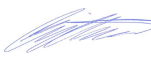


PUBLIC



Compliance Report
EnergyConnect NSW, Western Section
EPBC 2020/8673
13 May 2024 to 13 May 2025
45860-HSE-REP-D-0050

REV	DATE	GENERAL DESCRIPTION	PREPARED	REVIEWED	REVIEWED	APPROVED
A	27/06/2025	Internal review	W.Venter	R.Walker-Edwards	G.Crighton	F. Delgado
B	28/07/2025	Revised following Transgrid review	 R.Walker-Edwards	-	 G.Crighton	 F.Delgado

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Revision History	
Rev.	Detailed Description
A	Issued for internal review
B	Revised following Transgrid review

Key Document Stakeholders
To be communicated with during reviews and revisions of this document

Declaration of accuracy

In making this declaration, I am aware that sections 490 and 491 of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (Cth) (EPBC Act) make it an offence in certain circumstances to knowingly provide false or misleading information or documents. The offence is punishable on conviction by imprisonment or a fine, or both. I declare that all the information and documentation supporting this compliance report is true and correct in every particular. I am authorised to bind the approval holder to this declaration and that I have no knowledge of that authorisation being revoked at the time of making this declaration.

Signed:



Full name (please print): Luke Fania

Position (please print): Environment and Sustainability Manager – Project EnergyConnect

Organisation (please print including ABN/ACN if applicable):

NSW Electricity Networks Operations Pty Limited (trading as Transgrid)

ACN: 609 169 959

Date: 31 July 2025

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Abbreviations

Acronym	Definition
Amendment Report	<i>EnergyConnect (NSW - Western Section) Amendment Report</i>
AS/NZ	Australian Standard/New Zealand Standard
BC Act	<i>Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016</i>
CEMP	Construction Environmental Management Plan
CSSI	Critical State significant infrastructure
DAWE	Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment now known as Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water
DCCEEW	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water
DPHI or Department	Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure
DPIE	Department of Planning, Industry and Environment, now known as Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure
EIS	<i>EnergyConnect (NSW - Western Section) Environmental Impact Statement</i>
EMS	Environmental Management System
EP&A Act	<i>Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979</i>
EPBC Act	<i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i>
MNES	Matters of National Environmental Significance
NEM	National Electricity Market
NSW	New South Wales
project, the	EnergyConnect (NSW - Western Section)
Response to DPIE Request for Information	The 'additional information letter dated 10 August 2021' in the definition section of the Infrastructure Approval; document is also titled <i>EnergyConnect (NSW - Western Section) Response to DPIE Request for Information - 7 May 2021 and subsequent discussions</i>
SA	South Australia
SecureEnergy	Transgrid has engaged Elecnor Australia, trading as SecureEnergy, to design and construct the EnergyConnect project.
SSI	State significant infrastructure
Submissions Report	Energy Connect (NSW - Western Section) - Submissions Report
Vic	Victoria

1 Introduction

1.1 Background

On 29 August 2019 the then NSW Minister for Planning and Public Spaces declared EnergyConnect a critical State significant infrastructure (CSSI) under the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act) on the basis that it is critical to the State for environmental, economic or social reasons. Within NSW, EnergyConnect is therefore subject to assessment under Part 5, Division 5.2 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act).

Transgrid have two environmental planning approvals for the sections within NSW:

- EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section) – SA/NSW border to Buronga and Buronga to the NSW/Victorian border; and
- EnergyConnect (NSW – Eastern Section) – Buronga to Wagga Wagga.

A referral under the Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) was submitted on 27 May 2020. The then Australian Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment (DAWE) determined the project to be a controlled action on 26 June 2020 and thus, it was assessed using the bilateral assessment process. As such, the project also required approval from the Australian Minister for the Environment under the EPBC Act.

The *EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section) Environmental Impact Statement* (EIS) was prepared for the project in October 2020 and was placed on public exhibition from 30 October 2020 to 10 December 2020. A total of 20 submissions were received, with 15 from government agencies, three from organisations and two from the public.

The *EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section) Submissions Report* (Submissions Report) was prepared for the project in response to the submissions received during the public exhibition of the EIS. The Submissions Report was finalised on 14 April 2021.

Transgrid also prepared a separate *EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section) Amendment Report* (Amendment Report) to document design changes and additional environmental assessment undertaken since exhibition of the EIS. The Amendment Report was also finalised on 14 April 2021.

On 7 May 2021, the then Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) requested additional information (*EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section) (SSI-10040) Request for Additional Information*) to assist with the assessment of the project. In response Transgrid prepared and provided the *EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section) Response to DPIE Request for Information* (Response to DPIE Request for Information) (May 2021). The response provided to DPIE included a Revised Biodiversity Development Assessment Report (Revised BDAR) (August 2021) and the revised mitigation measures (RMMs) which are to be applied. The Response to DPIE Request for Information was dated 10 August 2021.

Approval for the project under the EP&A Act was granted by the NSW Minister for Planning and Public Spaces (Infrastructure Approval SSI 10040) on 28 September 2021.

Approval for the project under the EPBC Act was granted by the Australian Minister for the Environment on 10 November 2021.

1.2 Purpose

This Compliance Report has been prepared on behalf of NSW Electricity Networks Operations Pty Limited trading as Transgrid. The report has been prepared to address the requirements of condition 8 of the EnergyConnect NSW, Western Section (EPBC 2020/8673) approval

(Commonwealth Approval) issued under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act).

Condition 8 of the Commonwealth Approval requires the following for annual compliance reporting:

The approval holder must prepare a compliance report for each 12 month period following the date of commencement of the action, or as otherwise agreed in writing by the Minister. The approval holder must:

- a. publish each compliance report on the website within 60 business days following the relevant 12 month period*
- b. notify the Department by mail that a compliance report has been published on the website and provide the weblink for the compliance report within 5 business days of the date of publication*
- c. keep all compliance reports publicly available on the website until completion*
- d. exclude or redact sensitive ecological data from compliance reports published on the website*
- e. where any sensitive ecological data has been excluded from the version published, submit the full compliance report to the Department within 5 business days of publication.*

The definitions are contained within Part C of the Commonwealth Approval. Within Part C, Compliance Report is defined as:

Compliance reports means written reports:

- i. Providing accurate and complete details of compliance, incidents, and non-compliance with the conditions and the plans*
- ii. Consistent with the Department's Annual Compliance Guidelines (2014)*
- iii. Include a shapefile of any clearance of any protected matters, or their habitat, undertaken within the relevant 12 month period*
- iv. Annexing a schedule of all plans prepared and in existence in relation to the conditions during the relevant 12 month period.*

1.3 Reporting period

The reporting period for this annual compliance report covers the period of 13 May 2024 to 13 May 2025.

1.4 Declaration of accuracy

The declaration of accuracy of this compliance report is provided on page 3.

1.5 Project name

The project name is EnergyConnect NSW, Western Section.

1.6 EPBC number

The EPBC number for EnergyConnect NSW, Western Section is EPBC 2020/8673.

1.7 Approval holder and CAN or ABN

The approval holder is NSW Electricity Networks Operations Pty Limited.

The ABN is 70 250 955 390.

1.8 Person accepting responsibility for the project

The person accepting responsibility for the project is John Burke, Major Project Program Director, Transgrid.

2 Description of activities

2.1 Overview of EnergyConnect

Transgrid and ElectraNet have obtained approval for the construction and operation of a new electrical interconnector and network support option between NSW and SA, with an additional connection to Red Cliffs in north-west Victoria. Collectively, the interconnector is known as EnergyConnect.

The interconnector is aimed at reducing the cost of providing secure and reliable electricity transmission between NSW and SA in the near term, while facilitating the transition of the energy sector across the National Electricity Market to low emission energy sources.

The interconnector involves constructing a new high voltage electricity transmission line, approximately 900km long, between the power grids of SA (starting at Robertson) and NSW (finishing in Wagga Wagga). EnergyConnect comprises several sections (as shown on Figure 2.1), being:

- Victorian section, which extends from the NSW/Victoria border to an existing electrical facility at Red Cliffs;
- NSW sections including:
 - Western section which extends from:
 - the SA/NSW border (near Chowilla in SA) to Buronga;
 - Buronga to the NSW/Victoria border at Monak (near Red Cliffs in Victoria);
 - Eastern section, which extends from Buronga to Wagga Wagga; and
- SA section, which extends from Robertson to the SA/NSW border.

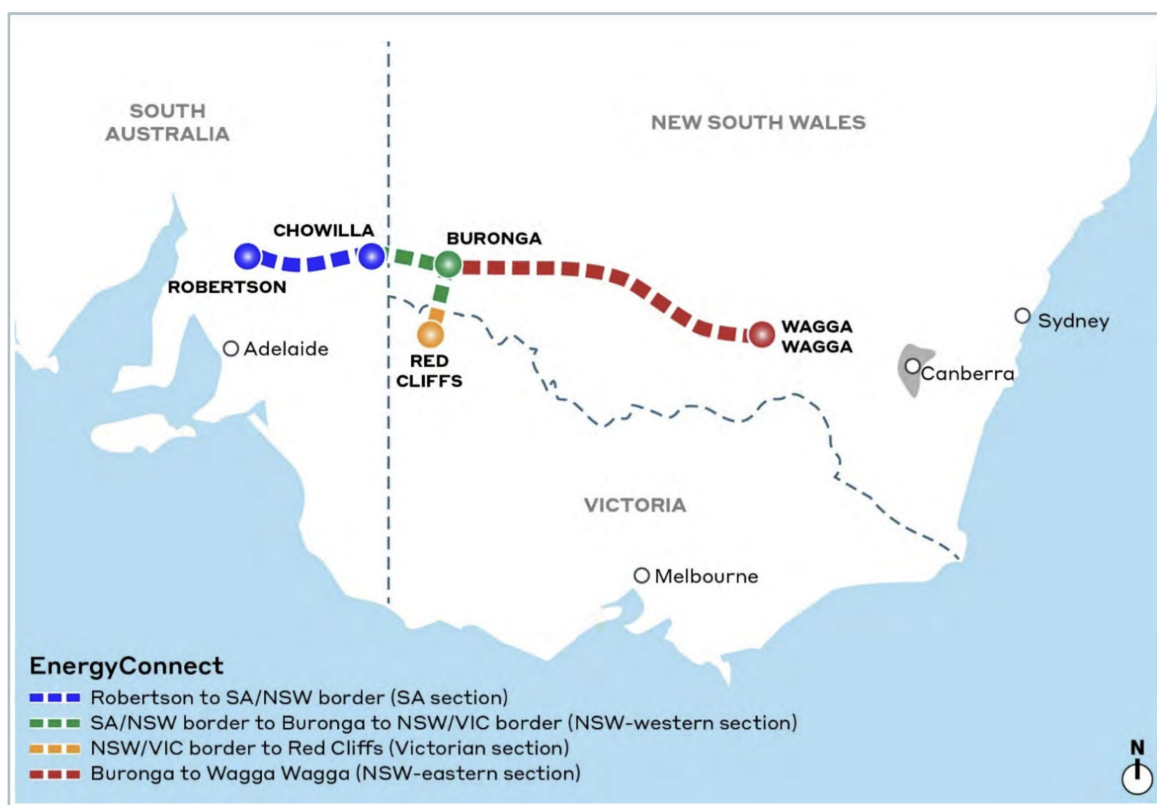


Figure 2.1 - Overview of EnergyConnect (WSP)

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2.2 EnergyConnect NSW, Western Section

The works for EnergyConnect NSW, Western Section traverse from the SA/NSW border (near Chowilla in SA) to Buronga, and Buronga to the NSW/Victoria border at Monak (near Red Cliffs in Victoria), a distance of approximately 160 kilometres (Figure 2.2). The NSW western section is situated within the Wentworth Local Government Area (LGA).

The works for EnergyConnect (NSW - Western Section) has been delivered in two stages. Stage 1 involved works at Buronga substation. Stage 2 involved all remaining works including but not limited to construction of approximately 135km of new 330kV double circuit transmission line, upgrade of an existing 24km long 220kV single circuit transmission line (Line 1 and Line 4) and the upgrade and expansion of the existing Buronga substation to a combined operating voltage of 220kV/330kV.

During the reporting period works associated with Stage 2 occurred. The key components of construction which occurred during the reporting period include, but are not limited to, the activities provided in Table 2.1.

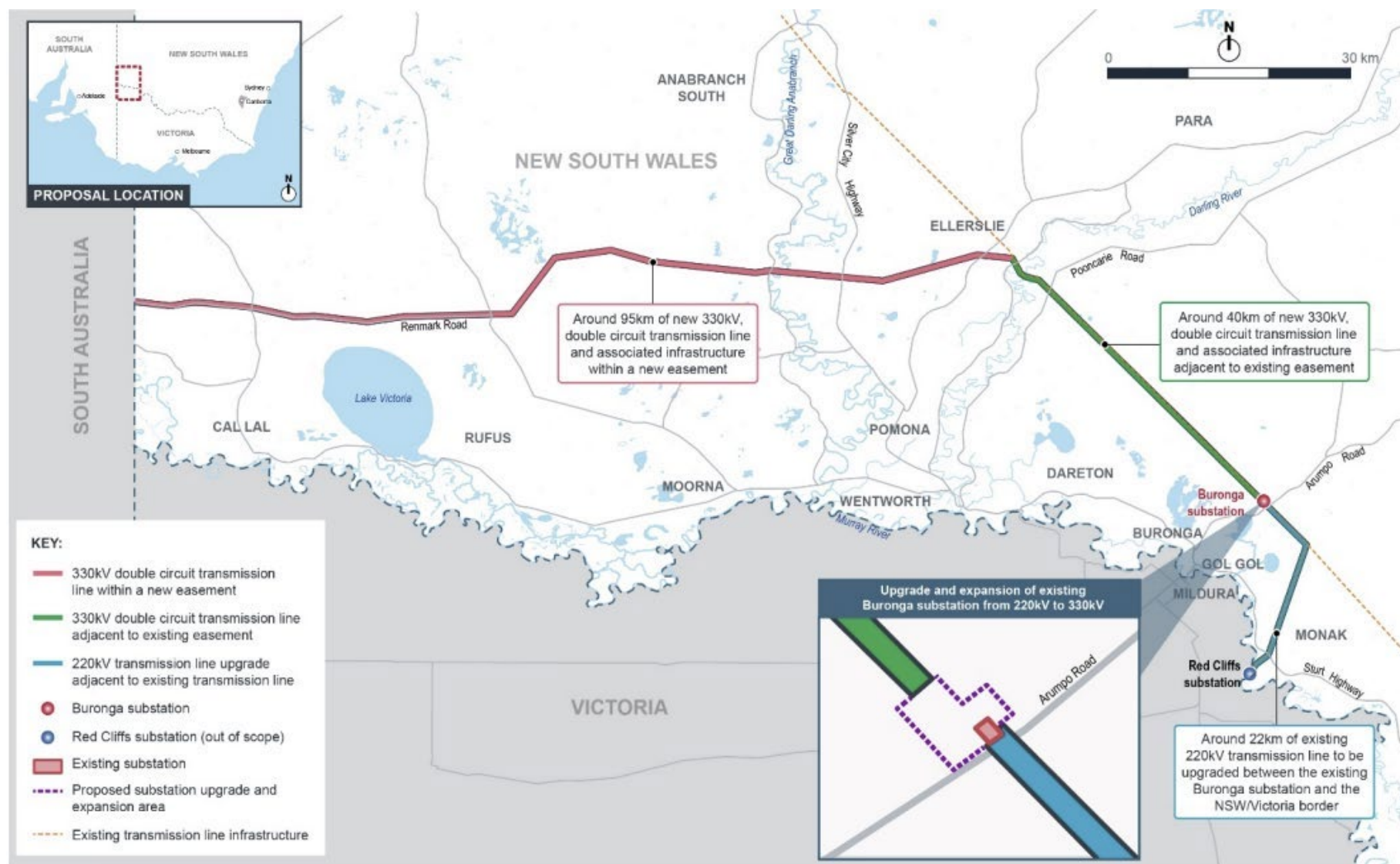


Figure 2.2 - Key features of EnergyConnect (NSW - Western Section) as shown in the EIS

