1 Introduction

1.1 Overview

MWH Global, now part of Stantec, has prepared this supporting information report on behalf of Origin Energy Resources Limited (Origin) as the upstream operator of Australia Pacific LNG Pty Limited (Australia Pacific LNG). The report accompanies an application under Section 28 of the *Regional Planning Interests Act 2014* (RPI Act) to the Department of Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning (DILGP).

This application relates to the construction and operation of petroleum activities located within a Strategic Cropping Area (SCA) where an exemption under the RPI Act does not apply. The infrastructure is proposed to be constructed and operated under Petroleum Lease (PL) 265 and the Condabri Development Area Environmental Authority (EA) EPPG00853013. Specifically, this application seeks approval to undertake a total disturbance area of 5.36 ha within an Environmentally Sensitive Area (ESA) Primary Protection Zone (PPZ) (defined under the EA) that is mapped SCA. This total disturbance area, referred to from herein as '*the Site*' comprises the following infrastructure:

- Area 1: Brine Pond 7 embankment and associated Infrastructure with a total disturbance of 0.27 ha including:
 - Area 1a: Brine Pond 7 embankment, perimeter access road and fencing
 - Area 1b: Grassed swale associated with the emergency spillway of the pond;
- Area 2: Permanent soil stockpile associated with the construction of Brine Pond 5, 6 and 7 with a total disturbance area of 2.64 ha; and
- Area 3: Temporary disturbance works associated with the construction of Brine Pond 7 with a total disturbance area of 2.45 ha.

Australia Pacific LNG intends to undertake the aforementioned activities within an area of regional interest (ARI) and is an eligible entity for making an assessment application under the RPI Act as the holder of the EA.

This application includes:

- Cover letter (Q-4522-15-EA-005)
- Completed DILGP application form (Version 2.0) (Q-4522-15-EA-006)
- Supporting Information Report (Q-4522-15-EA-007) (this document).

The values sought to be protected by the RPI Act are still achieved whilst allowing Australia Pacific LNG to undertake the activities.

Appendix A provides an overview of the proposed location of the infrastructure (Areas 1, 2 and 3) subject to this assessment application.

1.2 Document References, Abbreviations and Definitions

In support of this application, associated documents are presented in Table 1, and appended where relevant.

Table 1: Associated Document Refereneces

Document Number	Title	Attachment
External	Land Use Map Lot 2 SP244055	Appendix B
External	Forage Crop Frequency Report Lot 2 SP244055	Appendix B
External	Land Use Map Lot 440 BUL3416	Appendix B

Document Number	Title	Attachment
Maps 1 to 4	Mapping	Appendix A
Q-4500-15-MP-0002 CDN/ID 12756063	Australia Pacific LNG Condabri Gas Field Rehabilitation Plan	Appendix C
Q-LNG01-15-MP-1005	Australia Pacific LNG Construction Environmental Management Plan	Appendix C
Q-4500-15-RP-0002	Ecology Assessment Report Condabri Central Lot 1 and 2 SP245919 (Formerly Lot 2BWR573)	Appendix C
Q-4500-15-RP-0002_01A	Memorandum – Confirmation of regrowth Condabri Central – 2SP245919 (addendum)	Appendix C
EPPG00853013	Condabri EA	Appendix C
External	Condabri Central SCL Assessment	Appendix D
Q-4522-15-EA-005	Cover Letter	
Q-4522-15-EA-006	Application Form	
Q-4522-15-EA-007	Supporting Information Reprt (this document)	

Table 2: Abbreviations

Abbreviation	Description
ALUM	Australian Land Use and Management
ARI	Area of Regional Interest
CSG	Coal Seam Gas
DILGP	Department of Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning
EA	Environmental Authority
EHP	Department of Environment and Heritage Protection
EP Act	Environmental Protection Act 1994
EPA	Essential Petroleum Activity
EPBC Act	Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999
ERE	Endangered Regional Ecosystem
ESA	Environmentally Sensitive Area
FA	Financial assurance
Ha	Hectare
PAA	Priority Agricultural Area
PL	Petroleum Lease
PPZ	Primary Protection Zone
RIDA	Regional Interests Development Approval
ROW	Right of Way

Abbreviation	Description
RPI Act	Regional Planning Interests Act 2014
SCA	Strategic Cropping Area
SCL	Strategic Cropping Land

Table 3: Definitions

Term	Definition
Permanent impact	A resource activity or regulated activity has a permanent impact on strategic cropping land if, because of carrying out the activity, the land cannot be restored to its pre-activity condition.
Pre-activity condition	For land in the strategic cropping area, means the condition of the land's soil as identified and analysed within 1 year before the making of an assessment application for a resource activity or regulated activity to be carried out on the land.
Property (SCL)	In the strategic cropping area, means— a single lot; or otherwise—all the lots that are owned by the same person or have 1 or more common owners and— are managed as a single agricultural enterprise; or form a single discrete area because 1 lot is adjacent, in whole or part, to another lot in that single discrete area (other than for any road or watercourse between any of the lots).

1.3 Revision History

Table 4: Revision History

Date	Revision Number	Description of changes
02/02/2017	01	Revised following amendment to activity to be conducted within SCA.
14/02/2017	02	Revised following Client updates
27/08/2018	03	Revised following completion of SCL Assessment Report

2 Description of Resource Activities

2.1 Background

As coal seam gas (CSG) production activities continue to develop within the Condabri Development Area, brine storage facilities are an ongoing requirement of CSG development. At the Condabri Central facility, Origin is proposing to construct a new brine pond (Brine Pond 7) to provide an additional 670 ML of brine storage. While the majority of the pond is located outside the PPZ of an environmentally sensitive area (as defined under the Condabri Development Area EA), the south western extent of the earthen embankment, its vehicle access track, perimeter fencing, and a grassed swale (associated with the pond's emergency spillway) is sited within the PPZ area. The design of the pond is a lined earthen dam similar to previously constructed dams on the facility site and complies with EHP requirements.

Furthermore, in the proposed location of Brine Pond 7, there are existing stockpiles of topsoil and unsuitable sub-soil material from the previously constructed Brine Ponds 5 and 6. Additional material will also be excavated during the construction of Pond 7. It is proposed that this existing and new material will be relocated to a stockpile associated with material excavated from Brine Pond 5 and 6 to the west of the proposed Brine Pond 7. This stockpile also falls within the ESA PPZ area. The provision of an on-site stockpile area is necessary to accommodate the separate storage of soils and sub-soils, which will be available for reuse during reinstatement and rehabilitation works at the completion of project activities.

