

BEATING AROUND THE BUSH: HOW AUSTRALIA'S NATIONAL ENVIRONMENT LAW FAILS CLIMATE AND NATURE

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Key findings

1

From koalas to the great river red gum, Australia is home to some of the most remarkable plants, animals and ecosystems on our planet. Sadly, widespread climate damage is already evident.

- › Australia is a global biodiversity hotspot. It's home to more than a million plant and animal species, a majority of which are found nowhere else, and are irreplaceable.
- › Iconic species like the koala and river red gum are core to Australian identity and culture. Our unique environment acts as both our life support system - providing the air, water and food we need to survive - as well as a source of enjoyment, wellbeing and wonder.
- › People flock from around the world to visit our many World Heritage Sites such as Kakadu, the Wet Tropics of Queensland, the Gondwana Rainforests, and the Great Barrier Reef. A recent CSIRO-led study affirmed that these sites are already suffering damage due to climate change.
- › Australia has entered a new era of megafires, more powerful storms and lethal heatwaves that are devastating habitats, drying rivers, and killing or displacing billions of animals and plants.

2

Escalating climate change is harming our environment in many ways; and poses an unprecedented threat to the Australian plants, animals and places that our national environment law was set up to protect.

- › Climate change is worsening bushfire conditions, with the 2019-20 Black Summer fires killed or displacing an estimated three billion vertebrate animals and 60 billion invertebrates. As a result, hundreds of species became threatened for the first time, or moved closer to extinction. Fire experts warn of extreme summers over the next two years; putting more animals and habitats at risk.
- › Ongoing droughts linked to climate change are pushing the red stringybark trees to extinction. This 40,000-year-old species, only found in the Clare Valley in South Australia, is under rapid decline.
- › A pattern of more frequent, intense rainfall events due to climate change is well established in Australia. Following the 2022 Queensland and New South Wales floods, many dugongs starved to death when their food source was killed off by silt runoff.
- › Worsening marine heatwaves, driven by climate change, are devastating fragile ecosystems like the Great Barrier Reef, which suffered four mass bleaching events in the past decade.
- › A review in 2021 of 19 of our most iconic ecosystems concluded that all were exhibiting signs of collapse in at least part of their range, with climate change cited as a common factor.

3

Our national environment law, the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*, is failing. It has a massive blindspot when it comes to climate change, which is leading to perverse outcomes.

- › High-polluting projects continue to be approved under this law, because it doesn't explicitly address climate change or the harmful greenhouse gas emissions that fuel it. Since the Act was passed in 1999, 740 fossil fuel projects have been approved, or waved through without assessment.
- › In Australia, 1,918 species of plants and animals are now under threat, with more than half of those at high risk of extinction.
- › An independent review of the law in 2020 concluded that it was ineffective and ill-equipped for challenges like climate change.
- › Proposed adjustments to this law don't go far enough to shield the precious species, habitats and biodiversity this Act is supposed to protect, because they don't address the biggest environmental threat we now face: climate change.

4

As the most significant threat to our environment, climate change needs to be embedded throughout an updated law that specifically shields our precious biodiversity and nature from its impacts.

- › Make 'maintaining a safe and liveable climate' both an Object and a Matter of Significance of the EPBC Act, so all decisions taken are consistent with holding global warming as close as possible to 1.5°C.
- › Assess all lifetime emissions (Scope 1, 2 and 3) of each project under the Act against science-based global and national carbon budgets.
- › Reject carbon offsetting and unproven technologies - which fail to address climate change and its impacts - as part of project Environmental Management Plans.
- › Put project approvals in the hands of an independent agency, such as the new national Environment Protection Agency, rather than the federal Environment Minister.
- › Accelerate projects that underpin decarbonisation and the sustainable growth of new essential industries, wherever this can be done without compromising the core environmental, social and cultural values the Act should protect, for example, by designating priority sectors and zones in Australia.

1. Introduction

We protect the things we hold dear: our children, homes, and communities. Whenever threats arise that put what's most important to us at risk, we act swiftly to avoid or avert them.

Right now, Australia's environment is under grave threat from climate change; facing some of the greatest risks in human history. Accelerating climate change is also turbocharging other threats like habitat destruction and proliferation of invasive species. Collectively, this is pushing many natural places around the country to the brink of ecological collapse.

Through worsening floods and fires, heatwaves, ocean acidification and droughts, climate change is like an all-purpose bulldozer tearing through the ecosystems that humans and all other species depend on for their health, wellbeing and safety. An extreme event - like the Black Summer bushfires, extreme floods in Queensland and New South Wales, or lethal heatwaves across Western and Central Australia - is devastating. Together, the impacts are compounding. If climate change is left unchecked, we will lose many of the species and ecosystems that sustains us, as well as the special places and cultural heritage we all love.

Australia's main national environment law - the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation (EPBC) Act 1999* - is supposed to protect the animals, plants, landscapes and ecosystems that are our shared natural endowment. It is failing in this essential task, in no small part because the law does not explicitly address climate change. Like a house caught up in a wild storm without a roof, our key environmental law does not provide any direct protection from the greenhouse gas emissions that are driving dangerous climate change. The law is also failing to protect the environment in other ways: forests are being cleared, habitats lost, invasive species are running rampant.



A wide range of animals and plants are being pushed to the brink of extinction because of a piecemeal approach to project approvals and a lack of enforcement or accountability for good environmental management.

"Australia's natural environment and iconic places are in an overall state of decline and are under increasing threat. They are not sufficiently resilient to withstand current, emerging or future threats, including climate change. The EPBC Act is outdated and requires fundamental reform. It does not enable the Commonwealth to effectively fulfil its environmental management responsibilities to protect nationally important matters. The Act, and the way it is implemented, results in piecemeal decisions, which rarely work in concert with the environmental management responsibilities of the States and Territories. The Act is a barrier to holistic environmental management..."

Professor Graeme Samuel, Independent Review of the EPBC Act (2020).

It's time to fix this. Australia needs a strong national environment law which properly deals with climate change and genuinely protects nature, to help prevent runaway global warming and shield our precious biodiversity from its impacts.

This report collates the scientific evidence that explains how climate change harms nature, and the impacts already being experienced by species and landscapes that our environment law was designed to protect - like one-of-a-kind plants and animals, and iconic places like the Great Barrier Reef (see, for example, Climate Council 2019).

Informed by climate science and expert policy insights, this report also outlines the priority improvements our Federal Parliament should urgently make to Australia's national environment law in order to fix its massive blind spot on climate change.

During this make-or-break decade for action, we have an opportunity to fix our national environment law and help prevent the worst impacts of harmful climate change. If we get it right, this can be a reform that delivers a lasting legacy for us all.

**We protect the things
we hold dear, and
right now Australia's
environment needs
legal protection from
climate damage.**

2. Climate change is a real and urgent threat to our precious natural environment

Our environment is our life support system, fundamental to our health, well-being, economy and cultural connections. The environment provides the food we eat, the air we breathe, the water we drink, and many of the materials we use for clothes, buildings, products and fuel. It also helps regulate our climate and absorb the impacts of extreme weather. This life support system is now under extreme stress.

There is an economic case for preserving nature (Johnson et al. 2021). Globally, it is estimated that the worth of a healthy environment is US\$44 trillion, and without action to protect nature, nature loss could cost 2.3 percent of global GDP in 2030 (US\$ 2.7 trillion) (World Economic Forum 2020a; World Bank 2021). In Australia, nearly \$900 billion (roughly half of our annual GDP) is moderately or highly dependent on nature (ACF 2022; see Figure 1). Despite the enormous economic benefits of a healthy and vibrant environment, the global risk of biodiversity loss and ecosystem collapse is clear and present; described as having 'irreversible consequences for the environment, humankind, and economic activity and a permanent destruction of natural capital' (World Economic Forum 2020b). A review of the economics of biodiversity warns that human prosperity is growing at a "devastating cost to nature" and estimates that it would take resources equivalent to 1.6 Earths to maintain the world's current living standards (Dasgupta 2021).

A new CSIRO study lamented that failure to take account of nature by government and private sector decision-makers who own or control significant natural capital assets has dire consequences for the environment (CSIRO 2023). Economic growth has occurred during a "catastrophic decline" in our natural systems and a 70 percent reduction in the average species population size since 1970 (Hutchens, 2023).



AUSTRALIA'S ECONOMY AND INDUSTRIES ARE HIGHLY DEPENDENT ON NATURE

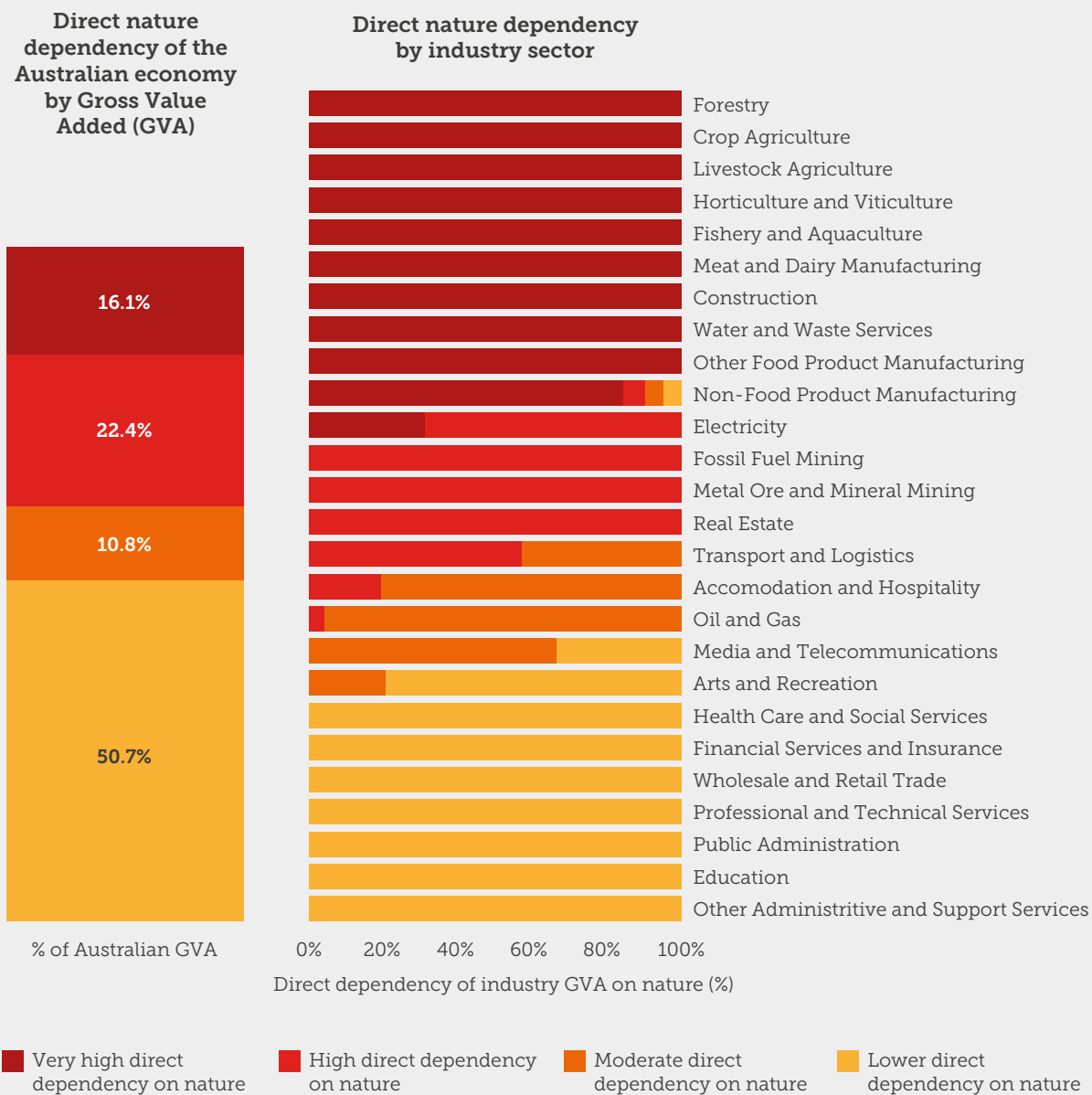


Figure 1: Australia's economy and industries are highly dependent on nature. GVA refers to gross value added to the economy by industry.

Source: Adapted from ACF 2022.

Australia is a global biodiversity hotspot. We are home to more than a million species of plants and animals – approximately 8 percent of global biodiversity – many of which are only found here. Unfortunately, Australia is also a global leader in species decline. Between 1996 and 2008, Australia was among seven countries responsible for 60 percent of global biodiversity loss. The International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) ranks Australia fourth worst in the world for species extinctions, and worst for loss of mammals (IUCN 2022).

The most recent State of the Environment Report is a damning indictment of Australia's poor track record when it comes to conservation. The number of plant and animal species listed as threatened in June 2021 was 1,918 species. The report describes a downward trend of species and habitat loss, concluding that: "in a rapidly changing climate, with unsustainable development and use of resources, the general outlook for our environment is deteriorating" (Australian Government 2021).

The State of the Environment report notes that the traditional pressures facing the Australian environment – habitat loss and fragmentation, invasive species, pollution and overharvesting – are now being exacerbated by climate change. These threats interact with one another, resulting in compounding and cumulative impacts.

The burning of fossil fuels and land use change are both accelerating climate change, which is hitting ecosystems hard. The 2021 State of the Environment report introduced a new chapter on extreme events in Australia that documented the terrible impacts of floods, droughts, heatwaves, storms and bushfires over the past five years. Together, these unnatural disasters have resulted in billions of animals killed or displaced, habitats burnt and vast areas of coral reefs bleached. Extreme weather events are worsening in a supercharged climate, fuelled by our dependence on coal, oil and gas. Extreme events compound pressures on species already threatened by habitat loss and invasive species. More species extinctions are expected over the coming decades (Johnston et al. 2022).

"We are living through climate and biodiversity crises; these are not separate from each other but are two sides of the same coin"

- (WWF 2022).

A healthy environment is fundamental to the health and well-being of all Australians.

2.1 How does climate change threaten nature?

Australia's ecosystems are being transformed before our eyes. Climate change is accelerating the devastation of ecosystems already bruised and battered by multiple human-induced stresses - including land clearing, invasive species and freshwater diversion. A review of the health of 19 of Australia's most iconic ecosystems concluded that all were exhibiting signs of collapse in at least part of their range (Bergström 2021). While many threats were identified as responsible for the collapses, climate change was a common theme.

From the world's oldest forests to its largest reef system, Australia is home to some of the most remarkable ecosystems, plants and animals on Earth. They are all under threat from climate change, and many are rapidly deteriorating.



In Australia, we have already entered a new era of megafires, more powerful storms and lethal heatwaves. As one of the most vulnerable developed countries to climate change, we are witnessing dramatic damage to the ecological systems that sustain human life and our society. From the Black Summer bushfires wreaking havoc on millions of hectares of habitats; to widespread flooding from intensifying rainfall events; to increasing damage to riparian landscapes from worsening droughts and fires; and to the long-term decline in rainfall across southwest and southeast of Australia – the climate crisis is now all around us and is accelerating.

From the world's oldest forests to its largest coral reef system, Australia is home to some of the most remarkable ecosystems on the planet. These national treasures harbour an extraordinary array of plant and animal species, the majority of which are endemic – meaning they evolved in Australia, and are mostly found nowhere else.

Iconic species like the koala and river red gum are core to the identity and culture of Australia. People flock from around the world to visit our many World Heritage Sites such as Kakadu, the Wet Tropics of Queensland, the Gondwana Rainforests, and the Great Barrier Reef.

At today's global average temperature rise of 1.2°C, many of these sites have already suffered tremendous damage. A recent CSIRO-led study affirmed that World Heritage Sites across Australia and around the world are "facing unprecedented challenges from climate change" (Lin et al. 2023).

There are five key ways escalating climate change harms our natural environment.





BUSHFIRES

Climate change significantly increases the risk and severity of fires. This is because warmer temperatures can cause increased evaporation, leading to the drying out of vegetation. This drying effect, coupled with a combination of lower-than-normal rainfall and higher temperatures, reduces overall land surface moisture, causing what are known as 'faster' droughts or 'flash droughts'.

These can develop over weeks to months rather than the years or decades typical of conventional droughts (Nguyen et al. 2019; Pendergrass et al. 2020; Hadjimichael 2022). Such conditions prime the landscape for fires; for example, a 'flash drought', alongside unusually strong trade winds from Hurricane Dora and the spread of invasive grass, set the stage for the devastating fires in Hawaii in August 2023 (Canberra Times 2023).

Since 1950, there has been a marked increase in extreme fire weather and an extension in the fire season across large parts of Australia, trends that are influenced by climate change (Bureau of Meteorology and CSIRO 2022). The situation is exacerbated by the fact that fire weather extremes are becoming even more severe.

The 2009 Black Saturday bushfires in Victoria prompted fire services to add a new category of fire danger, "Catastrophic", reflecting the increasingly common instances of weather conditions exceeding the theoretical maximum fire danger index of 100. This is because weather conditions have become hotter and drier on the worst fire weather days over recent decades (Australian Academy of Science 2021).

CLIMATE HARM IN ACTION:

Black Summer fires ravage habitats

The Black Summer bushfires of 2019-20 marked a devastating chapter in Australia's environmental history, destroying or displacing an estimated three billion vertebrate animals and an estimated 60 billion invertebrates (Gibb et al. 2023), and damaging already-fragile habitats (DCCEEW 2022a). A combined analysis undertaken by more than 200 scientists found that over 1,600 native species had more than half their range burnt, and hundreds of species became threatened for the first time or moved closer to extinction (Rumpff et al. 2023).

In 2022, Federal Environment Minister Tanya Plibersek listed the south-eastern glossy-black cockatoo and the mountain skink as threatened species under Australia's national environment law - the EPBC Act - for the first time. This listing was a direct result of the Black Summer fires; the latest State of the Environment report noted many more listings are likely to follow (DCCEEW 2022a; 2022b). Listing a threatened species under the EPBC Act highlights the danger they are in, and can be a first step in halting further decline. Only by addressing the underlying threats Australia's native animals and plants face from escalating climate change can we prevent even more species joining this list in the years to come.





DROUGHT

Australian rainfall is highly variable and is strongly influenced by climate drivers such as the El Niño-Southern Oscillation and the Indian Ocean Dipole. Despite this large natural variability, underlying long-term trends are evident in many regions. Australia has warmed by around 1.5°C since 1910, largely because of the burning of coal, oil and gas, with most warming occurring since 1950.

This warming has seen an increase in the frequency of extreme heat events and increased the severity of drought conditions during periods of below-average rainfall (CSIRO and Bureau of Meteorology 2018). Mainland southern Australia has experienced a 10 to 20 percent decline in cool season rainfall (April to October) in recent decades (Bureau of Meteorology 2023). This area includes the major population centres of Brisbane, Sydney, Canberra, Melbourne, and Adelaide.