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Table 2.1 - Key project components of construction

Key activity	Description of key activity
Pre-construction minor works permitted in accordance with the Infrastructure Approval	Key activities include: - environmental investigations, including biodiversity and heritage protection, salvage and recordings; - Aboriginal heritage assessment, mitigation (ie exclusions zones) and salvage activities, including subsurface testing/test excavation, additional survey, and consultation with RAPs; - other survey work, such as road dilapidation surveys, and surveys of the general alignment and existing utilities; - installation of environmental management measures, fencing, enabling works; - connections and pre-commissioning of utilities (wastewater treatment plant, electrical power, lighting etc.).
Continuation of any Stage 1 construction activities	Construction activities undertaken during Stage 1 of the project which included, but was not limited to continuation of the following activities: - any outstanding construction earthworks activity at the Buronga substation; - operation of the Buronga earthworks material site; - operation of the Buronga construction compound including offices and laydown area; and - use of access and egress points.
Operation of Wentworth accommodation camp and compound	The main activities undertaken at the Wentworth accommodation camp and construction compound include: - operating the Wentworth accommodation and associated facilities, site offices, amenities, wastewater treatment plant, power generators, hazardous material and fuel storage area, and internal roads; - operating the Wentworth construction compound, including but not limited to amenities compound site offices, internal roads and other ancillary facilities. The Wentworth accommodation camp and construction compound was decommissioned during the reporting period.
Buronga substation upgrade and expansion	The existing Buronga 220kV substation was upgraded and expanded to add a new 330kV substation on the land parcel adjacent to the existing 220kV substation. The upgrade and expansion of the Buronga substation consists of the following key activities in addition to the works undertaken during Stage 1 of construction: - civil works; - mechanical works including: - erection of the SynCon, transformers, shunt reactor and capacitor banks; - installation of oil treatment; - gantry erection; - installation of electrical equipment; - installation of supporting steel structure; - overhead HV cables and cable pulling; - switchyard building installation (including control equipment); and - construction of the SynCon building; - electrical works including: - LV cable pulling, cable dressing and terminations; and - outdoor installation of the lighting system.
Water supply point use	A series of water supply points were identified as suitable connection points to existing water supply pipelines. The water supply points used include:

Key activity		Description of key activity
		- Alcheringa Drive, Buronga; - Modica Crescent, Buronga; - Fletchers Lake Drive, Dareton; and - Beverley Street, Wentworth.
Construct access tracks		Access to each tower is required during construction. Access tracks have been installed and fall into two broad groups: un-improved access tracks - using existing roads or tracks, or driving on existing soil or ground surface with minimal or no prior preparation; and constructed access tracks - around six metres wide and would generally follow the natural contour of the land as far as practicable to minimise the amount of cut and fill and soil disturbance. Access tracks would also include drainage control features such as table drains or cross banks to minimise erosion.
Temporary works		The project requires a significant quantity of temporary works during construction. The temporary works include, but are not limited to, the following: - earthworks, including trenches, excavations, temporary slopes, stockpiles, and embankments; - structures, such as formwork, shoring, edge protection, temporary bridges, solid fencing/guardrails/barriers and signage, temporary scaffold; and - equipment/plant foundations, such as work platforms, crane, and piling platforms.
Transmission line construction	Assembly and erection of transmission line towers	The transmission line towers are typically erected by assembling in sections on the ground and hoisting or lifting successive sections into place using cranes. Alternatively, towers may be erected in place on the footings by installing individual members. These towers would include infrastructure such as step bolts, climbing attachment plates, ladders, platforms, climbing barriers, identification plates, warning plates, other fixtures and fittings for the attachment of earthwires and insulators.
	Stringing of transmission lines including conductors and overhead earth wires and optical ground wires	Following erection and securing of the tower, the transmission line would be strung by either a ground pulled draw wire (with brake/winch sites) or a line stringing drone. The area required for the construction of each tower would require access for tower assembly and stringing works. Where a transmission tower is proposed to allow for a direction change of the transmission line, a larger area would be required (to allow for brake and winching sites). At a typical site, this would include a temporary area of up around 60 metres by 80 metres at each transmission line tower location. The transmission line would require spanning a series of major watercourses. The general construction methodology is to assemble and erect a transmission line structure on either side of each major river crossing. A drone would then be used to take a lead wire over the river to allow cables to then be pulled and strung tower to tower. Similar methodology will be undertaken when stringing transmission line across major road networks and railway lines.
	Installation of earthing conductors and connection to substations	The following key activities will be undertaken: - installation of earthing conductors at each of the transmission tower arms; - installation of earthing or isolation sections of fences and gates where the transmission line crosses or closely runs parallels to a metallic fence; and - connection of incoming transmission lines at the Dinawan and Wagga Wagga substations.
Pre-commissioning phases		Pre-commissioning activities would form part of the final construction and installation works and would incorporate all tests and checks to confirm that construction quality assurance documentation, inspection and test plans, checklists and associated activities have been completed for each individual component of plant. This would be to ensure that it has been supplied and installed in accordance with the design and statutory standards and is safe to proceed to commissioning.

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Key activity	Description of key activity
	The key pre-commissioning activities which would be undertaken would include: • testing and commissioning of the new substation equipment; • point to point testing of the new transmission lines and substation connections; • earthing testing; • high voltage testing; • high voltage equipment operational checks; • testing of the installed protection, metering, control, and communication systems; and • cut over (energisation) of electricity between the existing and new transmission lines (where required).

Attachment A of the Commonwealth Approval provides mapping of the habitat for the protected matters associated with the project. The protected matters are located on the Line 4 transmission line, from the southern side of the Sturt Highway to the Murray River.

3 Conditions

The EPBC approval provides a list of conditions which must be complied with to construct and operate EnergyConnect NSW, Western Section.

The conditions and evidence of compliance are provided in Table 3.1.

Table 3.1 - Commonwealth conditions

Cond no.	Condition	Is the project compliant with this condition?	Evidence / comments
1	To minimise the impacts of the action on protected matters, the approval holder must not clear more than the following specified amounts in condition D25 of the State Infrastructure approval: a. 0.32 ha of habitat for <i>Atriplex infrequens</i>; b. 6.91 ha of habitat for Regent Parrot (eastern subspecies); Note: Habitat for the <i>Atriplex infrequens</i> and Regent Parrot (eastern subspecies) are shown on the maps at Attachment A and Attachment B respectively.	Compliant	During the reporting period, clearing occurred within Line 4 of the project, the section which contains both of the protected matters. The project has cleared the following for protected matters: • 0.187 ha of <i>Atriplex infrequens</i>; and • 2.45 ha of habitat for Regent Parrot. The reported clearing of Regent Parrot habitat has reduced since the last compliance report. This is due to the fact that LiDAR survey and analysis of all impacted areas has occurred. The project's clearing numbers during delivery have been based on GIS. Layers within GIS indicate all impact areas – for example access tracks, tower footprints, tower laydowns, centreline etc. During delivery of the project, many of these areas were not cleared, for example tower laydowns were not cleared and the centreline was only cleared to about 4-6m in width (instead of the approved 10m). A conservative approach was therefore applied in forecasting clearing numbers. The analysis of LiDAR involved tracing all areas of disturbance and review by site teams to confirm the project's final areas of clearing. Only 2.45 ha of Regent Parrot habitat has been cleared.
2	For the protection of protected matters the approval holder must: a. Implement conditions B1, B2 and B5 of Part B, Schedule 2 of the State Infrastructure approval, where they relate to monitoring, managing, avoiding, mitigating, recording, or reporting on, impacts to protected matters.	Compliant	Condition B1 of the State Infrastructure Approval requires that prior to commencing construction, a Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) must be prepared to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary (the Secretary of the NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure), and then implemented. Condition B2 of the State Infrastructure Approval requires the preparation of five CEMP Sub-plans in consultation with various listed agencies. Condition B5 requires that construction must not commence until the Planning Secretary has approved the CEMP and CEMP Sub-plans. The project was staged to assist with delivery of certain components of the project whilst Stage 2 documents were being approved. The Stage 1 CEMP (CEMP1) and its associated CEMP Sub-plans were approved in full on 9 March 2022. Refer to Appendix A for the approval of the CEMP1 documents. The Stage 2 CEMP (CEMP2) and its associated CEMP Sub-plans were approved in full on 15 July 2022. Refer to Appendix B for the approval of the CEMP2 documents. Agency consultation occurred as required by condition B2 prior to lodging the documents with the NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure. The

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Cond no.	Condition	Is the project compliant with this condition?	Evidence / comments
			Planning Secretary subsequently approved the CEMPs and associated CEMP Sub-plans, indicating adequate agency consultation. Due to the confidential information contained within, redacted versions of the Agency Consultation Reports are provided within Appendix C. The CEMP1 documents were implemented during Stage 1. The CEMP2 documents are currently being implemented during Stage 2. Ongoing Independent Environmental Audits, carried out in accordance with condition E11 of the NSW State Infrastructure Approval, assess compliance with the conditions of approval for that approval. Only the Biodiversity CEMP Sub-plan addresses the protected matters present within the project site. There have been no non-compliances with conditions B1, B2 and B5 of the NSW State Infrastructure Approval related to protected matters, as confirmed in the Independent Environmental Audits.
	b. Implement conditions D25 and D28 of Part D, Schedule 2 and E1 and E2 for Part E, Schedule 2 of the State Infrastructure Approval, where they relate to monitoring, managing, avoiding, mitigating, recording, or reporting on, impacts to protected matters.	Compliant	Condition D25 of the State Infrastructure Approval states the clearing limits for the project. In relation to protected matters refer to the response provided above for condition 1. To date the project has cleared the following for protected matters: • 0.187 ha of <i>Atriplex infrequens</i>; and • 2.45ha of habitat for Regent Parrot. Condition D28 of the State Infrastructure Approval relates to the Biodiversity Management Plan, with the Stage 2 Biodiversity Management Plan implemented during the reporting period. Transgrid has entered into an agreement with Charles Sturt University in relation to the funding of a scientific study into the impacts of electric and magnetic fields on birds in Australia, as required by condition D28 b) of the Infrastructure Approval. The study is currently underway and will be completed in October 2027. Transgrid has engaged and commenced a Bird Impact Monitoring Program in line with project condition D28. The program will include quarterly monitoring at three BDAR-specified wetland/riverine sites for key bird species over two years. Annual reports will assess bird strike impacts and the effectiveness of construction mitigation measures, and recommend further actions if needed. There have been no non-compliances with conditions D25 and D28 of the NSW State Infrastructure Approval related to protected matters, as confirmed in the Independent Environmental Audits.

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Cond no.	Condition	Is the project compliant with this condition?	Evidence / comments
	c. Notify the Department in writing within 2 business days of formally proposing any change to the conditions of the State Infrastructure Approval for which conditions 1, 2a and 2b apply, and within 5 business days of becoming aware of the NSW Government proposing a change to the conditions of the State Infrastructure approval for which conditions 1, 2a and 2b apply.	Not applicable	There have been no changes proposed to the conditions of the NSW State Infrastructure Approval.
	d. Notify the Department in writing of any change to the State Infrastructure approval for which conditions 1, 2a and 2b apply, and within 5 business days of a change to the State Infrastructure approval for which conditions 1, 2a or 2b apply being finalised.	Not applicable	There have been no changes to the NSW State Infrastructure Approval.
3	The approval holder must notify the Department in writing of the date of commencement of the action within 10 business days after the date of commencement of the action.	Compliant	Notification to DCCEE was provided on the following dates: 13 May 2022 for the commencement of pre-construction minor works; and 11 July 2022 for the commencement of construction works. Refer to Appendix D .
4	If the commencement of the action does not occur within 5 years from the date of this approval, then the approval holder must not commence the action without the prior written agreement of the Minister.	Not applicable	Notification of the commencement of the action was provided to DCCEE on the dates detailed above. The notification dates provided are within the 5 year period required for commencement from the date of approval.
5	The approval holder must maintain accurate and complete compliance records.	Compliant	Records of works, including compliance records are maintained by the project and include (but are not limited to): - Clearing and Land Disturbance register; - environmental inspections and records of associated actions; - observations and associated actions; - pre-clearing reports; and - post-clearing reports. The Independent Environmental Audits that have occurred per the NSW State Infrastructure Approval have not identified the absence of any necessary compliance records.