Associated with the construction of Brine Pond 7 and the soil stockpile area described above, a temporary disturbed works area will also be required within the ESA PPZ area, immediately south west of Brine Pond 7 and south of the proposed permanent stockpile location. This area is necessary to allow temporary laydown and space for soil conditioning works associated with the Brine Pond construction.

The above disturbance areas will be located inside the PPZ of an ESA which is also identified as Strategic Cropping Area (SCA) under the *Regional Planning Interests Act 2014* (RPI Act). An amendment to the Condabri Development Area Environmental Authority (EA) (EPPG00853013) issued under the *Environmental Protection Act 1994* has been approved on 19 November 2018 to authorise the location of the aforementioned development within the ESA PPZ area. Accordingly, the proposed development that is subject to the EA amendment does not meet the exemptions requirements within the RPI Act and a Regional Interest Development Approval (RIDA) is also required.

The location of *the Site* in relation to the ESA PPZ and SCA is provided in Figures 1, 2 and Appendix A.

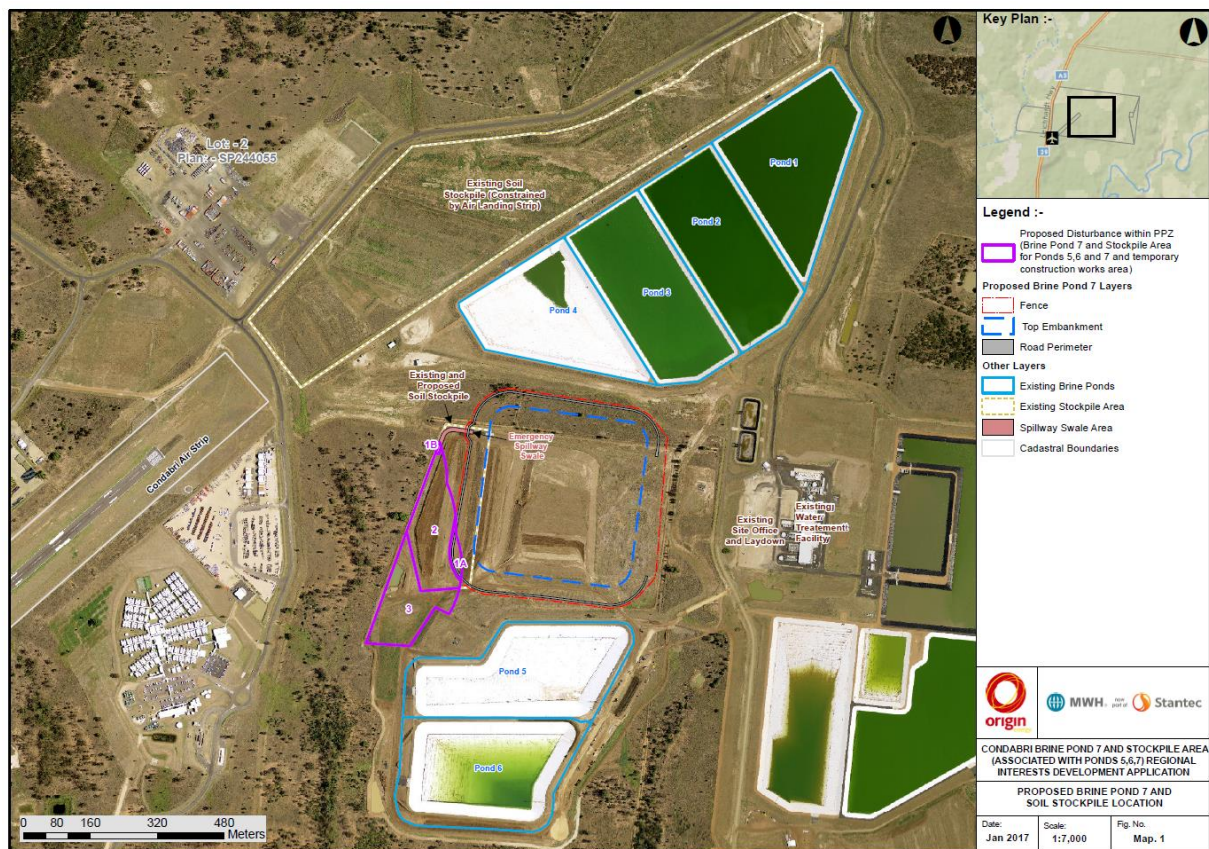


Figure 1: Location plan and overview of proposed Brine Pond 7 and Stockpile Area (associated with Ponds 5, 6 and 7)