There has been a decline of around 15 per cent in April to October rainfall in southwest Australia since 1970. Across the same region, May to July rainfall has decreased most, by around 19 percent since 1970 (Bureau of Meteorology and CSIRO 2022). Hotter conditions and reduced rainfall have led to less runoff into streams, rivers, lakes and dams in the southwest and southeast of the Australian continent that support many species of plants and animals.

CLIMATE HARM IN ACTION:

40,000-year-old eucalyptus species devastated by drought

Scientists from the University of South Australia have raised the alarm about the rapid decline of a special type of red stringybark trees (*Eucalyptus macrorhyncha*) within Spring Gully Conservation Park in the Clare Valley, South Australia.

The trees diverged from other native relatives more than 40,000 years ago, and have survived in the region as an isolated population ever since. Since 2000, harsh droughts have resulted in over 40 percent population loss (individuals and biomass). Researchers warn that ongoing droughts linked to climate change could push the red stringybarks to extinction (Keppel et al. 2023).

These are the kinds of irreplaceable native species - found nowhere else in the world - that our national environment law should be protecting.



Climate change drives hotter, drier conditions, and less rainfall in parts of Australia. This is bad news for many plants and animals.



FLOODING

For each 1°C rise in global average temperature, the atmosphere can hold approximately 7 percent more moisture (Trenberth 2011). A warmer atmosphere also means there is more energy to fuel storms that generate heavy rainfall. These factors increase the likelihood of extreme downpours when it does rain.

The pattern of more frequent, intense rainfall events is well established in Australia. In recent decades, the intensity of short duration (hourly) extreme rainfall events has increased by around 10 percent in some regions, with larger increases observed in the north of Australia (CSIRO and BoM 2022). Globally, the frequency of intense rainfall events already being experienced is likely to almost double with each degree of further global warming (Myhre et al. 2019). Heavy rainfall events seen in recent years that led to catastrophic flooding have been made more likely by climate change (IPCC 2022).

2022 will be remembered as “the year of the Great Deluge” (Climate Council 2022), when record-breaking rain and floods lashed large parts of eastern Australia, devastating both communities and natural environments. From Queensland down to Tasmania, extreme weather events have killed Australians, led to the evacuation of communities, damaged homes, belongings and businesses, destroyed crops and livestock, and washed away natural landscapes. Many communities were affected by not one, but multiple consecutive floods, with little to no time to recover after each one. Some were also unable to rely on insurance to cover the cost of the damage. For some families in New South Wales’ Hawkesbury region, for instance, the July 2022 flood was the fourth time in 18 months the region was inundated (Climate Council 2022). Some communities have now been rendered “uninsurable” in flood prone areas, like Lismore in NSW (White 2023).

CLIMATE HARM IN ACTION:

Dugongs starve to death after Queensland floods

Dugongs graze in shallow coastal waters, feeding on sea grasses - their peaceful demeanour lending them the nickname ‘sea cows’. These marine mammals are listed as a species vulnerable to extinction, and protected under Australia’s EPBC Act (DCCEEW 2021).

In late 2022, dead and dying dugongs began washing up on Queensland’s Fraser Coast. Widespread flooding in the region throughout the year had washed huge amounts of silt into river systems and then out to sea, where it killed off the sea grasses that dugongs feed on. Repeated floods following one after the other through the year left little opportunity for the sea grasses to recover and re-grow.

The region’s dugongs were left sick and starving, with no replacement food source (Carbonell 2022). The flooding also washed pollutants like pesticides into the marine environment, affecting local turtle populations. Scientists have identified this as one potential cause of a never-before-seen condition called ‘soft shell disease’ emerging in the region’s already-endangered turtles (Townsend 2022; University of the Sunshine Coast 2022).





OCEAN HEATING AND ACIDIFICATION

Climate change is not just an atmospheric phenomenon, it profoundly affects the world's oceans – which cover more than 70 percent of the Earth's surface and significantly influence global weather and climate. In a very real sense, climate change is ocean change.

Around 25 percent of carbon emissions since the 1980s have ended up in the ocean, changing the chemical composition of seawater. As a result, the ocean is now 30 percent more acidic, and contains less oxygen (IPCC 2019a). The vast majority of excess heat in the Earth's climate system from greenhouse gas emissions – around 93 percent – has also been absorbed by the oceans (IPCC 2019a). Over the past year, the excess heat absorbed by the ocean was equivalent to the energy of five Hiroshima atomic bombs detonating every second or 150 million each year (Cheng et al. 2023). Since the early 1990s the rate of ocean warming has more than doubled (IPCC 2019a).

Warming of the ocean has contributed to longer and more frequent marine heatwaves. Marine heatwaves are defined as temperatures being warmer than 90 per cent of the previous Sea Surface Temperature observations at the same time of year over a 30-year period, for at least five days in a row (Bureau of Meteorology 2018). Heatwaves in the ocean often persist much longer than heatwaves on land, sometimes spanning multiple months or even years (Bureau of Meteorology and CSIRO 2022).

Marine heatwaves can be devastating for ocean ecosystems, including coral reefs, kelp forests and seagrass, as well as for coastal fisheries and aquaculture industries (Oliver et al. 2017; Bureau of Meteorology 2018). As our understanding of marine heatwaves improves, they are "emerging as pivotal in shaping ecosystems, by driving sudden and dramatic shifts in ecological structure and functioning" (Smale et al. 2019).

CLIMATE HARM IN ACTION:

Mass coral bleaching on the Great Barrier Reef

Slight increases in sea-surface temperatures due to global warming can cause significant coral mortality, which is why climate change is the greatest threat to the Great Barrier Reef, and coral reefs worldwide.

The Great Barrier Reef has suffered four mass bleachings driven by marine heatwaves in the past decade - in 2016, 2017, 2020 and 2022 (AIMS 2023). The composition and diversity of species is changing, with almost a third of the coral across the entire Reef dying either during or in the eight months that followed the 2016 bleaching event, due to thermal stress.

Continued failure to tackle the climate crisis could mean the Reef suffers bleaching every year from the 2040s (Heron et al. 2018). This would mean the loss of the Reef and all other shallow water reefs worldwide. Scientists have repeatedly warned these ecosystems are at grave risk of marine heatwaves, mass bleachings and extinctions.

The Great Barrier Reef was the first coral reef ecosystem in the world to be inscribed on the World Heritage List, and the first site anywhere in Australia to gain this exceptional level of protection (Queensland Government 2021). World Heritage listing recognises and seeks to protect the most outstanding examples of the world's natural and cultural heritage. The incomparable beauty of the Great Barrier Reef is so important that potential impacts to it are a standalone criteria triggering a requirement for Commonwealth approval of projects under the current EPBC Act (Australian Government 2023).





CHANGING 'CLIMATIC NICHES'

A 'climatic niche' refers to the specific set of climatic conditions that a particular species inhabits within an ecosystem. It describes the range of temperatures, humidity, precipitation, wind, and other climatic factors that are suitable for the survival, growth and reproduction of that species (Bates and Bertelsmeier 2021).

The concept of a climatic niche is central to understanding how animals and plants are distributed across different environments, and how they may respond to changes. If the climatic conditions in an area change - for example due to global warming - the climatic niche of the species living there may shift in geographic space as well. Some species that have high mobility may be able to 'track' their shifting climatic niche. However if they can't, their population may decline and they may disappear in a local area, or become extinct (Holt 1990; Weins et al. 2009; Antão et al. 2022).

The more that we pump harmful carbon pollution into the atmosphere, the more climate disruption will occur, increasing the number of animal and plant species facing changes to their climatic niche. We urgently need to identify which species and communities face the highest risk of disruption, and develop plans to intervene (Antão et al. 2022). First and foremost, maintaining the climatic niches of thousands of species requires limiting global warming. At the same time, we may need to be prepared "to intervene, to move, to engineer, and to create" to support as many species as possible to find new niches in a permanently warmer world given the climate change that's already underway (Hughes 2023).

CLIMATE HARM IN ACTION:

World's first mammal extinction directly linked to climate change in Australia

Australia holds the dismal record of seeing the first documented mammal extinction directly attributed to human-induced climate change, with the confirmed extinction of the Bramble Cay melomys - a native rodent - in 2016 (Fulton 2017).

The Bramble Cay melomys was only found on a small and low-lying island in the Torres Strait, which has been progressively affected by rising sea levels resulting in more powerful storms. In the two decades from 2004, more than 90 percent of the island's vegetation was lost to sea inundation (Ingleby and Powell 2021).

These mammals were already known to be critically endangered before their confirmed extinction (DCCEEW 2019). They were listed as threatened under the EPBC Act, but had nowhere to go and were unable to adapt to rapid changes in their environment brought about by climate change (Climate Council, 2019).



Every fraction of a degree of avoided global warming matters: protecting more plants, animals, landscapes and people.

All of these impacts are already being felt with around 1.2°C of global warming. Strong, multiple lines of evidence indicate that we will soon overshoot 1.5°C of warming above pre-industrial levels (IPCC 2023). There is no 'safe' level of global warming, but warming of 1.5°C has long been considered a limit

we should aim to stay below to minimise the risk of far more severe, long-lasting and potentially irreversible changes. Figure 2 below highlights the escalating impacts we will unleash on our biodiversity if we do not hold warming as close as possible to this level.



ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS AT DIFFERENT LEVELS OF GLOBAL WARMING






	1.5°C	2°C	Impact of 2°C compared to 1.5°C
 <p>Loss of plant species</p>	<p>8% of plants will lose 1/2 their habitable area</p>	<p>16% of plants will lose 1/2 their habitable area</p>	<p>> 2x worse</p>
 <p>Loss of insect species</p>	<p>6% of insects will lose 1/2 their habitable area</p>	<p>18% of insects will lose 1/2 their habitable area</p>	<p>> 3x worse</p>
 <p>Further decline in coral reefs</p>	<p>70% to 90%</p>	<p>99%</p>	<p>> up to 29% worse</p>
 <p>Extreme heat</p>	<p>14% of the global population exposed to severe heat every 1 in 5 years</p>	<p>37% of the global population exposed to severe heat every 1 in 5 years</p>	<p>> 2.6x worse</p>
 <p>Sea-ice-free summers in the Arctic</p>	<p>At least once every 100 years</p>	<p>At least once every 10 years</p>	<p>> 10x worse</p>

Figure 2: Environmental impacts at different levels of global warming. Every fraction of a degree of avoided warming matters because the impacts of escalating warming are compounding. Source: Adapted from IPCC 2018.

It is clear from observations of climate change-related impacts in Australia alone – the massive bushfires of the 2019–2020 Black Summer; the fourth mass bleaching of the Great Barrier Reef this past decade; and long-term cool-season drying of the country's southeast agricultural zone – that even a 1.2°C global temperature rise exposes people and nature to a dangerous level of climate change. Things will only get worse if global temperatures continue to rise. For example, we could lose 70 percent of the world's tropical coral reefs at 1.5°C, but 99 percent at 2°C (IPCC 2018; See Figure 2).

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change has modelled an emissions scenario (SSP2-4.5) that is broadly consistent with existing emissions reduction commitments made by all signatories to the Paris Agreement. It has a best-estimate global temperature increase of 2.7°C in 2100, with a very likely range of 2.1 to 3.5°C in 2100 (IPCC 2021).

The IPCC also found that based on current scientific knowledge, "warming substantially larger than the assessed very likely range of future warming, cannot be ruled out", which is associated with irreversible "tipping points of the climate system, such as strongly increased Antarctic ice-sheet melt and forest dieback" (IPCC 2021). In 2023 some of these impacts became increasingly evident, indicating that the IPCC was very likely too conservative in its projections.

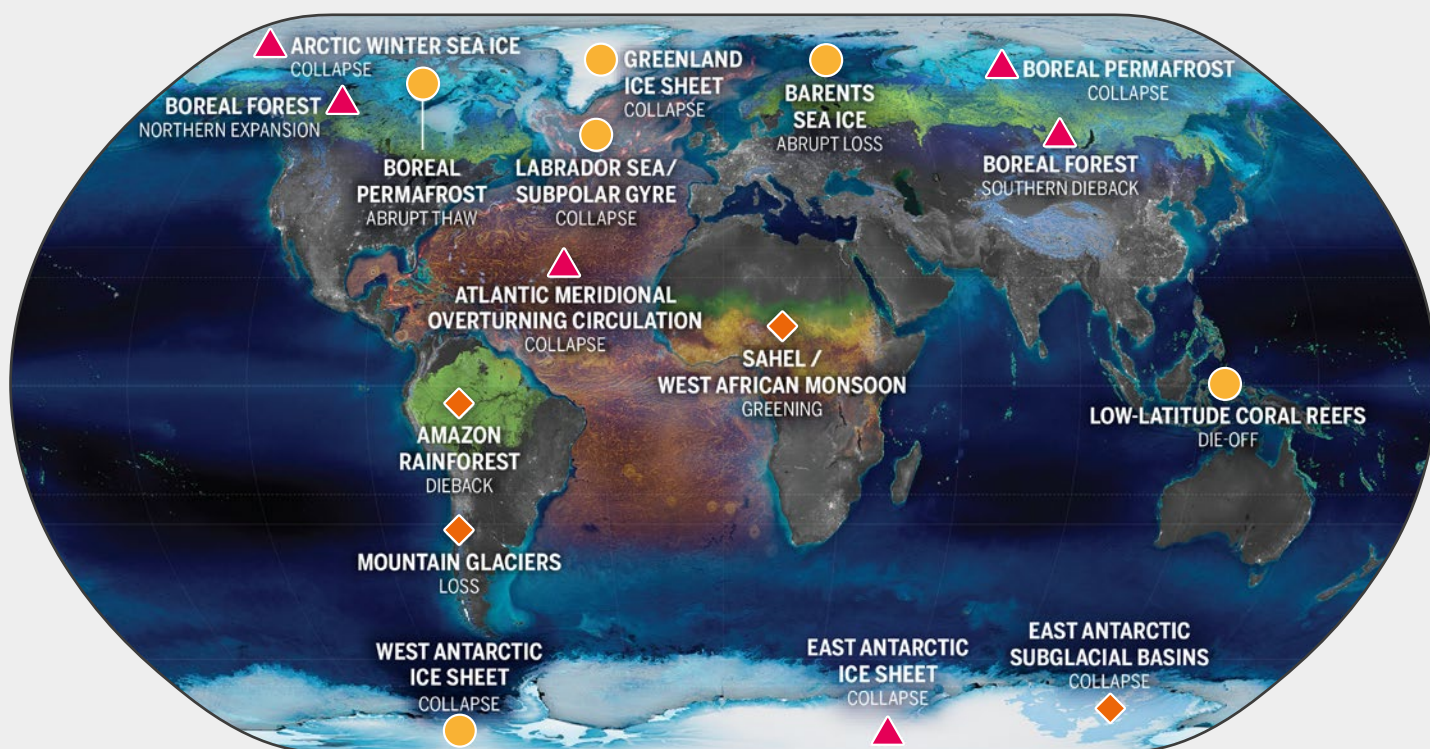


Figure 3 below shows a range of tipping elements in different geographical regions, together with estimated global warming thresholds. Tipping elements that would turbocharge greenhouse gas emissions, further global warming and accelerate global sea level rise include abrupt thawing of boreal permafrost, abrupt loss of Arctic sea ice, collapse of the Greenland ice sheet and collapse of the West Antarctic ice sheet.

In Australia, we would lose so many of the special places, species and cultural heritage we all love and hold so dear. We need to rapidly cut emissions this decade to minimise future harm to people and our life support system.

Figure 3: Global warming thresholds for a range of climate tipping elements. The locations of climate tipping elements in the cryosphere (blue), biosphere (green), and ocean/atmosphere (orange), and global warming levels at which their tipping points will likely be triggered. Source: Adapted from Armstrong McKay, D.L., et al. (2022).

GLOBAL WARMING THRESHOLDS FOR A RANGE OF CLIMATE TIPPING ELEMENTS



WHAT'S A SAFE AND LIVEABLE CLIMATE?

Put simply, there is no “safe” level of global warming. As this report details, we are already experiencing many harms that carry significant social, cultural, environmental and economic costs.

While none of us are immune, those costs are not equitably distributed or felt. For the most vulnerable communities, limiting global warming to 1.5°C means survival.

Every fraction of a degree of global warming results in a disproportionate increase in the extent of damage and harm to people and places. Effectively, the risks to our environment, health, livelihoods, food security, water supply, human security and economic growth all dramatically increase.

The world’s scientists agree there are clear, and significant, benefits to limiting global warming to 1.5°C. Every fraction of a degree of warming avoided will result in lives, livelihoods and ecosystems saved.



PROTECTING AND STRENGTHENING NATURE WILL HELP TACKLE CLIMATE CHANGE

While our natural environment is dangerously threatened by climate change, it can also play a positive role in helping to reduce the impacts. Land systems can make an important contribution by removing carbon dioxide from the atmosphere.

Avoiding the clearing of carbon-rich vegetation - like old growth forests, and protecting regrowth vegetation - like plants and shrubs which spring up in areas that have previously been cleared or burned, are the most effective ways to mitigate climate change using land systems. Maintaining and restoring carbon-rich trees and plants also has many other benefits, including the provision of habitat, maintaining water quality and improving long-term soil carbon storage. Intact ecological communities can also protect human communities from the impacts of extreme weather events. For example, mangrove forests and coral reefs reduce the impact of storms on coastal communities. Ecosystem restoration could create tens of thousands of jobs, with regional areas set to benefit the most (Climate Council and Alphabeta 2020).

This is why a group of the world's leading biodiversity and climate experts have observed that: "Biodiversity loss and climate change are both driven by human economic activities and mutually reinforce each other. Neither will be successfully resolved unless both are tackled together," (IPBES 2021).

Key actions to protect and strengthen nature that will also help tackle harmful climate change include:

- › Ending native forest logging
- › Stopping the clearing of native vegetation
- › Restoring forest cover at scale through widespread tree planting
- › Improving biodiversity by addressing degraded habitats dominated by introduced species.

(IPCC 2019b; Bastin et al. 2019; Pettoirelli et al. 2021, Mackey 2022).

Actively working to improve and preserve Australia's natural environment and biodiversity must be a core priority within broader efforts to tackle harmful climate change. By ending our reliance on fossil

fuels and protecting and restoring nature, we can achieve a healthier environment which also protects a safe and liveable climate for generations to come.

BOX 1: VEGETATION AND THE ACTIVE CARBON CYCLE

1. Vegetation contains large amounts of carbon. When it is cleared, it releases much of that carbon in the form of heat trapping gases, primarily carbon dioxide (CO₂), that warm the atmosphere.
2. On the other hand, regrowing vegetation absorbs CO₂ and stores carbon in the vegetation, removing it from the atmosphere and reducing the rate of warming.
3. When vegetation is cleared, it prevents the future absorption of carbon – therefore reducing the land's ability to contribute to climate solutions.
4. Carbon stored in vegetation and soils is vulnerable to return to the atmosphere via land clearing and natural disturbances (e.g. bushfires). In contrast, carbon from fossil fuels left in the ground is locked securely away from the atmosphere.