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Cond no.	Condition	Is the project compliant with this condition?	Evidence / comments
6	If the Department makes a request in writing, the approval holder must provide electronic copies of compliance records to the Department within the timeframe specific in the request.	Not applicable	No request for such records has been received to date.
7	The approval holder must:	Compliant	On 10 March 2022 the Stage 1 CEMP and Stage 1 BMP were submitted to DCCEEW. On 26 July 2022 the Stage 1 CEMP and Stage 1 BMP were submitted to the DCCEEW. Refer to Appendix E.
	a. Submit plans electronically to the Department		
	b. Publish each plan on the website within 20 business days of the date the plan is approved by the NSW Planning Secretary, unless otherwise agreed to in writing by the Minister	Compliant	The plans were uploaded to the Transgrid project website within 20 business days of approval of each of the plans. The approved plans are available at the following location:- https://www.transgrid.com.au/projects-innovation/energyconnect
	c. Exclude or redact sensitive ecological data from plans published on the website or provided to a member of the public	Compliant	There is no sensitive ecological data within the plans published on the website.
	d. Keep plans published on the website until the completion	Compliant	The plans continue to be published on the project website.
8	The approval holder must prepare a compliance report for each 12 month period following the date of commencement of the action, or as otherwise agreed in writing by the Minister. The approval holder must:	Compliant	This report is the Compliance Report for the 12-month period of 13 May 2024 to 13 May 2025. The definition of Compliance Report is contained within Part C of the Commonwealth Approval. Within Part C, Compliance Report is defined and requires the inclusion of certain items. Refer to Section 1.2 of this Compliance Report for the definition. The details for each of the required items is provided in the following sections: i. details of compliance is provided within this table (Table 3.1); ii. this report has been prepared to be consistent with the Department's <i>Annual Compliance Guidelines</i> (2014); iii. a small area of Atriplex was cleared during the reporting period. All values remain within those permitted by condition 1; iv. all plans prepared and in existence in relation to the conditions during the relevant 12 month period are provided within Appendix F. It must be noted that the definition of plans within the Commonwealth Approval means any of the documents required to be prepared under the conditions of the State Infrastructure Approval for which conditions 1, 2a and 2b apply. Conditions 1, 2a and 2b relate to protected matters. The plans which apply to these conditions are

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Cond no.	Condition	Is the project compliant with this condition?	Evidence / comments
			the Stage 1 and Stage 2 Construction Environmental Management Plan (main document) and Biodiversity Management Plan. As reported within condition 2, only the Stage 2 plans were implemented during the reporting period.
	a. Publish each compliance report on the website within 60 business days following the relevant 12 month period	Compliant	The compliance report will be published on the project website by 5 August 2025.
	b. Notify the Department by mail that a compliance report has been published on the website and provide the weblink for the compliance report within 5 business days of the date of publication	Compliant	The Department was notified within 5 business days of the date of publication of the 2024 report. Likewise, the Department will also be advised that this report has been placed on the website within 5 business days of the date of publication.
	c. Keep all compliance reports publicly available on the website until completion	Compliant	The annual compliance report is available on the project website at the following location: https://www.transgrid.com.au/projects-innovation/energyconnect/determinations-and-post-approval-documents
	d. Exclude or redact sensitive ecological data from compliance reports published on the website	Compliant	Sensitive information will be redacted from the version of this report which is placed on the web.
	e. Where any sensitive ecological data has been excluded from the version published, submit the full compliance report to the Department within 5 business days of publication.	Compliant	The full compliance report has been, and will continue to be, submitted to the Department.
9	The approval holder must notify the Department in writing of any: incident; non-compliance with the conditions; or non-compliance with the commitments made in plans. The notifications must be given as soon as practicable, and no later than 2 business days after becoming aware of the incident or non-compliance. The notification must specify: a. Any condition which is or may be in breach b. A short description of the incident and/or non-compliance c. The location (including co-ordinates), date, and time of the incident and/or non-compliance. In the event the exact information cannot be provided, provide the best information available.	Compliant	There have been no incidents or non-compliances associated with the conditions or the commitments made in plans.

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Cond no.	Condition	Is the project compliant with this condition?	Evidence / comments
10	The approval holder must provide to the Department the details of any incident or non-compliance with the conditions or commitments made in plans as soon as practicable and no later than 10 business days after becoming aware of the incident or non-compliance, specifying: a. Any corrective action or investigation which the approval holder has already taken or intends to take in the immediate future b. The potential impacts of the incident or non-compliance c. The method and timing of any remedial action that will be undertaken by the approval holder.	Not applicable	There have been no incidents or non-compliances associated with the conditions or the commitments made in plans.
11	The approval holder must ensure that independent audits of compliance with the conditions are conducted as requested in writing by the Minister.	Not applicable	No independent audits of compliance have been requested.
12	For each independent audit requested by the Minister under condition 11, the approval holder must: a. Provide the name and qualifications on the independent auditor and the draft audit criteria to the Department b. Only commence the independent audit once the audit criteria have been approved in writing by the Department c. Submit and audit report to the Department within the timeframe specified in the approved audit criteria.	Not applicable	No independent audits of compliance have been requested.
13	The approval holder must publish the audit report on the website within 10 business days of receiving the Department's approval of the audit report and keep the audit report published on the website until completion.	Not applicable	No independent audits of compliance have been requested.

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Cond no.	Condition	Is the project compliant with this condition?	Evidence / comments
14	Within 30 days after the completion, the approval holder must notify the Department in writing and provide completion data.	Not applicable	The action is currently on-going.

4 Environmental risks

There are no new environmental risks which have been identified during the reporting period.

5 Other information

Any additional monitoring or environmental research information relevant to the EPBC approval and approval conditions can be included in the relevant section or appended to the compliance report. Appendices can be attached to support reporting against the EPBC approval conditions. Colour photographs and/or aerial photography can provide an excellent time record of the operation and may be included. Any additional information such as supporting documentation, consultant studies and reports should be appended.

Appendix A - Approval of the CEMP1 documents



Mr John Fisher
Environmental Delivery Manager
Transgrid
180 Thomas Street
Haymarket NSW 2000

24/12/2021

Dear Mr Fisher

**Project EnergyConnect (NSW - Western Section)
Construction Environmental Management Plan for Stage 1 (SSI-10040-PA-9)**

I refer to the Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP), Revision I, dated 23 November 2021, which was submitted in accordance with Condition B1 of Schedule 2 of the Infrastructure Approval for Project EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section) Stage 1 (SSI-10040-PA-9).

The Department has carefully reviewed the document and is satisfied that it has been prepared in accordance with the relevant conditions.

Accordingly, the Planning Secretary has approved the CEMP Stage 1 (Revision I, dated 23 November 2021). Please ensure that the approved plan is placed on the project website at the earliest convenience.

If you wish to discuss the matter further, please contact me on (02) 9274 6296 or iwan.davies@planning.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Iwan'.

Iwan Davies
A/Director
Energy Assessments

As nominee of the Secretary



John Fisher
Environmental Manager – Delivery
NSW Electricity Networks Operations Pty Limited
180 Thomas Street
Haymarket, NSW, 2000 Mr

09/02/2022

Dear Mr. Fisher

**Project EnergyConnect (NSW - Western Section) (SSI-10040)
Biodiversity Management Plan**

I refer to the Biodiversity Management Plan which was submitted in accordance with Condition B1 and B2(c) of Schedule 2 of the Infrastructure Approval Project EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section) (SSI-10040).

The Department has carefully reviewed the document and is satisfied that it has been prepared in accordance with the relevant conditions of approval.

Accordingly, the Secretary has approved the Biodiversity Management Plan (Revision F, dated 21 December 2022) for Stage 1. Please ensure that the approved plan is placed on the project website at the earliest convenience.

If you wish to discuss the matter further, please contact Wayne Jones on (02) 6575 3406.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'W Jones'.

Wayne Jones
Team Leader - Post Approval
Energy Assessments

As nominee of the Secretary

Appendix B - Approval of the CEMP2 documents

Our ref: SSI-10040-PA-31

John Fisher
Environment Manager - Delivery
Transgrid

15 July 2022

**Subject: Project EnergyConnect (NSW - Western Section) (SSI-10040)
Stage 2 CEMP and sub-plans**

Dear Mr Fisher

I refer to your submission of the Construction Environmental Management Plan and associated sub-plans for Stage 2 of this project. I also acknowledge and thank you for your responses to the Department's review comments and requests for additional information.

I note these documents:

- have been prepared in accordance with the consultation requirements of condition B2 of the approval, including consultation with:
 - Wentworth Shire Council;
 - DPE Water;
 - DPE Environment and Heritage Group;
 - Heritage NSW;
 - TfNSW; and
 - Aboriginal stakeholders;
- have been reviewed by Transgrid and no issues have been raised with the Department;
- have been endorsed by the Environmental Representative; and
- contain the information required by the conditions of approval.

As nominee of the Planning Secretary, I approve the documents in the table below, under condition B1 of the approval:

Document Name	Document Reference	Reference Number
CEMP	• Construction Environmental Management Plan — EnergyConnect (NSW - Western Section) — Stage 2 — 45860-HSE-PL-D-0017 (Rev 2, dated 6/07/2022)	SSI-10040-PA-31
Noise and Vibration CEMP Sub-plan	• Noise and Vibration Management Plan — EnergyConnect (NSW - Western Section) — Stage 2 — 45860-HSE-PL-D-0019 (Rev H, dated 06/07/2022)	SSI-10040-PA-35
Soil and Water CEMP Sub-plan	• Soil and Water Management Plan — EnergyConnect (NSW - Western Section) — Stage 2 — 45860-HSE-PL-D-0021 (Rev H, dated 6/07/2022)	SSI-10040-PA-37

Heritage CEMP Sub-plan	Heritage Management Plan — EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section) — Stage 2 — 45860-HSE-PL-D-0022 (Rev G, dated 24/06/2022)	SSI-10040-PA-29
Biodiversity CEMP Sub-plan	- Biodiversity Management Plan — EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section) — Stage 2 — 45860-HSE-PL-D-0029 (Rev F, dated 10/06/2022) and - Letter titled 'Re: EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section) (SSI-10040) – Funding of study of electric and magnetic fields on birds (condition D28 b)) and bird monitoring program (Condition D28 c))', dated 7 July 2022.	SSI-10040-PA-24
Traffic and Transport CEMP Sub-plan	Traffic and Transport Management Plan — EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section) — Stage 2 — 45860-HSE-PL-D-0018 (Rev H, dated 12/07/2022)	SSI-10040-PA-40

You are reminded that if there is any inconsistency between the approved document and the conditions of approval, then the requirements of the conditions of approval prevail.

Please ensure that the approved plan is placed on the project website at the earliest convenience.

If you wish to discuss the matter further, please contact me on (02) 9274 6495.

Yours sincerely



Dominic Crinnion
Acting Director
Infrastructure Management

As nominee of the Planning Secretary

Appendix C - Agency Consultation Reports

Redacted for public display

Appendix D - Written notification of commencement

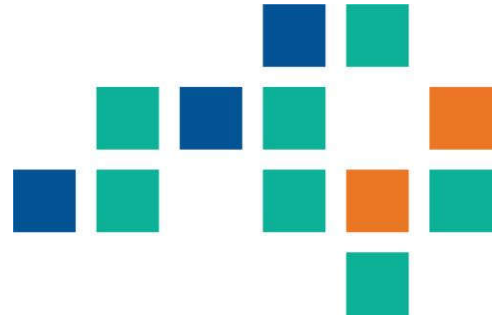
Redacted for public display

Appendix E - Submission of management plans

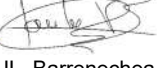
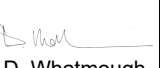
Redacted for public display

Appendix F - Plans in existence during the 12-month period

INTERNAL



Construction Environmental Management Plan EnergyConnect (NSW - Western Section) Stage 1 45860-HSE-PL-D-0003

REV	DATE	GENERAL DESCRIPTION	PREPARED	REVIEWED	VERIFIED	VERIFIED	APPROVED
G	1/10/2021	Issued for Transgrid review	M. Lee	R. Walker-Edwards	G. Crighton	JL. Barrenechea	D. Whatmough
H	28/10/2021	Issued for Transgrid review	M. Lee	R. Walker-Edwards	G. Crighton	JL. Barrenechea	D. Whatmough
I	23/11/2021	Issued for Transgrid review	 M. Lee	 R. Walker-Edwards	 G. Crighton	 JL. Barrenechea	 D. Whatmough

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Revision History	
Rev.	Detailed Description
A	Issued for internal review
B	Issued for Transgrid review
C	Updated to incorporate aspects from <i>EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section) Submissions Report</i>
D	Issued for Transgrid review including aspects from <i>EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section) Submissions Report</i>
E	Updated following receipt of Transgrid's comments
F	Updated following receipt of Transgrid's comments and draft conditions of Approval
G	Updated following receipt of Transgrid's comments and to address the Infrastructure Approval
H	Updated following receipt of comments from Transgrid
I	Updated following receipt of comments from the Environmental Representative

Key Document Stakeholders
To be communicated with during reviews and revisions of this document

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Abbreviations

Acronym	Definition
Amendment Report	<i>EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section) Amendment Report</i>
AS/NZ	Australian Standard/New Zealand Standard
BC Act	<i>Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016</i>
CCS	Community Communication Strategy
CEMP	Construction Environmental Management Plan
CSSI	Critical State significant infrastructure
DAWE	Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment
DPIE or Department	Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
EECs	Endangered ecological communities
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EIS	<i>EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section) Environmental Impact Statement</i>
EMS	Environmental Management System
EP&A Act	<i>Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979</i>
EPA	NSW Environment Protection Authority
EPBC Act	<i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i>
EPL	Environment Protection Licence
ER	Environmental Representative
FMEA	Failure mode and effects analysis
HAZID	Hazard Identification
HAZOP	Hazard and operability
HSSE	Health, Safety, Security and Environment
HSSE Manual	Health, Safety, Security and Environment Management Manual
JHA	Job hazard analysis
LGA	Local Government Area
MNES	Matters of National Environmental Significance
NCR	Non-conformance report
NEM	National Electricity Market
NP&W Act	<i>National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974</i>
NSW	New South Wales
PESCP	Progressive erosion and sediment control plan
POEO Act	<i>Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997</i>
project, the	EnergyConnect (NSW - Western Section)
Response to DPIE Request for Information	The 'additional information letter dated 10 August 2021' in the definition section of the Infrastructure Approval; document is also titled <i>EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section) Response to DPIE Request for Information – 7 May 2021 and subsequent discussions</i>
RMMs	Revised management measures
ROLs	Road occupancy licences
SA	South Australia
SAPs	Sensitive area plans

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Acronym	Definition
SecureEnergy	Elecnor and Clough Projects Australia Pty Ltd have formed the SecureEnergy Joint Venture (SecureEnergy). SecureEnergy is the contractor who will be carrying out the project on behalf of Transgrid.
SSI	State significant infrastructure
Submissions Report	<i>EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section) Submissions Report</i>
TfNSW	Transport for NSW
Vic	Victoria
WM Act	<i>Water Management Act 2000</i>
WMS	Work method statement

1 Introduction

1.1 Context

Transgrid and ElectraNet will deliver a high voltage electricity interconnector between the power grids of South Australia (SA) and New South Wales (NSW), with an added connection to Victoria, known collectively as EnergyConnect. EnergyConnect will reduce the cost of providing secure and reliable electricity transmission between NSW, SA and north-west Victoria in the near term and facilitate the transition of the energy sector across the National Electricity Market (NEM) to low emission energy sources.