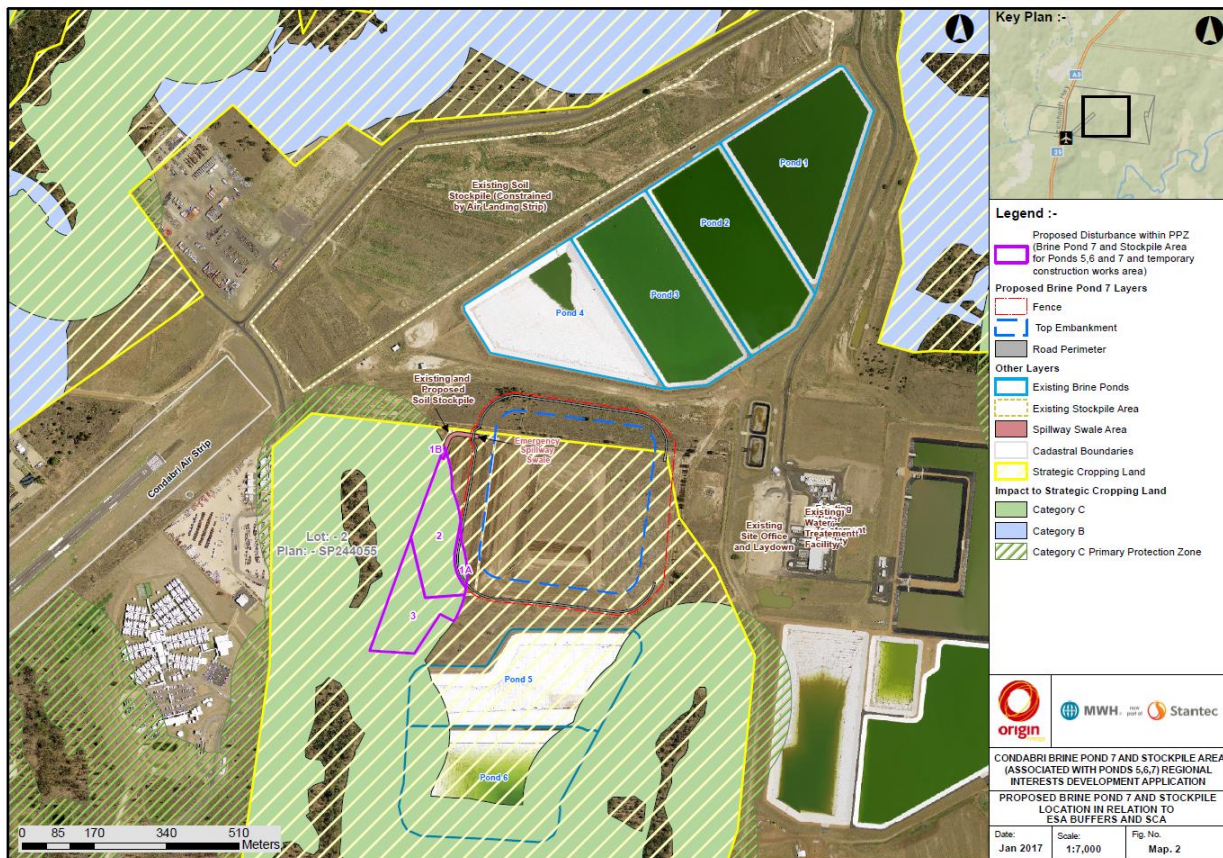


Figure 2: Location plan of the Brine Pond 7, and Stockpile Area (associated with Ponds 5, 6 and 7) in relation to the ESA PPZ and SCA

2.2 Resource Activities

Proposed construction activities within *the Site* include:

- Ground preparation, including haul road corridor and stockpile area for construction;
- Construction of temporary haul road to the proposed stockpile area from Brine Pond 7;
- Installation of erosion and sediment control, as determined by a suitably qualified person and in accordance with the site specific erosion and sediment control plan (to be developed by the Contractor in accordance with the Erosion and Sediment Control Plan – Gas Fields (Q-4500-15-MP-1001));
- Soil stockpile removal from the Brine Pond 7 footprint to the proposed new stockpile location;
- Separate placement of topsoil and subsoil stockpiles, with the topsoil stockpile formed to a maximum height of 2 m and maximum slope of 4H:1V;
- Stabilisation of relocated stockpiles with topsoil capping and seeding;
- Temporary laydown area (including the accommodation of a works area associated with temporary soil conditioning and mixing for the Brine Pond construction);
- Construction of Brine Pond 7 including earth embankment works and a grassed swale associated with the emergency spillway of the pond; and
- Installation of perimeter fencing around the exterior of Brine Pond 7.

At the completion of the Brine Pond's operation, the pond will be decommissioned and undergo reinstatement/rehabilitation utilising the adjacent stockpiled topsoil and subsoil material, in

accordance with the Condabri Gas Field Rehabilitation Plan (Q-4500-15-MP-0002) and conditions of the Condabri Development Area EA.

3 Location Details

A summary of the required information relevant to this RIDA application is presented in Table 5.

Table 5: Summary of Property Specific Information

Aspect	Description
Lot Plans	Lot 2 SP244055
Property Name	Kooralbyn
Land Owner	Australia Pacific LNG Pty Ltd
Land Purchased	2004
Regional Council	Western Downs Regional Council
Regional Plan	Darling Downs
Bioregion / Subregion	Brigalow Belt South bioregion and Barakula and Eastern Darling Downs subregions
Area of Regional Interest	Strategic Cropping Area (SCA)

ArcGIS Shapefiles to a projected coordinate system of GDA56 accompanies this application and identifies the location of the activity.

3.1 Pre-Activity Land Condition

Lot 2 SP244055, known as 'Kooralbyn', is located at 40491 Leichhardt Highway, Miles, Qld 4415 and occupies an area of land of 1,234 ha.

Parts of Lot 2 SP244055 are mapped as a SCA and Strategic Cropping Land.

3.1.1 Current Land Use

The current land use of the property is CSG infrastructure including:

- A gas processing plant;
- A water treatment facility;
- Gathering networks;
- Gas wells;
- Water aggregation ponds, brine ponds and permeate ponds;
- Soil stockpiles; and
- Permanent workers accommodation facilities.

The Queensland Land Use Mapping Program (QLUMP) for the property is shown in Figure 3 and Appendix B, and identifies land uses to include utilities, reservoir / dam, residential, transport and communication and grazing native vegetation. *The Site* is located within land that is mapped as grazing native vegetation land use on the QLUMP mapping. Due to the nature and extent of the existing CSG infrastructure on the property there is no current or proposed use of *the Site* for cattle grazing or cropping.

Australia Pacific LNG Pty Limited owns additional properties adjacent to Lot 2 SP244055. However, these properties do not collectively constitute a *property* as defined by the RPI Act, as they are not managed as a *single agricultural enterprise*; no coordinated agricultural activities are undertaken on these collective properties.

