

NOTIFICATION OF APPROVAL DECISION FOR THE TAKING OF ACTIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH AN ENDORSED PLAN UNDER THE *ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION AND BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION ACT 1999* (CTH) (EPBC Act)

Osborne Submarine Construction Yard, South Australia

This decision is made under section 146B of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (Cth) (EPBC Act). Note that section 134(1A) of the EPBC Act also applies to this approval. That provision provides, in general terms, that if the approval holder authorises another person to undertake any part of the action, the approval holder must take all reasonable steps to ensure that the other person is informed of any conditions attached to this approval, and that the other person complies with any such conditions.

Class of Actions

| | |
|---|---|
| Person to whom the approval is granted (approval holder) | Australian Submarine Agency ABN 67 250 046 148 |
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| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| Class of actions | All activities associated with the construction and the operation of the Submarine Construction Yard, as defined as actions in the endorsed Plan. |
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Further information is at **Annexure A**.

Approval Decision

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| Decision | My decision on whether or not to approve the taking of actions or the class of actions has effect for the following provisions of Part 3: |
|-----------------|---|

| Part 3 Provision | Decision |
|---|-----------------|
| Listed threatened species and communities (sections 18 and 18A) | Approve |
| Migratory Species (sections 20 and 20A) | Approve |
| Commonwealth Action (section 28) | Approve |

Period for which the approval has effect This approval has effect until 30 June 2076.

Conditions of approval The approval is subject to conditions under the EPBC Act as set out in **Annexure B**.

Person authorised to make decision

Name and Position Rachel Parry
Deputy Secretary

Signature



Date of decision 19 February 2026

ANNEXURE A

This decision is made under section 146B of the EPBC Act which provides for the Minister to approve the taking of an action, or a class of actions, in accordance with an endorsed policy, plan or program.

On 30 January 2026, the delegate endorsed, under section 146 of the EPBC Act, the Plan.

The actions or class of actions covered by this approval are defined in the endorsed Plan, which defines the actions by reference to those described in section or chapter 3 of the Strategic Impact Assessment Report (the Report) dated 18 December 2025 and submitted to the Minister at the same time that the Plan was submitted for endorsement. Section or chapter 3 of the Report includes details of the actions and class of actions included under the endorsed Plan that are to be undertaken within the Strategic Assessment Area for the construction and the operation of the Submarine Construction Yard. Section or chapter 3 of the Report also sets out excluded actions that do not form part of the actions or class of actions.

The actions or class of actions covered by this approval must be taken in accordance with the endorsed Plan.

As the endorsed Plan allows construction and operation of the Osborne Submarine Construction Yard until 2076, actions must not commence or continue after the approval expires on 30 June 2076.

An approval under section 146B of the EPBC Act has the same effect as an approval given under Part 9 of the EPBC Act. Actions approved under this decision will not require separate referral, assessment or approval under the EPBC Act in order to be taken. Actions not taken in accordance with the endorsed Plan are not covered by this approval and therefore may not be compliant with legislative requirements.

ANNEXURE B

PART A – CONDITIONS SPECIFIC TO THE ACTION

ENDORSED PLAN

- 1) The approval holder must implement the **endorsed Plan**.

ENVIRONMENTAL OUTCOMES

- 2) By implementing the **endorsed Plan**, the approval holder must achieve the following **Environmental Outcomes**:
 - a) The protection and **long-term** conservation of **Southern Right Whales** within **Gulf St Vincent** is supported by ensuring **vessel activities** are managed to prevent injury or mortality of **Southern Right Whales**.
 - b) The **breeding and nesting** of the **Australian Fairy Tern** and **Eastern Hooded Plover** are not impacted by noise generated by **dredging**.
 - c) Outside of the **dredge footprint**, the **long-term** extent of **seagrass meadows** within **Port Adelaide River** and **Gulf St Vincent** is maintained or improved by managing **dredging**.
 - d) **Water quality** within **Port Adelaide River** and **Gulf St Vincent** is protected by preventing or minimising the release or mobilisation of pollutants, chemicals, and toxic substances into the marine environment, in accordance with **regulatory guidelines**.
 - e) The persistence of the **dolphin population of the Adelaide Dolphin Sanctuary** and **Syngnathids** within **Port Adelaide River** and **Gulf St Vincent** is ensured by managing impacts to **water quality** from **dredging**, in accordance with **regulatory guidelines**.
 - f) The protection and **long-term** conservation of the **dolphin population of the Adelaide Dolphin Sanctuary** is supported by ensuring **dredging, marine piling, and vessel activities** are managed to prevent injury or mortality of individuals of the **dolphin population**.
 - g) Hydrological and geomorphological changes to **Port Adelaide River** resulting from changes to the riverbank will be avoided or minimised.
 - h) The introduction or spread of **biosecurity risks** is prevented by managing **dredging** in accordance with **regulatory guidelines**.
 - i) Impacts to **people and communities** will be minimised, as far as reasonably possible, to manage traffic, and access to **local amenities**.