Transgrid is responsible for the portions of EnergyConnect within NSW, which includes the construction of transmission line from the NSW/SA border to Buronga, expansion of the Buronga substation, construction of transmission line from Buronga substation to the NSW/Victoria connect to the existing Red Cliff substation, and construction of transmission line from Buronga to Wagga Wagga.

Elecnor and Clough Projects Australia Pty Ltd have formed SecureEnergy for the purpose of the design and construction of EnergyConnect.

1.2 Background

On 29 August 2019 the NSW Minister for Planning and Public Spaces declared EnergyConnect a critical State significant infrastructure (CSSI) under the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act) on the basis that it is critical to the State for environmental, economic or social reasons. Within NSW, EnergyConnect is therefore subject to assessment under Part 5, Division 5.2 of the EP&A Act.

Transgrid have two environmental planning approval applications for the sections within NSW:

- EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section) – SA/NSW border to Buronga and Buronga to the NSW/Victorian border; and
- EnergyConnect (NSW – Eastern Section) – Buronga to Wagga Wagga.

A referral under the Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) was submitted on 27 May 2020. The Australian Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment (DAWE) determined the project to be a controlled action on 26 June 2020 and thus, it would be assessed using the bilateral assessment process. As such, the project also requires approval from the Australian Minister for the Environment under the EPBC Act.

The *EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section) Environmental Impact Statement* (EIS) was prepared for the project in October 2020 and was placed on public exhibition from 30 October 2020 to 10 December 2020. A total of 20 submissions were received, with 15 from government agencies, three from organisations and two from the public.

The *EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section) Submissions Report* (Submissions Report) was prepared for the project in response to the submissions received during the public exhibition of the EIS. The Submissions Report was finalised on 14 April 2021.

Transgrid also prepared a separate *EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section) Amendment Report* (Amendment Report) to document design changes and additional environmental assessment undertaken since exhibition of the EIS. The Amendment Report was also finalised on 14 April 2021.

On 7 May 2021, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) requested additional information (*EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section)(SSI-10040) Request for Additional Information*) to assist with the assessment of the project. In response Transgrid prepared and provided the *EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section) Response to DPIE Request for Information – 7 May 2021 and subsequent discussions* (Response to DPIE Request for Information) (May 2021). The response provided to DPIE included a *Revised Biodiversity Development Assessment Report*

(Final BDAR) (August 2021) and the final set of Revised Management Measures (RMMs) that are to be applied. The Response to DPIE Request for Information was dated 10 August 2021.

Approval for the project under the EP&A Act was granted by the NSW Minister for Planning and Public Spaces (Infrastructure Approval SSI 10040). Approval of the project will lapse if the project have not physically commenced the project within five years of the date the approval was granted. Approval for the project under the EPBC Act was granted by the Australian Minister for the Environment.

1.3 Scope

This Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) and the associated Stage 1 sub-plans have been prepared to describe the environmental management practices and procedures to be implemented for the construction of Stage 1 of EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section) (the project). Section 2.3 outlines the scope of works included in Stage 1 of the project.

All construction personnel and sub-contractors will be required to undertake works in accordance with this CEMP and the management measures identified in any relevant site-specific documents.

1.4 Purpose

This CEMP has been prepared to primarily address the requirements of condition B1 to B6 of the Infrastructure Approval.

The purpose of this CEMP is to provide a structured approach to the management of environmental issues during construction of the project. This plan defines the environmental management principles, processes, procedures, systems, tools, and templates implemented for use throughout the duration of construction of the project with the aim to prevent and, where prevention is not reasonable and feasible, minimise environmental harm during the construction phase.

In particular, this CEMP:

- describes the project and activities to be undertaken;
- describes the environmental management system and documents that will be implemented;
- states the objectives and targets for the project;
- provides management measures to minimise environmental impacts;
- describes the roles and responsibilities of personnel in relation to environmental management;
- outlines a monitoring regime during construction; and
- supports the project team in completing the requirements of the project.

1.5 Preparation of this plan

In accordance with condition B6 of the Infrastructure Approval, this plan has been prepared by a suitably qualified and experienced person. This plan was prepared by Martin Lee and reviewed by Rebecca Walker-Edwards. This CEMP will be implemented for the duration of construction of Stage 1 of the project.

1.6 CEMP Consultation

The Infrastructure Approval requires the CEMP sub-plans to be prepared in consultation with relevant government agencies and stakeholders. The CEMP sub-plans that require consultation with the relevant stakeholders are marked with a letter 'C' as shown in Table 1.1 below.

Table 1.1 - CEMP sub-plans that require consultation

CEMP Sub-plan required under condition B2 of the Infrastructure Approval	Council	DPIE Water	BCS	Heritage NSW	Aboriginal stakeholders	TfNSW
Noise and Vibration	C					
Soil and Water	C	C				
Biodiversity	C		C			
Heritage				C	C	
Traffic and Transport	C					C

In accordance with condition B3, the consultation records of the CEMP sub-plans listed under condition B2 will be provided and submitted to DPIE with the relevant CEMP sub-plan.

In accordance with condition A7, consultation records of other approval documents that require consultation with an identified party will be submitted to DPIE.

1.7 Submission and approval

In accordance with condition B5 of the Infrastructure Approval, the CEMP and CEMP sub-plans listed under condition B2 must be submitted and approved by the Secretary of Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (Planning Secretary) prior to the commencement of construction. The sub-plans may be submitted along with, or subsequent to, the submission of this CEMP.

Construction will not commence until the CEMP and CEMP sub-plans required under condition B2, or where staging is proposed the plans required for that stage, have been approved by the Planning Secretary, and detailed plans of the final layout plans of the project.

Transgrid and/or SecureEnergy will comply with the requirements that arise from DPIE's assessment of submitted plans, reports or audits.

Any document prepared in accordance with the Infrastructure Approval that must be prepared within a specified timeframe may be submitted within a later timeframe agreed with the Planning Secretary.

1.8 Distribution

SecureEnergy's Environmental Manager will coordinate the preparation, review and distribution, as appropriate, of the environmental documents. During construction, environmental documents will be stored electronically at the site office and will be available upon request to SecureEnergy's Environmental Manager.

This CEMP and CEMP sub-plans will be available to all personnel and sub-contractors via hard copy (if requested) or through the project document control system. Documents which are required to be made public will also be placed on the project website which is located at <https://www.projectenergyconnect.com.au>.

Registered copies will be distributed to the following:

- Project Director;
- Deputy Project Director;
- Construction Manager;
- Project HSSE Manager;
- Environmental Manager;
- Transgrid Document Controller;

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- Transgrid's Environmental Manager; and
- Environmental Representative.

1.9 Continuous improvement

The Plan-Do-Check-Act model will be applied to the continuous improvement process.

The Plan stage outlines the environmental objectives and the process to achieve the results. This is outlined through the Environmental Management System (EMS) described in Section 4 of this CEMP and supported by the Environmental Aspect and Impact Register provided within Appendix A3.

The Do stage focuses on the implementation of the EMS. Tools such as Work Packs and Work Method Statements described in Section 4.4 will be prepared to facilitate the implementation of the EMS. The Work Packs and Work Method Statements will be supported by drawings, forms and plans. The roles and responsibilities in carrying out the Do stage is provided in Section 4.9, while Section 6 outlines the various communication methods.

The Check stage comprises ongoing monitoring of the environmental management performance against the environmental objectives, for the purpose of identifying opportunities for improvement. This will be undertaken through regular environmental inspections, monitoring and auditing as described in Section 9.

The Act stage include undertaking the required actions in order to achieve the environmental objectives. Corrective and preventive actions are further described in Section 11. In addition to this, for any issues or items within the documents that are either redundant or in need of updating, it is the responsibility of the Environmental Manager to coordinate the preparation of the revised documents, as further described in Section 1.7.

1.10 Updating the CEMP

In accordance with condition E1 of the Infrastructure Approval, SecureEnergy will review and, if necessary, revise the applicable strategies, plans or programs required by the Infrastructure Approval to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary within three months of the following:

- submission of an incident report under condition E6 of the Infrastructure Approval;
- submission of an audit report under condition E11 of the Infrastructure Approval; or
- any modifications to the Infrastructure Approval.

Further to this, a document review process will be implemented to ensure that the environmental management practices and procedures which are to be implemented for construction as required by this CEMP, are updated as appropriate for the specific works that are occurring on-site. The document review process of the CEMP, sub-plans or other approval documents required under the Infrastructure Approval will be undertaken:

- in response to changes in the applicable legislation;
- where requested or required by DPIE (condition A3);
- where deficiencies in the CEMP are identified in inspections, monitoring, or complaints;
- in response to project changes as described in Section 1.11; and
- annually where the above circumstances do not arise.

Should the document review process identify any issues or items within the documents that are either redundant or in need of updating, it is the responsibility of the Environmental Manager or their delegate to prepare the revised documents. The revised document will then be issued to the Project Director for internal approval and reviewed by Transgrid prior to re-issue.

Minor changes to the CEMP, sub-plans or other approved documents required under the Infrastructure Approval may be required during delivery of the project. The Environmental

Representative will consider and can approve minor changes to the CEMP, sub-plans or other approved documents. Minor changes involve updating the approved environmental documents that:

- are administrative in nature (e.g. staff and agency/authority name changes);
- do not increase impacts to nearby sensitive receivers;
- are consistent with the terms the Infrastructure Approval and the other documents approved by the Planning Secretary;
- are in response to audit findings relating to procedures and processes of the environmental management system;
- in response to changes in the applicable legislation such that the project complies with the amended legislative requirements; or
- any other changes or updates that considered minor by the Environmental Representative.

SecureEnergy will provide the documentation requested by the ER in order for the ER to perform their function.

Changes to the CEMP, sub-plans or other approved documents required under the Infrastructure Approval that are not defined as minor will be discussed with DPIE to confirm the need for further review and approval. If required, the updated CEMP or sub-plans will be submitted to the ER for endorsement prior to being submitted to DPIE for review and approval.

As permitted by condition E2, with the agreement of the Planning Secretary, staged or updated strategies, plans or programs may be prepared without undertaking all of the consultation required under the applicable condition in the Infrastructure Approval.

1.11 Changes to the project

The project may only be carried out:

- in compliance with the conditions of the Infrastructure Approval;
- in accordance with all written directions of the Planning Secretary;
- generally in accordance with the EIS; and
- generally in accordance with the Development Layout in Appendix 1 of the Infrastructure Approval.

In the event of an inconsistency, ambiguity or conflict between any of the documents listed in last two dot points above, the Infrastructure Approval and/or directions of the Planning Secretary, or the most recent document between those documents would prevail to the extent of the inconsistency, ambiguity or conflict.

Amendments or changes to the project may result from detailed design refinements or changed methodologies throughout construction.

Design and construction methodology changes will be communicated to SecureEnergy's Environmental Manager. The Environmental Manager will review the proposed change in consultation with the Transgrid Environmental Manager, where required and the Environmental Representative to determine whether it is consistent with the approved project.

Changes that are not consistent with the approved project will be discussed with DPIE to confirm requirements. Transgrid as the Proponent will apply for any required formal modifications to the approved project.

If any changes to the project require changes to the CEMP, the Environmental Manager will identify the required changes and update the CEMP as required by Section 1.10.

2 Project description

2.1 Overview of EnergyConnect

Transgrid and ElectraNet are currently seeking approval for the proposed construction and operation of a new electrical interconnector and network support option between NSW and SA, with an additional connection to Red Cliffs in north-west Victoria. Collectively, the proposed interconnector is known as EnergyConnect.

The interconnector is aimed at reducing the cost of providing secure and reliable electricity transmission between NSW and SA in the near term, while facilitating the transition of the energy sector across the National Electricity Market to low emission energy sources.

The preferred option involves constructing a new high voltage electricity interconnector, approximately 900km long, between the power grids of SA (starting at Robertstown) and NSW (finishing in Wagga Wagga). EnergyConnect comprises several sections (as shown on Figure 2.1), being:

- Victorian section, which extends from the NSW/Victoria border to an existing electricity facility at Red Cliffs;
- NSW sections including:
 - Western section (the subject area of this CEMP) which extends from:
 - the SA/NSW border (near Chowilla in SA) to Buronga;
 - Buronga to the NSW/Victoria border at Monak (near Red Cliffs in Victoria);
 - Eastern section, which extends from Buronga to Wagga Wagga; and
- SA section, which extends from Robertstown to the SA/NSW border.

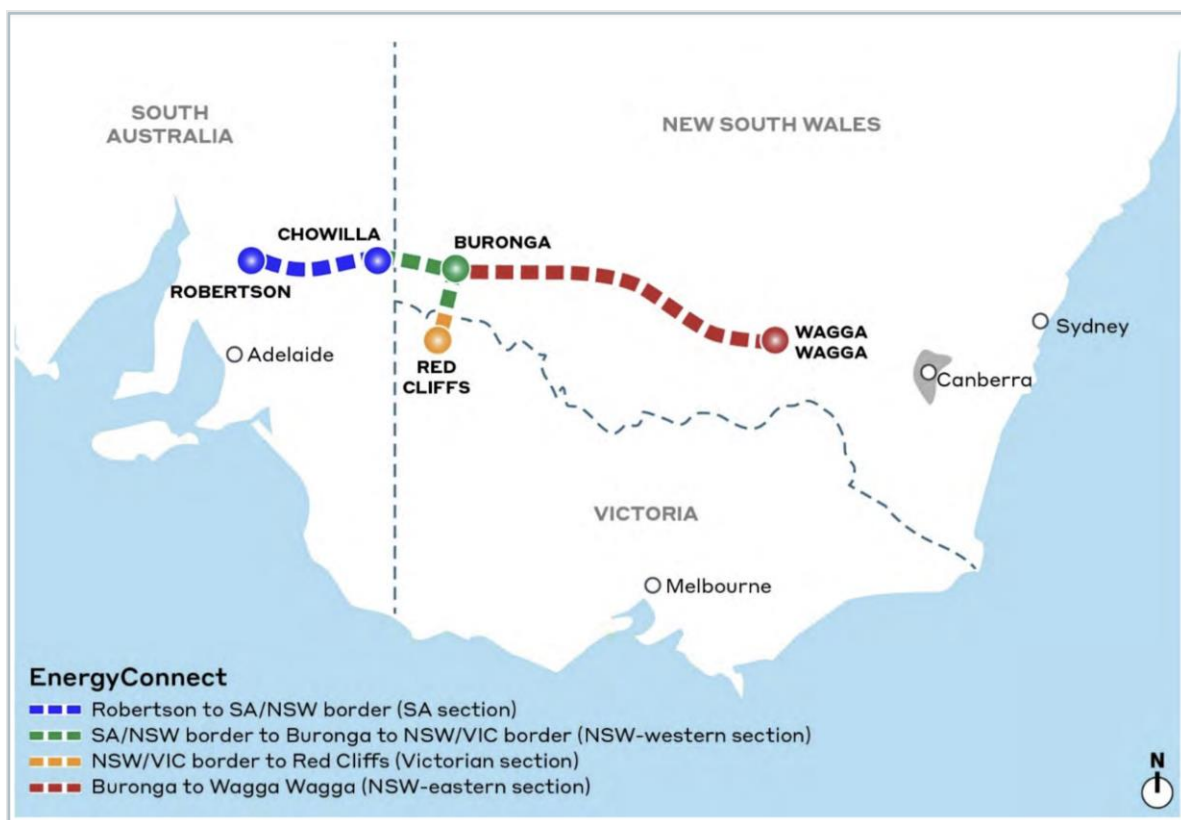


Figure 2.1 - Overview of EnergyConnect (WSP)

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2.2 EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section)

The proposed works for EnergyConnect (NSW - Western Section) will traverse from SA/NSW border (near Chowilla in SA) to Buronga, and Buronga to the NSW/Victoria border at Monak (near Red Cliffs in Victoria), a distance of approximately 160 kilometres (refer to Figure 2.3). The NSW western section is situated within the Wentworth Local Government Area (LGA).