Maintaining and restoring carbon-rich trees and plants is a climate solution. It also improves habitats which provide many benefits to us, animals and plants.



3. Our national environment law isn't protecting nature from harmful climate change

Australia's main federal environment law - the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) - does not explicitly address climate change, or the harmful greenhouse gas emissions which are fuelling it.

The law was written more than 20 years ago under the Howard Government. The EPBC Act has only been subject to two reviews, in 2009 and 2020, as it only requires review once every 10 years.

It is simply not fit for purpose any longer because it is not preventing massive biodiversity loss and it does not directly deal with the biggest environmental threat we now face - climate change. In this make-or-break decade to drive down emissions, we urgently need to fix the law's massive blind spot when it comes to harmful climate change, as part of a comprehensive overhaul of how it works.



WHAT IS THE *ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION AND BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION ACT*?

The EPBC Act sets out a legal framework for protecting and managing some aspects of Australia's natural environment, regulating environmental impact assessments and biodiversity conservation. This includes unique plants, animals and habitats, as well as heritage sites, marine areas and other environmental matters that are considered to need special protection.

The Act currently covers nine specific 'Matters of National Environmental

Significance' (see Box 2), as well as governing environmental matters on Commonwealth land. Anyone who wants to undertake a project, development or other activity that might impact one of these nine matters, or Commonwealth land, must apply for assessment and approval under the Act in addition to any other relevant state or territory environmental approvals processes. This includes projects to develop new mines and fossil fuel extraction facilities, major infrastructure and industrial facilities.



BOX 2: MATTERS OF NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL SIGNIFICANCE PROTECTED BY THE EPBC ACT

- › **World heritage properties** - including, for example, Kakadu National Park and Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park.
- › **National heritage places** - including, for example, K'Gari and Australian Alps National Parks and Reserves.
- › **Wetlands of international importance (Ramsar wetlands)** - including, for example, Moreton Bay and the Great Sandy Strait.
- › **Nationally threatened species and ecological communities** - including, for example, koalas, swift parrots, Kangaroo Island echidnas, dugongs, Giant Kelp Marine Forests of South East Australia and the Weeping Myall Woodlands.
- › **Nuclear actions** - the EPBC Act covers a range of nuclear actions, such as mining for uranium ore or rehabilitating a site previously used for nuclear actions.
- › **Commonwealth marine areas** - including, for example, Great Australian Bight Marine Park and the Gulf of Carpentaria Marine Park.
- › **The Great Barrier Reef Marine Park** - considered so significant that it warrants protection as a standalone category.
- › **Migratory species** - including, for example, whales and marine turtles.
- › **A water resource, in relation to coal seam gas development and large coal mining development** - the EPBC Act was amended in 2013 to include a 'water trigger' for water resources used for proposed coal seam gas and coal mining projects. The amendment is designed to ensure comprehensive assessment of the impacts these projects can have on water resources.

(Australian Government 2023)

The EPBC Act refers to projects and developments which might harm the environment as 'actions'. As the Act is currently written, actions contributing to harmful climate change are not explicitly dealt with. In fact, in the Act's 1,000-plus pages, climate change is directly mentioned *just once*.

Maintaining a safe and liveable climate is not among the nine Matters of National Environmental Significance which currently require project proposals to be assessed under the Act. It also does not specifically require the federal Environment Minister to consider greenhouse gas emissions (either domestic or global) and their impact on maintaining a safe climate - or on any other Matters of National Environmental Significance it seeks to protect - when deciding whether to approve or reject project proposals.

DOES THE EPBC ACT ALREADY DEAL WITH CLIMATE CHANGE?

Some environmental legal experts have argued the current powers provided by the EPBC Act already give the Environment Minister scope to reject proposed projects on the basis that climate change will impact the existing nine Matters of National Environmental Significance. At the time of writing in September 2023, this was being tested in the federal courts through several active cases against proposed fossil fuel projects.

Regardless of whether the courts find this power is already implied within the EPBC Act through these cases, including an explicit requirement to consider climate impacts when assessing projects would make our national environment law much stronger. It would ensure these impacts *have to be considered every time*, and this is not left up to interpretation by the Minister of the day.



The Act's scope focuses very narrowly on direct and close-by ("proximate") environmental impacts - like chemicals being released into groundwater or animal habitats being bulldozed. It does not explicitly consider the broader environmental harm linked to the release of greenhouse gas emissions, which cause dangerous climate change. It also does not require decision-makers to consider the cumulative impacts of many different projects being approved over time - either on Matters of National Environmental significance or on our climate.

This means that highly-polluting projects - like coal, oil and gas facilities - can be approved despite their specific role in fuelling harmful climate change.

The burning of coal, oil and gas is by far the largest contributor to climate change, accounting for more than 75 percent of global greenhouse gas emissions and nearly 90 percent of all carbon dioxide emissions (International Energy Agency 2019). The science is clear that developing *any* new coal, oil or gas projects will put a safe climate out of reach, because existing fossil fuel supplies are more than enough to push the world well beyond 1.5°C of warming (IPCC 2023). This will lead to more extreme weather events, like the floods, fires and heatwaves already harming Australians and damaging our environment.

Since the EPBC Act came into effect, **740 fossil fuel projects have been given the green light around Australia** (See Appendix A). Of these, 185 were actively approved by the Commonwealth Government after a full environmental assessment process.

Our national environment law isn't working, and our environment is suffering as a result. Under the Act, 740 fossil fuel projects have been given the green light.

Another 555 projects were simply waved through without any requirement for a detailed assessment of their environmental impact. Collectively, these projects are already responsible for pumping billions of tonnes of harmful carbon pollution into our atmosphere, and in some cases, will continue to do so for decades to come. As currently drafted, the EPBC Act simply did not require the harmful emissions or climate warming potential of these individual projects - or their cumulative impacts - to be explicitly considered as part of their approval. **In fact, only one coal mine has ever been blocked under its assessment process, and this was rejected because of its direct impacts on the Great Barrier Reef - not because of the climate harm it would have caused** (Climate Council 2023a).

WHAT THE EPBC ACT HAS WAVED THROUGH

Despite everything we know about the urgency of addressing climate change to protect our natural environment, high polluting projects are still regularly being approved under the current EPBC Act.

- › In July 2023, the Albanese Government gave the green light to a huge expansion of the Ensham thermal coal mine in Queensland's Bowen Basin. The expanded mine will reportedly produce an additional 4.5 million tonnes of dirty coal each year out to 2037, 'resulting in emissions equivalent to running a coal fired power station for 15 years' (The Australia Institute 2023).
- › In May 2023, the Albanese Government approved its first new coal project since taking office - the Isaac River metallurgical coal mine, also in the Bowen Basin. The mine's five-year approval will see it produce around 500 million tonnes of coal a year, from a mine site that will stretch across 14 kilometres of landscape (Mining Technology 2023).
- › Under the former Morrison Government, gas giant Santos received approval to drill 850 gas wells near Narrabri in north-west New South Wales, extracting an expected 1,500 petajoules of gas. The project is estimated to produce more than 120 million tonnes of harmful

carbon emissions during its 25-year lifespan, equivalent to a quarter of Australia's total annual emissions (Sackett 2020). In addition to fuelling climate change, the project also risks significant damage to the Pilliga Forest - a native forest under contested Native Title by the Gomeroi people, which is home to around 300 native animal species and more than 900 plant species (Latimore 2022).

In response to public outcry over the approval of the Isaac River coal mine, a spokesperson for Environment Minister Tanya Plibersek said: "The Albanese Government has to make decisions in accordance with the facts and the national environment law – that's what happens on every project, and that's what's happened here," (Foley 2023).

This underlines the massive blind spot our national environment law has when it comes to climate. No sensible, science-aligned assessment process would see more fossil fuel projects approved when the evidence is clear that this will push us closer to ecological collapse (IPCC 2023).

We need to fix the EPBC Act so that it explicitly requires the Australian Government to consider emissions impacts when assessing proposals, and block projects if they would contribute to further, harmful climate change.



EVERYONE KNOWS THE EPBC ACT ISN'T WORKING

"The EPBC Act is ineffective and not fit for current or future environmental challenges, and reform is long overdue."

- Final Report of the Independent Review of the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act (2020).

The Australian Government publishes the State of the Environment Report every five years, a comprehensive assessment of how ecosystems and biodiversity are tracking across the country. The 2021 report highlighted that there are now 1,918 plant and animal species around the country officially listed as threatened. More than half of these were found to be Endangered or Critically Endangered - the highest levels of recognised risk before extinction (Australian Government 2021).

Together with the steady stream of high-polluting projects receiving approval, this is the clearest possible sign our national environment law isn't doing its job. This was the direct advice emerging from the most comprehensive review of the EPBC Act ever undertaken, delivered by a panel of experts in 2020. The Independent Review was blistering in its assessment of the law's effectiveness.



INDEPENDENT REVIEW OF THE ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION AND BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION ACT - THE 'SAMUEL REVIEW'

The Independent Review of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act*, chaired by Professor Graeme Samuel AC, concluded that the Act has failed to achieve its stated objectives and requires a complete overhaul.

Key findings from the Review included:

- › *"Australia's natural environment and iconic places are in an overall state of decline and are under increasing threat. The pressures on the environment are significant – including land-use change, habitat loss and degradation, and feral animals and invasive plant species. The impact of climate change on the environment will exacerbate pressures and contribute to further decline. In its current state, the environment is not sufficiently resilient to withstand these threats. The current environmental trajectory is unsustainable."*
- › *"The EPBC Act is ineffective. The Act is not fit for current or future environmental challenges, including climate change."*
- › *"The community does not trust the EPBC Act to deliver effective protection of the environment and industry view it as cumbersome, duplicative and slow."*
- › *"The EPBC Act does not facilitate maintenance or restoration of the environment. Cumulative impacts on the environment need to be addressed, threats properly managed and past degradation rectified."*

(Independent Review of the EPBC Act 2020)

The Independent Review leaves no room for doubt that Australia's natural environment is deteriorating, climate change is exacerbating every threat it now faces, and our national environment law needs a total overhaul to fix this.



Our national environment law is failing to protect the things it was set up to safeguard, with more than 1,900 Australian plants and animals now listed as being under threat of extinction.



In response to the Independent Review, the Australian Government has released a *Nature Positive Plan* which steps out proposed reforms to the EPBC Act. The Plan proposes some modest changes to how the Act deals with climate change. The key proposed changes are:

- › Projects assessed under the Act will be required to provide estimates of emissions expected across the life of the project, including their approach to managing emissions in line with the government's commitments. This will require reporting emissions released and removed from the atmosphere, including those generated as a direct result of an activity (Scope 1 emissions), and those from the consumption of energy (Scope 2 emissions). However, this will not capture the largest source of greenhouse gas emissions - those caused by the burning of our coal, oil or gas exports elsewhere (Scope 3). It is also not clear whether, and how, decision-makers will be required to take all forms of emissions into account for project assessments.
- › Regional plans, strategic environmental assessments and other strategic plans developed under the Act will be required to consider climate change and include environmental adaptation and resilience measures.
- › This may help in guiding decisions about what types of projects are put forward for assessment. But unless projects can be rejected on the basis of unreasonable climate impacts, this is unlikely to stop high-polluting ones being approved.
- › The Government will improve information and climate-impact modelling, including publishing information on climate-exposed habitats, species and places under different climate scenarios. This is intended to help inform project proponents and communities about the types of development that may be feasible in a changing climate.

IT'S TIME TO FIX THE CLIMATE BLIND SPOT IN OUR NATIONAL ENVIRONMENT LAW

Australians are already experiencing the harmful impacts of climate change in turbocharged fires, floods and extreme weather. The environment that supports us all has been catastrophically damaged by these events, with billions of animals killed or displaced and millions of hectares of habitat lost. This is threatening lives and livelihoods by transforming the ecosystems we all depend on. The problem will only get much worse if we don't act now to rapidly cut emissions this decade, and prevent even more climate harm by considering climate impacts in each and every decision made about new projects.

The Albanese Government's proposals fall well short of this necessary goal, with critical gaps leaving far too much room for high-polluting projects to continue to be approved.

In particular, the proposals do not capture the full lifetime emissions created by new projects. In the case of coal, oil and gas projects, emissions from direct operations (Scope 1) and electricity use (Scope 2) are just a fraction of the emissions that result from these fossil fuels being used elsewhere (Scope 3). No matter where they are burned in the world, these products cause dangerous climate change which damages our environment here. So it makes sense that these emissions should also be reported and addressed when assessing projects under our national environment law.

The extraction and export of fossil fuels is both a major source of domestic emissions and our country's biggest contribution to global warming. Australia is the world's third largest exporter of fossil fuels, behind only Russia and Saudi Arabia (The Australia Institute 2019). Counting domestic (Scope 1 and 2) emissions only, Australia is the world's 14th largest emitter (UNEP 2021). When emissions from exported fossil fuels (Scope 3) are added, Australia becomes the world's fifth-largest emitter, producing levels of greenhouse gases comparable to Russia (Climate Analytics 2019). In 2021, Australia's fossil fuel exports - mainly coal and gas - accounted for more than 1.2 billion tonnes of carbon pollution (DCCEEW 2022c).



The Albanese Government's proposed changes to the Act would not establish a clear, proactive requirement for decision-makers to take all greenhouse gas emissions into account when assessing proposals, and reject them if these are too high. The lack of such a requirement in the law has recently led to some very perverse outcomes in decisions by the federal Environment Minister.

For example, in 2022 the Environment Council of Central Queensland asked the Albanese Government to reconsider 19 coal and gas projects which had received EPBC Act approval under the former Morrison Government. In

denying a request to reconsider the approval for one of these projects - an underground coal mine at Narrabri in NSW - the Environment Minister agreed that anthropogenic climate change is real, caused by the production of greenhouse gas emissions and likely to negatively affect many of the Matters of National Environmental Significance the EPBC Act seeks to protect. Despite this, the Minister declined to reconsider the mine's approval, on the basis that its emissions were not sufficiently direct, or impacts significant enough, to be considered under the Act (Minister for the Environment and Water 2023).

EMISSIONS EXPLAINER

Scope 1

Scope 1 or direct emissions are those that result from a company's owned or controlled sources. This includes direct emissions from coal mining and gas extraction (fugitive emissions), as well as emissions from chemical reactions in industrial processes (such as cement and steelmaking), emissions from on-site fuel combustion to generate heat and power machinery, and emissions from landfill.

Scope 2

Scope 2 or indirect emissions are produced from using energy. They reflect the emissions produced by the physical burning of fuels at the power station, and are measured as kilograms of carbon dioxide equivalent (CO₂e)¹ per unit of electricity purchased by an organisation.

Scope 3

Scope 3 emissions are produced within an organisation's value chain, but from sources the facility or business does not own or control, for example, when a company exports a raw material that is then processed into a different product. Emissions from the export coal and gas industry (where coal and gas is extracted then exported from Australia and burned overseas) are considered Scope 3 emissions.

In 2020-21, emissions from the burning of exported coal and gas were more than double Australia's total domestic emissions (Climate Council 2023b).

¹ CO₂e is a metric measure used to compare the emissions from various greenhouse gases on the basis of their global-warming potential, by converting amounts of other gases to the equivalent amount of carbon dioxide with the same global warming potential.

This loophole could be closed by requiring direct consideration of project emissions against the 'carbon budget' available to hold global warming as close as possible to 1.5°C and well below 2°C. This is the goal Australia - and 195 other countries - signed up to under the Paris Agreement. The Albanese Government has also passed the *Climate Change Act 2022* which commits Australia to achieve at least a 43 percent reduction in emissions (on 2005 levels) by 2030, and reforms to the Safeguard Mechanism, which have established a hard carbon budget for Australia's heavy industrial sector.

Considering the impact of proposed projects against these carbon budgets should be a minimum requirement for an effective national environmental assessment process.

While the maths can sound complicated, the message is simple: Australia's national environment law should be set up so that it helps limit global warming as close as possible to 1.5°C. If we don't address the law's massive blind spot on climate change, we will see even more catastrophic damage to the precious species and habitats it is supposed to protect.



WHAT'S OUR BUDGET?

The carbon budget approach was developed to provide a clearer picture of the level of global effort required to limit warming. It estimates the level of greenhouse gas emissions reduction required to meet a desired global temperature goal - for example, limiting warming to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels, as specified in the Paris Agreement (Allen et al. 2009; Meinshausen et al. 2009). Just like a household budget, the carbon budget tells us how much carbon dioxide we can 'spend' (i.e. emit) without exceeding a certain rise in temperature.

This approach is based on the simple but clear relationship between the cumulative amount of greenhouse gas emissions emitted since pre-industrial times and the increase in global average surface temperature (Meinshausen et al. 2009; IPCC 2021). The carbon budget therefore is defined as the maximum total amount of greenhouse gas emissions that can be emitted (or 'spent') for a given probability of achieving a specific temperature goal. Once the carbon budget is 'spent', emissions need to be 'net zero' to avoid exceeding the temperature goal.

With this approach, we can calculate the remaining global carbon budget for a reasonable chance of holding warming to 1.5°C. Based on available data from the IPCC (2021) and accounting for carbon cycle feedbacks, non-CO₂ gases and emissions since the publication of the IPCC data, **the Climate Council estimates the remaining global budget to net zero emissions to be in the range of 92 to 392 Gt CO₂, depending on whether temperatures are held to 1.5°C or 1.7°C (Climate Council 2023c).**

It is possible to work from a global budget to domestic budgets for individual countries like Australia, to calculate our fair share of the remaining budget and how we need to cut emissions in response. Taking these budgets into account when assessing projects under national environment law is an important way of ensuring all our national efforts are pulling in the same direction: to drive down emissions and protect Australians and the environment from runaway climate change.

4. Maintaining a safe and liveable climate must be at the heart of our national environment law

As the most significant threat to our environment, climate change needs to be explicitly embedded throughout the updated EPBC Act. Informed by climate science and expert legal and policy insights, the Climate Council calls for the following improvements as an urgent priority in the reform process.

Climate change should be centred in an updated national environment law with all greenhouse gas emissions considered.

- › **Make maintaining a safe and liveable climate an object of the Act and link this law to the *Climate Change Act*:** The objects of the Act set out what it seeks to achieve and provide an overarching framework for actions taken under it. The objects should directly acknowledge the need to hold global warming as close as possible to 1.5°C to avoid catastrophic impacts on all Matters of National Environmental Significance and the Act's other objectives. All decisions taken under the Act should be explicitly required to be consistent with its objects. To reinforce this, the EPBC Act - or its replacement - should be added to the list of acts and agencies named in Australia's *Climate Change Act 2022*. This would require decision-makers to support the objectives of achieving Australia's emissions reduction targets and holding warming as close as possible to 1.5°C.
- › **Make maintaining a safe and liveable climate a Matter of National Environmental Significance:** A safe and liveable climate should be added to the list of things the Act explicitly seeks to protect, because it is an essential foundation for all life. A requirement to assess projects for their impact on maintaining a safe and liveable climate could be based on greenhouse gas emissions thresholds

equivalent to those already used in other Commonwealth legislation, such as the *National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting Act 2007* or the Safeguard Mechanism. Aligning thresholds would ensure that where projects will be subject to emissions-based requirements or restrictions under other Commonwealth legislation, this is identified and considered upfront in the EPBC assessment process.