ASSURANCE PLAN

- 3) The approval holder must submit an **Assurance Plan** to the **department** for the **Minister's** approval within three (3) months of the date of this approval, in accordance with the requirements set out in the **endorsed Plan** and these conditions of approval.

- 4) The approval holder must ensure that the submitted **Assurance Plan** describes how the **endorsed Plan** will be implemented, how impacts on **protected matters** will be avoided or mitigated, and will specify assurance activities including how the approval holder will measure and report on environmental parameters necessary to measure and evaluate change and the contribution of the **endorsed Plan** to such change, and demonstrate achievement of **Environmental Outcomes**.
- 5) The approval holder must ensure that the submitted **Assurance Plan** includes:
 - a) a **Program of Works** in the form of a schedule of actions to be undertaken for each phase of construction and operation of the Osborne Submarine Construction Yard. The **Program of Works** must include:
 - i. timing and location of the works,
 - ii. the **Environmental Outcomes** and **protected matters** that are relevant to each phase of the works,
 - iii. assurance activities that are required prior to each phase of the works commencing that will effectively monitor or evaluate compliance with the **Environmental Outcomes** and impacts on **protected matters**,
 - b) details of specific reporting, review, monitoring, and verification processes that will be undertaken, including for **biennial reports** and **independent audits**.
 - c) the responsible parties for implementing the assurance requirements, commitments in the **endorsed Plan** and conditions of this approval.
 - d) details of how compliance with the **endorsed Plan**, this approval and any relevant policies will be demonstrated.
 - e) details of how implementation of the **endorsed Plan** will be monitored against its commitments and **Environmental Outcomes**.
 - f) an outline of how risks will be monitored, evaluated, reported and managed through assurance processes.
 - g) details of **reference conditions** which provide a baseline, threshold or guideline values appropriate to the relevant **protected matters**.
 - h) details of processes for reporting the results of monitoring activities against **reference conditions**.
 - i) details of adaptation of processes if **new or increased impacts** are detected compared to **reference conditions**.
- 6) Following submission of the **Assurance Plan** in accordance with condition 3, if the **Minister** makes a written request to the approval holder to make revisions to the submitted **Assurance Plan**, the approval holder must revise the **Assurance Plan** and re-submit it to the **department** for the **Minister's** approval in accordance with the requirements of any such request.
- 7) The approval holder must commence implementing the **Approved Assurance Plan** within 15 **business days** of the date that the submitted **Assurance Plan** is approved by the **Minister** in writing.

ASSURANCE PLAN – PROGRAM OF WORKS REVISIONS

- 8) The approval holder must submit a revised **Assurance Plan** to the **department** for the **Minister's** approval, prior to the commencement of each phase of construction and operation as specified in the **Program of Works**.
- 9) The approval holder must not commence the relevant phase of construction or operation, unless the **Minister** has approved the revised **Assurance Plan** in writing.
- 10) The approval holder must commence implementing the revised **Assurance Plan** within 15 **business days** of the date the revised **Assurance Plan** is approved by the **Minister** in writing.

ASSURANCE PLAN – ADMINISTRATIVE REVISIONS

- 11) The approval holder may choose to revise the **Approved Assurance Plan** without submitting it for approval, if:
 - a) the revision is an **Administrative Revision**,
 - b) the taking of the class of actions in accordance with the revised **Assurance Plan** would be consistent with the approved class of actions,
 - c) the taking of the class of actions in accordance with the revised **Assurance Plan** would be consistent with the conditions attached to this approval,
 - d) the taking of the class of actions in accordance with the revised **Assurance Plan** would not be likely to have a **new or increased impact**, and
 - e) the approval holder notifies the **department** electronically that it has prepared a revised version of the **Approved Assurance Plan**. In notifying the **department**, the approval holder must provide the **department** with:
 - i. an electronic copy of the revised **Assurance Plan**,
 - ii. an electronic copy of the revised **Assurance Plan** marked up with track changes to show the differences between the **Approved Assurance Plan** and the revised **Assurance Plan**,
 - iii. an explanation of the differences between the **Approved Assurance Plan** and the revised **Assurance Plan**,
 - iv. a declaration that the approval holder has read and understands the *Guidance on 'new and increased impact' relating to changes to approved management plans under EPBC Act environmental approvals*, Commonwealth of Australia 2017,
 - v. an analysis and discussion on the likelihood that taking the class of actions in accordance with the revised **Assurance Plan** will not have, or will not be likely to have, a **new or increased impact**,
 - vi. written notice of the date on which the approval holder will implement the revised **Assurance Plan** (the 'revised **Assurance Plan** implementation date'), being at least 30 **business days** after the date of providing the notice of the revision of the **Approved Assurance Plan**, or a date agreed to in writing with the **department**.
- 12) The approval holder must commence implementation of the revised **Assurance Plan** from the revised **Assurance Plan** implementation date unless otherwise notified in writing by the **Minister**.