The works for EnergyConnect (NSW - Western Section) will be delivered in two stages. Stage 1 involves works at Buronga Substation. Stage 2 involves all remaining works including but not limited to construction of approximately 135km of new 330kV double circuit transmission line, upgrade of existing 24 km long 220kV single circuit transmission line (Line 1 and Line 4) and the upgrade and expansion of the existing Buronga substation to a combined operating voltage of 220kV/330kV.

2.3 Staging

Condition E2 allows preparation of plans on a staged basis, with the approval of the Planning Secretary. Where a plan is staged, the scope of works can be carried out without addressing particular requirements of conditions of approval that are not applicable to the particular stage. This CEMP and associated CEMP sub-plans are staged in accordance with Condition E2.

Stage 1 of construction is proposed to occur ahead of the main transmission line works in order to expedite the overall delivery program for EnergyConnect. Transgrid/SecureEnergy will notify DPIE in writing via the Major Projects website portal of the date of commencing Stage 1.

The Buronga substation is located on Arumpo Road in Buronga. The existing 220kV substation will be upgraded and expanded to a new 330kV substation on a land parcel adjacent to the existing 220kV substation. Refer to Figure 2.2 for the indicative disturbance area of Stage 1 of construction.

The key project components of Stage 1 of construction include, but are not limited to, the activities provided in Table 2.1.

Table 2.1 - Key project components of Stage 1 of construction

Key activity	Description of key activity
Environmental investigations, including biodiversity and heritage protection, salvage and recordings.	These key activities nominated in this stage will have already commenced as part of the pre-construction minor works permitted in accordance with the Infrastructure Approval. The definition of 'construction' within the Infrastructure Approval excludes these activities. They will therefore not be subject to the Stage 1 CEMP and CEMP sub-plans.
Other survey work, such as road dilapidation surveys, and surveys of the general alignment and existing utilities.	
Site establishment at Buronga substation upgrade and expansion site	The main site establishment activities that would be undertaken at Buronga substation upgrade and expansion site include: - clearing of vegetation within the disturbance area (including scrub, undergrowth and ground vegetation); - clearing and removal of topsoils. Topsoil would be stockpiled on site for later reuse; - establishing crushing and screening plants (if required), ancillary facilities, including but not limited to offices and amenities, and internal roads; and - installing temporary fencing (including fencing around the site where required), signage and security measures as well as any necessary construction environmental management measures such as erosion and sediment controls.
Bulk earthworks at Buronga substation upgrade and expansion site	Bulk earthworks to form the Buronga substation pad which includes placement of around 350,000m³ of rock/gravel/soil from the earthworks material site to allow for the construction of the substation pad in preparation for concrete foundations. Crushing and screening activities may be required in order to meet the engineering requirements. Existing soil that does not meet engineering requirements for the substation pad will be temporary stockpiled.

Key activity	Description of key activity
Site establishment of the Buronga accommodation camp	The main activities that would be undertaken at Buronga construction compound and accommodation camp includes: - clearing of vegetation within the disturbance area (including scrub, undergrowth and ground vegetation); - clearing and removal of topsoils. Topsoil would be stockpiled on site for later reuse; - establishing the accommodation camp and associated facilities, including but not limited to site offices, amenities, wastewater treatment plant, power generators, hazardous material and fuel storage area and internal roads; - establishing and operating site offices and other ancillary facilities, including but not limited to and amenities, and internal roads; - connections and pre-commissioning of on-site utilities (wastewater treatment plant, electrical power, lighting and etc.) for the construction compound and accommodation camps; and - installing temporary fencing, signage and security measures as well as any necessary construction environmental management measures such as erosion and sediment controls, where required.
Site establishment and operation of the Buronga construction compound	
Access points	The establishment of access points would include: - establishing vehicle access and egress points including adjustment of roads to ensure safe vehicle movements; and - establishing truck wheel wash or rumble grids. The definition of construction within the Infrastructure Approval does not include road upgrades (which includes access points). Road upgrade works are, however, incorporated within the Traffic and Transport Management Plan as required by condition D40 b).
Water supply points – establishment and/or use	A series of water supply points have been identified as suitable connection points to existing water supply pipelines. The proposed water supply points which are to be established and/or used include: - Alcheringa Drive, Buronga; and - Modica Crescent, Buronga.
Utility adjustments and protection	General utility protection and adjustment works, where required, to allow for the Buronga substation expansion and upgrades works to occur, the establishment of the accommodation camp and the establishment and operation of the construction compound.

Some activities nominated in this stage will have already commenced as part of the pre-construction minor works permitted in accordance with the Infrastructure Approval. Following approval of the CEMP for Stage 1, these works will remain excluded from the definition of 'construction' and therefore which are not subject to the CEMP. Irrespective of this, these activities will occur in accordance with the relevant conditions of the Infrastructure Approval.

This CEMP has been prepared specifically for EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section) Stage 1 of construction and will be implemented for the duration of Stage 1 of construction.

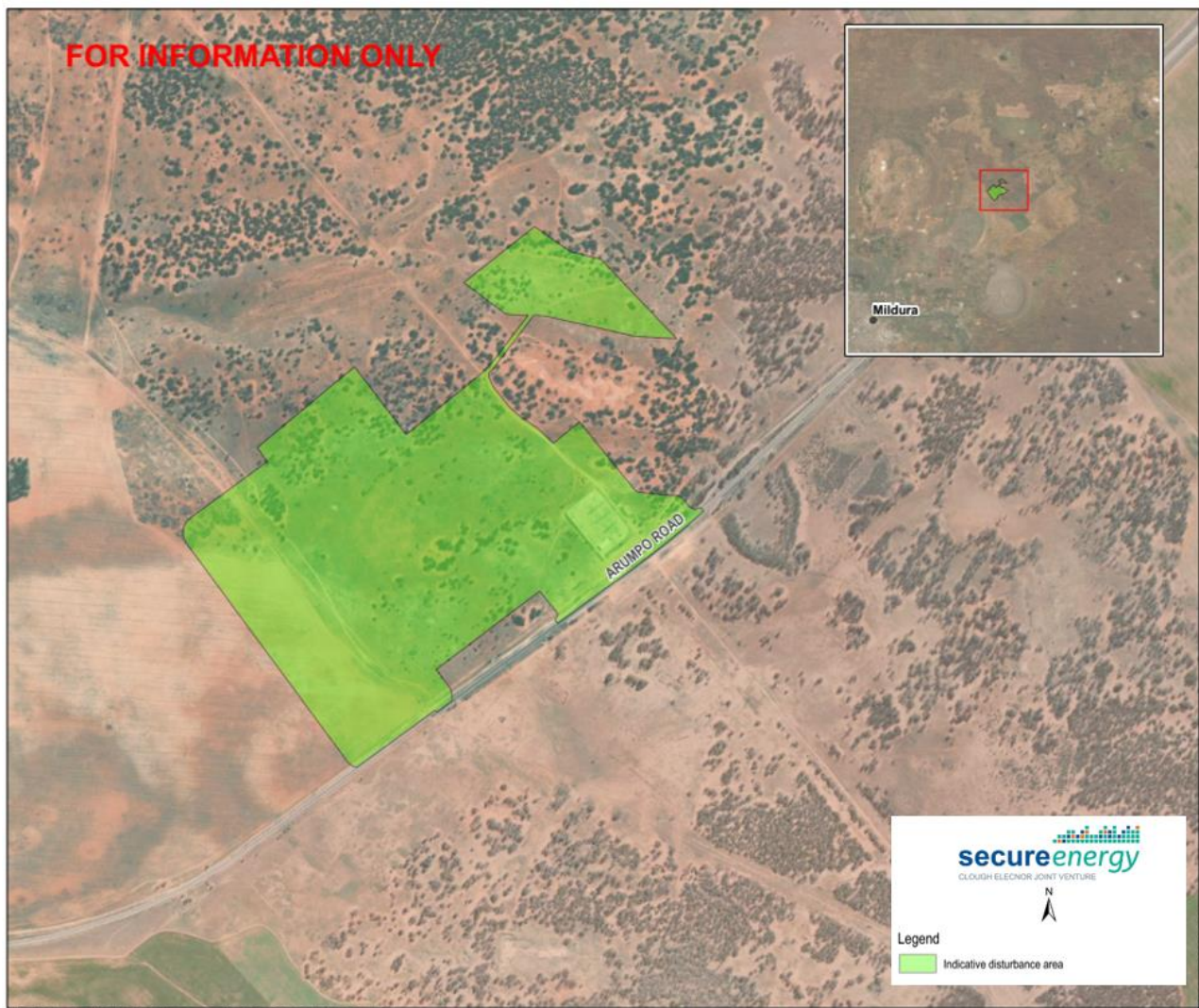


Figure 2.2 - Indicative disturbance area of Stage 1 of construction

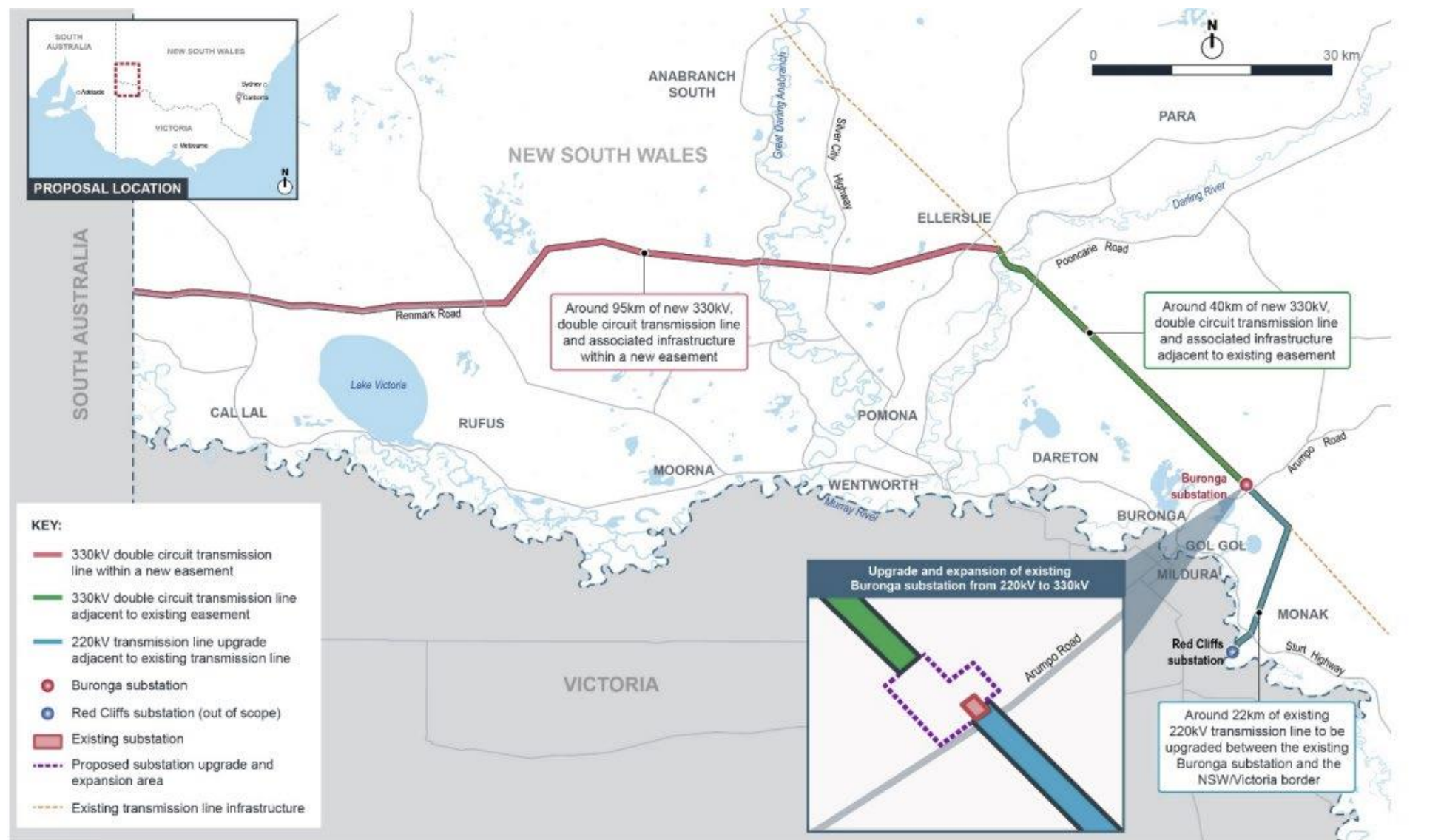


Figure 2.3 - Key features of EnergyConnect (NSW - Western Section) as shown in the EIS

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3 Planning

3.1 Legal and other requirements

A summary of legal requirements is provided within Appendix A1. This register will be maintained by SecureEnergy throughout the project and updated as required.

