

**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 and Hannah Roberts Qualification: Ecologist(s)
Date of Pre-Clearance Survey	20/01/2026
Specific Pre-Clearance Survey location (Line No./ Tower / Span No.)	L5 Easement between Towers 69-73
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-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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
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:

- 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, and wombat burrows.
GPS coordinates and habitat trees recorded?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Comments: Waypoint ID 54-56, 444-446, 791-807, 806, 808-815, 305B-316B, 806A, 807A, (previously cleared or to be retained).
Nest boxes required?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Comments:
Fauna spotter required to be present during clearing activities?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Comments: Required for any additional tree removal.

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: Spotted Harrier (<i>Circus assimilis</i>) and Grey-crowned Babbler (<i>Pomatostomus temporalis</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:

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Pre-clearance Survey details

- Ecologist required for only tree clearing activities.
- Vegetation removal has previously occurred within easement.
- Grey-crowned Babblers (*Pomatostomus temporalis*) (vulnerable under the BC Act) previously observed actively foraging in area.
- Spotted Harrier (*Circus assimilis*) (vulnerable under the BC Act) previously observed nesting in area.
- 2.06 Ha of Squirrel Glider habitat mapped within the easement.
- 2.06 Ha of assumed species presence for Small Scurf Pea (*Cullen parvum*) mapped within the easement.
- Weeds to be managed in accordance with the Biosecurity Management Plan.
- Additional weed species: Paspalum (*Paspalum dilatatum*), Flaxleaf Fleabane (*Erigeron bonariensis*), Horseweed (*Erigeron canadensis*), Spear Thistle (*Cirsium vulgare*), Bromus sp., Paterson's Curse (*Echium plantagineum*), Drain Flat-sedge (*Cyperus eragrostis*), Couch (*Cynodon dactylon*), Sow Thistle (*Sonchus oleraceus*), Erodium sp., Bathurst Burr (*Xanthium spinosum*), Trifolium sp., Black Nightshade (*Solanum nigrum*), Epilobium sp., Amaranthus sp., Rumex sp., Knotweed (*Polygonum aviculare*), Slender Pigeon-grass (*Setaria parviflora*), Wild Oat (*Avena* sp.), Soursob (*Oxalis pes-caprae*), Prickly Lettuce (*Lactuca serriola*), Small-flowered Mallow (*Malva parviflora*), Giant Nettle (*Urtica dioica*), Barley Grass (*Hordeum* sp.), Rye-grass (*Lolium* sp.), Lepidium sp., Witchgrass (*Panicum capillare*), Paddy Melon (*Cucumis myriocarpus*), Twining Toadflax (*Kickxia elatine* subps. *crinita*), Serrated Tussock (*Nasella trichotoma*), Galenia (*Galenia pumescens*), African Lovegrass (*Eragrostis curvula* complex).

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Pre-clearance Approval	
Ecologist	
Name	Madeleine Cicchelli
Signature	
Date	20/01/2026
Elecnor	
Name	R Walker-Edwards
Position	Environmental Manager
Signature	
Date	20 January 2026

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