

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



General information

Item	Detail
Ecologist / Fauna Spotter(s) completing Pre-Clearance Survey	Name: Scott Rolph, Hannah Roberts, Madeleine Cicchelli Qualification: Ecologist(s)
Date of Pre-Clearance Survey	23/01/2026
Specific Pre-Clearance Survey location (Line No./ Tower / Span No.)	Survey Extent: T50-100
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 of B10.

Pre-clearance Survey details

Infrastructure surveyed

Tower footprint	<input type="checkbox"/>	Centreline	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Brake and winch site, OPGW, EPZ, hurdle and/or crane pad site	<input type="checkbox"/>	Parking areas	<input type="checkbox"/>
Access track (existing)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Access track (new)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Disturbance Area B	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Any other details:	Full easement with 15-meter buffer to accommodate for hazard & tall growing trees		

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"/>	0.60 Ha	0.05Ha	EPBC Act Threatened Ecological Community (including additional disturbance areas)
Grey Box (<i>Eucalyptus microcarpa</i>) Grassy Woodlands and Derived Native Grasslands of South-eastern Australia ^{1,2}	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	4.45 Ha	0.02Ha	EPBC Act Threatened Ecological Community (including additional disturbance areas)
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"/>			

Notes:

- Critically endangered BC Act TEC *White Box Yellow Box Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland* identified within the surveyed area.

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Pre-clearance Survey details

- Endangered BC Act TEC *Inland Grey Box Woodland in the Riverina, NSW South Western Slopes, Cobar Peneplain, Nandewar and Brigalow Belt South Bioregions* identified within the surveyed area.

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

- Exclusion zones not required as clearing has already occurred within the easement.
- No additional mitigation measure 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: Hollow-bearing trees and nests identified (includes initial pre-clearance surveys marked with GPS and incidental observations recorded on Field Maps). All trees to be re-assessed by ecologists prior to clearing due to the high likelihood of new nests being established since initial pre-clearance surveys. Additional violation trees marked for pruning or removal by ENSPEC have been assessed based on in-field and prior GIS data and identified as containing habitat.
GPS coordinates and habitat trees recorded?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Comments: Total of 217 existing GPS waypoints recorded during pre-clearance surveys between Tower 50-100 (includes trees previously removed) Additional violation trees assessed include the following: Seven with ENSPEC IDs (2, 13, 16, 27, 48, 102, 107) 43 without ENSPEC ID's Two group polygons
Nest boxes required?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Comments: Nest boxes previously installed.
Fauna spotter required to be present during clearing activities?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Comments: Pre-inspection of all trees by an ecologist required prior to tree trimming and/or removal. Pre-inspection of all grassland habitat by an ecologist required before any ground stripping activities (including PCT 0). Ecologist required during removal of any hollow-bearing and/or nest trees. Ecologist required during ground stripping activities (only required in PCT 0 if suitable fauna habitat is identified by an ecologist during pre-inspection).

Weeds

Were any Weeds of National Significance or Priority Weeds identified?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Details:
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Pre-clearance Survey details			
			Silverleaf Nightshade (<i>Solanum elaeagnifolium</i>) - Tower 90-91
Environmental exclusion zones			
Threatened Species Identified within Disturbance Area B?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Details: Flame Robin (<i>Petroica phoenicea</i>) (BC Act-listed as Vulnerable) - Tower 89-90 Spotted Harrier (<i>Circus assimilis</i>) (BC Act-listed as Vulnerable) - Tower 70-71 Brown Treecreeper (<i>Climacteris picumnus victoriae</i>) (EPBC and BC Act-listed as Vulnerable) - Tower 90-91
Environmental exclusion zones required?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Details: Not required due to prior clearing within easement.
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:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ecologist required for pre-inspection of all vegetation prior to removal (ground stripping and tree trimming/removal). - Ecologist required during removal of all vegetation (excludes non-habitat trees, cropped and/or pasture paddocks, and grassland with no habitat features identified during ecologist pre-inspection). - Ecologist required for pre-inspection prior to removal or relocation of log piles or large hollow-bearing logs (if logs have remained in-situ for four (4) weeks or longer). - Vegetation removal has previously occurred within easement. - Squirrel Glider habitat mapped within Disturbance Area B (Tower 56-57, 59-60, 62-63, 71-72, 83-84, 85-86, 90-91, 94-96). - Assumed species presence Small Scurf Pea (<i>Cullen parvum</i>) (Tower 71-72). - Assumed species presence Superb Parrot (Tower 76-77, 94-95). - Assumed species presence Barking Owl (<i>Ninox connivens</i>) (Tower 90-91) - Hollow-bearing limbs/logs to be retained as fauna habitat where possible. - Weeds to be managed in accordance with the Biosecurity Management Plan. 			

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Pre-clearance Approval	
Ecologist	
Name	Hannah Roberts
Signature	
Date	23/01/2026
Elecnor	
Name	Oluwatobi Aina
Position	Environmental Advisor
Signature	
Date	28/01/2026

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