13/02/2017 15:24:57
Lot 2 Plan: SP244055

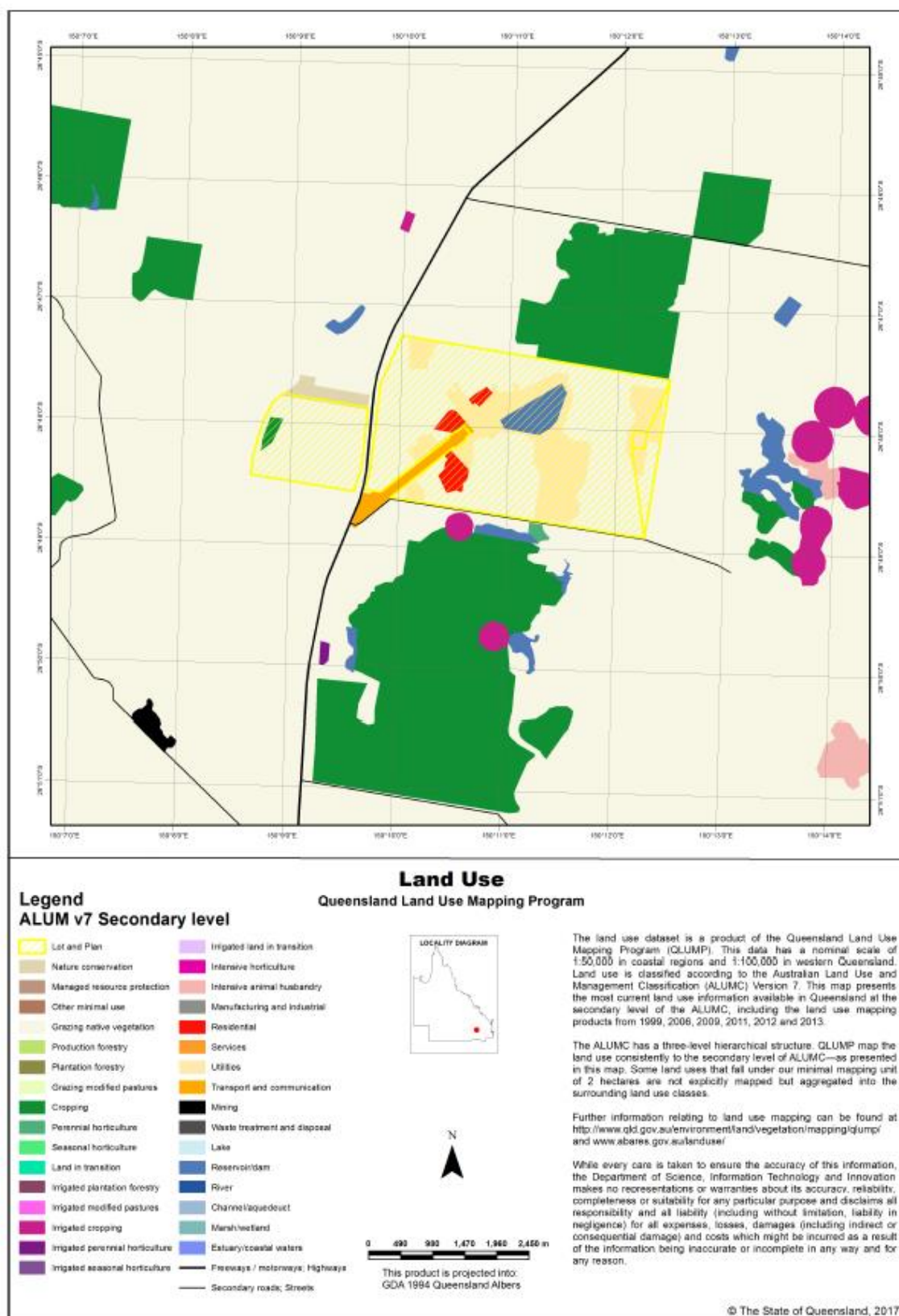


Figure 3: Lot 2/SP244055 Queensland Land Use Mapping Program Land Use

The Site (and the wider property) is not situated within mapped Priority Agricultural Area. A Forage Crop Frequency report for Lot 2 SP244055 identifies that total crop frequency on *the Site* between the years of 2007 – 2016 was two or fewer years during which time an active crop was detected (Figure 4 and Appendix B). Land in the north east and east of the property (outside of *the Site*) has seen greater crop frequency of between three to seven times during the timeframe.

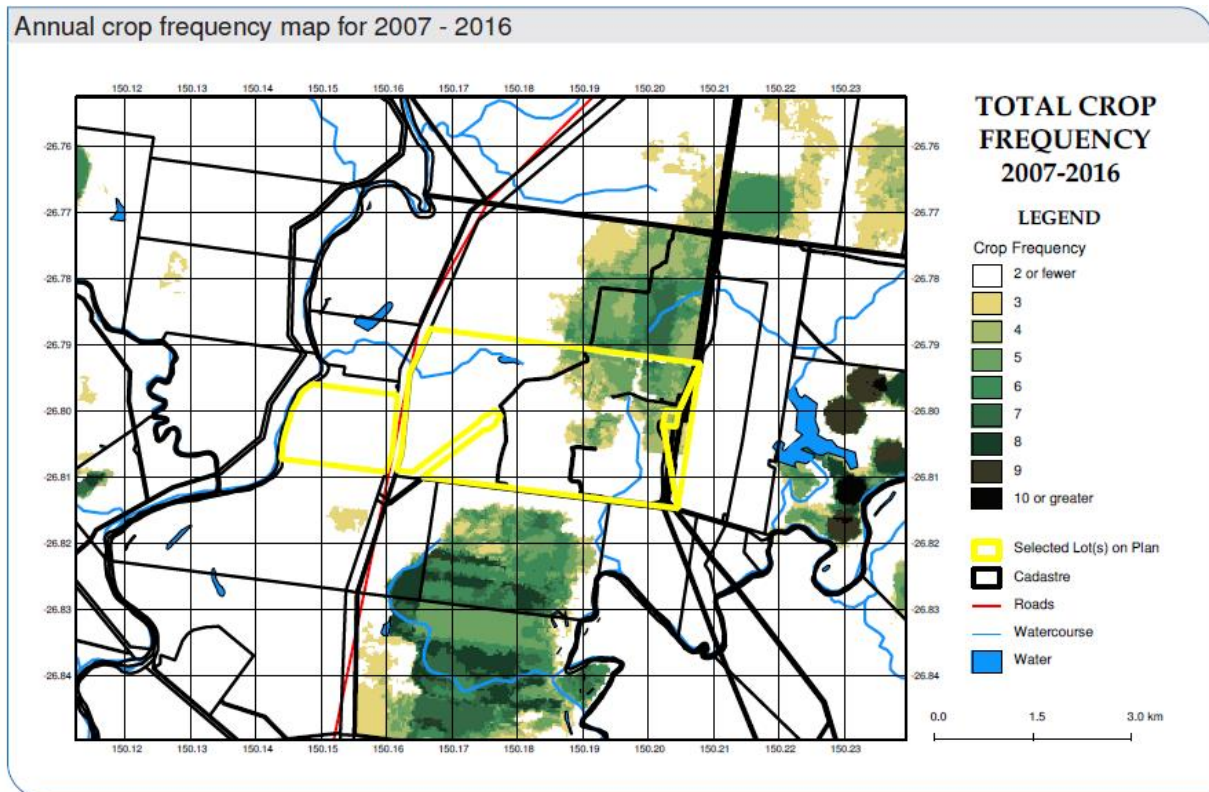


Figure 4: Lot 2 SP244055 Annual Crop Frequency Map for 2007 – 2016

3.1.2 Soil Characteristics

The Site is located within both the Barakula and Eastern Darling Downs subregions within the Brigalow Belt bioregion.

A review of the Queensland Geological Survey 1:250,000 scale map Chinchilla Sheet (SG 56.9), indicates that the area consists of Quaternary aged sandy alluvium deposits from the Condamine River, comprised of sand, clay, silt and gravel. The area is underlain by Cretaceous aged sandstone, mudstone and siltstone (Coffey Geotechnics Pty, 2013).

Mapped soil units identified within the Condabri Central SCL Assessment (Appendix D) for *the Site* comprise of soil units 2.2.1 and 2.2.2. For the most part the disturbance will be located within the mapped unit 2.2.2, however a very small portion of the proposed development area extends into mapped unit 2.2.1 as shown in Figure 5. Soil units 2.2.1 and 2.2.2 are in contrast to the Dermosol and Vertosol soil units found elsewhere in the Condabri Central Area boundary.