› **Require assessment of carbon budgets when considering emissions impacts:**

Keeping greenhouse gas emissions within science-based global and domestic carbon budgets is essential for maintaining a safe and liveable climate. The amended and improved Act should require all emissions from proposed projects to be assessed against these budgets - including expansions of existing projects. If a project cannot be accommodated within these budgets, the project should be rejected.

› **Ensure disclosure of full lifetime emissions and cumulative climate impacts:**

Proponents should be required to provide information on all Scope 1, 2 and 3 emissions - domestic and international - as part of proposals for new and expanded projects. This should form part of a thorough climate impact statement which addresses the cumulative project impact over its entire expected lifespan. It is not enough for decision-makers to simply consider information about emissions - there should be an active requirement to apply criteria focused on avoiding climate impacts, and incorporating the precautionary principle.² Importantly, this should be required to address impacts beyond those which are direct and proximate to the specific project location because climate change does not just affect a single place or region.

› **Reject carbon offsetting and unproven technologies as an acceptable basis for Environmental Management Plans:**

As part of the EPBC assessment process, project proponents must submit Environmental Management Plans explaining how they will address any environmental harm or damage caused by their project. High emitting projects should not be allowed to proceed where proposed Environmental Management Plans for addressing their climate impacts are based primarily on offsetting, or rely on technologies like carbon capture and storage. This is simply a recipe for more harmful greenhouse gas emissions, and unchecked climate damage.

› **Put project approvals in the hands of an independent agency:**

The Federal Government has committed to establish Australia's first independent Environment Protection Agency (EPA). This new agency should be tasked with assessing projects under the Act, removing the current requirement for the Environment Minister to approve or reject them. This is important for ensuring that assessment decisions are based on independent, science-based analysis, free of political considerations. Decisions by the independent EPA should be subject to third-party merits review, allowing community members and other affected people to challenge approval decisions on their substance - not just the process for making them.

² The precautionary principle is stated in the current EPBC Act as requiring that: "lack of full scientific certainty should not be used as a reason for postponing a measure to prevent degradation of the environment where there are threats of serious or irreversible environmental damage." - Section 391 (2). The Environment Minister is already required to apply the precautionary principle when making a wide range of decisions under the Act.

To tackle harmful climate change, Australia must transition away from the use and export of fossil fuels, and towards clean renewable energy and new green industries. A reformed EPBC Act and assessment processes could be updated in key ways to effectively recognise the urgency of transitioning our economy and seizing the opportunities created by the world's drive towards net zero.

It is essential that all proposed projects receive a level of scrutiny and assessment appropriate to the risk they pose to our environment. No project, regardless of its purpose, should be allowed to harm Australia's high-value ecosystems and habitats. But we should aim to accelerate projects which can underpin decarbonisation and the sustainable growth of new essential industries wherever this can be done without compromising the core environmental, social and cultural values the Act should protect.

A national environment law that is working well should stop high-polluting projects, and accelerate those that help us decarbonise the economy in a safe, sustainable and culturally sensitive way.

› **Make better use of strategic assessments for future-focused industries:** The current Act provides the ability for governments to assess a broad set of actions and developments under a single process. The Federal Government could initiate strategic environmental assessments across Australia, to proactively put in place the approvals needed for renewable energy and clean industry projects in areas where such initiatives will not negatively impact the local environment.

› **Designate renewable energy and clean industry zones:** Some states and territories have designated renewable energy zones to map priority areas for the coordinated delivery of new energy infrastructure onshore and offshore - like large-scale wind and solar projects, battery storage and transmission lines. In its Integrated System Plan, the Australian Energy Market Operator has mapped out recommended zones for delivery of renewable energy across the National Electricity Market, based on ideal delivery of a renewable energy grid. Renewable Energy Industry Precincts have also been proposed as a way of consolidating low and zero emissions manufacturing in existing industrial communities - often in regional Australia.

There is a strong opportunity to co-locate renewable energy to produce improved ecological outcomes and re-purpose areas and precincts where environmental damage has already occurred through earlier industrial or agricultural activities, to avoid causing further harm elsewhere. These approaches could be integrated with the EPBC Act assessment process, through the identification of suitable areas for renewable energy and clean industry development. These zones could be more specific than areas covered by strategic assessments (see above) to encourage consolidation of new infrastructure and industries where it will have the least environmental impact and potentially encourage ecological regeneration.

- › **Designate national priority sectors for assessment:** The Federal Government could identify national priority sectors, and provide dedicated resources for assessment of projects within these sectors. This would ensure that renewable energy and fuels, critical minerals and clean manufacturing projects can be assessed by a dedicated team which is resourced to ensure efficient processing of EPBC Act referrals. Statutory timeframes under the Act could also be revised for these priority sectors, so that proponents can get an answer on their projects sooner.

- › **Provide clear project design guidance for projects in priority sectors:** Project proponents should be encouraged and enabled to pursue projects which minimise environmental and climate impact through detailed design guidance. The Australian Government should work with industry to identify best practice in the avoidance and management of these impacts, and publish guidelines to inform and enforce project design for key industries like green hydrogen, steel and cement; different types of critical minerals mining; and renewable energy and storage

Proponents could be encouraged to meet particular standards for the avoidance of environmental harm and ecological regeneration - for example through the deployment of particular technologies, building techniques or materials, energy sources and management of waste and pollutants. Where they can demonstrate that a project aligns with this best-practice design guidance and will be delivered within areas of low or moderate environmental impact or in a way that enhances biodiversity, approval could be expedited under the EPBC Act.

Growing Australia's clean economy is an urgent priority to power the next era of national prosperity and environmental protection beyond fossil fuels. This calls for efficient assessment processes which are geared towards protecting the environment and biodiversity, while growing new jobs and economic opportunities wherever this can be done in a safe, sustainable and culturally sensitive way.



5. Our Parliament can fix this

The decisions we make today will decide what kind of natural world we and future generations live in through the years to come.



Will Australia's communities, diverse species and one-of-a-kind natural places experience more extreme weather threats, degraded food and water systems and escalating climate damage? Or will our Federal Parliament do what's needed now to help protect the environment that acts as both our life support system and a source of enjoyment, wellbeing and wonder?

We must fix Australia's national environment law so preventing even more harmful climate change is an explicit objective. We need a national environment law that genuinely protects our environment by stopping high-polluting projects and enabling those which can help us rapidly switch to a clean economy.

The Federal Parliament needs to act now, because time is running out. Every fraction of a degree of avoided warming matters for preserving our environment. Every single decision made under our national environment law can either help or hinder the urgent task to drive down greenhouse gas emissions.

Fixing our national environment law will create a powerful new defence in Australia's fight against climate change; let's arm ourselves with nature laws that genuinely protect nature.

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Appendix

Since the EPBC Act came into effect, **740 fossil fuel projects have been given the green light around Australia.**

Of these, 185 were actively approved by the Commonwealth Government after a full environmental assessment process. Another 555 projects were simply waved through without any requirement for a detailed assessment of their environmental impact.

Fossil fuel projects actively approved under the EPBC Act - 2000-2023

EPBC Number	Project	Proposer/Approval Holder Name	Industry Type	Status	Primary Jurisdiction
2021/9127	Gregory Crinum Coal Mine M-Block Extension Project	Sojitz Blue Pty Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	Queensland
2021/8980	Isaac River Coal Mine Project	Bowen Coking Coal Limited	Mining	Approval Decision made	Queensland
2021/8979	Towrie Gas Development PL 1059	Santos CSG Pty Ltd	Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)	Approval Decision made	Queensland
2020/8702	Russell Vale Colliery Revised Underground Expansion Project	Wollongong Coal Limited	Mining	Approval Decision made	New South Wales
2020/8676	Vulcan Complex Project	Vitrinte Pty Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	Queensland
2020/8669	Ensham Life of Mine Extension	Idemitsu Australia Resources Pty Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	Queensland
2019/8549	Fairhill Coal Project	Fairhill Coal Project	Mining	Approval Decision made	Queensland
2019/8576	Spring Creek to Phillips Creek Diversion	BM Alliance Coal Operations Pty Limited	Mining	Approval Decision made	Queensland
2019/8548	Isaac Plains East Extension	Stanmore IP Coal Pty Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	Queensland
2019/8513	Golden Beach Gas Project	GB Energy (VIC) Pty Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	Victoria
2019/8482	Meteor Downs South Mine Rail Loop, Qld	Sojitz Coal Mining Pty Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	Queensland
2018/8338	Moranbah North Extension Project, Moranbah, Qld	Anglo Coal (Moranbah North Management) Pty Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	Queensland
2018/8300	Bulga Coal Optimisation Project Modification, near Singleton, NSW	Bulga Coal Management Pty Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	New South Wales
2018/8287	Maxwell Coal Mine, Hunter Valley, NSW	Maxwell Ventures (management) Pty Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	New South Wales
2018/8280	Mangoola Coal Continued Operations Project, NSW	Mangoola Coal Operations Pty Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	New South Wales
2018/8276	Surat North CSG Project, Qld	QGC Pty Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	Queensland
2018/8139	Jellinbah Coal Mine - Central North Extension, QLD	Jellinbah Group Pty Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	Queensland
2018/8171	Grasstree Extension Project	Anglo Coal (Capcoal Management) Pty Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	Queensland
2017/8133	Trieste 3D seismic survey, WA	Beach Energy (Operations) Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Approval Decision made	Western Australia
2017/8130	Middlemount Coal Mine Western Extension Project, Qld	Middlemount Coal Pty Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	Queensland
2017/8084	Tahmoor South Project, NSW	Tahmoor Coal Pty Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	New South Wales
2017/7997	Tanami Gas Pipeline	DDG Operations Pty Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	Northern Territory
2017/7974	Moolarben Coal Operations Open Cut Optimisation Modification	Moolarben Coal Operations Pty Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	New South Wales
2017/7902	Alfredson Block CSG Project, Qld	Australia Pacific LNG Pty Limited	Mining	Approval Decision made	Queensland
2017/7881	Spring Gully CSG North West and North East Development, Surat Basin, Qld	Australia Pacific LNG Pty Limited	Mining	Approval Decision made	Queensland
2017/7867	Olive Downs Project Mine Site and Access Road	Pembroke Resources South Pty Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	Queensland
2017/7868	Olive Downs Project Water Pipeline	Pembroke Resources South Pty Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	Queensland

EPBC Number	Project	Proposer/Approval Holder Name	Industry Type	Status	Primary Jurisdiction
2017/7869	Olive Downs Project Electricity Transmission Line	Pembroke Resources South Pty Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	Queensland
2017/7870	Olive Downs Project Rail Spur	Pembroke Resources South Pty Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	Queensland
2016/7827	Extension to the existing Isaac Plains Mine, near Moranbah, Qld	Stanmore IP Coal Pty Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	Queensland
2016/7816	South Bates Extension Underground Mine, Warkworth, NSW	Wambo Coal Pty Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	New South Wales
2016/7796	Construction and operation of an extension to the existing underground coal mine, Grosvenor Mine, near Moranbah, Qld	Anglo Coal (Grosvenor) Pty Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	Queensland
2016/7717	Middlemount Coal Mine, North-eastern Extension, Bowen Basin, Qld	Middlemount Coal Pty Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	Queensland
2016/7701	Lake Vermont open cut coal northern extension project, central Qld	Bowen Basin Coal Pty Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	Queensland
2016/7649	Vickery Coal Mine Extension Project, Gunnedah, NSW	Whitehaven Coal Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	New South Wales
2016/7636	South Wambo underground coal mine extension, NSW	Wambo Coal Pty Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	New South Wales
2015/7600	United and Wambo open cut coal mine project, Hunter Valley, NSW	United Collieries Pty Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	New South Wales
2015/7508	Curragh Extension Project, Blackwater, QLD	Wesfarmers Curragh Pty Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	Queensland
2015/7511	Ulan West Extension, Near Mudgee NSW	Ulan Coal Mines Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	New South Wales
2015/7469	Western Surat Gas Project, Surat Basin, Qld	Senex Energy Ltd	Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)	Approval Decision made	Queensland
2015/7463	ATP1188 Anya development for 25 CSG wells, Dalby, Qld	QGC Pty Ltd	Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)	Approval Decision made	Queensland
2015/7431	Wilpinjong open cut coal mine extension project, NE Mudgee, NSW	Wilpinjong Coal Pty Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	New South Wales
2014/7376	Narrabri Gas Project	Santos NSW Eastern Pty Ltd	Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)	Approval Decision made	New South Wales
2014/7377	Mt Arthur Coal open cut mine modification, Muswellbrook, NSW	Hunter Valley Energy Coal Pty Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	New South Wales
2014/7259	Russell Vale Colliery Longwall 6 Mining, Wollongong NSW	Wollong Coal Limited	Mining	Approval Decision made	New South Wales
2014/7240	Hail Creek coal mine extension transition project, Bowen Basin, Qld	Hail Creek Coal Pty Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	Queensland
2014/7200	Bunbury Port Berth 14A Expansion & Coal Storage & Loading Facility, WA	Lanco Resources Australia Pty Ltd	Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)	Approval Decision made	Western Australia
2014/7202	Installation of replacement crude-condensate pipeline, Vic	Esso Australia Pty Ltd	Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)	Approval Decision made	Victoria
2013/7088	Undertake seismic survey to assess shale resources	Norwest Energy NL	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - non-marine)	Approval Decision made	Western Australia
2013/7076	Centennial Airlly Mine Extension Project	Centennial Airlly Pty Ltd	Mining	Completed	New South Wales
2013/7079	Browse FLNG Development, Commonwealth Waters	Woodside Energy Ltd	Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)	Approval Decision made	Commonwealth Marine
2013/7064	Bluff open cut coal mine project, central Queensland	Bowen PCI Pty Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	Queensland
2013/7054	West Erregulla 3D onshore seismic survey & appraisal drilling exploration program WA	Warrego Energy Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - non-marine)	Approval Decision made	Western Australia
2013/7047	Development of new natural gas acreage in Surat Basin	QGC Pty Ltd	Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)	Approval Decision made	Queensland
2013/7036	Baralaba North Coal Mine Continued Operations, Baralaba, Qld	Wonbindi Coal Pty Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	Queensland
2013/6978	Mt Owen continued coal mining operation	Mt Owen Pty Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	New South Wales
2013/6926	Ext of coal mining within Open Cuts 1 & 2 and assoc infrastructure - Optimisation, NSW	Moolarben Coal Operations Pty Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	New South Wales
2013/6908	Extension of Liddell open cut coal mining operations, NSW	Liddell Coal Operations Pty Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	New South Wales
2013/6906	Upgrade existing coal preparation, infrastructure & transport as part of Coal Logistics Project, NSW	Centennial Northern Coal Services Pty Limited	Mining	Approval Decision made	New South Wales
2013/6881	Springvale Longwall Mine Extension Project, NSW	Springvale Coal Pty Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	New South Wales
2013/6878	Shell Clyde Terminal Expansion, Rosehill, NSW	The Shell Company of Australia	Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)	Approval Decision made	New South Wales
2013/6865	Red Hill Mining Project, 20kms north of Moranbah, Qld	BM Coal Alliance Operations Pty Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	Queensland
2013/6811	The Scarborough Project - FLNG & assoc subsea infrastructure, Carnarvon Basin	Esso Australia Resources Pty Ltd	Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)	Approval Decision made	Commonwealth Marine
2013/6799	Meteor Downs South Coal Project, central Qld	U and D Mining Industry (Australia) Pty Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	Queensland
2012/6637	Extension of existing open cut coal mine at the Bulga Coal Complex	Bulga Coal Management Pty Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	New South Wales
2012/6615	Santos GLNG Gas Field Development Project, QLD	Santos Ltd	Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)	Approval Decision made	Queensland

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2012/6566	Hillalong coal mine and associated infrastructure project	Queensland Coal Exploration Pty Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	Queensland
2012/6459	Arrow Bowen Pipeline (CSG), QLD	Arrow Energy Pty Ltd	Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)	Approval Decision made	Queensland
2012/6388	Wallarrah 2 Coal Project	Wyong Coal Pty Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	New South Wales
2012/6377	Bowen Gas Project	Arrow Energy Pty Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	Queensland
2012/6378	Continuation of Bengalla Mine	Bengalla Mining Company Pty Limited	Mining	Approval Decision made	New South Wales
2012/6337	Moranbah South Project Coal Mine, QLD	Anglo American Metallurgical Coal Pty Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	Queensland
2012/6324	Boundary Hill South Lease Extension	Batchfire Resources	Mining	Approval Decision made	Queensland
2012/6262	Taraborah Coal Project	Shenhua International Group Pty Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	Queensland
2011/6221	Ruby Spur Line	Australia Pacific LNG CSG Transmission Pty Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	Queensland
2011/6201	Watermark Coal Project	Shenhua Watermark Coal Pty Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	New South Wales
2011/6194	Abbot Point Coal Terminal	North Queensland Export Terminal Pty Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	Queensland
2011/6176	Extension of an open cut coal mine	Glencore	Mining	Approval Decision made	New South Wales
2011/6158	Open cut coal mine & associated infrastructure	Cobbora Holding Company Pty Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	New South Wales
2011/6141	Bonaparte Liquefied Natural Gas Project	GDF Suez Bonaparte Pty Ltd	Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)	Approval Decision made	Commonwealth Marine
2011/5995	Development of Coniston/Novara fields within the Exmouth Sub-basin	Apache Energy Ltd	Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)	Approval Decision made	Western Australia
2011/5968	Newlands Coal Extension Project	Xstrata Coal Queensland Pty Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	Queensland
2011/5965	Rolleston Coal Expansion Project	Glencore Coal Queensland Pty Limited	Mining	Approval Decision made	Queensland
2011/5952	Longwall mining of Longwalls 910 & 900 W at Angus Place Colliery	Centennial Angus Place Pty Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	New South Wales
2011/5949	Longwall mining of longwalls 415, 416, 417 at the existing Springvale Colliery	Springvale Coal Pty Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	New South Wales
2011/5942	Gorgon Gas Development 4 th Train Proposal	Chevron Australia Pty Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	Western Australia
2011/5923	Tarrowonga Coal Project	Tarrowonga Coal Pty Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	New South Wales
2011/5891	Upgrade of surface facilities at NRE No.1 Colliery	Gujarat NRE Coking Coal Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	New South Wales
2011/5866	Mt Arthur Coal Extension Project Hunter Valley NSW	Hunter Valley Energy Coal Pty Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	New South Wales
2011/5800	Diversion of a stretch of Coral Creek to expand the northern reach of the open-cut pit mine	Sonoma Mine Management Pty Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	Queensland
2010/5782	Springsure Creek Coal Project	Springsure Creek Coal Pty Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	Queensland
2010/5778	Develop the Byerwen Coal Mine	Byerwen Coal Pty Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	Queensland
2010/5736	Carmichael Coal Mine and Rail Project	Adani Mining Pty Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	Queensland
2010/5722	Construction of a ventilation shaft and access Road to service underground operations	BHP Billiton Illawarra Coal Holdings Pty Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	New South Wales
2010/5571	Werris Creek Life of Mine Extension Project	Whitehaven Coal Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	New South Wales
2010/5566	Maules Creek Coal Project	Aston Coal 2 Pty Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	New South Wales
2010/5502	Rocglen Coal Mine Extension Project	Whitehaven Coal Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	New South Wales
2010/5498	Expansion of Charbon Colliery	Charbon Coal Pty Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	New South Wales
2010/5496	South Galilee Coal Project	AMCI (Alpha) Pty Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	Queensland
2010/5454	Warro Gas Project 3D Seismic Onshore Exploration Survey	Latent Petroleum	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - non-marine)	Approval Decision made	Western Australia
2010/5457	Drake Open Cut Coal Mine	Drake Coal Pty Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	Queensland
2010/5421	Foxleigh Coal Mine Extension	Foxleigh Coal Pty Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	Queensland
2010/5396	Duralie Coal Extension Project	Duralie Coal Pty Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	New South Wales
2010/5389	Ravensworth Operations Project	Xstrata Cumnock Management Pty Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	New South Wales
2010/5344	Expansion Of Coal Seam Gas Operations	Arrow Energy Pty Ltd	Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)	Approval Decision made	Queensland
2009/5175	Rolleston Open Cut Coal Mine Expansion	Xstrata Coal Queensland Pty Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	Queensland
2009/5081	Warkworth Mine Extension	Warkworth Mining Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	New South Wales
2009/5033	Kevin's Corner Project, open cut-underground coal mine and infrastructure, Galilee Basin, QLD	Hancock Galilee	Mining	Approval Decision made	Queensland
2009/5029	Construction of a high pressure buried gas pipeline, Kogan to Gladstone, QLD	Surat Gladstone Pipeline Pty Ltd	Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)	Approval Decision made	Queensland
2009/5007	The Arrow LNG Facility, Curtis Island, Gladstone	Arrow CSG (Australia) Pty Ltd	Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)	Approval Decision made	Queensland
2009/5008	The Arrow Gas Transmission Pipeline, Gladstone to Curtis Island	Arrow CSG (Australia) Pty Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	Queensland