- 13) If the **Minister** notifies the approval holder that the **Minister** is satisfied that the taking of the class of actions in accordance with an **Assurance Plan** which has been revised without submitting it for the **Minister's** approval would be likely to have a **new or increased impact**, then:
- a) the approval holder's ability to revise an **Assurance Plan** without submitting the revised **Assurance Plan** for **Minister** approval does not apply, or ceases to apply, in relation to the revised **Assurance Plan**, and
 - b) the approval holder must implement the **Approved Assurance Plan** in force immediately prior to that revised **Assurance Plan** or a version of the **Assurance Plan** specified by the **Minister** in the notice, and
 - c) the **Minister** may also notify that, for a specified period, the approval holder's ability to revise an **Assurance Plan** without submitting the **Assurance Plan** for **Minister** approval does not apply.
- 14) The approval holder may, at any time by giving written notice to the **department**, revoke its choice to implement a revised **Assurance Plan** which has been revised without submitting it for the **Minister's** approval. If the approval holder revokes the choice to implement a revised **Assurance Plan**, the approval holder must implement the **Approved Assurance Plan** in force immediately prior to that revised **Assurance Plan**.

ASSURANCE PLAN – SUBMISSION AND PUBLICATION

- 15) Wherever these conditions require the approval holder to submit an **Assurance Plan** to the **department**, all such **Assurance Plans** must be submitted to the **department** electronically.
- 16) Unless otherwise agreed to in writing by the **Minister**, the approval holder must publish an **agreed version** of each **Approved Assurance Plan** on the **website** within 15 **business days** of the date that:
- a) the **Assurance Plan** is approved by the **Minister** in writing, or
 - b) the **Assurance Plan** is submitted to the **department** in accordance with a requirement of these conditions, if the **Assurance Plan** does not require the approval of the **Minister**.
- 17) The approval holder must keep all **agreed versions** of the **Assurance Plans** published on the **website**, in a format that is accessible, from the first date which that **Assurance Plan** must be published and until the expiry date of this approval. This requirement applies to all current and superseded versions of **Assurance Plans**.

REQUIREMENT TO IMPLEMENT AND COMPLY WITH APPROVED ASSURANCE PLAN

- 18) The approval holder must implement and comply with the **Approved Assurance Plan**.

COMPLIANCE WITH SOUTH AUSTRALIAN APPROVAL

- 19) For the protection of **protected matters**, the approval holder must:
- a) Undertake the class of actions in accordance with the **South Australian approval** to the extent that the **South Australian approval** conditions relate to **protected matters**.
 - b) Comply with conditions of the **South Australian approval** to the extent that they relate to **protected matters**.
 - c) Implement conditions of the **South Australian approval** where they relate to monitoring, managing, mitigating, avoiding, recording, or reporting impacts to **protected matters**.

BIENNIAL COMPLIANCE REPORTING

- 20) Within two (2) years of the date of this approval, and each subsequent two (2) years following the date of this approval decision until the expiry date of the approval, the approval holder must prepare and submit a **biennial report** to the **department**.
- 21) The approval holder must ensure each **biennial report** includes:
- a) accurate and complete details of compliance and any non-compliance with:
 - i. all commitments made in the **endorsed Plan**,
 - ii. all commitments made in the **Approved Assurance Plan**, and
 - iii. each condition attached to this approval decision,
 - b) accurate and complete details of how each **Approved Assurance Plan** was implemented during the previous two (2) years,
 - c) details of all third parties **verified** in accordance with an **Approved Assurance Plan**, to undertake actions under this approval in the previous two (2) years,
 - d) details of actions commenced or completed in the previous two (2) years within the **Strategic Assessment Area**,
 - e) accurate details of monitoring and evaluation results against the **reference conditions**,
 - f) if any **incident** occurred, accurate and complete details of the **incident**.
- 22) Unless otherwise agreed to in writing by the **Minister**, the approval holder must, within 20 **business days** following submission of the **biennial report**, publish an **agreed version** of the **biennial report** on their **website**.
- 23) The approval holder must notify the **department** electronically, within five (5) **business days** of each date of publication that an **agreed version** of a **biennial report** has been published on their **website**. In this notification, the approval holder must provide the **department** with the web address for where the **agreed version** of the **biennial report** is published on their **website**.
- 24) The approval holder must keep each **agreed version** of the **biennial report** published on their **website** from the first date which that **agreed version** of the **biennial report** must be published and until the expiry date of this approval.