Mapping of the Condabri site was conducted at a scale of 1:25,000 according to McKenzie et al (2008). Both soil mapping units 2.2.1 and 2.2.2 are described as a Sodosol (Isbell 1996), a texture contrast soil, with a sandy loam to clay loam surface textured A horizon with an abrupt horizon change to a light to medium clay. The depth of the A horizon is less than 150mm in soil unit 2.2.1 and greater than 150mm in soil unit 2.2.2. The clay B horizon was often mottled and strongly sodic, strongly alkaline and saline. These features of soil units 2.2.1 and 2.2.2 were found to support the assertion that these soil units are not SCL according to the listed criteria in Schedule 3, Part 2 of the RPI Regulation. Details of the SCL assessment for soil units 2.2.1 and 2.2.2 are documented in Appendix D. Hence, for the purpose of this application the area impacted by the activities associated with Pond 7 should be assessed as not SCL.

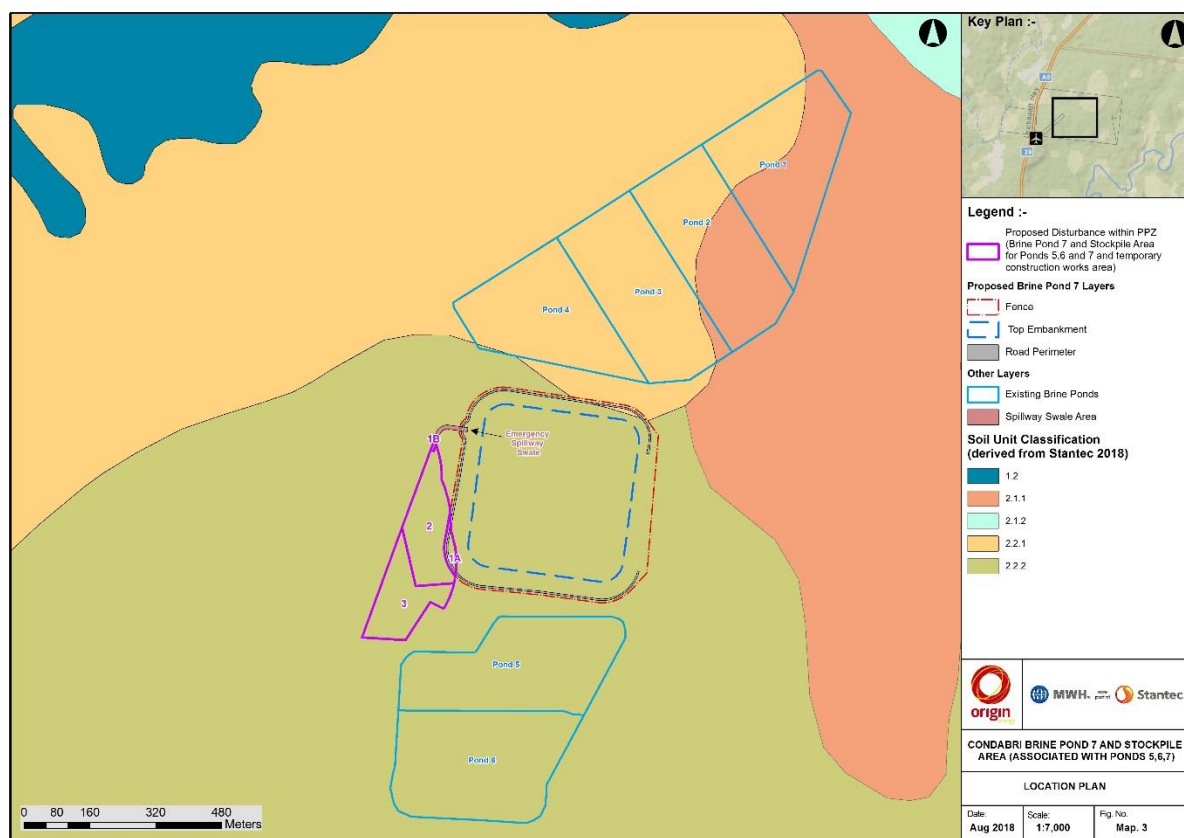


Figure 5: Condabri Central mapped soil units within the proposed development area

3.2 Surrounding Land Uses

The existing land use on surrounding land within a 1 km radius of the boundaries of *the Site* that is subject to the application has been described in Table 6 and is shown on Appendix B.

Table 6: Surrounding Land Uses

Lot Plan	Landholder	Location in Relation to Proposed Disturbance	Description of Existing Land Use on Surrounding Land
440 BUL3416	G.A and P.F Perkins, 310 McLennans Road, Miles, QLD, 4415	South of Lot 2 SP244055	Lot 440 BUL3416 is mapped by the Queensland Land Use Mapping Program for the following uses: cropping, grazing native vegetation, transport and communication, irrigated cropping and a reservoir/dam.

4 Strategic Cropping Area

4.1 Maximum Potential Impact

The proposed disturbance area is located within a SCA for which a maximum of 5.36 ha is proposed to be disturbed. The 5.36 ha consists of the following breakdown:

- Area 1: Brine Pond 7 embankment and associated Infrastructure with a total disturbance of 0.27 ha including:
 - Area 1a: Brine Pond 7 embankment, perimeter access road and fencing
 - Area 1b: Grassed swale associated with the emergency spillway of the pond;
- Area 2: Permanent soil stockpile associated with the construction of Brine Pond 5, 6 and 7 with a total disturbance area of 2.64 ha; and
- Area 3: Temporary disturbance works associated with the construction of Brine Pond 7 with a total disturbance area of 2.45 ha.

The maximum potential impact to SCA is shown in Figure 6.