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2009/5003	Conversion from Continuous Miner Operation to Longwall Miner Operation	Narrabri Coal Operations Pty Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	New South Wales
2009/4977	LNG Plant and Ancillary onshore and marine facilities	Australia Pacific LNG Pty Ltd	Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)	Approval Decision made	Queensland
2009/4974	Expansion of Coal Seam Gas Fields	Australia Pacific LNG Pty Ltd	Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)	Approval Decision made	Queensland
2009/4976	Construct and operate 447km high pressure gas transmission pipeline	Australia Pacific LNG Pty Ltd	Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)	Approval Decision made	Queensland
2009/4892	Codrilla Open Cut Coal Mining and Processing Operation with Associated Infrastructure	Peabody Energy Australia PCI (C&M Management) Pty Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	Queensland
2009/4821	Millenium Open Cut Coal Mine Expansion Project, QLD	MetRes Pty Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	Queensland
2009/4737	Establishment of Galilee Coal Mine and Associated Infrastructure	Waratah Coal Incorporated	Mining	Approval Decision made	Queensland
2008/4648	Alpha Coal Project - Mine and Rail Development	Hancock Alpha West Pty Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	Queensland
2008/4468	Coal Terminal Expansion, and Associated Infrastructure	Hancock Coal Infrastructure Pty Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	Queensland
2008/4469	Construct and operate LNG & domestic gas plant including onshore and offshore facilities - Wheatstone	Chevron Australia Pty Ltd	Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)	Approval Decision made	Western Australia
2008/4444	Open Cut Mine and Two Underground Mines	Moolarben Coal Mines Pty Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	New South Wales
2008/4432	Gloucester Coal Seam Methane Gas Project	AGL Gloucester LE Pty Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	New South Wales
2008/4418	Develop an Open Cut Coal Mine at Daunia	BM Alliance Coal Operations Pty Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	Queensland
2008/4417	Caval Ridge Open Cut Coal Mine Project	BM Alliance Coal Operations Pty Ltd (on behalf of CQCA Joint Venture)	Mining	Approval Decision made	Queensland
2008/4399	Queensland Curtis LNG Project - Pipeline Network	BG International Ltd	Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)	Approval Decision made	Queensland
2008/4405	Shipping Activities Associated with the QLD Curtis LNG Project	BG International Ltd	Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)	Approval Decision made	Queensland
2008/4398	Development of Existing Coal Seam Gas Fields	BG International Ltd	Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)	Approval Decision made	Queensland
2008/4401	Queensland Curtis LNG Project - LNG Marine Facilities	BG International Ltd	Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)	Approval Decision made	Queensland
2008/4285	Wandoan Coal Project Glebe Weir Raising	Wandoan Holdings Pty Limited	Mining	Approval Decision made	Queensland
2008/4287	Wandoan Coal Project - Coal Seam Methane Water Supply South	Wandoan Holdings Pty Limited	Mining	Approval Decision made	Queensland
2008/4284	Wandoan Coal Mine and Infrastructure Project	Wandoan Holdings Pty Limited	Mining	Approval Decision made	Queensland
2008/4208	Ichthys Gas Field, Offshore and onshore processing facilities and subsea pipeline	Inpex Operations Australia Pty Ltd	Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)	Approval Decision made	Commonwealth Marine
2008/4178	Gorgon Gas Revised Development	Chevron Australia Pty Ltd	Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)	Approval Decision made	Western Australia
2008/4146	Prelude Floating Liquefied Natural Gas Facility and Gas Field Development	Shell Development Australia	Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)	Approval Decision made	Commonwealth Marine
2008/4096	Gas Pipeline with Alternative Pipeline to Supply Natural Gas Liquefaction Park	Santos Ltd	Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)	Approval Decision made	Queensland
2008/4059	Coal Seam Gas Field Development for Natural Gas Liquefaction Park, Curtis Island	Santos Ltd	Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)	Approval Decision made	Queensland
2008/4058	Development of marine facilities to service natural gas liquefaction park	Santos Ltd	Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)	Approval Decision made	Queensland
2008/4057	Development of a Natural Gas Liquefaction Park	Santos Ltd	Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)	Approval Decision made	Queensland
2008/3945	Eagle Downs Coal Mine Central Queensland	South32 Eagle Downs Pty Ltd (BS Coal Pty Ltd)	Mining	Approval Decision made	Queensland
2007/3925	Blackwater creek diversion and coal mine	Wesfarmers Curragh Pty Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	Queensland
2007/3643	Ellensfield Underground Coal Mine	Fitzroy (CQ) Pty Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	Queensland
2007/3423	Stage 3 expansion of New Acland Coal Mine	New Acland Coal Pty Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	Queensland
2007/3297	Moolarben Coal Mine Project	Moolarben Coal Mines Pty Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	New South Wales
2007/3213	'Van Gogh' Petroleum Field Development	Santos WA Energy Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	Commonwealth Marine
2006/2968	Pluto Gas Project Including Site B	Woodside Energy Ltd	Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)	Approval Decision made	Western Australia
2006/2813	Natural Gas Pipeline Expansion	Dampier to Bunbury Natural Gas Pipeline (WA) Nominees Pty Ltd	Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)	Approval Decision made	Western Australia
2005/2391	site preparations	Woodside Energy Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	Western Australia
2005/2184	Develop Jansz-Io deepwater gas field in Permit Areas WA-18-R, WA-25-R and WA-26-	Mobil Exploration & Producing Australia Pty Ltd	Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)	Approval Decision made	Western Australia
2005/2110	Greater Enfield (Vincent) Development	Woodside Energy Ltd	Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)	Approval Decision made	Commonwealth Marine
2005/2039	Minerva coal mine - out-of-pit spoil dumps	Sandhurst Mining Pty Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	Queensland

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2005/2034	Pyrenees Oil Fields Development	Woodside Energy Global Pty Ltd	Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)	Approval Decision made	Commonwealth Marine
2005/2015	Wollombi Open Cut Coal Mine (Suttor Creek ML4761 Extension)	NC Coal Company Pty Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	Queensland
2004/1885	New Acland Mine Expansion	New Acland Coal Pty Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	Queensland
2004/1822	Expansion of Ensham Mine	Ensham Resources Pty Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	Queensland
2004/1805	Development of Angel gas and condensate field, North West Shelf	Woodside Energy Ltd	Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)	Approval Decision made	Commonwealth Marine
2004/1770	Open Cut Coal Mining	BHP Mitsui Coal Pty Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	Queensland
2004/1469	Development of Stybarrow petroleum field incl drilling and facility installation	Woodside Energy Global Pty Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	Commonwealth Marine
2004/1447	Norwich Park Coal Mine - Development of East Pit	BHP Billiton Mitsubishi Alliance	Mining	Approval Decision made	Queensland
2003/1315	Alston-1 petroleum exploration well, permit VIC/P44	Santos Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Approval Decision made	Commonwealth Marine
2003/1300	construction and operation of a unmanned platform at the Cliff Head oil field, a	Roc Oil Company Ltd	Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)	Approval Decision made	Western Australia
2003/1295	Casino Gas Field Development	Cooper Energy Limited	Mining	Approval Decision made	Commonwealth Marine
2003/1294	Gorgon Gas Development	ChevronTexaco Australia	Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)	Approval Decision made	Western Australia
2003/1180	Development of Blacktip Gas Field	Woodside Energy Ltd	Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)	Approval Decision made	Commonwealth Marine
2003/1167	Open-Cut Coal Mine	Clermont Coal Operations Pty Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	Queensland
2003/1138	Wambo Coal Mine Development Project	Wambo Coal Pty Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	New South Wales
2003/1067	Tassie Shoal LNG Project	Gastech Systems Pty Ltd	Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)	Approval Decision made	Commonwealth Marine
2003/1005	German Creek Coal Mine Extension into Oak Park	Anglo Coal (Capcoal Management) Pty Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	Queensland
2002/903	West Mine Development	Hazelwood Power	Mining	Approval Decision made	Victoria
2002/773	Bulga Complex Underground Coal Mine Extension	Bulga Coal Management Pty Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	New South Wales
2002/755	Montara 4, 5, and 6 Oil Production Wells, and Montara 3 Gas Re-Injection Well	Jadestone Energy (Eagle) Pty Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	Commonwealth Marine
2002/621	Otway Development	Woodside Energy Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	Victoria
2002/569	Coal Mining Lease 6993 (The Bluff)	Callide Coalfields Pty Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	Queensland
2001/497	Open-cut Coal Mine/Steaming Coals	MIM Holdings Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	Queensland
2001/376	Coal Mine Expansion	Griffin Coal Mining Company Pty Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	Western Australia
2001/365	Light Crude Oil Production	Agip Australia Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	Commonwealth Marine
2001/321	Yolla Gas Field (TRL1) Development	Origin Energy Resources Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	Victoria
2001/257	Enfield full field development	Woodside Energy Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	Western Australia
2001/227	Simpson Oil Field Development	Apache Energy Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	Western Australia
2001/214	Dendrobium Coal Mining Project	Dendrobium Coal Pty Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	New South Wales
2001/211	Tasmania Natural Gas Project - Stage 2	Duke Energy International (Tasmania Holdings) Pty Ltd	Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)	Approval Decision made	Tasmania
2001/212	Tasmania Natural Gas Project - Stage 3	Duke Energy International (Tasmania Holdings) Pty Ltd	Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)	Approval Decision made	Tasmania
2000/125	2-D seismic survey Scott Reef	BHP Petroleum Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Approval Decision made	Commonwealth Marine
2000/22	Vincent Appraisal Well	Woodside Energy Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	Commonwealth Marine
2000/11	Echo-Yodel Production Wells	Woodside Energy Ltd	Mining	Approval Decision made	Commonwealth Marine

Fossil fuel projects determined not to require assessment under the EPBC Act - 2000-2023

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2023/09502	Development and operation of the Star Coal Project Bulk Sample Project	Constellation Mining Pty Ltd	Mining	Referral Decision Made	Queensland
2022/09263	Oil Field Carbon Capture Utilisation Storage (CCUS) Project (V2 04/07/2022)	Bridgeport (Surat Basin) Pty Ltd	Mining	Referral Decision Made	Queensland
2021/9122	Surat Basin Carbon Capture and Storage Project	Carbon transport and storage Corporation (CTSCo) Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - non-marine)	Referral Decision Made	Queensland
2021/9088	Texas Tickalara Holdings Petroleum Production Project	Texas-Tickalara Holdings, LP	Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)	Referral Decision Made	Queensland
2020/8633	Waitsia Gas Project Stage 2, Yardarino WA	Awe Perth Pty Ltd	Mining	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2019/8578	Eagle-1 Exploration Drilling, North West Shelf, WA	SapuraOMV Upstream (Western Australia) Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2019/8580	Moolarben UG4 Ancillary Works Modification	Moolarben Coal Operations Pty Ltd	Mining	Referral Decision Made	New South Wales
2019/8531	Tarrowonga Coal Mine Modification	Tarrowonga Coal Pty Ltd	Mining	Referral Decision Made	New South Wales
2019/8534	Mahalo Development Area CSG Project	Australia Pacific LNG Pty Ltd	Mining	Referral Decision Made	Queensland
2019/8504	Vulcan Bulk Sample Project	Queensland Coking Coal Pty Ltd	Mining	Referral Decision Made	Queensland
2019/8438	Enterprise 1 Exploration Drilling Program, near Port Campbell, Vic	Lattice Energy Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - non-marine)	Referral Decision Made	Victoria
2019/8431	Wilton Coking Coal Project, Bowen Basin, Qld	Futura Resources Ltd	Mining	Referral Decision Made	Queensland
2019/8387	Albemarle Lateral Gas Pipeline, Kemerton, WA	Dampier to Bunbury Natural Gas Pipeline (WA) Nominees Pty Ltd	Mining	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2018/8337	Modification 4 Longwall Optimisation Project	Ulan Coal Mines Limited	Mining	Referral Decision Made	New South Wales
2018/8362	Scarborough Development nearshore component, NWS, WA	Woodside Energy Ltd	Mining	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2018/8353	Pluto-North West Shelf Interconnector, Burrup Peninsula, WA	DDG Operations Pty Ltd	Mining	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2018/8329	Project Atlas CSG Project, between Wollumbilla and Wandoan, Qld	Senex Assets Pty Ltd	Mining	Referral Decision Made	Queensland
2018/8321	Mandalong Mine Power Line, Mandalong, NSW	Centennial Mandalong Pty Ltd	Mining	Referral Decision Made	New South Wales
2018/8304	Cameby Downs Continued Operations Project, Qld	Syntech Resources Pty Ltd	Mining	Referral Decision Made	Queensland
2018/8295	Dartbrook Mine Bord and Pillar Mining, Hunter Valley, NSW	AQC Dartbrook Management Pty Ltd	Mining	Referral Decision Made	New South Wales
2017/8132	Bloomfield Colliery - Life of Mine Extension - 20km northwest of Newcastle, NSW	Bloomfield Collieries Pty Ltd	Mining	Referral Decision Made	New South Wales
2017/8105	Integra Underground Mine Longwall Extension Modification, NSW	HV Coking Coal Pty Ltd	Mining	Referral Decision Made	New South Wales
2017/8097	Pelican 3D Marine Seismic Survey, Gippsland Basin, Vic	Department of Economic Development Jobs Transport and Resources	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Victoria
2017/8083	Mount Owen Continued Operations – Modification 2, Mount Owen Complex, 20km north-west of Singleton	Mt Owen Pty Ltd	Mining	Referral Decision Made	New South Wales
2017/8036	Minerva Cut Back Project, Vic	Cooper Energy Ltd	Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)	Referral Decision Made	Victoria
2017/7982	Walysing 3D Seismic Survey, Cataby, WA	Bombora Natural Energy Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - non-marine)	Reconsideration Decision Made	Western Australia
2016/7800	Enterprise Three-dimensional Transition Zone Seismic Survey, Victoria	Origin Energy Resources Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Victoria
2016/7720	Spring Gully CSG field extension, southern Queensland	Australia Pacific LNG Pty Ltd	Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)	Referral Decision Made	Queensland
2016/7645	Cerberus exploration drilling campaign, Carnarvon Basin, WA	Carnarvon Petroleum Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2016/7641	Hunter Valley Coal Mining Operations South - Modification 5	Yancoal Australia Ltd (Hunter Valley Operations)	Mining	Referral Decision Made	New South Wales
2015/7563	Kestrel Mine Extension No. 4, Qld	Rio Tinto Australia Pty Ltd	Mining	Referral Decision Made	Queensland
2015/7551	Halladale and Speculant Gas Pipeline Project, North of Port Campbell, Vic	Origin Energy Resources Ltd	Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)	Referral Decision Made	Victoria
2015/7554	UIL Energy 2D Seismic Survey, Perth Basin, WA	UIL Energy Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - non-marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2015/7541	Dalrymple Bay Coal terminal - Zone 4/Row 8 Completion Project, Hay Point, Qld	Dalrymple Bay Coal Terminal Pty Ltd	Mining	Referral Decision Made	Queensland
2015/7493	Premier Coal Mine Pit 3 North Extension, Collie, WA	Premier Coal Pty Ltd	Mining	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2015/7412	Cullen Valley Mine coal mining 106 remnant, NSW	Coalpac Pty Ltd	Mining	Referral Decision Made	New South Wales
2014/7348	Rix's Creek Continuation of coal Mining Project, northwest of Singleton, NSW	Rix's Creek Pty Ltd	Mining	Referral Decision Made	New South Wales

