

# Transforming Digital Environmental Assessments

## FEDERATION FUNDING AGREEMENT – ENVIRONMENT

**Table 1: Formalities and operation of schedule**

Parties	Commonwealth New South Wales Victoria Queensland South Australia Tasmania Australian Capital Territory Northern Territory				
Duration	This Schedule is expected to expire on 30 June 2025.				
Purpose	This Schedule will support activities to establish biodiversity data repository (BDR) systems, and to support the integration pathway(s) for environmental approvals between the Commonwealth and states and territories (States).				
Estimated financial contributions	The Commonwealth will provide an estimated total financial contribution to the States of \$10.5 million in respect of this Schedule.				
	<b>Table 1 (\$ million)</b>	<b>2022-23</b>	<b>2023-24</b>	<b>2024-25</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>Estimated total budget</b>	<b>2.1</b>	<b>4.2</b>	<b>4.2</b>	<b>10.5</b>
	<i>Less estimated National Partnership Payments</i>	2.1	4.2	4.2	10.5
	NSW	0.3	0.6	0.6	1.5
	VIC	0.3	0.6	0.6	1.5
	QLD	0.3	0.6	0.6	1.5
	SA	0.3	0.6	0.6	1.5
	TAS	0.3	0.6	0.6	1.5
	ACT	0.3	0.6	0.6	1.5
	NT	0.3	0.6	0.6	1.5

<b>Additional terms</b>	<b>A state may opt in to delivering the streamlined and integrated Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation (EPBC) assessment processes by agreeing an implementation plan consistent with the milestones in this schedule.</b>

**Table 2: Performance requirements, reporting and payment summary**

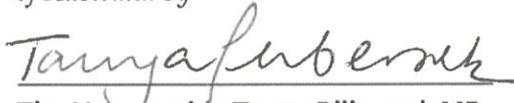
**Biodiversity Data Repository**

Outputs	Performance milestones	Due	Payment per Jurisdiction
A 2-year implementation plan to integrate state and territory data stores with the national Biodiversity Data Repository (BDR).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deliver publicly available biodiversity data snapshots to allow the Commonwealth to expand the pilot BDR and test performance.</li> <li>• Prepare a BDR implementation plan that includes at a minimum:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Scope of work</li> <li>○ Implementation schedule</li> <li>○ Risk register and risk management plan</li> <li>○ Dependencies</li> <li>○ Stakeholder communications plan</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Acceptance of plan by appropriate governance committee.</li> </ul>	5/05/2023	\$0.3m
Progressing activities under the national BDR Implementation Plan.	Progress development of technology solutions to support sharing of biodiversity data to agreed standards and to approved implementation plan schedule.	26/04/2024	\$0.3m
Final reports detailing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ achievement of the objectives of the approved implementation plan(s)</li> <li>○ lessons learned</li> <li>○ opportunities for future extension of capabilities</li> </ul>	Completion of technology solutions to support sharing of biodiversity data to agreed standards, and to approved implementation plan schedule.	25/04/2025	\$0.15m

Integrated EPBC assessment processes (for participating states)			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Contribute to a Commonwealth led project initiation/scoping process that captures the key elements of the proposed scope of work, to streamline and integrate EPBC assessments, in sufficient detail to allow states and territories and the Commonwealth to decide their willingness to prepare a 2-year implementation plan in Year 2.</li> </ul>	30/06/2023	nil
A plan to streamline and integrate EPBC assessment processes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prepare a 2-year implementation plan to streamline and integrate EPBC assessment processes that includes at a minimum:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scope of work</li> <li>Implementation schedule</li> <li>Risk register and risk management plan</li> <li>Dependencies</li> <li>Stakeholder communications plan</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Acceptance of plan by appropriate governance committee</p>	30/11/2023	\$0.15m
Progressing activities under the Implementation Plan.	Progress the development of technology solutions for streamlined and integrated EPBC assessment processes, to agreed standards, and to the agreed schedule in the approved implementation plan.	26/04/2024	\$0.15m
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Final reports detailing:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>achievement of the objectives of the approved implementation plan(s)</li> <li>lessons learned</li> <li>opportunities for future extension of capabilities</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Completion of technology solutions for streamlined and integrated EPBC assessment processes, to agreed standards, and to the agreed schedule in the approved implementation plan.</li> </ul>	25/04/2025	\$0.45m

The Parties have confirmed their commitment to this schedule as follows:

**Signed for and on behalf of the Commonwealth of Australia by**



**The Honourable Tanya Plibersek MP**  
Minister for the Environment and Water

[ 2 ] [ 5 ] [ 2023 ]

**Signed for and on behalf of the State of Victoria by**

**The Honourable Sonya Kilkenny MP**  
Minister for Planning

[Day] [Month] [Year]

**Signed for and on behalf of the State of Victoria by**

**Signed for and on behalf of the State of New South Wales by**



**The Honourable Ingrid Stitt MP**  
Minister for Environment

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**The Honourable Penny Sharpe MLC**  
Minister for the Environment

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**Signed for and on behalf of the State of South Australia by**

**The Honourable Meaghan Scanlon MP**  
Minister for the Environment and the Great Barrier Reef

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**The Honourable Susan Close MP**  
Minister for Climate, Environment and Water

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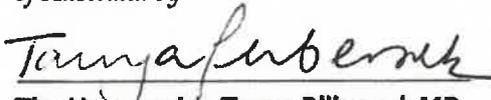
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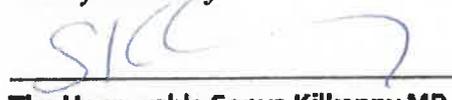
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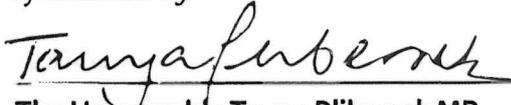
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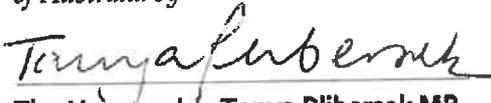
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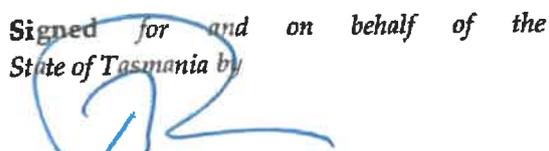
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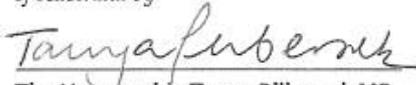
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14<sup>th</sup> June 2023