Legal and other requirements are managed in accordance with the *Global Control of Legal and Other Requirement Procedure* which describes the minimum requirements for the identification and management of Health, Safety, Security and Environmental (HSSE) legislation and other requirements applicable to project activities.

Any legislative updates will be notified to relevant SecureEnergy personnel through the use of LawStream. Changes made to the legal requirements register will be communicated to the wider team where necessary through toolbox talks, specific training or other methods detailed in Section 6.

SecureEnergy will obtain licences, permits and approvals as required for the works and maintain them as required throughout delivery of the project, which may include but not be limited to Environment Protection Licence (EPL) for scheduled activities under the *Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997* (POEO Act) and road occupancy licences (ROLs). Copies of licences, approvals and permits shall be held digitally within the site office with files available for audit and inspection purposes.

Some licences or permits may be held by subcontractors or external parties engaged to SecureEnergy and have not been specifically listed within the summary. Examples include:

- licences for transporting certain waste types;
- an asbestos removal licence (Class A or Class B licence);
- drivers of dangerous goods vehicles to hold a dangerous goods licence; or
- licensed ecologists for threatened species handling.

3.2 Conditions of approval

The conditions of the Infrastructure Approval relevant to the preparation of this CEMP are included within Table 3.1. The conditions of the Infrastructure Approval relevant to each management sub-plan are dealt with within each of those plans.

There are several conditions of the Infrastructure Approval that are unassigned to a specific environmental management sub-plan or other project management plans. The management measures that will be implemented for the project in relation to these conditions are provided in Appendix A5 of this CEMP. A table detailing where each condition of the Infrastructure Approval is addressed is provided in Appendix A6 of this CEMP.

Table 3.1 - Conditions relevant to this CEMP

Condition number	Requirement	Where addressed
B1	Prior to the commencement of construction, a Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) must be prepared to detail how the performance outcomes, commitments and mitigation measures specified in the EIS will be implemented and achieved during construction to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary.	This plan.

Condition number	Requirement	Where addressed																		
B2	The following CEMP Sub-plans must be prepared in consultation with the relevant government agencies identified for each CEMP Sub-plan in Table 1. Table 1: CEMP Sub-plans <table> <tr> <th></th><th>Required CEMP Sub-plan</th><th>Relevant government agencies and stakeholders to be consulted for each CEMP Sub-plan</th></tr> <tr> <td>(a)</td><td>Noise and Vibration</td><td>Council</td></tr> <tr> <td>(b)</td><td>Soil and Water</td><td>DPIE Water Council</td></tr> <tr> <td>(c)</td><td>Biodiversity</td><td>BCS Council</td></tr> <tr> <td>(d)</td><td>Heritage</td><td>Heritage NSW Aboriginal stakeholders</td></tr> <tr> <td>(e)</td><td>Traffic and Transport</td><td>TfNSW Council</td></tr> </table>		Required CEMP Sub-plan	Relevant government agencies and stakeholders to be consulted for each CEMP Sub-plan	(a)	Noise and Vibration	Council	(b)	Soil and Water	DPIE Water Council	(c)	Biodiversity	BCS Council	(d)	Heritage	Heritage NSW Aboriginal stakeholders	(e)	Traffic and Transport	TfNSW Council	Consultation of the CEMP sub-plans are addressed in Section 1.6.
	Required CEMP Sub-plan	Relevant government agencies and stakeholders to be consulted for each CEMP Sub-plan																		
(a)	Noise and Vibration	Council																		
(b)	Soil and Water	DPIE Water Council																		
(c)	Biodiversity	BCS Council																		
(d)	Heritage	Heritage NSW Aboriginal stakeholders																		
(e)	Traffic and Transport	TfNSW Council																		
B3	Details of all information requested by an agency to be included in a CEMP Sub-plan as a result of consultation must be provided with the relevant CEMP Sub-Plan.	Consultation is addressed in Section 1.6.																		
B4	Any of the CEMP Sub-plans may be submitted along with, or subsequent to, the submission of the CEMP but in any event prior to the commencement of construction.	The timing of submission of the CEMP sub-plans is addressed in Section 1.7.																		
B5	Construction must not commence until the CEMP and all CEMP Sub-plans have been approved by the Planning Secretary. The CEMP and CEMP Sub-plans, as approved by the Planning Secretary, must be implemented for the duration of construction. Where construction of the development is staged, construction of a stage must not commence until the CEMP and sub-plans for that stage have been approved by the Planning Secretary.	Section 1.7 of this CEMP addresses the requirements of this condition.																		
B6	The CEMP and CEMP Sub-plans required under this approval must be prepared by suitably qualified and experienced persons in accordance with relevant guidelines, and include where relevant:	Section 1.5 address the preparation of this CEMP and CEMP sub-plans.																		
	a) a summary of relevant background or baseline data;	The relevant background or baseline data is provided within Section 3 of each of the CEMP sub-plans.																		
	b) details of: (i) the relevant statutory requirements (including any relevant approval, licence or lease conditions);	The relevant statutory requirements are addressed in Section 3 and Appendix A1 of this CEMP, and Section 2 of the CEMP sub-plans.																		
	(ii) any relevant limits or performance measures and criteria; and (iii) the specific performance indicators that are proposed to be used to judge the performance of, or guide the implementation of, the development or any management measures;	Section 4.2 of this CEMP addresses the performance measures, criteria and performance indicators.																		
	c) any relevant commitments or recommendations identified in the EIS;	The relevant commitments or recommendations identified in the EIS are included within Section 3.3 of this CEMP and Section 2.3 of the relevant CEMP sub-plans.																		

Condition number	Requirement	Where addressed
	d) a description of the measures to be implemented to comply with the relevant statutory requirements, limits, or performance measures and criteria;	The environmental measures that will be implemented are addressed within Section 3.3 and Appendix A5 of this CEMP, and Section 5 or 6 of the relevant CEMP sub-plan.
	e) a program to monitor and report on the: (i) impacts and environmental performance of the development (including a table summarising all the monitoring and reporting obligations under the conditions of this approval); and	Tables summarising the monitoring and reporting requirements are provided in Section 9.2 and 10 of this CEMP.
	(ii) effectiveness of the management measures set out pursuant to paragraph (d);	Environmental inspections will be used to monitor the effectiveness of management measures. This is addressed in Section 9.1.
	f) a contingency plan to manage any unpredicted impacts and their consequences and to ensure that ongoing impacts reduce to levels below relevant impact assessment criteria as quickly as possible;	Unpredicted impacts are addressed in Section 12. Unexpected finds procedures are also provided in the relevant CEMP sub-plans to address and manage unpredicted impacts.
	g) a program to investigate and implement ways to improve the environmental performance of the development over time;	Continuous improvement is addressed within Section 1.9 of this CEMP.
	h) a protocol for managing and reporting any: (i) incident, non-compliance or exceedance of any impact assessment criterion and performance criterion;	Managing and reporting incidents is addressed in Section 8 of this CEMP. Non-compliances are addressed in Section 10.1 and 11 of this CEMP. Exceedance of any impact assessment criterion is addressed in Section 9.2. Exceedance of any performance criterion is addressed in Section 4.2.
	(ii) complaint; or	Managing and reporting complaints are addressed in Section 7.2 of this CEMP.
	(iii) failure to comply with other statutory requirements; and	Managing and reporting other statutory requirements are addressed in Section 10.1.3 of this CEMP.
	i) set out the procedures that would be implemented to: (i) keep the local community and relevant agencies informed about the construction and environmental performance of the development;	Communication with local community and relevant agencies are addressed in Section 7 of this CEMP.
	(ii) receive, handle, respond to, and record complaints; (iii) resolve any disputes that may arise;	Managing and reporting complaints and disputes are addressed in Section 7.2 of this CEMP.
	(iv) respond to any non-compliance;	Response to any non-compliances is provided within Section 10.1 and 11 of this CEMP.

Condition number	Requirement	Where addressed
	(v) respond to emergencies; and	Response to emergencies is provided within Section 8.1 of this CEMP.
	j) a description of the roles and environmental responsibilities, authority and accountability for all relevant employees, as well as training and awareness; and	Roles and responsibilities are detailed within Section 4.9 of this CEMP.
	k) a protocol for periodic review of the CEMP and associated subplans and programs.	Periodic review of the CEMP and CEMP sub-plans are addressed in Section 1.10 of this CEMP.
	<i>The Planning Secretary may waive some of these requirements if they are unnecessary or unwarranted for particular management plans</i>	Noted

3.3 Revised mitigation measures

Environmental safeguards and mitigation measures are included in Section 23.1.4 of the EIS. During preparation of the Response to DPIE Request for Information, the revised mitigation measures (RMMs) were amended and included in Appendix G.

There are no specific RMMs relevant to the preparation of this CEMP identified in the Response to DPIE Request for Information. RMMs relevant to a specific environmental aspect along with the proposed management measures are dealt within the specific environmental management sub-plan as described in Section 4.3.1.

There are several RMMs that are unassigned to a specific environmental management sub-plan or other project management plans. However these RMMs are applicable during the construction phase of the project and therefore are required to be included under the environmental management system. These RMMs are provided in Table 3.2 below. The management measures that will be implemented for the project in relation to these RMMs are provided in Appendix A5 of this CEMP. A table detailing where each RMM is addressed is provided in Appendix A6 of this CEMP.

Table 3.2 - RMMs that are unassigned to a specific environmental management sub-plan

Reference	Revised mitigation measure	Applicable locations (from RMMs)	Where addressed	How addressed
RMM LV3	Proposed permanent engineering batters and water management measures will be designed to integrate with the existing landforms and natural features.	Whole of proposal	MM1 of Appendix A5 of this CEMP.	Any permanent engineering batters will consider existing landforms and natural features
RMM LV4	Lighting at construction compound and accommodation camps will be designed and operated in accordance with AS4282-2019 Control of the obtrusive effects of outdoor lighting.	Construction compound and accommodation camps	MM2 of Appendix A5 of this CEMP.	Lighting at the Buronga construction camp and accommodation camp will be designed generally in accordance with AS482-2019
RMM LV5	Transmission line structures, where possible, are designed: to maximise distance from private residences	Whole of proposal	Not applicable to Stage 1 works.	Not applicable to Stage 1 works. Stage 1 works do not include transmission line structures.

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Reference	Revised mitigation measure	Applicable locations (from RMMs)	Where addressed	How addressed
	- to use local vegetation and landform to provide screening from residences or from the road - to be regularly spaced to reduce the potential visual impact where the proposal alignment is visible for a long duration, and in open landscapes - to be positioned alongside existing transmission line structures where they are adjacent to existing transmission lines where feasible - to avoid the location of transmission line structures on locally prominent landforms - to minimise clearing along creeklines.			
RMM LV6	Where the transmission line crosses a roadway, transmission line structures will be located to maximise the distance from the roadway where feasible and where it will achieve an improved visual amenity outcome, where feasible and reasonable.	Transmission line	Not applicable to Stage 1 works.	Not applicable to Stage 1 works. Stage 1 works do not include transmission line structures.
RMM LV8	Opportunities for screening vegetation to be provided on private property will be investigated where, once at a mature height, will reduce an identified visual impact from a residence. This will be undertaken in negotiation with the affected resident. This will be informed by further assessment to determine the extent of the impact and appropriateness of any screening vegetation. Any such screening vegetation will be planted prior to completion of construction and will be maintained by the landholder.	Transmission line	Not applicable to Stage 1 works.	Not applicable to Stage 1 works. No residences have line-of-sight to the Stage 1 works location.
RMM LV9	Lighting at the substation will be designed and operated in accordance with AS/NZS 4282:2019 Control of the obtrusive effects of outdoor lighting.	Buronga substation	Not applicable to Stage 1 works.	Not applicable to Stage 1 works. Stage 1 works relate to site establishment only (refer to Table 2.1).
RMM HR1	The proposal will be designed and constructed in accordance with the Guidelines for Limiting Exposure to Time-Varying Electric and Magnetic Fields (1 Hz – 100 kHz) (International Commission on Non-ionizing Radiation Protection (ICNIRP), 2010) The design will meet the EMF exposure guidelines set out in Table 19-2 of the EIS and worst case scenarios within Transgrid's <i>Transmission Line Design Manual – Major New Build</i>.	All locations	MM3 of Appendix A5 of this CEMP.	The design requirements in relation to electric and magnetic field is outlined in MM3 of Appendix A5 of this CEMP.

3.4 Standards and guidelines

The following standards relating to environmental management that apply to the project include:

- ISO 14001 *Environmental Management Systems – Requirements with Guidance for Use*; and

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- NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment, 2020, *Independent Audit Post Approval Requirements*.

Compliance standards, policies and guidelines relevant to specific environmental values are detailed in the respective sub-plans. The requirements of these standards have been taken into account in the preparation of the CEMP and sub-plans and will be considered by SecureEnergy during the preparation of the Work Packs and Work Method Statements.

Any guideline, protocol, Australian Standard or policy reference in the Infrastructure Approval will be taken in the form/version they were in as at the date of the Infrastructure Approval. Updated or revised version of the relevant guideline, protocol, Standard or policy, or a replacement of the document will be considered when the Planning Secretary issues the direction to do so.

4 Environmental management system

The SecureEnergy Management System includes the Environmental Management System. It has been designed to comply with the requirements of *ISO 14001 Environmental management systems*.

The Health, Safety, Security and Environment Management Manual (HSSE Manual) describes the Environmental Management System for SecureEnergy. Table 4.1 summarises the Environmental Management System components.

Table 4.1 - Environmental Management System components

Management System Component	Description
HSSE Policy & HSSE Management Expectations	The policy sets the overall guidelines and direction to HSSE and represents the commitment of management to the achievement of its aims. The HSSE Management Expectation clearly defines minimum expectations to ensure that all SecureEnergy personnel and subcontractors understand their obligations and accountabilities to contribute to SecureEnergy HSSE culture.
HSSE Operating Standards	The HSSE Operating Standards set out the minimum mandatory performance requirements. Environmental minimum mandatory performance requirements are set out in the following HSSE related Operating Standards: • Environment Management Operating Standard; and • Major Accident Event Hazard Management Operating Standard.
HSSE Management Manual	Provides a framework for the HSSE component of the BMS, an overview of the key elements and reference documents.
HSSE Procedures, documents and registers (tools)	Procedures or work practices which provide the detailed steps to be taken to identify risks, work safely, protect the environment, investigate incidents and implement continuous improvement.
HSSE Management Plans – this CEMP and relevant sub-plans	Project specific plans prepared to identify and manage project HSSE risks and achieve the Operating Standards performance requirements.
Project/Site Specific Procedures, Work Instructions	Project and activity specific procedures, risk assessments and work methods to mitigate HSSE hazards. These are prepared by project personnel.