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2014/7256	Mining exploration on Wards Well West Project, Bowen Basin, Qld	QLD Coal	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - non-marine)	Referral Decision Made	Queensland
2014/7242	Dalrymple Bay Coal Terminal Storage Dam, Hay Point, Qld	Dalrymple Bay Coal Terminal Pty Ltd	Mining	Referral Decision Made	Queensland
2014/7224	Dysart East multi seam open cut coal mine project, Qld	Bengal Coal Pty Ltd	Mining	Referral Decision Made	Queensland
2014/7153	South Georgina Basin Exploration Program, Western Qld	Merlin Energy Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - non-marine)	Referral Decision Made	Queensland
2014/7147	Invincible Colliery Modification and Cullen Bullen Valley Mine Modification, Cullen Bullen, NSW	Coalpac Pty Ltd	Mining	Referral Decision Made	New South Wales
2013/7093	Huzzas phase 2 marine seismic survey, Exmouth Plateau, Northern Carnarvon Basin, WA	TGS-NOPEC Geophysical Company Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2013/7080	Stag 4D & Reindeer MAZ Marine Seismic Surveys, WA	Apache Energy Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2013/7003	Huzzas MC3D Marine Seismic Survey (HZ-13) Carnarvon Basin, offshore WA	TGS-NOPEC Geophysical Company Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2013/6991	Two dimensional (2d) seismic survey in Gulf of Carpentaria	Gulf Energy Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Queensland
2013/6980	Searcher bathymetry & geochemical seismic survey, Browse Basin, Timor Sea, WA	Searcher Seismic Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2013/6973	West Seahorse Oil Development Project, Commonwealth waters offshore Victoria	Carnarvon Hibiscus Pty Ltd	Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2013/6918	Energy NSW Coal Seam Gas (CSG) Exploration & Appraisal Program, NSW	Santos NSW Eastern Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - non-marine)	Referral Decision Made	New South Wales
2013/6901	3D Marine Seismic Surveys - Contos CT-13 & Supertubes CT-13, offshore WA	TGS-NOPEC Geophysical Company Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2013/6898	Exploration Drilling Campaign, Browse Basin, WA-341-P, AC-P36 and WA-343-P	Inpex Browse Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2013/6894	Schild Phase 11 MC3D Marine Seismic Survey, Browse Basin	CGGVeritas Services Australia Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2013/6890	South Georgina Basin Exploration Project, Qld	Merlin Energy Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - non-marine)	Referral Decision Made	Queensland
2013/6862	3D Marine Seismic Survey in WA 457-P & WA 458-P, North West Shelf, offshore WA	FAR Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2013/6849	Dillon South-1 Exploration Well Drilling - AC/P4, Territory of Ashmore/Cartier	PTTEP Australasia Ashmore Cartier Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2013/6839	Kimberley Multi-commodity Exploration Programme, WA	Rio Tinto Exploration Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - non-marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2013/6825	Nova 3D Seismic Survey	Tangiers Petroleum Limited	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2013/6761	3D Marine Seismic Survey (WA-482-P, WA-363-P), WA	Karoon Gas Australia Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2013/6730	Kraken, Lusca & Asperus 3D Marine Seismic Survey	Karoon Gas Browse Basin Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2012/6699	Harmony 3D Marine Seismic Survey	Apache Energy Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2012/6683	La Bella 3D Marine Seismic Survey, Otway Basin, VIC	WHL Energy Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Victoria
2012/6659	Fishburn 2D Marine Seismic Survey	Santos Offshore Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2012/6658	Repsol 3d & 2D Marine Seismic Survey	Repsol Exploracion S.A.	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2012/6655	Torquay Sub-basin (VIC/P62) OTE12-3D Seismic Survey	Trident Energy Limited	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2012/6654	CVG 3D Marine Seismic Survey	Apache Energy Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2012/6648	Aperio 3D Marine Seismic Survey, WA	Chevron Australia Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2012/6626	Marine Seismic Survey in Permit WA-481P	Murphy Australia Oil Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2012/6618	Outer Canning exploration drilling program off NW coast of WA	Woodside Energy Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2012/6594	Caswell MC3D Marine Seismic Survey	PGS Australia Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2012/6579	Pyrenees 4D Marine Seismic Monitor Survey, HCA12A	BHP Billiton Petroleum Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2012/6565	The Enterprise 3D Seismic Acquisition Survey, Otway Basin, Vic	Origin Energy Resources Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Victoria
2012/6559	Exceed Energy Australia Onshore Seismic Survey, Canning Basin	Exceed Energy Australia Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - non-marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2012/6522	Rydal-1 Petroleum Exploration Well, WA	SA Water Corporation	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2012/6498	Longtom-5 Offshore Production Drilling (Vic/L29), VIC	Nexus Energy Ltd	Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2012/6493	Rosebud 3D Marine Seismic Survey in WA-30-R and TR/5	Woodside Energy Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine

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2012/6481	Bonaparte Basin Barossa Appraisal Drilling Campaign, NT	ConocoPhillips Australia Exploration Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2012/6476	Arcadia Petroleum - BR12 3D Marine Seismic Survey	Arcadia Petroleum Limited	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2012/6463	Westralia SPAN Marine Seismic Survey, WA & NT	GX Technology / ION Geophysical Corporation	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2012/6446	Partial Extraction Mining Operations in ML 1583 at the existing Clarence Colliery, NSW	CLARENCE COLLIERY PTY LTD	Mining	Referral Decision Made	New South Wales
2012/6421	Otway Astrolabe 3D Marine Seismic Survey, Otway Basin	Origin Energy Resources Limited	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2012/6414	Angus Place Ventilation Facility Project, NSW	Centennial Angus Place	Mining	Referral Decision Made	New South Wales
2012/6398	Bonaparte 3D & 2D Seismic Survey, in NT/P82, Timor Sea	Magellan Petroleum Offshore Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Northern Territory
2012/6384	Offshore Gas Exploration Drilling Campaign	Santos Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2012/6373	Schild MC3D Marine Seismic Survey	Fugro Multi Client Services Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2012/6368	Honeycombs MC3D Marine Seismic Survey	TGS-NOPEC Geophysical Company Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2012/6344	Rocky Hill Coal Mine	Gloucester Resources Ltd	Mining	Referral Decision Made	New South Wales
2012/6335	ATP 732 Petroleum Exploration Program, SW QLD	AVERY RESOURCES PTY LTD	Mining	Referral Decision Made	Queensland
2012/6310	Marine Environmental Survey 2012	Geoscience Australia	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2012/6296	2D marine seismic survey	Searcher seismic Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2012/6295	Bonaparte Seismic and Bathymetric Survey	Geoscience Australia	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2012/6275	Marine Environmental Survey	Geoscience Australia	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2012/6261	Sandalford 3D Seismic Survey	PTTEP Australasia (Ashmore Cartier) Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2012/6263	Vickery Coal Project	Whitehaven Coal Ltd	Mining	Referral Decision Made	New South Wales
2012/6256	3D Marine Seismic Survey within Torquay Sub-basin off sthn Victoria	Trident Energy Limited	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2011/6222	Offshore Exploration Drilling Campaign	IPM Wa424p Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2011/6220	Floyd 3D and Chisel 3D Seismic Surveys	MEO Australia Limited	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2011/6217	Longtom South -1 Exploration Drilling	Nexus Energy	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2011/6215	Osprey and Dionysus Marine Seismic Survey	Chevron Australia Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2011/6211	Extension of underground mining operations at the existing Tasman Underground Mine	Newcastle Company Coal Pty Ltd	Mining	Referral Decision Made	New South Wales
2011/6197	2D and 3D Seismic Survey	Octanex NL	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2011/6188	Balnaves Condensate Field Development	Apache Energy Ltd	Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2011/6187	Curragh West Project	Wesfarmers Curragh Pty Ltd	Mining	Referral Decision Made	Queensland
2011/6172	Mariner Non-Exclusive 2D Seismic Survey	Searcher seismic Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2011/6154	Exploration Pilot Appraisal Program PEL 458	Dart Energy	Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)	Referral Decision Made	New South Wales
2011/6148	Zeppelin 3D Seismic Survey	MEO Australia Limited	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2011/6125	Otway Basin Exploration Drilling Campaign, Vic	Origin Energy Resources Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2011/6123	Fletcher-Finucane Development, WA26-L and WA191-P	Santos Offshore Pty Ltd	Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2011/6118	Eni Bathurst 3D Seismic Survey	Eni Australia Limited	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2011/6110	Tortilla 2D Seismic Survey, WA	Shell Development Australia Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2011/6107	Santos Winchester three dimensional seismic survey - WA-323-P & WA-330-P	Santos Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2011/6067	North Perth Marine Survey	Geoscience Australia	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2011/6058	Wheatstone 3D MAZ Marine Seismic Survey	Geophysical Operations Advisor	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2011/6052	Basker-Manta-Gummy Oil Development	Roc Oil Company Ltd	Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)	Referral Decision Made	Victoria
2011/6048	Astrolabe 3D Marine Seismic Survey	Origin Energy Resources Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Victoria
2011/6047	Exploration Drilling Campaign	Total E&P Australia	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia

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2011/6022	George's Island Pilot Wells Development	Santos QNT Pty Ltd	Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)	Referral Decision Made	New South Wales
2011/6016	Pine Dale Coal Mine Stage 1 Yarraboldy extension	Enhance Place Pty Limited	Mining	Referral Decision Made	New South Wales
2011/5980	Greater Western Flank Phase 1 gas Development	Woodside Energy Ltd	Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2011/5969	Ceduna 3D Marine Seismic Survey, Great Australian Bight	BP exploration Alpha Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2011/5964	Conduct an exploration drilling campaign	ConocoPhillips Browse Basin Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2011/5962	Bonaparte 2D & 3D marine seismic survey	Octanex NL	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2011/5961	Auralandia 3D marine seismic survey	Auralandia NL	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2011/5959	Tridacna 3D Ocean Bottom Cable Marine Seismic Survey	Woodside Energy Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2011/5956	Myuna Colliery extension of underground mining	Centennial Myuna Pty Ltd	Mining	Referral Decision Made	New South Wales
2011/5936	Julimar Brunello Gas Development Project	Woodside Energy Julimar Pty Ltd	Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2011/5935	Kingtree & Ironstone-1 Exploration Wells	PTTEP Australasia (Ashmore Cartier) Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2011/5934	Santos Petrel-7 Offshore Appraisal Drilling Programme (Bonaparte Basin)	Santos Offshore Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2011/5879	Gas Fields Development	Origin Energy Resources Ltd	Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)	Referral Decision Made	Victoria
2011/5873	Mackenzie North Project, QLD	Jellinbah Group Pty Ltd	Mining	Referral Decision Made	Queensland
2011/5871	Palta-1 exploration well in Petroleum Permit Area WA-384-P	Shell Development (Australia)	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2011/5861	Sovereign 3D Marine Seismic Survey	Chevron Australia Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2011/5840	Drilling of two appraisal wells	PTTEP Australia Ashmore Cartier Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Northern Territory
2011/5830	Offshore Drilling Campaign	Santos Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2011/5821	Illawarra coal seam gas exploration drilling and gas monitoring program	Apex Energy NL	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - non-marine)	Referral Decision Made	New South Wales
2011/5820	BHP Mitsui Coal's Wards Well Exploration Program, QLD	BHP Mitsui Coal Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - non-marine)	Referral Decision Made	Queensland
2011/5810	Stybarrow 4D Marine Seismic Survey	BHP Billiton Petroleum Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2011/5811	Development and operation of a new multi-seam underground coal mine with associated on-site infrastructure	Blackwater Coal Pty Ltd	Mining	Referral Decision Made	Queensland
2011/5794	Construction of a new rail track deviation of Main Southern Railway at Tahmoor	Xstrata Coal	Mining	Referral Decision Made	New South Wales
2010/5780	Surface Geochemical Exploration Program, TAS	Perenco (SE Australia) Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2010/5775	Dingo West Coal Project	DINGO WEST COAL PTY LTD	Mining	Referral Decision Made	Queensland
2010/5725	Exploration drilling of the Craigow-1 and Tolpuddle-1 wells	Tap Oil Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2010/5723	Orcus 3D Marine Seismic Survey in WA-450-P	Apache Energy Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2010/5720	Vincent M1 and Enfield M5 4D Marine Seismic Survey	Woodside Energy Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2010/5714	CGGVERITAS 2010 2D Seismic Survey	CGGVeritas Services Australia Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2010/5715	Undertake a three dimensional marine seismic survey	Apache Energy Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2010/5703	Wolseley 3D seismic acquisition survey	Perenco (SE Australia) Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2010/5702	Origin Energy Silvereye-1 Exploration Drilling Programme	Origin Energy Resources Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2010/5700	Undertake a three dimensional marine seismic survey	Origin Energy Resources Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2010/5701	Aroo Chappell 3D seismic survey	Origin Energy Resources Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Tasmania
2010/5695	Undertake a 3D marine seismic survey	Apache Energy Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2010/5679	Undertake a three dimensional marine seismic survey	WesternGeco	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2010/5680	Dalrymple 3D Seismic Survey	3D Oil Limited	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2010/5668	Thoar 3D Marine Seismic Survey	HCV Kumar	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2010/5664	Drilling of one exploration well	Asset Energy Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2010/5629	Salsa 3D Marine Seismic Survey	Shell Development Australia	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine

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2010/5625	Colton Mine Project	Northern Energy Corporation	Mining	Reconsideration Decision Made	Queensland
2010/5611	Development of Halyard Field off the west coast of WA	Apache Energy	Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2010/5607	Modifications to Mangoola Coal Mine Plans & relocation of electricity transmission line	Xstrata Mangoola Pty Ltd	Mining	Referral Decision Made	New South Wales
2010/5570	Gazelle 3D Marine Seismic Survey in WA-399-P and WA-42-L	Apache Energy Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2010/5558	Specularly 3D Transition Zone Seismic Survey	Origin Energy Resources Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Victoria
2010/5550	Ichthys 3D Marine Seismic Survey	Inpex browse	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2010/5543	Vampire 2D Non Exclusive Seismic Survey, WA	Searcher Seismic Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2010/5538	Bassett 3D Marine Seismic Survey	Total E&P Australia	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2010/5532	Deep Water Drilling Program	Hess Exploration Australia Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2010/5510	Aurora MC3D Marine Seismic Survey	Petroleum Geo-services	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2010/5497	Moranbah South Feasibility Seismic Survey	Anglo American Metallurgical Coal Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - non-marine)	Referral Decision Made	Queensland
2010/5487	NT/P80 2010 2D Marine Seismic Survey	Murphy Australia Oil Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2010/5472	Pomodoro 3D Marine Seismic Survey in WA-426-P and WA-427-P	Apache Energy Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2010/5458	Curragh North Pit U Expansion Project	Wesfarmers Curragh	Mining	Referral Decision Made	Queensland
2010/5434	Controlled Source Electromagnetic Survey	Karooon Energy International Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2010/5432	Artemis-1 Drilling Program (WA-360-P)	MEO Australia Limited	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2010/5420	Koolama 2D Seismic Survey Dampier Basin	Woodside Energy Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2010/5415	Laverda 3D Marine Seismic Survey and Vincent M1 4D Marine Seismic Survey	Woodside Energy Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2010/5404	Wongawilli Colliery	Gujarat NRE FGCL Pty Ltd	Mining	Referral Decision Made	New South Wales
2010/5393	Offshore Canning Multi Client 2D Marine Seismic Survey	Petroleum Geo-Services	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2010/5368	Petrel MC2D Marine Seismic Survey	Multiclient Geophysical AS	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2010/5360	Phoenix 3D Seismic Survey, Bedout Sub-Basin	Fugro Multi Client Services Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2010/5343	Dalby Gas Expansion Project	Arrow Energy	Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)	Referral Decision Made	Queensland
2010/5339	Tiffany 3D Seismic Survey	Fugro Multi Client Services Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2010/5315	Ashton Coal South East Open Cut Project	Ashton Coal Operations Pty Ltd	Mining	Referral Decision Made	New South Wales
2010/5297	Exploration Drilling in Permit Areas WA-402-P & WA-403-P	Total E&P Australia	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2010/5288	Southern Flanks 2D Marine Seismic Survey	Department of Primary Industries Victoria	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2009/5241	Gippsland 2D Marine Seismic Survey - VIC/P-63, VIC/P-64 and T/46P	Drillsearch Energy Limited	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2009/5230	Cartier East and Cartier West 3D Marine Seismic Surveys	Fugro Multi Client Services Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2009/5223	OTE10 2D Marine Seismic Survey	Trident Energy Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Victoria
2009/5216	Cows Coal Project, Open-Cut Coal Mine	Bowen River Coal Pty Ltd	Mining	Referral Decision Made	Queensland
2009/5215	Jax Coal Project, Open-Cut Mine Development	Jax Coal Pty Ltd	Mining	Referral Decision Made	Queensland
2009/5212	Agrippina 3D Seismic Marine Survey	Chevron Australia Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2009/5196	Caltex Lateral Pipeline, 5.4km underground gas pipeline construction	APT Petroleum Pipelines Pty Ltd	Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)	Referral Decision Made	Queensland
2009/5160	Drilling of Exploration & Appraisal Wells Braveheart-1 & Cornea-3	Hawkestone Oil Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2009/5151	Veritas Voyager 2D Marine Seismic Survey	CGGVeritas DGC Australia Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2009/5122	Songa Venus Drilling and Testing Operations	Stuart Petroleum Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2009/5104	2D and 3D Seismic Survey WA-405-P	Reliance Industries Limited	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2009/5093	PEP11 Site Survey	Asset Energy Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2009/5077	Quiberon 2D Seismic Survey, permit area WA-385P, offshore of Carnarvon	Searcher Seismic Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine

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2009/5076	2D Seismic survey	Petroleum Geo-Services	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2009/5072	QSN3 Project, expand 935km gas pipeline and supporting infrastructure	Epic Energy Queensland Pty Ltd	Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)	Referral Decision Made	Queensland
2009/5064	Replacement of Existing Processing Plant with a smaller Technology Demonstration Plant	QER Pty Ltd	Mining	Referral Decision Made	Queensland
2009/5048	3D Seismic Survey, Browse Basin, WA	ConocoPhillips Australia Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2009/5037	Drill and Profile Exploration Well Somerset 1, License Area T34P	Woodside Energy Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2009/5023	Zeemeermin MC3D seismic survey, Browse Basin, Offshore WA	Fugro Multi Client Services Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2009/5013	Bremer Basin 2D Marine Seismic Survey, WA	eNovation Resources (on behalf of Arcadia Petroleum Ltd)	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2009/4992	Panda NT/P76 3D Seismic Acquisition Survey Program	SIPC Australia Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Northern Territory
2009/4990	Songa Venus Drilling Programme, Bonaparte Basin	CNOOC Australia E&P Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2009/4980	Controlled Source Electromagnetic 2D Survey	Karoon Energy International Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2009/4968	Acheron Non-Exclusive 2D Seismic Survey	Gardline Marine Sciences Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2009/4925	2D Seismic Survey, Permit Area Q23P	Gulf Energy Limited	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Queensland
2009/4882	Expansion of the existing underground Clarence Colliery to include partial extra	Clarence Colliery Pty Ltd	Mining	Referral Decision Made	New South Wales
2009/4864	2D or 3D Marine Seismic Survey in Petroleum Permit Area AC/P35	Auralandia NL	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2009/4801	Judo Marine 3D Seismic Survey within and adjacent to WA-412-P	Japan Energy E&P Australia Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2009/4776	Rockhopper-1 and Trefoil-2 Exploration Drilling in Permit Area T/18P	Origin Energy Resources Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Tasmania
2009/4750	BightSPAN 2D Marine Seismic Survey	GX Technology/ ION Geophysical Corp	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	South Australia
2009/4749	Eendracht Multi-Client 3D Marine Seismic Survey	Fugro multi client services Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2009/4728	2D Marine Seismic Survey	Petroleum Geo-Services	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2009/4703	Foxhound 3D Non-Exclusive Marine Seismic Survey	Searcher seismic Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2009/4699	Sunshine Infill 2D and Mimosa 2D Marine Seismic Surveys	National Oil and Gas Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Northern Territory
2009/4698	Gold 2D Marine Seismic Survey Permit Areas WA375P and WA376P	Goldsborough Energy Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2009/4683	NT/P77 3D Marine Seismic Survey	Essar Exploration and Production Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2009/4681	3D Marine Seismic Survey	Essar Exploration and Production Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Northern Territory
2008/4659	Vessel-based Seismic and Hydrographic Sonar Survey	BM Alliance Coal Operations Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Queensland
2008/4654	Ursa 3D Marine Seismic Survey	Apache Energy Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2008/4628	2D Seismic Survey Permit Area WA-352-P	Drillsearch Energy Limited	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2008/4630	Judo Marine 3D Seismic Survey within and adjacent to WA-412-P	Japan Energy E&P Australia Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2008/4620	Queensland Hunter Gas Pipeline, approximately 833 km in length	Queensland Hunter Gas Pipeline	Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)	Referral Decision Made	New South Wales
2008/4605	Macedon Gas Field Development	SA Water Corporation	Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2008/4599	Grand Southern Margin 2D Marine Seismic Survey	Fugro Multi Client Services Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2008/4571	Extension of existing coal mining operation	TEC Coal Pty Ltd	Mining	Referral Decision Made	Queensland
2008/4570	North Goonyella Coal Co-disposal Facility	North Goonyella coal mines Pty Ltd	Mining	Referral Decision Made	Queensland
2008/4565	Acheron Non-Exclusive 2D Seismic Survey	Gardline Marine Sciences Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2008/4558	Enfield M4 4D Marine Seismic Survey	Woodside Energy Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2008/4553	Warramunga Non-Inclusive 3D Seismic Survey	Wavefield-Inseis Australia Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2008/4530	Stybarrow Baseline 4D marine seismic survey	SA Water Corporation	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2008/4528	3D Seismic Survey	Holloman Oil and Gas Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Victoria

