

**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	14/02/2026
Specific Pre-Clearance Survey location (Line No./ Tower / Span No.)	<b>Survey Extent:</b> T50-100
Scope methodology	<b>Desktop Survey:</b> A desktop survey was undertaken that encompasses the full Biodiversity Assessment Method (BAM) assessment extent. <b>Infield Survey:</b> 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 <sup>1,2</sup>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	0.60 Ha		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 <sup>1,2</sup>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	4.45 Ha		EPBC Act Threatened Ecological Community (including additional disturbance areas)
Weeping Myall Woodlands <sup>1,2</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
Natural Grasslands of the Murray Valley Plains <sup>1,2</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
Habitat for Mossgiel Daisy <sup>1,2</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
Habitat for Chariot Wheels <sup>1,2</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
Habitat for Slender Darling Pea <sup>1,2</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
Notes:					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Critically endangered BC Act TEC <i>White Box Yellow Box Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland</i> identified within the surveyed area.</li> </ul>					

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Pre-clearance Survey details			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Endangered BC Act TEC <i>Inland Grey Box Woodland in the Riverina, NSW South Western Slopes, Cobar Peneplain, Nandewar and Brigalow Belt South Bioregions</i> identified within the surveyed area.</li> </ul>			
<p><b>Management measures required to avoid or minimise impacts to Protected Matters:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Exclusion zones not required as clearing has already occurred within the easement.</li> <li>No additional mitigation measure required. Clearing works to be managed in accordance with the approved Biodiversity Management Plan.</li> </ul>			
Hollow Bearing / Habitat Trees			
Habitat trees and habitat features identified & marked?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>
GPS coordinates and habitat trees recorded?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Comments: Total of 217 existing GPS waypoints recorded during pre-clearance surveys between Tower 50-100 (includes trees previously removed)</p> <p>Additional violation trees assessed include the following:</p> <p>Seventeen with ENSPEC IDs (2, 13, 16, 27, 48, 101, 102, 107, 102A, 102AA, 102BB, 102CC, 102DD, 102E, 102I, 102R 102U)</p> <p>45 without ENSPEC ID's</p> <p>Two group polygons</p>
Nest boxes required?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Comments: Nest boxes previously installed.</p>
Fauna spotter required to be present during clearing activities?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Comments: Pre-inspection of all trees by an ecologist required prior to tree trimming and/or removal.</p> <p>Pre-inspection of all grassland habitat by an ecologist required before any ground stripping activities (including PCT 0).</p> <p>Ecologist required during removal of any hollow-bearing and/or nest trees.</p> <p>Ecologist required during ground stripping activities (only required in PCT 0 if suitable fauna habitat is identified by an ecologist during pre-inspection).</p>

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Pre-clearance Survey details			
<b>Weeds</b>			
Were any Weeds of National Significance or Priority Weeds identified?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Details: Silverleaf Nightshade ( <i>Solanum elaeagnifolium</i> ) - Tower 90-91
<b>Environmental exclusion zones</b>			
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.
<b>Unexpected Finds</b>			
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:
<b>Additional comments:</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ecologist required for pre-inspection of all vegetation prior to removal (ground stripping and tree trimming/removal).</li> <li>- 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).</li> <li>- 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).</li> <li>- Additional violation trees for removal at Tower 71-72 and 85-87 (not previously assessed) have been included in this updated report (V4).</li> <li>- Vegetation removal has previously occurred within easement.</li> <li>- 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).</li> <li>- Assumed species presence Small Scurf Pea (<i>Cullen parvum</i>) (Tower 71-72).</li> <li>- Assumed species presence Superb Parrot (Tower 76-77, 94-95).</li> <li>- Assumed species presence Barking Owl (<i>Ninox connivens</i>) (Tower 90-91)</li> <li>- Hollow-bearing limbs/logs to be retained as fauna habitat where possible.</li> <li>- Weeds to be managed in accordance with the Biosecurity Management Plan.</li> </ul>			

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Pre-clearance Approval	
<b>Ecologist</b>	
Name	Scott Rolph
Signature	
Date	14/02/2026
<b>Elecnor</b>	
Name	Frank Team
Position	Environmental Coordinator
Signature	
Date	14/02/2026

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