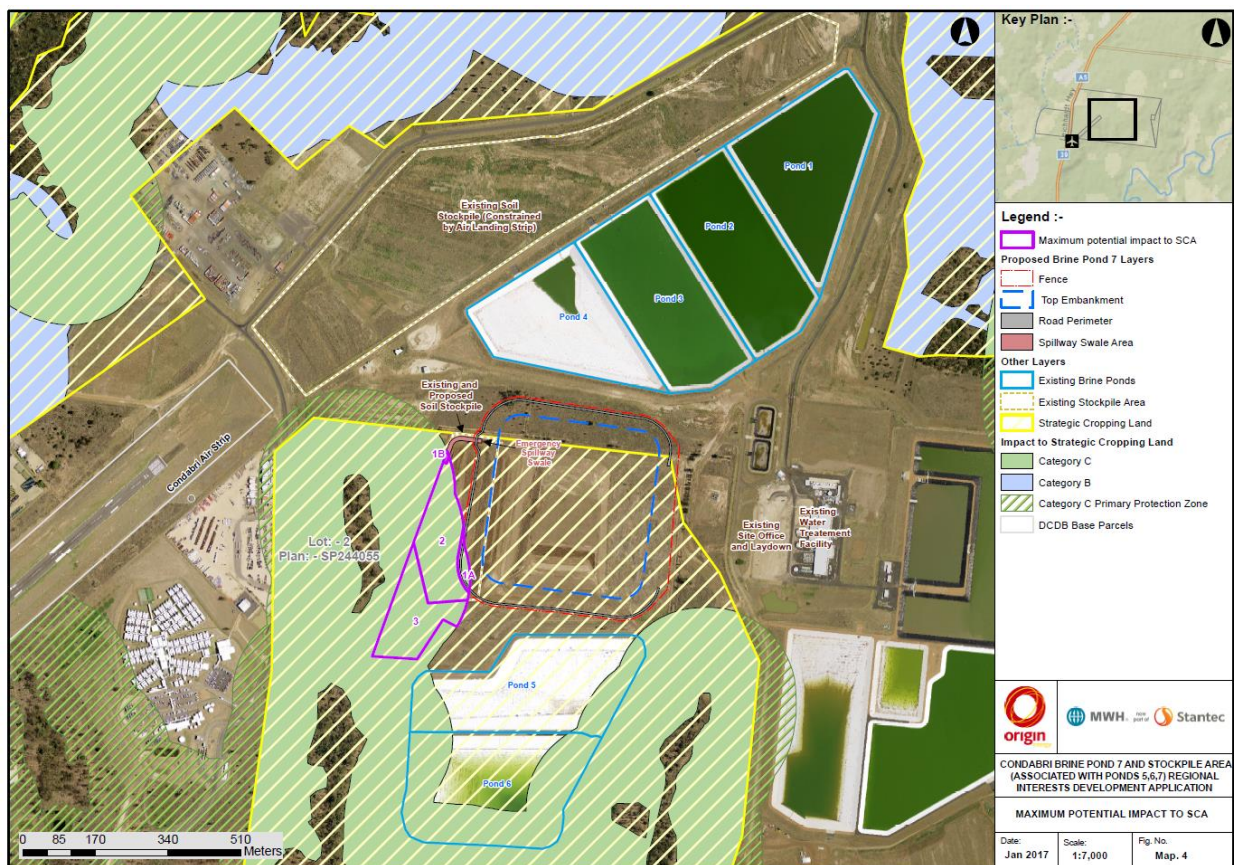


Figure 6: Maximum Potential Impact to SCA

There will be no significant impact to the land as the land will be restored to its pre-activity condition as soon as possible following completion of project operations. The SCA Assessment Criteria response to required outcomes is described in Section 11.

5 Extent and Duration of Impact on SCA

Construction of the Brine Pond 7 earthen embankment and associated infrastructure is planned to be completed within nine months, while the soil stockpile area will be completed within three to six months. The stockpile area will remain in place for the duration of the Pond's lifespan (approximately

25 years) until the soil is reused for rehabilitation. It is noted however, the general construction area will be reinstated immediately following construction.

The dam embankment (and associated infrastructure) and soil stockpile area will be maintained in-situ for the duration of the planned site operations and managed in accordance with approved plans including the Construction Environment Management Plan (Q-LNG-01-15-MP-1005). Following completion of the site operations, *the Site* will be reinstated and rehabilitated in accordance with the Condabri Gas Field Rehabilitation Plan (Q-4500-15-MP-0002).

Refer to Section 6 for details on construction, reinstatement, and rehabilitation of the proposed disturbance.

6 Management of Mitigation Measures on the SCA

6.1 Assessment of Alternatives

Viable alternatives to the proposed location of the proposed Pond 7 and the associated stockpile area are highly constrained by site conditions with the majority of the property being mapped as Strategic Cropping Area, existing ESA PPZ and the presence of CSG infrastructure.

Surrounding Brine Pond 7, there is very limited space that is not impacted by ESA PPZ that can accommodate the proposed infrastructure. Immediately west of Pond 7, *the Site* is constrained by the need for an unobstructed drainage flow path from the emergency spillway. Movement further north of Brine Pond 7 is also prevented due to the presence of an existing electrical and fibre optic cable corridor. The north western extent of *the Site* is constrained due to the presence of an existing gas well. Similarly to the south, *the Site* is restricted by the presence of Brine Ponds 5 and 6. To the east, there is an existing stand of trees and a gas pipeline that also constrains *the Site*. Furthermore, although there is an existing stockpile that is located to the north east of the Condabri air strip, there is no approval to expand this area due to aircraft approach safety requirements by the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA).

To minimise potential environmental impact to ESA, the location of Pond 7 has been sited almost entirely outside of PPZ, with the exception of the south-western corner of the embankment (and its associated access track, perimeter fencing and grassed swale). *The Site* is located between existing Ponds 4 and 5, utilises pre-existing disturbed areas of the property and is in a logical position close to the existing Water Treatment Facility. The size of the pond is 13.77 ha, which is slightly smaller than the 14 ha surface area required for optimised evaporation rates due to attempts to minimise impacts on PPZ, SCA and existing infrastructure constraints.

In addition to the constrained nature of *the Site*, a key consideration in the proposed location of the infrastructure, is that the area has been previously disturbed. No additional vegetation clearing or disturbance will be required as part of the proposed disturbance. *The Site* is not currently used for cropping purposes, with no proposed cropping activities planned by the landowner.

A review of alternative locations has been undertaken on the property. However, apart from the location proposed, no other suitable areas were identified. Other areas further away from the proposed location are deemed unsuitable for the following key reasons:

- The presence of SCA, ESAs, PPZs and existing infrastructure (including several brine ponds) limits the availability of land for use as alternative pond and stockpile area;
- Pond 7 is already constrained and cannot be moved further east due to the presence of an existing gas pipeline and stand of trees to allow for additional stockpiles of soil outside of the PPZ;
- There is no approval to expand an existing stockpile area adjacent to Brine Ponds 1 - 4 due to aircraft approach safety requirements by the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA). There are no other potentially suitable stockpile areas that can accommodate the volume of material to be generated from the construction of Brine Ponds 5, 6 and 7; and

- Other potential new stockpile areas in close vicinity to Pond 7 would also be required to be located within the SCA and PPZ but in areas where land clearance has not previously occurred. These areas have higher ecological values and therefore have not been considered further.