6-YEARLY INDEPENDENT AUDIT

- 25) The approval holder must ensure that an **independent audit** is conducted, and submit an **independent audit report** to the **department** for written agreement from the **department**, within six (6) years of the date of this approval, and each subsequent 6-year period, until the expiry date of the approval. The **independent audit report** must address, to the satisfaction of the **Minister**:
- a) progress against each commitment in the **endorsed Plan**, including a summary of how many commitments have been met, are on track to be met, or are not on track,
 - b) whether **Environmental Outcomes** for **protected matters** have been achieved or are on track,
 - c) key sources of data used to inform reporting on **Environmental Outcomes**, including any limitations or uncertainties identified in the data collection,
 - d) whether the **Approved Assurance Plan** is achieving its objectives,

- e) whether the processes outlined in the **Approved Assurance Plan** for implementing and reporting on the **endorsed Plan** are adequate, and
 - f) the making of recommendations if processes in the **Approved Assurance Plan** are not adequate and/or if the commitments to the **endorsed Plan** are not on track to be met or cannot reliably be demonstrated.
- 26) Unless otherwise agreed to in writing by the **Minister**, the approval holder must, within 20 **business days** of the date the **department** agrees to an **independent audit report** in writing, publish an **agreed version** of the **independent audit report** on their **website**.
- 27) The approval holder must notify the **department** electronically, within five (5) **business days** of each date of publication that an **agreed version** of an **independent audit report** has been published on their **website**. In this notification, the approval holder must provide the **department** with the web address for where the **agreed version** of the **independent audit report** is published on their **website**.
- 28) The approval holder must keep each **agreed version** of the **independent audit report** published on their **website** from the first date which that **agreed version** of the **independent audit report** must be published and until the expiry date of this approval.
- 29) Unless otherwise agreed to in writing by the **Minister**, within six (6) months from the submission to the **department** of each **independent audit report**, the approval holder must:
- a) submit a response document to the **department** addressing each recommendation made in the **independent audit report**, and
 - b) should the **independent audit report** recommend revisions to the **Assurance Plan**, the approval holder must submit a revised **Assurance Plan** to the **department** for approval by the **Minister**.

PUBLICATION

- 30) Unless otherwise agreed to in writing by the **Minister**, the approval holder must publish on their **website** the following documents:
- a) This approval notice
 - b) An **agreed version** of the **endorsed Plan**
 - c) An **agreed version** of the **Report**.
- 31) Unless otherwise agreed to in writing by the **Minister**, the approval holder must publish the documents on their **website** within 20 **business days** of being finalised and until the expiry date of this approval.

MAPPING & MONITORING DATA

- 32) The approval holder must maintain a **website** showing the mapping of the **Strategic Assessment Area**. The **website** must be readily accessible to the public and clearly show which areas are subject to this approval.
- 33) Upon written request, the approval holder must provide the **department** with current and accurate maps and **shapefiles**, in accordance with the *Guide to providing maps and boundary data for EPBC Act projects*, Commonwealth of Australia 2021, or as otherwise specified by the **Minister** in writing.

34) The approval holder must ensure that any **monitoring data**, surveys, maps, and other spatial and metadata required by the **endorsed Plan** and/or **Assurance Plan** are prepared in accordance with the *Guidelines for biological survey and mapped data*, Commonwealth of Australia 2018, or as otherwise specified by the **Minister** in writing.

REPORTING NON-COMPLIANCE

35) The approval holder must notify the **department** in writing of any non-compliance with the conditions or non-compliance with the **endorsed Plan**. The notification must be given as soon as practicable, no later than two (2) **business days** after becoming aware of the non-compliance. The notification must specify:

- a) which condition/s or part/s of the **endorsed Plan** which has not been, or may not have been complied with,
- b) a short description of the non-compliance:
 - i. the location (including co-ordinates), date, and time of the non-compliance,
 - ii. any compliance investigation or actions taken, and a contact person to discuss any ongoing matters and,
 - iii. In the event the exact information cannot be provided, provide the best information available.

36) The approval holder must maintain accurate and complete **compliance records**.

37) If the **department** makes a request in writing, the approval holder must provide electronic copies of **compliance records** to the **department** within the timeframe specified in the request.

Note: Compliance records may be subject to audit by the **department** or an **independent auditor** in accordance with section 458 of the **EPBC Act**, and or used to verify compliance with the conditions. Summaries of the results of an audit may be published on the **department's** website or through the general media.