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2008/4523	Grimalkin 3D Seismic Survey	Apache Energy Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2008/4519	Metropolitan coal project - continuation, upgrade and extension of underground m	Helensburgh Coal Pty Ltd	Mining	Referral Decision Made	New South Wales
2008/4507	West Anchor 3D Marine Seismic Survey	Apache Energy Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2008/4492	Canis 3D Marine Seismic Survey	Apache Energy Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2008/4461	Drilling 35-40 offshore exploration wells in deep water	Chevron Australia Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2008/4456	Proposed Coal Seam Gas Development & Associated Infrastructure	Origin Energy CSG Ltd	Mining	Referral Decision Made	Queensland
2008/4442	Braveheart 2D Infill Marine Seismic Survey 100km offshore	Hawkestone Oil Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2008/4437	3D Marine Seismic Survey	Fugro Multi Client Services Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2008/4430	Torosa-5 Appraisal Well, WA-30-R	Woodside Energy Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2008/4428	3D Seismic Survey, WA	Petroleum Geo-Services	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2008/4389	Gicea 3D Marine Seismic Survey	Total E&P Australia	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2008/4381	Guacamole 2D Marine Seismic Survey	Shell Development Australia Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2008/4351	Exploration drilling of Zeus-1 well	MEO Australia Limited	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2008/4327	Drilling of Audacious-5 appraisal well	OMV Australia Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2008/4316	NT/P74 & NT/P75 - 2D marine seismic survey	Samson-International Australia Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Northern Territory
2008/4281	3D marine seismic survey	WesternGeco Australia Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2008/4239	Rose 3D Seismic Program	Oilex Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2008/4227	Cable Seismic Exploration Permit areas WA-323-P and WA-330-P	Octanex N.L.	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2008/4191	Turrum Phase 2 Development Project	Esso Australia Pty Ltd	Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)	Referral Decision Made	Victoria
2008/4134	Wheatstone Iago Appraisal Well Drilling	Chevron Australia	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2008/4132	Exmouth West 2D Marine Seismic Survey	Gardline Marine Sciences Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2008/4133	2D and 3D Seismic Survey WA-405-P	Reliance Exploration Production DMCC	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2008/4130	Elimatta Open Cut Coal Mine and Coal Processing Plant	Northern Energy Corporation	Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)	Referral Decision Made	Queensland
2008/4131	2D Seismic Survey	Eagle Bay Resources N. L.	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Victoria
2008/4121	3D Seismic Survey (NT/P68)	MEO Australia Limited	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Northern Territory
2008/4122	Enfield M3 4D, Vincent 4D & 4D Line Test Marine Seismic Surveys	Woodside Energy Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2008/4074	2D Seismic Marine Survey	Exoil Limited	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	South Australia
2008/4066	2D Seismic Survey	3D Oil Limited	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2008/4064	Exploration Drilling Program - Permit areas - WA-314-P, WA-315-P, WA-398-P.	ConocoPhillips Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2008/4040	2D Seismic Survey Program in Bass Strait	Bass Strait Oil company	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Victoria
2008/4041	2D Seismic Acquisition Survey	Bass Strait Oil company	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Tasmania
2008/3994	Project Sun Liquefied Natural Gas Plant and Pipeline	Sunshine Gas Limited	Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)	Referral Decision Made	Queensland
2008/3991	Pilot Appraisal Well - Torosa South 1	Woodside Energy Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2008/3966	John Ross & Rosella Off Bottom Cable Seismic Exploration Program	Apache Energy Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2008/3967	Tap Oil Ltd Molson 2D Seismic Survey T47P	Tap Oil Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Tasmania
2008/3962	2D Seismic Survey	Santos Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Tasmania
2008/3958	Geco Eagle 3D Marine Seismic Survey	WesternGeco Australia Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2008/3954	Liquefied Natural Gas Export Terminal	Gladstone LNG Pty Ltd	Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)	Referral Decision Made	Queensland
2007/3941	Wheatstone Iago Appraisal Well Drilling	Chevron Australia Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia

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2007/3936	Malita West 3D Seismic Survey WA-402-P and WA-403-P	Total E&P Australia	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2007/3915	West Triton Drilling Program - Gippsland Basin	Apache Energy Ltd	Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)	Referral Decision Made	Victoria
2007/3917	Reindeer gas reservoir development, Devil Creek, Carnarvon Basin - WA	Apache Energy Ltd	Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2007/3914	Spikey Beach 1, West Triton Drilling Program, Bass Basin Permit T/38P	Australian Drilling Association	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2007/3909	West Triton Drilling Program - Otway Basin	Beach Petroleum Limited	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2007/3908	Bass Basin - Pee Jay-1 - Drilling Program	Benaris Petroleum NV	Mining	Referral Decision Made	Tasmania
2007/3904	3D Seismic Survey WA-406-P Bonaparte Basin	CNOOC Australia Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2007/3879	2D marine seismic survey within permit area WA-318-P	Esso Ventures Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2007/3868	Schomberg 3D Marine Seismic survey	Woodside Energy	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2007/3863	WA-286-P Exploration Drilling Programme	Roc Oil (WA) Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2007/3856	Klimt 2D Marine Seismic Survey	OMB Timor Sea Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2007/3844	Ocean Bottom Cable Seismic Program, WA-264-P	Santos Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2007/3839	Gigas 2D Pilot Ocean Bottom Cable Marine Seismic Survey	Woodside Energy	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2007/3817	Southern Margins T/35P and T/36P 3D Seismic Surveys	Santos Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2007/3800	3D Marine Seismic Survey	Roc Oil (WA) Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2007/3799	3D Marine Seismic Survey Within WA-382-P	Roc Oil (WA) Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2007/3780	Southern Margins 3D Seismic Survey VIC/P55	Santos Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2007/3777	Lion 2D Marine Seismic Survey	Chevron Australia Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2007/3774	AC/P37 3D Seismic Survey Ashmore Cartier	Apache Energy Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2007/3767	VIC-P44 Stage 2 Gas Field Development	Santos Ltd	Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)	Referral Decision Made	Victoria
2007/3759	Labatt 3D Seismic Survey T/47P Bass Strait	Tap Oil Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2007/3745	Nexus Drilling Program NT-P66	Nexus Energy Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Northern Territory
2007/3706	Tidepole Maz 3D Seismic Survey Campaign	Woodside Energy Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2007/3696	Stag Off-bottom Cable Seismic Survey	Apache Energy Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2007/3695	Abel Coal Project	Donaldson Coal Pty Ltd	Mining	Referral Decision Made	New South Wales
2007/3684	Glencoe 3D Marine Seismic Survey WA-390-P	Hess Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2007/3673	Sarum Deposit Seismic Exploration Program	Xstrata Coal Queensland Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - non-marine)	Referral Decision Made	Queensland
2007/3667	Endurance 3D Marine Seismic Data Acquisition Survey	ConocoPhillips (Browse Basin) Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2007/3650	Bass Basin 2D and 3D seismic surveys (T/38P & T/37P)	Cue Energy Resources	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2007/3647	Cue Seismic Survey within WA-359-P, WA-361-P and WA-360-P	Cue Energy Resources	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2007/3636	Faust-Capel Basins & Gifford Guyot Seismic Survey	Geoscience Australia	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2007/3586	Drilling of Marina-1 Exploration Well	Drillsearch Energy Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2007/3569	NT/P68 2007 Two Well Drilling Program	TSP Arafura Petroleum Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2007/3565	Moranbah North Coal Mine Methane Power Project	EDL projects Australia Pty Ltd	Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)	Referral Decision Made	Queensland
2007/3566	Hess Exploration Drilling Programme	Hess Limited	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2007/3551	Silvereye 3D Seismic Survey	Origin Energy Resources Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2007/3534	Woodside Southern Browse 3D Seismic Survey, WA	Woodside Energy Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2007/3523	Yngling-1 exploration well for WA-368-P	Nexus Energy Limited	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2007/3495	Apache Northwest Shelf Van Gogh Field Appraisal Drilling Program	Apache Energy Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2007/3477	Charon 3D Marine Seismic Survey	Chevron Australia Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia

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2007/3465	Cameby Downs Coal Mine, construction, operation & decommissioning	Syntech Resources Pty Ltd	Mining	Referral Decision Made	Queensland
2007/3458	3D marine seismic survey over petroleum title WA-268-P	Chevron Australia Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2007/3443	BHPBilliton Otway 3D Seismic Survey	BHP Billiton Petroleum	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Victoria
2007/3440	Goldsmith LNG Plant	Liquegas Energy Pty Ltd	Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)	Referral Decision Made	Queensland
2007/3434	Boundary Hill Mine Extension	Anglo Coal (Callide Management) Pty Ltd	Mining	Referral Decision Made	Queensland
2007/3402	Basker-Manta-Gummy Oil Field Development	Anzon Australia Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Victoria
2007/3369	Octantis 3D Marine Seismic Survey, Permit Area AC/P41 off northern Western Australia	Shell Development Australia Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2007/3367	Santos Otway 3d Seismic VIC/P44	Santos Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Victoria
2007/3282	Baniyas-1 Exploration Well, EP-424, near Onslow	Strike Oil	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2007/3273	2D seismic survey	Plectrum Petroleum PLC	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2007/3265	2D seismic survey within permit WA-291	Tap Oil Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2007/3262	Controlled Source Electromagnetic Survey	Offshore Hydrocarbon Mapping Limited	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2007/3260	Deep Water Northwest Shelf 2D Seismic Survey	PGS Geophysical	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2007/3228	Anvill Hill Project coal mine	Centennial Hunter Pty Limited	Mining	Referral Decision Made	New South Wales
2006/3210	Charbon Colliery Southern Open Cut - Stage 2	Charbon Colliery Pty Limited	Mining	Referral Decision Made	New South Wales
2006/3197	Marlin-Snapper Gas Pipeline Project	Esso Australia Pty Ltd	Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2006/3195	Skua and Swift Oilfields	Coogee Resources	Mining	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2006/3154	Crux gas-liquids development in permit AC/P23	Nexus Energy Ltd	Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2006/3146	Apache 3D seismic exploration survey	Apache Energy Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Victoria
2006/3148	'Van Gogh' Oil Appraisal Drilling Program, Exploration Permit Area WA-155-P(1)	Apache Energy Limited	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2006/3142	Caldita 3D Marine Seismic Survey - NT/ P61, NT/P69, and acreage release area NT06-5	ConocoPhillips Australia Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2006/3141	West Panaeus 3D seismic survey	PGS Geophysical	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2006/3132	Enfield oilfield 3D Seismic Survey	Woodside Energy Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2006/3130	Waterhouse Range seismic survey	Central Petroleum Ltd	Mining	Referral Decision Made	Northern Territory
2006/3085	Carborough Downs mine extension	Carborough Downs Coal Management Pty Ltd	Mining	Referral Decision Made	Queensland
2006/3072	Longtom Gas Pipeline Development, VIC/ P54	Nexus Energy Ltd	Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2006/3067	Draeck 3D Marine Seismic Survey, WA-205-P	Chevron Australia Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2006/3065	Exploration of appraisal wells	Chevron Australia Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2006/3053	Bernoulli 3D Seismic Survey	Beach Petroleum Limited	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Victoria
2006/3043	Integrated Isaac Plains Project	Isaac Plains Coal Management Pty Ltd	Mining	Referral Decision Made	Queensland
2006/3020	Echuca Shoals-2 Exploration of Appraisal Well	Nexus Energy Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2006/3005	Drilling of 12 Hydrocarbon Exploration Wells, Permit Area WA-371-P	Shell Development Australia Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2006/2980	3D Seismic Survey (NT/P68)	Methanol Australia Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2006/2987	Kooragang Island coal export terminal	Newcastle Coal Infrastructure Group Pty Ltd	Mining	Referral Decision Made	New South Wales
2006/2965	Expansion of the Trap Gully Open Cut Mining Area, Callide Mine	Anglo Coal (Callide Management) Pty Ltd	Mining	Referral Decision Made	Queensland
2006/2945	3D marine seismic Survey - Maxima 3D MSS	Woodside Energy Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2006/2943	2D seismic survey Permit Area VIC/P49	Nexus Energy Limited	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Victoria
2006/2922	2D Seismic Survey - Petroleum Exploration Area NT/P68, Eastern Bonaparte Basin	Methanol Australia Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Northern Territory

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2006/2917	2D marine seismic survey of Braveheart, Kurradjong, Sunshine and Crocodile	Exoil NL	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2006/2918	3D Seismic Survey, petroleum exploration permit AC/P33	Auralandia NL	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2006/2895	Underground coal mining of ML70301 and ML70302	Rio Tinto Coal Australia Pty Ltd	Mining	Referral Decision Made	Queensland
2006/2886	2 geotechnical surveys - preliminary and final	Woodside Energy Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2006/2857	3D seismic survey of AC/P4, AC/P17 and AC/P24	OMV Timor Sea Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2006/2844	Seismic Data Survey for GA Oil Exploration Program, Capel and Faust Basins (700k	Geoscience Australia	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2006/2793	Barossa-1 (NT/P69), Caldita-2 (NT/P61) exploration wells	ConocoPhillips Australia Exploration Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2006/2781	3D seismic survey	Santos Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2006/2776	2D seismic survey, Petroleum Exploration Permit Area EPP27	Oilex NL	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2006/2748	Crux-A and Crux-B appraisal wells, Petroleum Permit Area AC/P23	Nexus Energy	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2006/2729	3D Seismic Survey	Santos Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2006/2715	3D seismic survey	Chevron Australia Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2006/2667	Barrow Island 2D Seismic survey	Chevron Australia Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2006/2635	Gas Field Development	Santos Ltd	Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2006/2604	Comet Ridge to Wallumbilla natural gas pipeline	Fairview Pipeline Pty Ltd	Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)	Referral Decision Made	Queensland
2006/2609	Triton 3D Marine Seismic Survey, WA-2-R and WA-3-R	Chevron Australia Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2006/2569	Nexus Energy Seismic survey WA	Nexus Energy	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2006/2556	Bream 3D seismic survey	Esso Australia Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Victoria
2006/2514	Bonaventure 3D seismic survey	Chevron Australia Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2006/2506	Hail Creek open cut coal mine expansion	Rio Tinto Coal Australia Pty Ltd	Mining	Referral Decision Made	Queensland
2005/2494	Longtom-3 Gas Appraisal Well, VIC/P54	Nexus Energy	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2005/2500	North Rankin B gas compression facility	Woodside Energy Ltd	Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2005/2484	Development of Kipper gas field within Vic/L3, Vic/L4 Vic/RL2	Esso Australia Pty Ltd	Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2005/2470	Revised alignment Hunter Natural Gas Pipeline	Hunter Gas Pipeline Pty Ltd	Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)	Referral Decision Made	New South Wales
2005/2464	Western Flank Gas Development	Woodside Energy Ltd	Mining	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2005/2377	Olive Downs Project	Macarthur Coal Limited	Mining	Referral Decision Made	Queensland
2005/2364	3D Marine Seismic Survey, Permit AC/P 23	Nexus Energy	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2005/2336	Puffin Oil wells 7, 8 & 9 development	AED Oil Limited	Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2005/2330	Angas and Galloway Exploration Wells VIC/P39(v)	Nexus Energy Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Victoria
2005/2322	Braveheart 2D Marine Seismic Survey	Hawkestone oil Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2005/2325	Pyrenees-Macedon 3D marine seismic survey	BHP Billiton Petroleum Australia Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2005/2313	2D seismic survey VIC/P50	Essential Petroleum Resources Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2005/2309	Wilpinjong Coal Mine	Wilpinjong Coal Pty Ltd	Mining	Referral Decision Made	New South Wales
2005/2295	2D Marine Seismic Survey	Santos Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2005/2290	Leopard 2D marine seismic survey	Chevron	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2005/2282	'Tourmaline' 2D marine seismic survey, permit areas WA-323-P, WA-330-P and WA-32	Octanex NL (for Woodside Energy Ltd)	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2005/2279	Drilling of 'Culverin' oil exploration well, permit VIC/P56	Nexus Energy Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2005/2251	Northern Looping project, Karratha to Gingin	Dampier to Bunbury Natural Gas Pipeline (WA) Nominees Pty Ltd	Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2005/2236	'Moonlight Head' 3D seismic survey, VIC/P38(V), VIC/P43 and VIC/RL8	Benaris Petroleum NV	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Victoria

