



Australian Government

Department of Climate Change, Energy,
the Environment and Water

Sarah Smith
A/Manager Environmental Assessment – Future Industries
Environmental Division, Department of Lands, Planning and Environment
16 Parap Road, Parap
Darwin NT 0820

Via: nTEPA@nt.gov.au

Comments on referral for Ichthys LNG AGRU Upgrades and CCS Preparedness Project, Northern Territory

Dear Ms Smith

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the referral of the proposed action under section 48 of the *Environment Protection Act 2019* (NT) (EP Act).

As noted in the department's letter of 23 October 2025 to the Chair of the NT EPA, a delegate of the Minister for the Environment and Water determined this action (Ichthys LNG Acid Gas Removal Unit (AGRU) Upgrade & Carbon Capture Storage (CCS) Preparedness Project - EPBC 2025/10273) was not a controlled action and, as such, does not require assessment and approval by the Minister for the Environment and Water before it can proceed.

The department acknowledges that the area adjacent the development envelope contains habitat critical to the survival of the listed species, and to important populations within a biological important area (BIA) for interesting and foraging activities for protected matters. However, due to the short duration of the action, and the low intensity of the impacts, the department considers that the proposed Action will not result in permanent displacement, serious disruption of the lifecycle or adverse effects on habitat critical to the survival of the species, and therefore will not have a significant impact as defined by the *Significant Impact Criteria 1.1*.

Although a decision has been made that the proposed action is not likely to have a significant impact on matters of national environmental significance, the site may contain important local, regional, or Territory environmental values. These issues, and decisions as to whether development is appropriate, rest with the Northern Territory Government.

If you have any questions about the referral process or this decision, please contact the project manager, Sophie Brennan, by email to ESDSAandNTSection@dcceew.gov.au and quote the EPBC reference number shown at the beginning of this letter.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Bray'.

Dr Josh Bray
A/Director SA & NT Assessment Section
Environment Assessments West Branch
15 December 2025