6.2 Construction Activities

Australia Pacific LNG will construct and operate the proposed Brine Pond 7 embankment (and associated infrastructure) and stockpile area with a maximum disturbance area of 5.36 ha within the PPZ and mapped SCA (refer to Figure 2 and Figure 6, respectively). This area represents the maximum potential impact to SCA during construction.

As identified in Figure 2 and Figure 6, the proposed development and extent of SCA impact is limited to areas that have previously disturbed, in which no cropping occurs or is proposed.

An application to amend the Condabri Development Area EA (EPPG00853013) was submitted to the QLD Department of Environment and Science on 22 October 2018 to authorise the location of the proposed works within the PPZ. The amendment was approved on 19 November 2018. The proposed works will be constructed and managed in accordance with the Condabri Development Area EA (EPPG00853013) which will mitigate impacts to potential cropping suitability of the soils, once the area is reinstated.

Australia Pacific LNG will minimise impacts to SCA by ensuring that all construction activities are conducted in accordance with the Australia Pacific LNG Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) (Q-LNG01-15-MP-1005). The CEMP provides details on how all construction activities are to occur and how environmental harm will be mitigated. Specifically relevant to this application, mitigation measures will include:

- Topsoil and subsoils will be stored separately, clearly identified via signage, and will be stored in order to keep soil integrity;
- Stockpiles will be sited to minimise potential to loss from water and wind erosion, and avoid subsequent sediment release;
- Topsoil stockpile height will not be greater than 2 m;
- Topsoil and subsoil stockpiles will be stabilised by capping with a topsoil layer and seeding to prevent erosion;
- Measures will be implemented and maintained to minimise stormwater entry onto significantly disturbed land;
- Stockpiles will be monitored and managed to maintain biological activity and prevent weed invasion.

Erosion and sediment control (ESC) measures will be installed by the Contractor in accordance with Condabri Development Area EA. Where necessary, the soil structure will be ameliorated with gypsum to minimise potential for erosion. These ESC measures will be maintained and regularly inspected, particularly prior to, and immediately following, any forecast wet weather. Generally, works will be temporarily ceased during wet weather to minimise impacts to the land and soil runoff.

Baseline soils information for areas to be disturbed, including soil depth, pH, electrical conductivity (EC), chloride, cations, exchangeable sodium percentage, particle size and soil fertility will be established. Baseline information on soils quality will be obtained by the Contractor, in accordance with the Condabri EA, prior to the disturbance. This baseline information will inform reinstatement at the end of the project's life.

6.3 Stockpile Management

To ensure the preservation of topsoil during storage the following management activities will be undertaken:

- Weed management consistent with the Biosecurity Management Plan (Q-LNG01-15-MP-0110); and
- Ongoing monitoring of stockpiles for dispersion and erosion consistent with Condabri EA and the Erosion and Sediment Control Plan – Gas Fields (Q-4500-15-MP-1001).

6.4 Reinstatement and rehabilitation

Following completion of construction activities, areas that are not required for operations will be progressively reinstated in accordance with Schedule H of the Condabri EA.

Areas associated with the Brine Pond and associated stockpile area will not be available for rehabilitation until Brine Pond 5, 6 and 7 are decommissioned (estimated to be 20 – 30 years). Following this timeframe, land that is significantly disturbed will be rehabilitated in accordance with the following Australia Pacific LNG documentation (Appendix C):

- Condabri Gas Field Rehabilitation Plan (Q-4500-15-MP-0002)
- Construction Environmental Management Plan (Q-LNG01-15-MP-1005)
- The Condabri Development Area EA (EPPG00853013)
- The RIDA, once granted

The brine pond will be decommissioned and rehabilitated in accordance with the EA and the aforementioned management plans.

All topsoil will be replaced during reinstatement, where viable. Having been stored separately, topsoil will largely retain its viable seed bank and soil chemistry. From experience elsewhere on the Australia Pacific LNG project, this is determined to be adequate to ensure regrowth of grasses. Specifications for soil layer thickness will be developed to ensure root zone salinity will support vegetation growth.

The landform will be reinstated to its original contours following completion of backfilling. Reinstatement will be to a standard that realises stable landforms and where no subsidence or erosion exists during the operational life of the proposed activity.

Post decommissioning of the proposed activity, the area will be fully returned to pre-activity condition.

Australia Pacific LNG will maintain a photographic record, and rehabilitated areas will be monitored in accordance with the Condabri Development Area EA.

7 Financial Assurance

The current financial assurance held with DES for this EA is \$55,623,814. No additional financial assurance is proposed for this application as DES already holds financial assurance associated with this proposed land disturbance.

8 Public Notification

Australia Pacific LNG is the landholder of the property under which this application is being sought. Due to the nature of the project proposed being similar to the existing activities in the area and within the property, along with the applicant being the landholder, no further public notification is being proposed.

The surrounding landholders outside Australia Pacific LNG properties are frequently consulted by Australia Pacific LNG due to existing construction and operations of CSG activity in the area. Due to the volume of petroleum activities in the area, it is not considered that any new impacts will occur and that any additional value would be gained from public notification of this RIDA.

In addition, the proposed construction is within the Australia Pacific LNG Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) study area which has been subject to previous public notification. Due to this, Australia Pacific LNG requests to be exempt from the requirement to publicly notify this application.

9 Assessment Application Fees

The definition of an expected area of impact for an assessment application means the area in which:

- The activity is proposed to be carried out; and
- Carrying out the activity is likely to have an impact

The expected area of impact relating to this application is less than 30 ha and therefore, in accordance with the RPI Act Guideline (01/14), the application fee accompanying this application is \$6,480.00. The application fee will be provided by direct payment.

10 Approvals and Legislative Content

10.1 Approvals and Decisions in Place

The proposed activity will be constructed and operated in accordance with all Australia Pacific LNG existing approvals, including:

- *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation (EPBC) Act 1999* approval 2009/4974
- The Coordinator General's Report for the Australia Pacific LNG Project
- The internal disturbance approval process
- Condabri Development Area EA
- RIDA, once approved

10.2 Guidelines, Standards and Codes of Practice

The following Department of State Development, Infrastructure and Planning (DSDIP) guidelines have been consulted during the preparation of this RIDA:

- Guideline 01/14: How to make an assessment application for regional interest development application under the RPI Act;
- Guideline 03/14: Carrying out activities in strategic cropping area;
- Guideline 06/14: Public notification of assessment applications;
- Guideline 08/14: How to demonstrate that land in the strategic cropping area does not meet the criteria for strategic cropping land; and
- Guideline 09/14: How to determine if an activity has a permanent impact on strategic cropping land.