The structure of the environmental management system for the project is shown in Figure 4.1.

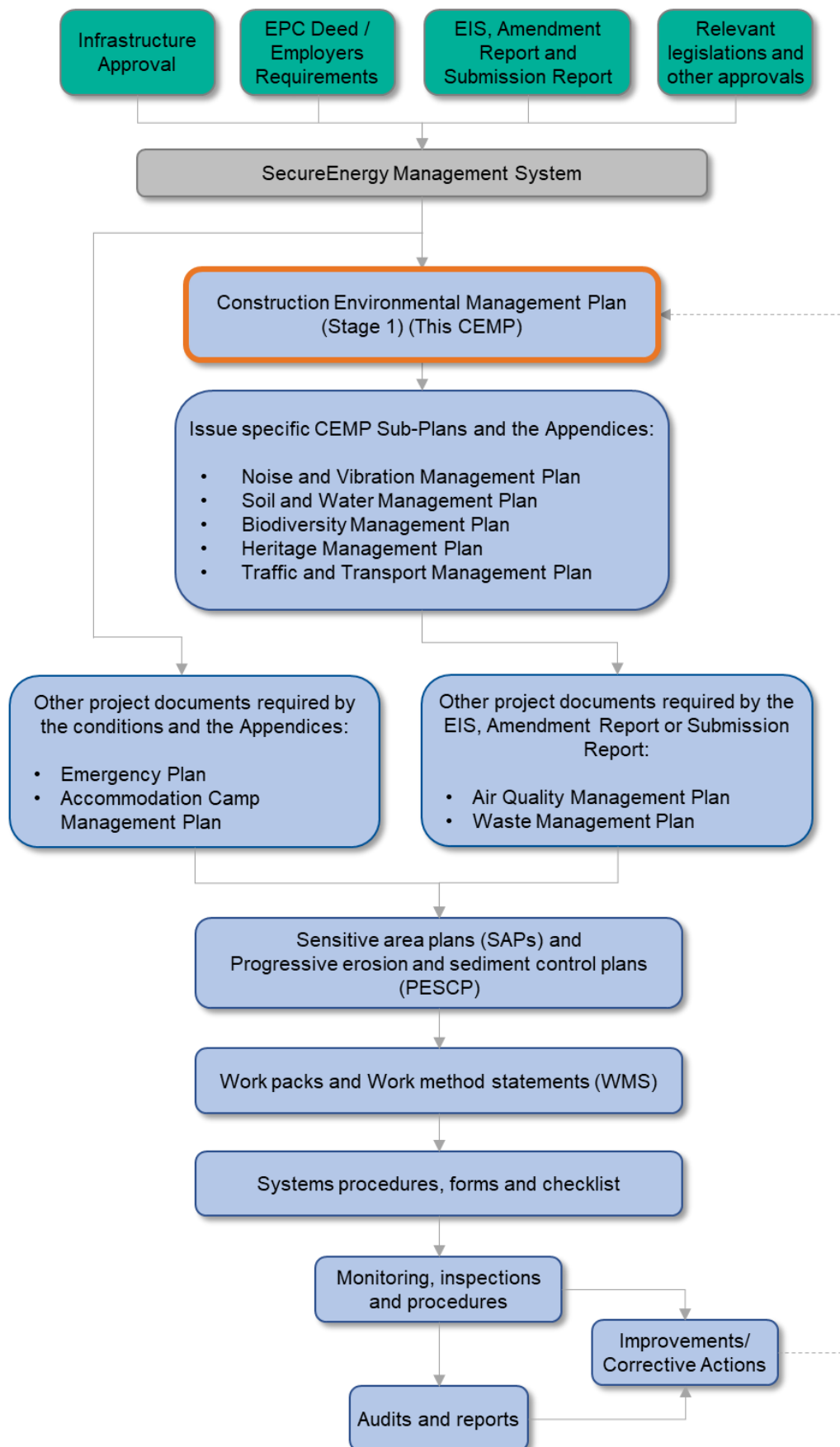


Figure 4.1 - Environmental Management System Process

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4.1 Environment policy

SecureEnergy believes that respect for the project location, its surroundings and the communities in which it operates is essential for project success, as well as compliance with all environmental requirements.

SecureEnergy will adopt and use the existing Clough Management Systems. As a result, SecureEnergy will adopt Clough Policies that inform these systems as amended from time to time. SecureEnergy's Policy Model is provided in Appendix A2 along with Clough's Policy for Environment, Sustainability and Community which will be implemented on EnergyConnect.

Policies will be clearly displayed at SecureEnergy main site office facilities and regularly communicated to staff, employees and subcontractors during inductions and toolbox talks.

4.2 Objectives and targets

As a means of assessing environmental performance, environmental objectives (performance measures), targets (criteria) and performance indicators have been established for the project and are provided below in Table 4.2. These objectives and targets have been developed in consideration of requirements in the statutory approvals, contractual requirements, legislative requirements, HSSE performance requirements and significant environmental aspects and impacts.

Exceedances of the proposed targets will be investigated and reported based on the issue. Any exceedances which result in a non-compliance with the Infrastructure Approval will be reported in accordance with Section 10.1.

Table 4.2 - Environmental objectives, targets and performance indicators

Aspects	Objectives (performance measures)	Targets (criteria)	Performance indicators
Compliance	Compliance with Statutory Approvals and Infrastructure Approval	- Full compliance with statutory approvals. - No regulatory infringements (PINs or prosecutions). - No formal regulatory warning.	Number of regulatory infringements (PINs or prosecutions), formal regulatory warning, audits.
	Implement and comply with the CEMP and associated management plans	Zero non-compliances identified during each compliance audit of CEMP and sub-plans.	Number of non-compliance arising from each audit.
	Address all corrective and preventative actions arising from audits	All corrective and preventative actions arising from audits closed out within specific timeframes.	Action close-out timing statistics in corrective and preventative action close-out reports.
Incident management and response	Ensure timely communication of incidents Minimise the risk of an incident by identifying risks and developing actions to minimise those risks	- All incidents reported in accordance with this management plan. - All risks reviewed in accordance with the SecureEnergy management system.	Follow up action of incidents as recorded in incident reports.
Engage with stakeholders and the broader community, minimise complaints and respond to any complaints within a suitable timeframe	Disseminate regular project updates and other information to keep the community informed of the project. Record and respond to complaints within a timely manner.	- All project updates provided within the timeframes specific within the <i>Community Communication Strategy</i>. - All complaints are review within the timeframes specific within the <i>Community Communication Strategy</i>.	Timeliness of project updates per project website; and timeliness of complaints response as recorded on complaints register.
Sustainability	Promote sustainable infrastructure.	Achieve an ISCA verified 'Design' and 'As-built' rating of Excellent under v1.2 of the IS rating tool.	ISCA rating

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Aspects	Objectives (performance measures)	Targets (criteria)	Performance indicators
Biodiversity	Minimise and manage the impacts of the project on biodiversity.	No exceedance to clearing values of known biodiversity including flora and fauna species as specified in condition D25.	Total clearing area as recorded on clearing register.
Heritage	Minimise and manage the impacts of the project on Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal heritage items within the approved project corridor.	No harm to known Aboriginal and known non-Aboriginal heritage.	Number of incidents involving harm to known Aboriginal heritage objects or known non-Aboriginal heritage items .
Training and improvement	Provide adequate training to ensure construction activities are undertaken safely and with minimal risk to the environment. Continuously improve environmental performance	- Regular environmental training that focuses on the specific project activities and associated environmental risks. - Regular pre-start meetings and toolbox talks in accordance with Section 6.	Records of induction, toolbox talks with environmental focus, daily pre-start meetings.
Inspections and audits	Completion of weekly inspections and audits	100% completion of scheduled audits and weekly inspections.	Environmental inspections, audits.

4.3 Construction Environmental Management Plan

This CEMP, as shown in Figure 4.1, is the overarching management tool in relation to environmental performance during Stage 1 of the project delivery. The CEMP describes the construction environmental management framework for the project and the system for minimising and managing environmental risks.

The CEMP details the management plans which have been, or will be, prepared to address specific environmental aspects of the project, and outlines the environmental management practices that are to be followed during construction. It provides the overall framework for the system to ensure environmental impacts are minimised and legislative and other requirements are fulfilled.

4.3.1 CEMP sub-plans

A number of specific environmental management sub-plans (CEMP sub-plans) have been prepared to support the CEMP, as outlined in Figure 4.2. Table 4.3 list the CEMP sub-plans that are required under condition B2 of the Infrastructure Approval. The sub-plans document the environmental aspects, impacts and management measures for each key environmental value. The sub-plans are provided in Appendix B.

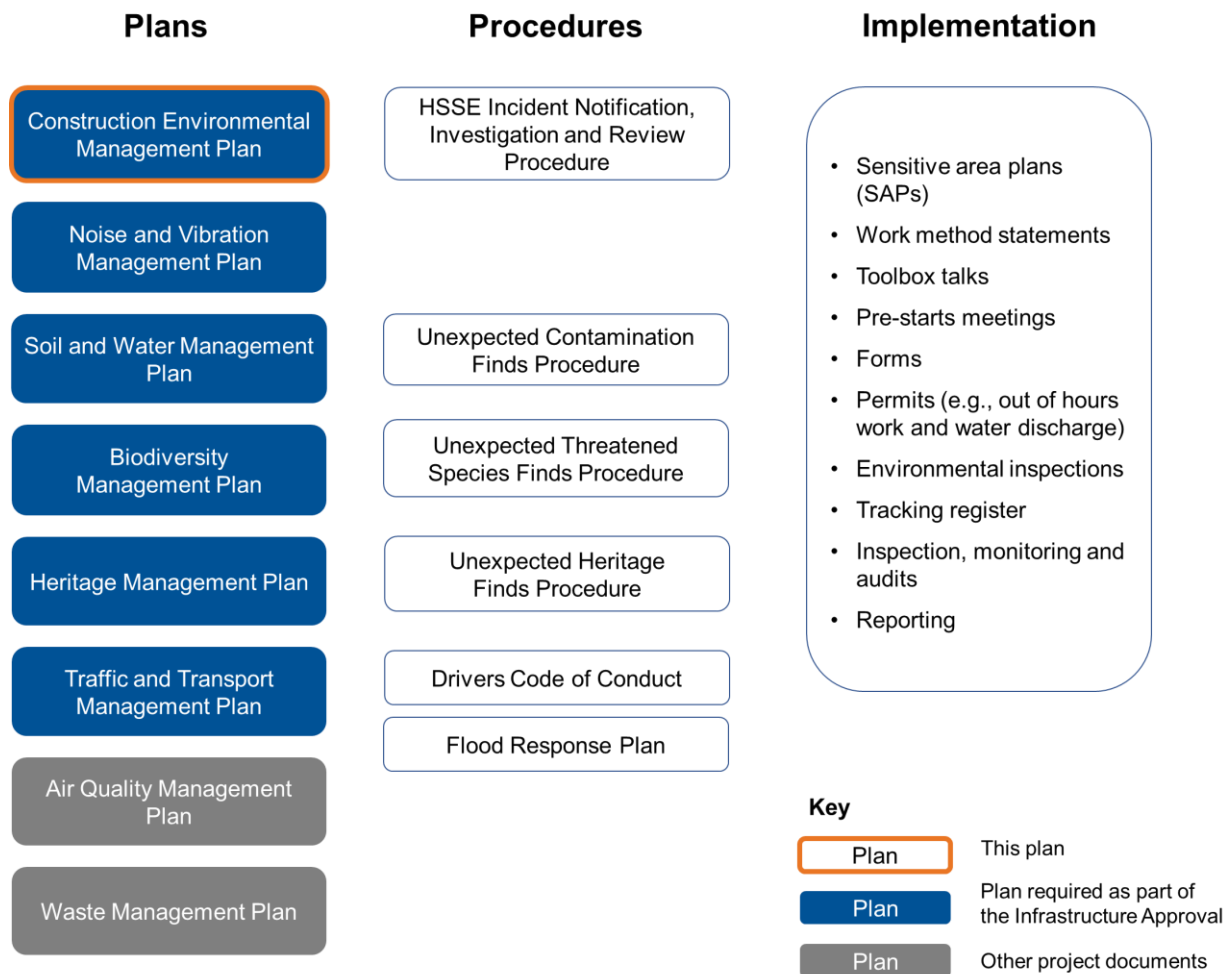


Figure 4.2 - CEMP framework

Table 4.3 - CEMP and CEMP sub-plans

Document name	Condition	Applicable to Stage 1	Document Number	Location
Construction Environmental Management Plan	B1	Yes	45860-HSE-PL-D-0003	This plan
Traffic and Transport Management Plan (TTMP)	D40	Yes	45860-HSE-PL-D-0004	Appendix B1 TTMP
Noise and Vibration Management Plan (NVMP)	D13	Yes	45860-HSE-PL-D-0005	Appendix B2 NVMP
Biodiversity Management Plan (BMP)	D28	Yes	45680-HSE-PL-D-0006	Appendix B3 BMP
Soil and Water Management Plan (SWMP)	D24	Yes	45860-HSE-PL-D-0008	Appendix B4 SWMP
Heritage Management Plan (HMP)	D34	Yes	45860-HSE-PL-D-0009	Appendix B5 HMP

4.3.2 Other approval documents

Other documents that are required by the Infrastructure Approval are provided in Table 4.4.

Table 4.4 - Other approval documents

Document name	Condition	Document Number
Emergency Plan	D47	45860-HSE-PL-D-0025
Accommodation Camp Management Plan	D52	45860-HSE-PL-G-1027
Local Business and Employment Strategy	D53	5860-CM-PL-G-1002

4.4 Work Packs and Work Method Statements

Work Packs describe construction implementation in detail. The preparation of Work Packs involves a comprehensive review of the requirements of many aspects of project delivery, including design, construction, environment and health and safety. Work Packs provide specific instruction on how to construct and undertake certain elements of the project. As required, Work Packs will incorporate procedures relevant to site-specific activities, to reduce risk and ensure ongoing environmental compliance. These measures are based on relevant measures in the CEMP and sub-plans.

Work Method Statements (WMSs) are developed as part of the preparation of every Work Pack. WMSs set out the construction methodology for a particular activity or set of activities, specific to the project and incorporate work-specific environmental hazard assessments. WMSs are the document tools to transform the relevant management measures in the CEMP and sub-plans into actions to be implemented during the undertaking of project activities. The WMSs will ensure that location and activity-specific environmental features and risks (e.g. potential disturbance to threatened species habitat during clearing) are managed.