Part B - Definitions

Words and terms appearing in **bold** (excluding headings) have the meaning assigned to them in the list below:

Administrative Revision means a revision that is a minor adjustment.

Agreed version(s) means a version of an **Assurance Plan, biennial report, independent audit report** or other document required to be developed and published by commitments in the **endorsed Plan** and these conditions of approval, that is agreed to in writing with the **department**.

Agreement means the agreement made between the **Australian Submarine Agency** and the **Minister** on 24 November 2023, and the subsequent variations made to the Agreement on 19 December 2024 (Variation Agreement No. 1) and 23 December 2025 (Variation Agreement No. 2).

Assurance Plan means any plan which describes or includes the matters required by the **endorsed Plan** and Conditions 3 – 5 of this approval.

Approved Assurance Plan means any **Assurance Plan** approved by the **Minister** under this approval, as revised by any revised **Assurance Plan** that has been approved by the **Minister** under this approval or the approval holder is required to implement under condition 12 of this approval (other than an **Assurance Plan** that is the subject of a notice under condition 13 or which has been revoked under condition 14).

Australian Fairy Tern means the **EPBC Act** listed threatened fauna species, *Sternula nereis nereis*.

Australian Submarine Agency means the Australian Government agency established on 1 July 2023 to acquire, construct, deliver, govern, sustain and dispose of Australia's conventionally-armed nuclear-powered submarine capability for Australia.

Biennial report(s) means a written report required to be submitted to the **department** within 2 years of the date of this approval, and each subsequent 2 years following the date of this approval decision until the expiry date of the approval, which details compliance with, and fulfilment of, these conditions (including compliance with commitments made in an **Approved Assurance Plan**), in accordance with conditions 20 – 24.

Biodiversity data means 'biodiversity data' as described in the *Policy on Accessing and Sharing Biodiversity Data*, Commonwealth of Australia 2024.

Biosecurity risks mean pests, diseases and other biosecurity matters prescribed by South Australian State regulations. Such risks may cause a threat to terrestrial and aquatic environments and may adversely affect public amenities, community activities and infrastructure.

Breeding and nesting mean behaviours or activities that relate to reproduction of the **Australian Fairy Tern** and **Eastern Hooded Plover** including courting, mating, nest building, egg laying, incubating eggs, chick rearing, chicks foraging, and chicks fledging.

Business day(s) means a day that is not a Saturday, a Sunday, or a public holiday in South Australia.

Compliance records mean all documentation or other material in whatever form required to demonstrate compliance with the conditions of approval in the approval holder's possession or that are within the approval holder's power to obtain lawfully. This includes information from third parties responsible for implementation of the **endorsed Plan**.

Department means the Australian Government agency responsible for administering Part 10 of the **EPBC Act**.

Dolphin population or **dolphin population of the Adelaide Dolphin Sanctuary** means the dolphin population of the Adelaide Dolphin Sanctuary, which is the area defined in Schedule 1 of the *Adelaide Dolphin Sanctuary Act 2005* (SA). This includes the Port Adelaide River estuary and Barker Inlet, including waters, rivers, creeks, inlets and drains to medium high-water mark, and land areas as defined.

The dolphin population includes:

- resident Indian-Pacific Bottlenose Dolphins (*Tursiops aduncus*).
- Indian-Pacific Bottlenose Dolphin (*Tursiops aduncus*), Common Bottlenose Dolphin (*Tursiops truncatus*), and Short-beaked Common Dolphin (*Delphinus delphis*) that occupy the Adelaide Dolphin Sanctuary on a transient basis.

Dredging means removing solid matter from the bed of any marine waters or inland waters by any digging or suction apparatus. It involves the removal of solid material from the bottom of a body of water and management of material including relocation, placement and disposal.

Dredge footprint means the extent of the area to be dredged within the **Strategic Assessment Area**, as identified in the map at Attachment B to this approval.

Eastern Hooded Plover means the EPBC Act listed threatened fauna species, *Thinornis cucullatus cucullatus*.

Endorsed Plan means the Plan endorsed by the **Minister** on 30 January 2026, in accordance with the **Agreement** as mentioned in section 146(2)(f) of the **EPBC Act**.

Environmental Outcomes means the outcomes listed at condition 2 of this approval and committed to be achieved at section 3.2 of the **endorsed Plan**.

EPBC Act means the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (Cth).

Gulf St Vincent means the body of water that adjoins Port Adelaide River at its western extent.

Harm means to cause any measurable direct or indirect disturbance or deleterious change as a result of any activity associated with the action.