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2005/2237	2D & 3D seismic survey T/39P	Benaris Petroleum NV	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Tasmania
2005/2212	'Looping 10' gas transmission pipeline from Kwinana to Hopelands	Dampier to Bunbury Natural Gas Pipeline (WA) Nominees Pty Ltd	Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2005/2196	Collection and reprocessing of carbonaceous materials	Hunter Enviro-Mining Operations Pty Ltd	Mining	Referral Decision Made	New South Wales
2005/2185	Drilling between Kalbarri and Cliff Head	Roc Oil (WA) Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2005/2180	Shearwater 2D and 3D marine seismic survey	Origin Energy Resources Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Tasmania
2005/2179	Broadlea North Coal Project open cut mine and associated infrastructure	AMCI (CQ) Pty Ltd	Mining	Referral Decision Made	Queensland
2005/2167	Moosehead 2D seismic survey within permit WA-192-P	Tap Oil Limited	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2005/2147	Henry-1 Exploration Well, Petroleum Permit Area VIC/P44	Santos Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2005/2151	2D and 3D seismic surveys	Strike Oil Limited	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2005/2146	2D Seismic Survey	Strike Oil Limited	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2005/2126	3D Seismic Survey, near Scott Reef, Browse Basin	Woodside Energy Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2005/2100	2D Seismic Survey in WA Permit Area TP/22 and Commonwealth Permit Area WA-280-P	Eni Australia Limited	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2005/2080	Sonoma Coal Project, comprising Sonoma-1, Sonoma-2, and Belmore-1	QCoal Pty Ltd	Mining	Referral Decision Made	Queensland
2005/2070	Open cut coal mine 7km NE of Moranbah (Isaac Plains)	Bowen Central Coal Management Pty Ltd	Mining	Referral Decision Made	Queensland
2005/2064	Construction and operation of Carborough Downs Mine	AMCI (CQ) Pty Ltd	Mining	Referral Decision Made	Queensland
2005/2042	Echo A Development WA-23-L, WA-24-L	Woodside Energy Ltd	Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2005/2037	'Kate' 3D marine seismic survey, exploration permits WA-320-P and WA-345-P, 60km	OMB Timor Sea Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2005/2026	Basker-Manta Oil Field Development	Anzon Australia Ltd	Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2005/2017	Ocean Bottom Cable Seismic Survey	Strike Oil Limited	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2005/1938	"Leanne" offshore 3D seismic exploration, WA-356-P	Apache Energy Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2004/1927	3D marine seismic survey in WA 314P and WA 315P	Karoon Gas Australia Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2004/1926	HCA05X Macedon Experimental Survey	BHP Billiton Petroleum Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2004/1924	Spring Gully Gas Field (Stage 2)	Origin Energy CSG Ltd	Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)	Referral Decision Made	Queensland
2004/1902	Hunter Natural Gas Pipeline	Hunter Gas Pipeline Pty Ltd	Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)	Referral Decision Made	New South Wales
2004/1889	Acquisition of 2D seismic data in State Waters adjacent to Ninety Mile Beach-VIC/P39(V)	Nexus Energy	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Victoria
2004/1890	Carnarvon 3D Marine Seismic Survey	BHP Billiton Petroleum Australia Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2004/1876	2D seismic Survey in VIC/P55, VIC/RL2 and VIC/P41	Santos Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Victoria
2004/1868	Bollinger 2D Seismic Survey 200km North of North West Cape WA	ChevronTexaco Australia	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2004/1866	Gippsland Basin Seismic Programme	Apache Energy Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2004/1854	Caldita-1 Hydrocarbon Exploration Well, NT/P61	ConocoPhillips Australia Exploration Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2004/1830	Biggus-1 Exploration Well	Bounty Oil & Gas NL	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2004/1810	2D Seismic Survey in VIC/P50 and VIC/P46	Essential Petroleum Resources Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2004/1802	Marine Seismic Survey for oil and gas in Commonwealth waters off the WA coast.	Roc Oil (WA) Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2004/1797	Tipton Gas Pipeline	Arrow Energy NL	Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)	Referral Decision Made	Queensland
2004/1794	2D Marine Seismic Survey, EPP33	Kerr-McGee NW Shelf Australia Energy Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2004/1787	2D seismic survey, Petroleum Exploration Permit Area T/36P	Santos Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2004/1761	Wheatstone 3D seismic survey, 70km north of Barrow Island	ChevronTexaco Australia Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine

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2004/1743	Crude and Bunker Pipelines from Fisherman Islands to the Caltex Refinery, Lytton	Caltex Refineries QLD Ltd	Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)	Referral Decision Made	Queensland
2004/1720	Cazadores 2D seismic survey	Woodside Energy Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2004/1721	Duntroon 2D Seismic Survey	Woodside Energy Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	South Australia
2004/1718	3D Marine Seismic Survey	Woodside Energy Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	South Australia
2004/1702	Cliff Head 6 appraisal well	Roc Oil (WA) Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2004/1700	Seismic Survey, Bremer Basin, Mentelle Basin and Zeewyck Sub-basin	Geoscience Australia	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2004/1703	Construction and operation of an unmanned sea platform and connecting pipeline to Varanus Island for the extraction of natural gas	Apache Energy Ltd	Mining	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2004/1697	Hadda 1, Flying Foam 1, Magnat 1 exploration drill	Roc Oil (WA) Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2004/1701	Drilling of an exploration well Gats-1 in Permit Area WA-261-P	Apache Energy Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2004/1687	2D Seismic Survey in Permit Areas WA-318-P & WA-319-P, near Cape Londonderry	Drillsearch Energy Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2004/1681	Exploration drilling for liquid/gaseous hydrocarbons	Santos Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Victoria
2004/1644	Spring Gully gas field development (Stage 1) within petroleum leases PL195, PL20	Origin Energy CSG Limited	Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)	Referral Decision Made	Queensland
2004/1633	Drilling of Callister-1 exploration well in VIC/P51	Santos Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2004/1587	2D seismic survey, exploration permit NT/P67	Santos Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2004/1572	Amrit-1 exploration well	Santos Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2004/1547	Extension to the existing underground mine and additional surface areas to gain	Anglo Coal (Capcoal Management) Pty Ltd	Mining	Referral Decision Made	Queensland
2004/1535	Drilling and side track completion at Baleen gas production well in Production Licence area VIC/L21	Basin Oil Pty Ltd	Mining	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2004/1521	2D seismic survey in permit areas WA-274P and WA-281P	Santos Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2004/1461	3D marine seismic survey near King Island	Woodside Energy Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Tasmania
2004/1466	Offshore exploration drilling within permit area VIC/P 37(v)	Woodside Energy Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Victoria
2004/1369	Clearance of 35 ha in Ravensworth State Forest for extension of Mt Owen coal mining operations	Hunter Valley Coal Corporation	Mining	Referral Decision Made	New South Wales
2004/1321	Baryulah South 3D seismic survey at Cooper Creek-Wilson River Junction Floodplain	Santos Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - non-marine)	Referral Decision Made	Queensland
2004/1326	Sub-sea tieback of Perseus field wells	Woodside Energy Ltd	Mining	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2003/1304	Stockpiling of lump coal up to 40,000 tonnes	Mountain Industries Pty Ltd	Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)	Referral Decision Made	New South Wales
2003/1282	2004/2005 drilling program for exploration and production (VIC 01-06, 09-11, 16, 18 & 19 and VIC/RL 01 & 04)	Esso Australia Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Victoria
2003/1271	3D Marine Seismic Survey in Permit Areas WA-15-R, WA-18-R, WA-205-P, WA-253-P, WA-267-P and WA-268-P	ChevronTexaco Australia Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2003/1243	Construction Of Two New Fuel Processing Plants On Existing Site	Caltex Refineries NSW	Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)	Referral Decision Made	New South Wales
2003/1230	Palm Valley-11 Gas Well	Magellan Petroleum NT Pty Ltd	Mining	Referral Decision Made	Northern Territory
2003/1214	2D Seismic Survey	Santos Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Tasmania
2003/1218	2D Seismic Survey EPP32	Santos Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2003/1213	Santos 2D Seismic Survey VIC/P44 & VIC/P51	Santos Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2003/1204	Development of Turrum Oil Field and associated infrastructure	Esso Australia Pty Ltd	Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)	Referral Decision Made	Victoria
2003/1178	Thoar 3D seismic survey at Cooper Creek-Wilson River floodplain	Santos Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - non-marine)	Referral Decision Made	Queensland
2003/1158	2D Marine Seismic Survey in Permit Area WA-337-P	Kerr-McGee NW Shelf Australia Energy Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2003/1137	3D seismic program VIC/P38(v), VIC/P43 and VIC/RL8	Benaris Petroleum NV	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Victoria
2003/1102	Vic/P37(v) and Vic/P44 3D marine seismic survey	Woodside Energy Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine

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2003/1101	Stage 1, Proposed Southern Open Cut Coal Mine at Charbon Colliery	Centennial Coal Company Limited	Mining	Referral Decision Made	New South Wales
2003/1062	Hydrocarbon exploration wells	Santos Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2003/1058	Exploration Drilling Well Trefoil-1	Origin Energy Resources Limited	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2003/1042	Audacious-3 oil drilling well	OMV Australia	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2003/1033	Development of Mutineer and Exeter petroleum fields for oil production, Permit	Santos Ltd	Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2003/1031	Golden Beach gas field development	Santos Ltd	Mining	Referral Decision Made	Victoria
2003/992	Theodore Coal Project	Theodore Coal Assets Pty Ltd	Mining	Referral Decision Made	Queensland
2003/971	Exploration drilling well WA-155-P(1)	BHP Billiton Petroleum Australia Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2003/970	Munmorah 2D seismic survey within permits WA-308/9-P	OMV Australia	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2003/938	Cliff Head Appraisal Wells	Roc Oil (WA) Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2003/939	Bathymetry and Seabed Coring Hydrocarbons	Woodside Energy Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	South Australia
2003/937	Sole gas field development	Basin Oil Pty Ltd	Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)	Referral Decision Made	Victoria
2003/917	Drilling of Scallop-1 Exploration Well	Esso Australia Pty Ltd	Mining	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2002/900	Demeter 3D Seismic Survey, off Dampier, WA	Woodside Energy Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2002/884	Strumbo-1 Gas Exploration Well Permit Area WA-288-P	Magellan Petroleum (WA) Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2002/879	2D marine seismic survey in PEP-11 permit area, NSW	Bounty oil and gas NL	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	New South Wales
2002/871	2D seismic survey in the Sole gas field and adjacent acreage in the Gippsland Basin (VIC RL/3 & VIC/P41)	Santos Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Victoria
2002/864	Tuskfish 3D Seismic Survey, Bass Strait	Esso Australia Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Victoria
2002/845	2D Marine Seismic Survey in Permit Areas T/32P and T/33P	Santos Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2002/826	Seismic Survey VIC-P46	Essential Petroleum Resources Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2002/811	Vic-P51 and Vic-P52 2D seismic survey	Santos Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2002/799	Vic-P51 and Vic-P52 3D seismic survey	Santos Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2002/797	Gas Pipeline from Psyche to Winninia	Santos Ltd	Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)	Referral Decision Made	Queensland
2002/778	3D Seismic Survey in the Carnarvon Basin on the North West Shelf	Veritas DGC Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2002/775	Non-exclusive 3-D Marine Seismic Survey, Bass Strait	WesternGeco Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2002/769	Drilling of exploration wells, Permit areas WA-301-P to WA-305-P	BHP Billiton Petroleum North West Shelf Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2002/768	Lakes Oil 3D Seismic Survey	Otway Resources Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	South Australia
2002/759	Exploration Well in Permit Area WA-155-P(1)	BHP Billiton Petroleum Australia Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2002/754	Jansz-2 and 3 Appraisal Wells	Mobil Exploration Producing Australia Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2002/748	Coal Bulk Sample from EL5552, Wybong	Powercoal Pty Ltd	Mining	Referral Decision Made	New South Wales
2002/741	Kestrel Extended Project (KEP)/Extension to Existing Underground Coal Mine	Kestrel Coal Pty Ltd	Mining	Referral Decision Made	Queensland
2002/731	Exploration Well (Taunton-2)	Apache Energy Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2002/685	Extension of Simpson Oil Platforms & Wells	Apache Energy Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2002/676	Exploration drilling program located in exploration permits WA-286-P and TP/15	Roc Oil (WA) Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2002/662	VIC P44 Gas Exploration Wells	Santos Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2002/648	Seismic Survey in Petroleum Permit Area EPP27	Woodside Energy Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	South Australia
2002/636	Sole-2 appraisal gas well, VIC/RL3	Santos Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Victoria
2002/614	Extension of operations to existing Muswellbrook No 1 Open Cut mine	Muswellbrook Coal Company Ltd	Mining	Referral Decision Made	New South Wales
2001/539	Huascaran-1 exploration well (WA-292-P)	IB Resources	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2001/525	Seismic survey, Gippsland Basin	BHP Billiton Petroleum Pty Ltd	Mining	Referral Decision Made	Victoria

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2001/524	Ashton Coal Project	White Mining Ltd	Mining	Referral Decision Made	New South Wales
2001/516	Exploration Seismic survey	Great South Land Minerals Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - non-marine)	Referral Decision Made	Tasmania
2001/505	Beardie-1 Field wildcat oil well	Esso Australia Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2001/498	Offshore Seismic Survey	Macro Environmental	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2001/490	Exploratory drilling in permit area WA-225-P	BHP Billiton Petroleum Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2001/489	Montara-3 Offshore Hydrocarbon Exploration Well Permit Area AC/RL3	Newfield Australia Ashmore Cartier Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2001/475	Buffalo In-Fill Production Wells	Nexen Petroleum Australia Pty Ltd	Mining	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2001/416	Skorpion Marine Seismic Survey WA	Woodside Energy Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2001/417	Infill Production Well (Griffin-9)	BHP Billiton Petroleum Pty Ltd	Mining	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2001/399	Coverack Marine Seismic Survey	Woodside Energy Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2001/363	2D Seismic Marine Survey	West Oil NL	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2001/359	Exploration Drilling in AC/P17, AC/P18 and AC/P24	OMV Australia Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2001/305	Ingomar Coal Mine	Auironenergy Limited	Mining	Referral Decision Made	South Australia
2001/301	Hebburn No 2 Colliery	Hunter Enviro-Mining Pty Ltd	Mining	Referral Decision Made	New South Wales
2001/300	Backpacker-1 Offshore Hydrocarbon Exploration Well	Newfield Australia Cartier Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2001/296	Coot-1 hydrocarbon exploration well, Permit Area AC/L2 or AC/L3	Newfield Australia Cartier Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2001/297	Yallourn Coal Field Development	Yallourn Energy Pty Ltd	Mining	Referral Decision Made	Victoria
2001/293	P30 Hydrocarbon Exploration Well	BHP Petroleum Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2001/289	Offshore Petroleum Exploration	BHP Petroleum Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2001/276	Open Cut Coal Mine	Curragh Queensland Mining Pty Ltd	Mining	Referral Decision Made	Queensland
2001/267	Seismic Exploration in Permit VIC/P41	Eagle Bay Resources N.L.	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2001/253	Tasman Coal Mine	Newcastle Coal Company Pty Ltd	Mining	Referral Decision Made	New South Wales
2001/252	Adele Trend TQ3D Seismic Survey	WesternGeco Australia Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2001/234	Exploration Well AC/P23	Nippon Oil exploration Vulcan Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2001/235	Manaslu - 1 and Huascaran - 1 Offshore Exploration Wells	IB Resources	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2001/230	Bowens Road North coal deposit	Stratford Coal Pty Ltd	Mining	Referral Decision Made	New South Wales
2001/206	Seismic Survey	Bass Strait Oil Company	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2001/209	Northright-1 Exploration Well	Eagle Bay Resources	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2001/183	Harpy 1 exploration well	Santos Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2001/182	Kaleidoscope exploration well	Genting Oil and Gas Limited	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2001/177	Hemingway1/Oil Exploration	Bass Strait Oil Company	Mining	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2001/167	Melville 1 Oil Exploration Well	Bass Strait oil Company Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2001/156	Deepwater Sorell Basin 2001 Non-Exclusive 2D Seismic Survey	Fugro Survey Pty Limited	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2001/152	WA-295-P Kerr-McGee Exploration Wells	Kerr-McGee NW Shelf Australia Energy Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2001/140	Northern Fields 3D Seismic Survey	Esso Australia Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2001/137	East Pilchard exploration well	Esso Australia Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Victoria
2001/135	2-D seismic data survey	Great South Land Minerals Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - non-marine)	Referral Decision Made	Tasmania
2000/107	Strike Oil NL Seismic Surveys	Strike Oil NL	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Victoria
2000/102	Montesa-1 and Bultaco-1 Exploration Wells	Woodside Energy Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2000/103	Bultaco-2, Laverda-2, Laverda-3 and Montesa-2 Appraisal Wells	Woodside Energy Ltd	Mining	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2000/89	Searipple gas and condensate field development	Woodside Energy Ltd	Mining	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia

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2000/82	Geographe-A gas exploration well	Woodside Energy Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2000/81	Thylacine-A Exploration Well	Woodside Energy Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2000/84	Thresher-1 Well	Woodside Energy Ltd	Mining	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2000/49	Hazelwood Westfield Mine Development	Hazelwood Power	Mining	Referral Decision Made	Victoria
2000/36	AEC International Hydrocarbon Well Puffin 6	AEC International (for Alberta Energy Company)	Mining	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2000/24	Marine Seismic Survey in WA-239-P	Canadian Petroleum Australia Operations Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2000/20	Gas Pipeline	Esso Australia Pty Ltd	Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)	Referral Decision Made	Victoria
2000/19	2D Marine Seismic Survey	Woodside Energy Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2000/17	Maia-Gaea Exploration wells	Woodside Energy Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Western Australia
2000/13	Woodside Geotechnical Investigation Sunrise Bank	Woodside Energy Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2000/5	Drilling of exploration well Audacious-1 in AC/P17	OMV Australia Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine
2000/2	Saucepan 1 Exploration Well ACP23	Nippon Oil Exploration Vulcan Pty Ltd	Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - marine)	Referral Decision Made	Commonwealth Marine

Methodology for Appendix A

The purpose of this analysis was to determine how many fossil fuel projects have been approved, rejected, or otherwise allowed to proceed without assessment under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act (EPBC Act) since it came into effect on 4 July, 2000.

To undertake this analysis, project data was collected from the EPBC Act Public Portal on 22 August 2023. The initial data extraction collected all projects, regardless of industry or status, that were referred under the EPBC Act from 4 July 2000 to the date of download inclusive. The data was then classified by Status to exclude projects still under assessment. This reduced the data down to only include projects with the following Status classifications: 'Approval decision made', 'Referral decision made', 'Reconsideration request made', and 'Completed'.

The data was then further classified by Industry, with projects from the Mining, Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable), and Exploration (mineral, oil and gas—marine) industries included. Projects that were not directly related to the exploration, extraction or processing of fossil fuels (coal, oil or gas) were subsequently excluded, using the criteria listed below. All projects within these industries that met the criteria were then divided into two categories: those that required an EPBC assessment which were subsequently approved, and those that did not trigger an EPBC assessment and were authorised to be undertaken without a requirement for active government approval.

NOTE: An additional fossil fuel project - the Gregory Crinum mine extension - was approved on 31 August 2023, after primary analysis of this data set had been completed. This project was manually added to the list of approved projects, ensuring it was complete up to that date.

Inclusions

The following facilities and activities were determined a 'fossil fuel activity':

- › All facilities relating to the exploration, extraction and processing of fossil fuels (coal, oil and gas).
- › Exploration activities and scoping for future fossil fuel extraction (e.g. seismic surveys for offshore oil and gas resources).
- › Gas pipelines that connect and service extraction and processing sites
- › Infrastructure directly required to facilitate fossil fuel extraction and processing (e.g. land clearing for road construction at a coal mine).
- › Power stations that solely service a fossil fuel extraction or processing site.
- › Infrastructure dedicated to fossil fuel exports (e.g. coal terminal).
- › Capture capture and storage activities or scoping for future use by fossil fuel companies.

Exclusions

The following facilities and activities were excluded from the final list. While these facilities involve the use or transporting of fossil fuels like gas and coal, these were considered to be outside the scope of direct fossil fuel exploration, extraction and processing:

- › Power stations used for domestic electricity generation.
- › Pipelines that form part of the transmission network for domestic electricity generation.
- › Pipelines to manufacturing and other industrial facilities not involved in fossil fuel production.


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