

Our ref: SSI-36656827-PA47 & 48

Sam Pathammavong
Environment & Sustainability Manager
Transgrid
By email

12 March 2025

Subject: HumeLink – Alternative Workforce Accommodation Facility Location and Access - Yass Valley Way

Dear Sam

I refer to your requests seeking the Planning Secretary's approval for an alternative location for a workforce accommodation facility and for project-related traffic to use additional local roads under conditions B35 and B58, Schedule 2 of the Infrastructure Approval for HumeLink (SSI 36656827). I also acknowledge your response to the Department's review comments and request for additional information.

The Department notes that, since determination of HumeLink, Transgrid has identified amenity issues at the original Faulder Avenue Accommodation Facility resulting in the need for it to be located at an alternative site. The Department understands that an alternative location has been identified at the Yass Industrial Park (Yass Valley Way Accommodation Facility), approximately 2 km west of the original accommodation facility site. Transgrid advised that the alternative location has been selected:

- in consultation with and supported by Yass Valley Council; and
- based on availability of access from the previously assessed road network.

The Department has conducted a detailed review of the assessment appended to Transgrid's request and is satisfied that the Yass Valley Way Accommodation Facility can be constructed and operated in accordance with the existing conditions of the Infrastructure Approval.

The Department also notes that Transgrid's Environmental Representative has, in accordance with condition A13(a)(i), reviewed the request and provided a written statement confirming the documents are consistent with the requirements of the Infrastructure Approval.

Accordingly, as nominee of the Planning Secretary, I approve the following as detailed in Transgrid's assessment (dated 19 February 2025):

- the alternative workforce accommodation facility location at the Yass Industrial Park, and
- the use of Commercial Road, Industrial Close and Enterprise Place to access the Yass Valley Way Accommodation Facility,

In issuing this approval, the Department would like to reinforce that Transgrid must:

- construct all buildings at the Yass Valley Way Accommodation Facility to meet the BAL-29 construction standards as per *AS3959:2018 Construction of Buildings in Bushfire-Prone Areas*;
- maintain its commitment to avoid clearance of all occurrences of PCT 3376 Southern Tablelands Grassy Box Woodland at the site as described in East Coast Ecology's Biodiversity Memo (dated 19 December 2024).

The Department also wishes to clarify that the requirements for road maintenance under condition B38 of the Infrastructure Approval apply to Commercial Road, Industrial Close and Enterprise Place and it is understood that Transgrid intends to continue to use the Faulder Avenue location as a construction compound but not for the purposes of an accommodation camp.

If you wish to discuss the matter further, please contact Anthony Ko on 02 8217 2022 or at Anthony.ko@planning.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



Nicole Brewer
Director
Energy Assessments
As nominee of the Planning Secretary