Incident means any:

- event which has the potential to, or does, **harm** any **protected matter**,
- non-compliance with these conditions, including the administrative requirements,
- non-compliance with one or more commitment made in the **endorsed Plan** or an **Approved Assurance Plan**.

Independent audit(s) means an audit, conducted by an **independent auditor**, of compliance with and fulfilment of the commitments made in the **endorsed Plan**, objectively evaluated against the audit criteria developed by the **independent auditor**, in accordance with the **Independent Audit and Audit Report Guidelines** to the extent that the **Independent Audit and Audit Report Guidelines** are consistent with these conditions.

Independent Audit and Audit Report Guidelines means the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 Independent Audit and Audit Report Guidelines*, Commonwealth of Australia 2019.

Independent auditor means a person, or firm, who:

- does not have any individual, financial*, employment* or family affiliation or any conflicting interests with the Action, the approval holder or the approval holder’s staff, representatives, or associated persons,
- has demonstrated experience in undertaking government-regulated environmental compliance audits, and
- holds relevant professional qualifications and accreditations.

*Other than for the purpose of undertaking the role for which the person, or firm, is required.

Independent audit report means a written report of an **independent audit**.

Local amenities mean facilities and services available that contribute to community life and enhance convenience, comfort, and quality of living.

Long-term means a period of time that extends beyond the duration of the **endorsed Plan**.

Marine piling means the process of installing structural elements into the riverbed or seabed.

Minister means the Australian Government Minister administering the **EPBC Act** including any delegate thereof.

Monitoring data means the data required to be recorded under the conditions of this approval, including **sensitive biodiversity data**.

New or increased impact(s) means any direct or indirect increase in the impacts of an Action, an increase to the likelihood of an impact occurring, a reduction to the monitoring or mitigation measures for a **protected matter** as outlined in the *Guidance on ‘new or increased impact’ relating to changes to approved management plans under EPBC Act environmental approvals*, Commonwealth of Australia 2017.

People and communities means residents and people that live, work, or access local amenities within the northern Lefevre Peninsula.

Port Adelaide River means the areas of Port Adelaide River that relate to dredging Actions within the **Strategic Assessment Area**. This includes:

- Areas within the extent of hydrodynamic modelling of a dredge plume for a dredge footprint that are predicted to be in a Zone of High Impact or Zone of Low to Moderate Impact.
- within the extent of impact in the immediate area of the **dredge footprint** identified from surveys conducted following a dredge campaign.
- Based upon previous modelling, this area may include the **dredge footprint** within the **Strategic Assessment Area**, as well as upstream and downstream areas of Port Adelaide River to approximately 3 km from the **dredge footprint**.

Program of Works means the schedule of actions to be undertaken for each phase of construction and operation of the Osborne Submarine Construction Yard, specified in the **Approved Assurance Plan**.

Protected matter(s) means a matter protected under a controlling provision in Part 3 of the **EPBC Act** for which the **endorsed Plan** and this approval have effect.

Reference conditions mean a baseline, threshold or guideline values appropriate to each **protected matter** and desired state, documented in the **Approved Assurance Plan**.

Regulatory guidelines mean requirements that arise from legislation and regulations of the South Australian State Government, the Australian Government or other relevant authority enabled via:

- Approval, permit, or licence conditions.
- Statutory instruments, including South Australian Environmental Protection Policies.
- Mandatory enforceable standards under South Australian legislation.
- Codes of practice, guidelines and technical specifications as referenced in legislation or policy.

Seagrass meadows means a vegetation community of underwater flowering plants on the river bed or ocean floor that is comprised of one or more different seagrass species.

Sensitive biodiversity data means **biodiversity data** which, if released, published or otherwise exposed, may result in **harm** to the relevant **protected matter** as a result of the intentional or unintentional misuse of that **biodiversity data**.

Shapefile(s) means location and attribute information of the action provided in an Esri shapefile format. **Shapefiles** must contain '.shp', '.shx', '.dbf' files and a '.prj' file that specifies the projection/geographic coordinate system used. **Shapefiles** must also include an '.xml' metadata file that describes the **shapefile** for discovery and identification purposes.

Southern Right Whales means the EPBC Act listed threatened species Southern Right Whale (*Eubalaena australis*).

South Australian approval means the development authorisation for the Osborne Construction Yard development under section 115(2)(b)(i) of the *Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016* (the PDI Act), granted by the South Australian Minister for Planning on 4 December 2025, subject to conditions.

Strategic Assessment Area means the **Strategic Assessment Area** as defined in the **Agreement**, which is all the land and sea areas identified in the maps at Attachment 1 of Variation Agreement No. 2 (see extract at Attachment A to this approval). The Strategic Assessment Area is collectively represented by Figure 1 (Strategic Assessment Area Extent 1) and Figure 2 (Strategic Assessment Area Extent 2).

