




APPROVAL DECISION FOR THE TAKING OF ACTIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH AN ENDORSED PROGRAM UNDER THE ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION AND BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION ACT 1999 (EPBC ACT)

PROGRAM FOR DEVELOPMENT OF THE SOUTH WEST AND NORTH WEST GROWTH CENTRES IN WESTERN SYDNEY, NSW

General	Further explanatory information related to this approval decision is at Annexure 1.
Approved action/class of actions	All actions associated with the development of the Western Sydney Growth Centres as described in the <i>Sydney Growth Centres Strategic Assessment Program Report</i> (NSW Government, November 2010).
Relevant controlling provisions	The approval has effect for: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• World Heritage properties (sections 12 & 15A)• National Heritage places (sections 15B & 15C)• Wetlands of international importance (sections 16 & 17B)• Listed threatened species and communities (sections 18 & 18A)• Listed migratory species (sections 20 & 20A)
Period for which approval has effect	The approval has effect until 31 December 2041.
Person authorised to make decision	
Name and Position	The Hon Tony Burke MP Minister for Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities
Signature	
Date of decision	28.2.12

Explanatory information

This approval decision is made under section 146B of the EPBC Act which provides for the Minister for the Environment (the Minister) to approve actions, or classes of actions, undertaken in accordance with a policy, plan or program. An approval under section 146B of the EPBC Act has the same effect as an approval given under Part 9 of the EPBC Act, therefore actions approved under this decision will not require separate referral, assessment or approval under the EPBC Act in order to be taken.

On 20 December 2012, the Minister endorsed the program of the NSW Government for development of the Growth Centres (*Sydney Growth Centres Strategic Assessment Program Report*, NSW Government, November 2010). The NSW Government made several additional commitments and undertakings to the program prior to the Minister's endorsement and these are described in the addendum to the report dated January 2012.

The endorsed program provides for all actions associated with development of the Growth Centres, including infrastructure (such as rail and road) and services within the boundaries of the Growth Centres.