

**Project EnergyConnect (NSW - Eastern Section)
Ecology Pre-Clearance Survey Report**



General information	
Item	Detail
Ecologist / Fauna Spotter(s) completing Pre-Clearance Survey	Name: Madeleine Cicchelli, Andrew Taylor, Scott Rolph, Hannah Roberts Qualification: Ecologist(s)
Date of Pre-Clearance Survey	11/10/2025
Specific Pre-Clearance Survey location (Line No./ Tower / Span No.)	L5 Easement between Towers 197-200
Scope methodology	Desktop Survey: A desktop survey was undertaken that encompasses the full Biodiversity Assessment Method (BAM) assessment extent. Infield Survey: The in-field survey encompassed the full easement, including a 15-metre buffer on both sides.

Pre-clearance Survey details					
Infrastructure surveyed					
Tower footprint	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Centreline	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Break and winch site, OPGW, EPZ, hurdle and/or crane pad site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Parking areas	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Access track (existing)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Access track (new)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Disturbance Area B	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Any other details:	Full easement with 15-metre buffer to accommodate for hazard & tall growing trees and additional 4X4 metre impact area for glider pole installation.				
Protected Matters					
Item	Presence identified		Quantum surveyed (Ha)	Quantum which will be disturbed (Ha)	Comments
	Yes	No			
White Box-Yellow Box-Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland ^{1,2}	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	14.4 Ha	6.00 Ha (mapped within Disturbance Area B)	EPBC Act-listed Threatened Ecological Community
Grey Box (<i>Eucalyptus microcarpa</i>) Grassy Woodlands and Derived Native Grasslands of South-eastern Australia ^{1,2}	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
Weeping Myall Woodlands ^{1,2}	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
Natural Grasslands of the Murray Valley Plains ^{1,2}	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
Habitat for Mossgiel Daisy ^{1,2}	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
Habitat for Chariot Wheels ^{1,2}	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
Habitat for Slender Darling Pea ^{1,2}	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			

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Pre-clearance Survey details

Notes:

1 Protected matter listed within the Notification of Approval EnergyConnect NSW - Eastern Section (EPBC 2020/8766)

2 Protected matter listed within the Revised Biodiversity Development Assessment Report (August 2022)

Management measures required to avoid or minimise impacts to Protected Matters:

- 6.00 Ha of critically endangered BC Act-listed TEC 'White Box-Yellow Box-Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland' mapped within Disturbance Area B.
- No exclusion zones required due to disturbance caused by prior clearing.
- No additional mitigation measures required. Clearing works to be managed in accordance with the approved Biodiversity Management Plan.

Hollow Bearing / Habitat Trees

Habitat trees and habitat features identified & marked?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Comments: Habitat identified. Hollow-bearing trees and stick nests.
GPS coordinates and habitat trees recorded?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Comments: Waypoint ID 29, 31, 153-157, 159-161, 163, 166, 167, 172,174-179, 183-186, 191-203, 210, 504-520, 88B-125B, 127B, 187B (previously cleared or to be retained)
Nest boxes required?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Comments: Suitable habitat for nest box installation located in adjacent vegetation.
Fauna spotter required to be present during clearing activities?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Comments: Required for any tree removal. Pre-inspection of grassland and HBTs recommended before any ground disturbance.

Weeds

Were any Weeds of National Significance or Priority Weeds identified?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Details:
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Environmental exclusion zones

Threatened Species Identified within Disturbance Area B?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Details: Southern Whiteface (<i>Aphelocephala leucopsis</i>), Flame Robin (<i>Petroica phoenicea</i>), and Spotted Harrier (<i>Circus assimilis</i>), previously observed.
Environmental exclusion zones required?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Details: Not required due to disturbance caused by prior clearing.

Unexpected Finds

Were any Unexpected Finds identified?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Details:
If yes, has the Environmental Manager been notified?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Details:

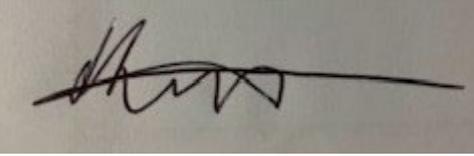
Additional comments:

Pre-clearance Survey details

- Ecologist required for any tree trimming or removal.
- Vegetation removal has previously occurred within easement.
- Multiple Southern Whiteface (*Aphelocephala leucopsis*) (Vulnerable under the BC and EPBC Act) previously observed actively foraging in the area.
- One Flame Robin (*Petroica phoenicea*) (Vulnerable under the BC Act) previously observed actively foraging in the area
- Two Spotted Harriers (*Circus assimilis*) (Vulnerable under the BC Act) previously observed actively hunting within the area.
- 6.00 Ha of Squirrel Glider habitat mapped within Disturbance Area B.
- Weeds to be managed in accordance with the Biosecurity Management Plan.
- Additional weed species: Flaxleaf Fleabane (*Erigeron bonariensis*), Paterson's Curse (*Echium plantagineum*), Spear thistle (*Cirsium vulgare*), Small-flowered Mellow (*Malva parviflora*), Paddy Melon (*Cucumis myriocarpus*), Black nightshade (*Solanum nigrum*), and Horehound (*Marrubium vulgare*).

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Pre-clearance Approval	
Ecologist	
Name	Madeleine Cicchelli
Signature	
Date	05/03/2026
Elecnor	
Name	Keeley Hartzler
Position	Environment Advisor
Signature	
Date	08/03/2026

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