11 Required Outcome Assessment

11.1 Strategic Cropping Land

Schedule 2, Part 4 of the Regional Planning Interests Regulation 2014 sets out the required outcome and prescribed solutions for activities carried out in an SCA. Refer to Table 7, Table 8 and Table 9 for the evidence associated with each prescribed solution.

Table 7: SCA Assessment Criteria – Required Outcome 1

Required Outcome 1 – No impact on strategic cropping land The activity will not result in any impact on strategic cropping land in the strategic cropping area	
Prescribed Solution	Evidence / Response
PS1: The application demonstrates the activity will not be carried out on strategic cropping land that meets the criteria for land stated in Schedule 3, part 2 of the RPI Regulation.	The application demonstrates that the area of the SCA to be impacted by the activity is not SCL (Section 3.1.2). This is supported by a SCL assessment provided in Appendix D and in accordance with RPI Act Statutory Guideline 08/14.

Table 8: SCA Assessment Criteria – Required Outcome 2

Required Outcome 2 - Managing impacts on strategic cropping land on property (SCL) in the strategic cropping area The activity will not result in a material impact on strategic cropping land on the property (SCL)	
Prescribed Solution	Evidence / Response
PS2: The application demonstrates all of the following—	
(a) if the applicant is not the owner of the land and has not entered into a voluntary agreement with the owner— the applicant has taken all reasonable steps to consult and negotiate with the owner of the land about the expected impact of carrying out the activity on strategic cropping land;	N/A – the applicant is the landholder
(b) the activity cannot be carried out on land that is not strategic cropping land, including, for example, land elsewhere on the property (SCL), on adjacent land or at another nearby location;	<p>A key consideration in the proposed development area is that <i>the Site</i> has been previously disturbed. No additional vegetation clearing or disturbance will be required.</p> <p>In addition, the siting of the proposed infrastructure is heavily constrained by existing CSG development as described in section 6.1.</p> <p>In accordance with the project Construction Environmental Management Plan (Q-LNG01-15-MP-1005) it is a requirement that top soil height must be limited to a maximum height of 2 m, therefore further constraining the available area for storage.</p> <p>The proposed location ensures that:</p>

Required Outcome 2 - Managing impacts on strategic cropping land on property (SCL) in the strategic cropping area
The activity will not result in a material impact on strategic cropping land on the property (SCL)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> no new significant land disturbance is required the topsoil and subsoil stockpile area is located close to where it originated from (Ponds 5, 6 and 7) double handling of the material is minimised the haulage distance required is minimised.
(c) the construction and operation footprint of the activity on strategic cropping land on the property (SCL) is minimised to the greatest extent possible;	<p>The construction and operation footprint of the activity on SCL has been minimised to the greatest extent possible by locating the infrastructure within an area that has been previously disturbed.</p> <p>The total size of the Brine Pond is 13.77 ha, which is slightly smaller than the 14 ha surface area required for optimised evaporation rates due to attempts to minimise impacts on PPZ and existing infrastructure site constraints.</p>
(d) if the activity will have a permanent impact on strategic cropping land on a property (SCL)—no more than 2% of the strategic cropping land on the property (SCL) will be impacted.	<p>The proposed activity will not have a permanent impact on SCL as <i>the Site</i> will be reinstated upon completion in accordance with the conditions of the Condabri EA.</p>

Table 9: SCA Assessment Criteria – Required Outcome 3
Required Outcome 3 – Managing impacts on strategic cropping land for a region
The activity will not result in a material impact on strategic cropping land in an area in the strategic cropping area

Prescribed Solution	Evidence / Response
<p>PS3:</p> <p>(1) The application demonstrates all of the following—</p> <p>(a) the activity cannot be carried out on other land in the area that is not strategic cropping land, including, for example, land elsewhere on the property (SCL), on adjacent land or at another nearby location;</p>	<p>A key consideration in the proposed location of the infrastructure is that <i>the Site</i> has been previously disturbed. No additional vegetation clearing or disturbance will be required.</p> <p>In addition, the siting of the infrastructure is heavily constrained by existing CSG development as described in section 6.1. Added to this is that the top soil height must be limited to a maximum height of 2 m, therefore further constraining the available area for storage.</p> <p>The proposed location ensures that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> no new significant land disturbance is required

Required Outcome 3 – Managing impacts on strategic cropping land for a region The activity will not result in a material impact on strategic cropping land in an area in the strategic cropping area	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> the topsoil and subsoil stockpiles are located close to where it originated from (Ponds 5, 6 and 7) double handling of the material is minimised the haulage distance required is minimised.
(b) if there is a regional plan for the area in which the activity is to be carried out—the activity will contribute to the regional outcomes, and be consistent with the regional policies, stated in the regional plan;	<p>The relevant regional plan is the Darling Downs Regional Plan. The main objective is to prioritise land use for regional interests in relation to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> supporting the long-term viability and growth of the agricultural sector maximising productive use of key mining resources providing for liveable communities <p>The proposed activity is consistent with this plan as it does not impact on any areas of Priority Agricultural Land Uses, nor will it result in any impact on the future growth of towns in the region.</p> <p>The proposed development will be undertaken within SCA that has previously been disturbed by CSG activities.</p>
(c) the construction and operation footprint of the activity on strategic cropping land is minimised to the greatest extent possible;	<p>Impacts to SCL have been minimised to the greatest extent possible by being located within an area of pre-existing disturbed area.</p> <p>The total size of the Brine Pond is 13.77 ha, which is slightly smaller than the 14 ha surface area required for optimised evaporation rates due to attempts to minimise impacts on PPZ and existing infrastructure site constraints.</p>
(d) either – (i) the activity will not have a permanent impact on the strategic cropping land in the area; or (ii) the mitigation measures proposed to be carried out if the chief executive decides to grant the approval and impose an SCL mitigation condition.	<p>The activity will not have a permanent impact on the SCL as the pre-activity condition of the land will be restored during rehabilitation activities.</p>
(2) Subsection (3) applies for each property (SCL) on which the activity is to be carried out if the applicant is not the owner of the land and has not entered into a voluntary agreement with the owner.	<p>N/A – the applicant is the owner of the land</p>

12 References

Coffey Geotechnics Pty Ltd, 2013. Interpretative report for ground investigation for additional brine ponds.

Isbell RF (1996) The Australian soil Classification, CSIRO Publishing, Collingwood, Vic

McKenzie NJ, Grundy MJ, Webster R, and Ringrose-Voase AJ (2008) Guidelines for Surveying Soil and Land Resources, 2nd Edition, CSIRO Publishing, Collingwood, Vic

Appendices

Appendix A Figures

Appendix B External Mapping

Appendix C Referenced Documents

Refer to separate electronic records.

Appendix D Condabri Central SCL Assessment



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