Strategic Impact Assessment Report or the Report means the Impact Assessment Report for the Osborne Submarine Construction Yard Strategic Assessment document submitted by the **Australian Submarine Agency** to the **department** (dated 18 December 2025), as per clause 8.8 of the **Agreement**.

Syngnathids means seahorse, pipefish, and seadragon species from the Syngnathidae family.

Verified means a person or entity that has been informed through a verification process set out in the **Assurance Plan** of their obligations when undertaking an action in accordance with the **endorsed Plan** and this approval.

Vessel activities means navigation or transit of a ship, boat, or watercraft which are undertaking actions in accordance with the **endorsed Plan**. For **dredging**, vessel activities may include:

- Positioning and relocation of vessels within a work area.
- Transit of vessels between dredge or pile locations within the work area.
- Support vessel movement, such as barges, tugs or supply boats.

Water quality means the physical, chemical and biological characteristics of water and the measure of its condition relative to default or established guideline values.

Website means a set of related web pages located under a single domain name attributed to the approval holder and available to the public.

Attachment A



Figure 1. Strategic Assessment Area Extent 1: Indicative map of the Strategic Assessment Area in and around the Osborne Submarine Construction Yard on the Lefevre Peninsula, Osborne, South Australia.

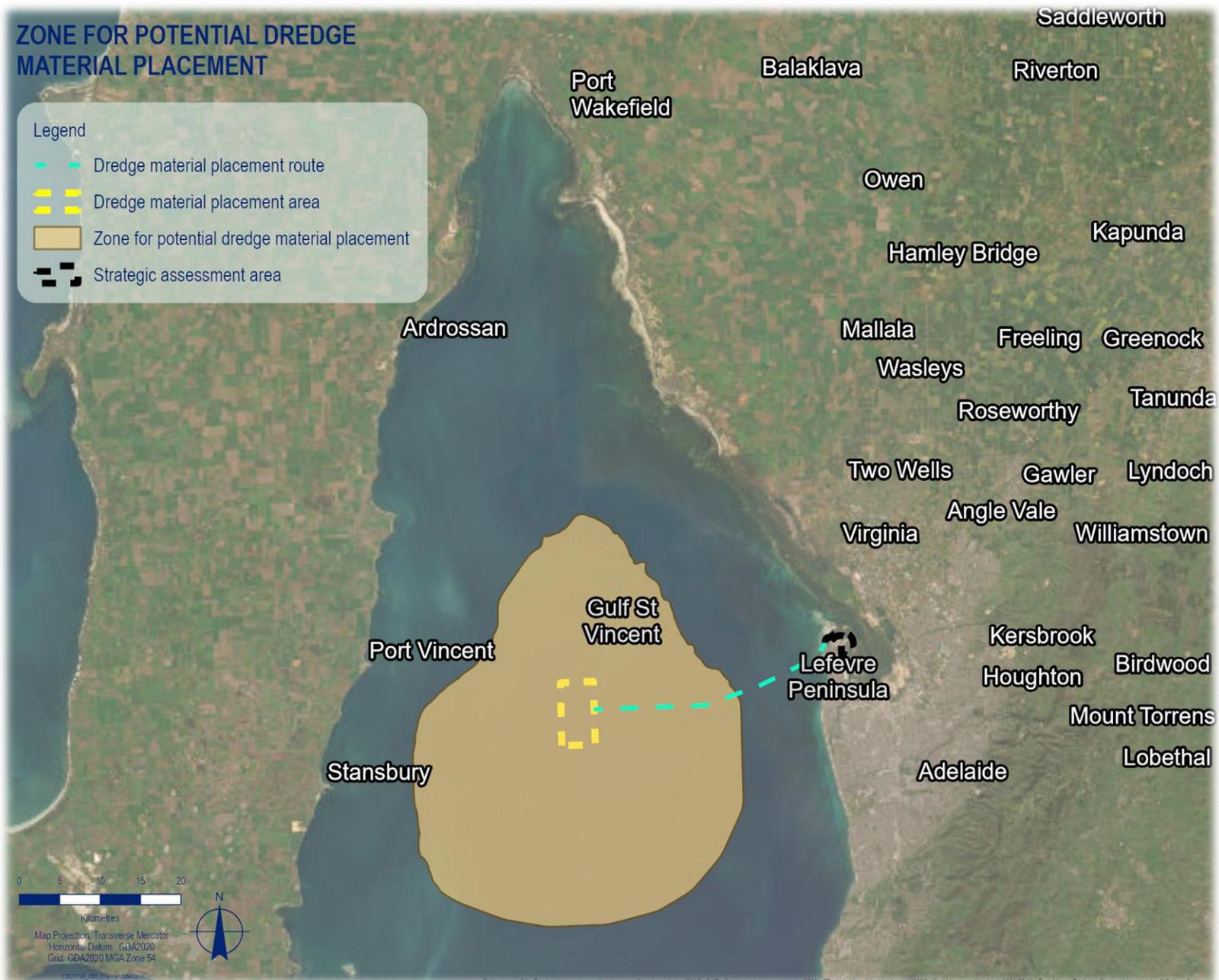


Figure 2. Strategic Assessment Area Extent 2: shows an area where placement of dredged material may occur within Gulf St Vincent, South Australia for material dredged from within Extent 1. Extent 2 includes the boundary for dredge material placement areas and dredge material vessel routes.

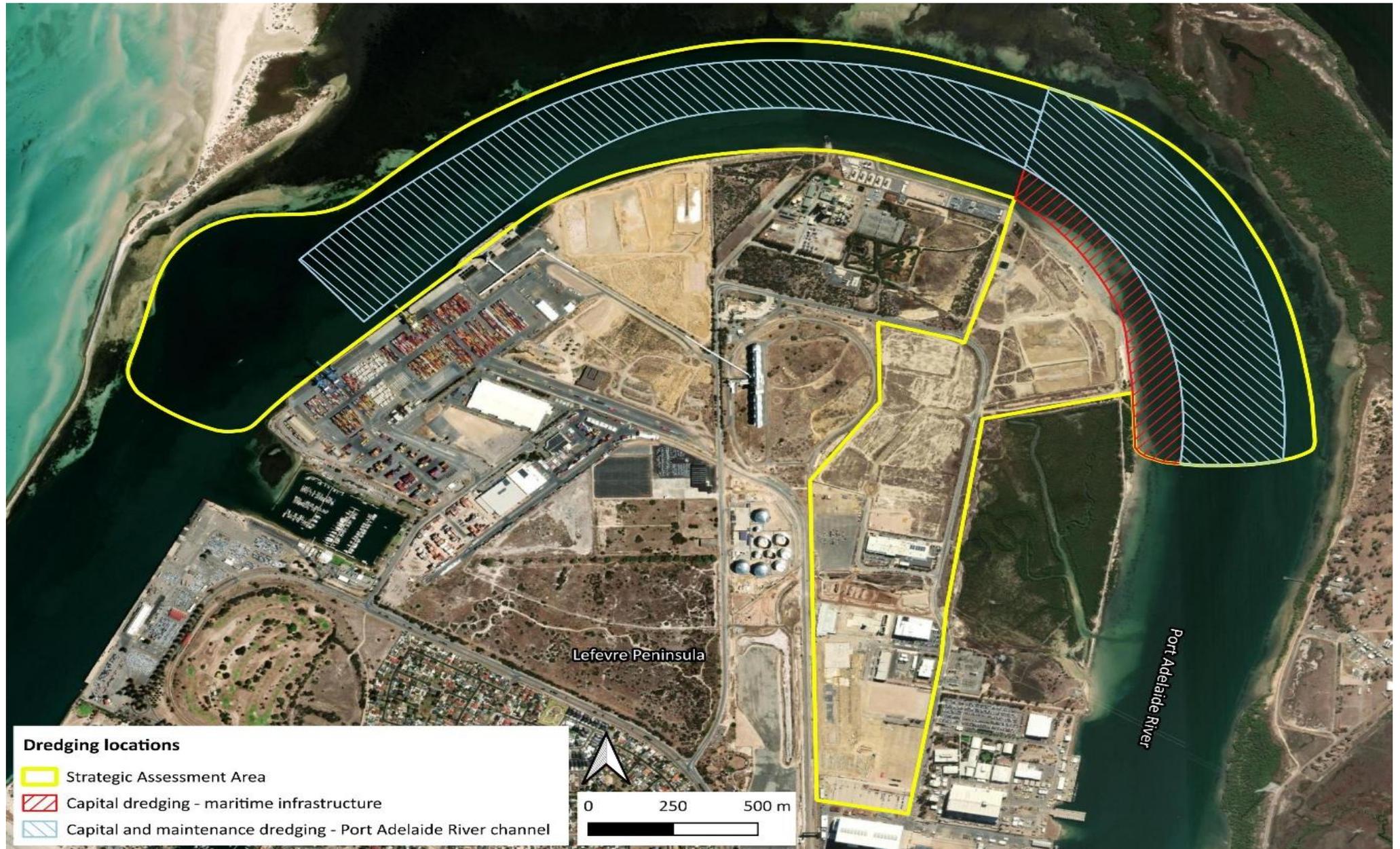


Figure 3. Dredging locations within the Strategic Assessment Area.