WMSs are typically prepared and reviewed by the construction team in consultation with the environmental team. The relevant environmental controls and management measures are incorporated into the WMS. The site personnel and sub-contractors involved in the relevant activities will be briefed on the requirements in the WMS, with a toolbox talk or specific WMS briefing held prior to the commencement of the works (refer to Section 6 for further details). All construction personnel and sub-contractors undertaking tasks governed by the Work Packs and WMSs must acknowledge that they have read and understood their obligations prior to commencing work.

4.5 Sensitive area plans

A set of sensitive area plans (SAPs) will be prepared to support the identification and appropriate management of key environmental features associated with the project. SAPs will be developed, reviewed by the environmental team. The SAPs will identify areas/features of environmental and heritage sensitivity and 'no go' zones, and will be included in the project Work Packs to help identify key risk areas, and promote ongoing communication to construction personnel.

Sensitive area plans include information pertaining, but not limited to:

- flora features, including threatened species and endangered ecological communities;
- Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal heritage sites;
- watercourses;
- known fauna habitat to be protected (i.e. hollow bearing trees);
- areas of vegetation to be retained;
- clearing limit boundary; and
- any designated no-go zones.

4.6 Progressive erosion and sediment control plans

Progressive erosion and sediment control plans (PESCPs) will be developed in accordance with the principles outlined in the erosion and sediment control strategy provided in the *Soil and Water Management Plan* (45860-HSE-PL-D-0008). The PESCPs will show the site layout and approximate

location of erosion and sediment control structures on-site. PESCPs will be updated as required as sites and associated erosion and sediment control requirements change.

A Certified Professional in Erosion and Sediment Control will prepare an Erosion and Sediment Control Plan for the project. Environmental staff will then typically develop any PESCPs in consultation with Project Engineers, Superintendents and Supervisors. This will ensure that erosion and sediment control management is incorporated into the planning stage of construction activities and is coordinated in its approach.

The Environmental Manager will approve PESCPs in the first instance. Minor changes thereafter will be approved by environment staff in consultation with the Environmental Manager, as required.

PESCPs are designed for use as a practical guide and may be produced in conjunction with Work Packs or WMSs. For further details regarding soil and water management refer to the *Soil and Water Management Plan* (45860-HSE-PL-D-0008).

4.7 Procedures, forms and other documents

Other documents such as project-specific procedures and strategies have been developed. These are provided in Table 4.5 below.

Table 4.5 - Procedures, forms and other documents

Document name	Document Number	Location
Unexpected Heritage Finds Procedure	45860-HSE-PR-G-1003	Appendix A of the HMP
Unexpected Threatened Species Finds Procedure	45860-HSE-PR-D-0002	Appendix A of the BMP
Pre-clearing and Clearing Procedure	45860-HSE-PR-G-1008	Appendix B of the BMP
Fauna Handling Procedure	45860-HSE-PR-G-1005	Appendix C of the BMP
Biosecurity Management Plan	45860-HSE-PL-D-0003	Appendix D of the BMP
Erosion and Sediment Control Strategy	45860-HSE-PR-G-1002	Appendix A of the SWMP
Unexpected Contamination Finds Procedure	45860-HSE-PR-D-0003	Appendix B of the SWMP
Spill Response Procedure	45860-HSE-PR-G-1002	Appendix C of the SWMP
Dewatering Procedure	45860-HSE-PR-G-1004	Appendix D of the SWMP
Out-Of-Hours-Work Protocol	45860-HSE-PR-D-0001	Appendix A of the NVMP
Drivers Code of Conduct	45860-HSE-PR-G-1009	Appendix A of the TTMP
Flood Response Plan	45860-HSE-PL-D-0010	Appendix B of the TTMP

4.8 Document control and records

All project documents are to be numbered, approved, revised, transmitted, and stored in accordance with the *Project Document Control Plan* (45860-IM-PL-G-0003).

Records will be developed and maintained by SecureEnergy including:

- training records;
- incident reports;
- audit and inspection forms;
- monitoring results; and
- waste register including volume of waste to landfill, waste recycled, and waste disposed of offsite.

4.9 Roles and responsibilities

4.9.1 Organisational structure

For illustrative purposes, Figure 4.3 is provided as a simplified figure to represent SecureEnergy's organisation structure.

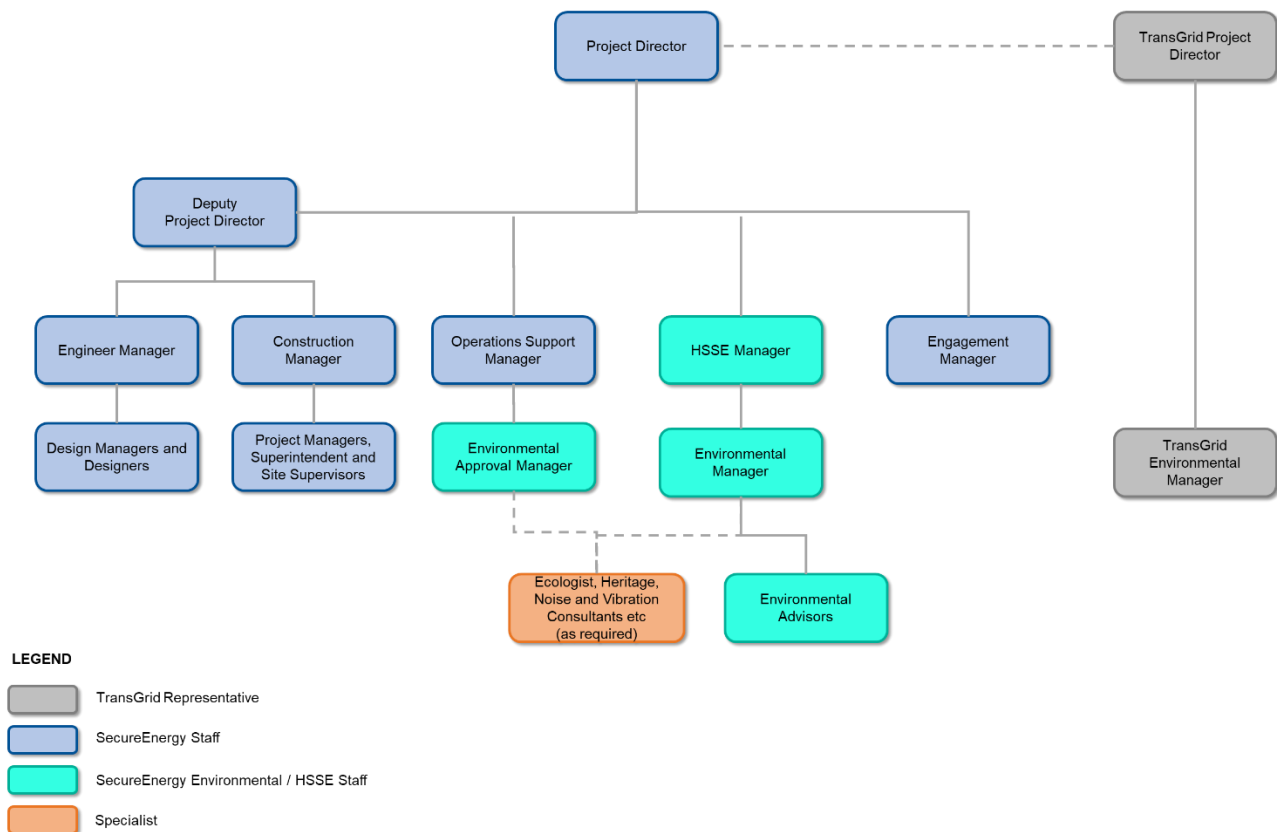


Figure 4.3 - Key roles within the organisation structure

SecureEnergy's Project Director, in consultation with functional managers, will ensure that appropriate resources are available to effectively manage the implementation of the CEMP during delivery of the project.

All SecureEnergy staff, subcontractors and visitors are required to operate in accordance with this CEMP and related environmental management plans during construction.

The project environmental management structure incorporates the following site personnel:

- Environmental Manager responsible for overall management of the CEMP and environmental management plans; and
- Environmental Advisors to assist in implementing and monitoring measures in the CEMP and environmental management plans.

4.9.2 Roles and responsibilities

Further detail regarding the roles and responsibilities is provided within Table 4.6.

Table 4.6 - Environmental roles and responsibilities

Role	Responsibilities
Appointed Roles	
Environmental Representative	The responsibilities of the Environmental Representative (ER) include: - review the documents identified in Infrastructure Approval and any other documents that are identified by the Planning Secretary, to ensure they are consistent with requirements under the Infrastructure Approval; - assist the Department in the resolution of community complaints as requested by the Planning Secretary; and - consider and approve any minor amendments made to the plans that involve updating or are of an administrative nature and do not increase impacts to nearby sensitive receivers, and ensure they are consistent with the terms of this approval and other documents approved by the Planning Secretary. Note the ER will be a suitably qualified and experienced person, approved by the Planning Secretary no later than one week before project commencement. The ER must not have been involved in the preparation of the EIS documents, and is independent from the design and construction of the development.
Transgrid	
Transgrid Project Director	The environmental responsibilities of the Transgrid Project Director include: - monitor the environmental performance of the project in relation to Transgrid requirements; - liaise with relevant stakeholders; - attend project meetings.
Transgrid Environmental Manager	The responsibilities of the Transgrid Environmental Manager include: - liaise between SecureEnergy and stakeholders (including government agencies) as required; - undertake periodic inspections of the project sites to identify environmental non-compliances; - review changes to the project for consistency with the project environmental assessment and approval documentation; - provide guidance and where appropriate, monitor compliance with DPIE post approval document submission requirements; - review environmental management plans and related documents prepared for the project; and - monitor the environmental performance of the project in relation to Transgrid requirements and DPIE post-approval document submission requirements.
SecureEnergy	
Project Director	The environmental responsibilities of the Project Director include: - overall delivery of the project program; - manage all key aspects of project performance, including environmental performance; - undertake actions in accordance with the project's due diligence framework; - define and refine project management philosophies, capabilities, processes and tools; - ensure project practices and on-site activities are conducted in accordance with project policies and procedures; - ensure personnel delegated responsibility for environmental management are adequately trained and competent to implement the requirements of the CEMP; - direct activities to ensure resource needs are accurately forecasted and linked to the project, including the identification of skill and behaviour requirements; - ensure personnel delegated responsibility for environmental management are adequately trained and competent to implement the requirements of the CEMP; - ensure resources are available to enable execution of project environmental management activities and project emergency response systems; - drive the creation of systems, practices and behaviours that promote the identification and appropriate management of potential risks and opportunities; - lead negotiations with Transgrid to achieve an agreed resolution of complaints and non-conformance reports (NCR);

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Role	Responsibilities
	- approve all management plans prior to their implementation; and - attend and participate in environmental meetings as appropriate.
Deputy Project Director	The environmental responsibilities of the Deputy Project Director include: - support the overall delivery of the project program; - manage key aspects of project performance, including environmental performance; - undertake actions in accordance with the project's due diligence framework; - enforce the project management philosophies, capabilities, processes and tools; - ensure project practices and on-site activities are conducted in accordance with project policies and procedures; - ensure personnel delegated responsibility for environmental management are adequately trained and competent to implement the requirements of the CEMP; - direct activities to ensure resource needs are accurately forecasted and linked to the project, including the identification of skill and behaviour requirements; - ensure resources are available to enable execution of project environmental management activities and project emergency response systems; - ensure resources are available to eliminate or minimise environmental hazards; - participate in incident investigations and review all incident reports as appropriate; - support negotiations with Transgrid to achieve an agreed resolution of complaints and non-conformance reports (NCR); - ensure all management plans are fully developed and implemented; and - attend and participate in environmental meetings as appropriate.
Construction Manager	The environmental responsibilities of the Construction Manager include: - delivery of the construction aspects of the project; - ensure resources are available to eliminate or minimise environmental hazards; - ensure subcontractors understands their environmental responsibilities as required in the Contract; - participate in incident investigations and review all incident reports; - arrange and participate in HAZID workshops; - participate in workplace inspections; - review the audit findings and close out reports; - review the overall project environmental performance; - attend and participate in environmental meetings as appropriate; - participate in Target Zero commitment workshop; - review work planning requirements; - aware of the relevant environmental laws, permits and standards; - provide construction and field management and supervisors with environmental information current to their requirements; - ensure environmental standards developed for each activity meet with SecureEnergy requirements - schedule and coordinate site-based environmental activities; - interface with client environmental personnel during their site visits; and - provide project line management with feedback on environmental performance.
Health, Safety, Security & Environment Manager	The responsibilities of the Health, Safety, Security and Environment Manager include: - deliver the HSSE aspects of the project in accordance with contract and legislative requirements; - communicate the HSSE requirements to the project Management and HSSE Teams; - review HSSE standards and plans developed for each project to ensure that legislative requirements are met; - review overall HSSE performance and report to the project Management and Corporate HSSE Manager; - interface with major subcontractors and Transgrid management, regulatory and with HSSE personnel as required regarding HSSE matters; - coordinate third party certification audits;

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Role	Responsibilities
	• specify resources to enable execution of HSSE activities on-site; • specify resources to enable execution of emergency response systems on-site; • arrange for and participate in HAZID workshops; • provide HSSE Advisors, project line management and subcontractor with feedback on HSSE performance; • participate in the Target Zero commitment workshop; • implement and coordinate Target Zero activities and strategies; • receive and circulate relevant HSSE information; • coordinate and participate in scheduled HSSE audits and reviews; • statistical analysis and incident trend reviews; • develop training and induction schedules and content; • deliver the training and induction material such as site induction, toolbox talks and pre-start meetings; • attend and participate in HSSE meetings as required; • coordinate and participate in workplace inspections; and • record, monitor and follow up close out of action items in InControl.
Environmental Approvals Manager	The responsibilities of the Environmental Approvals Manager include: • communicate the environmental approval requirements to the Project Management and Environmental Teams; • communicate and liaise with Transgrid in relation to approval documents and matters; • develop and review the CEMP and SecureEnergy management plans; • review, and where required, revise environmental management documents; • review proposed project changes and where required, prepare consistency assessments. Where consistency assessments are required Transgrid's Environmental Manager and the Environmental Representative will be informed; • develop training and induction content, where required; • organise and participate in meetings as required; and • specify the resources required to develop environmental approval documents. The role of the Environmental Approvals Manager will be phased out depending on SecureEnergy's requirements and the stage of the project.
Environmental Manager	The responsibilities of the Environmental Manager include: • implement and deliver the environmental requirements of the project; • communicate the environmental requirements to the Project Management and Environmental Teams; • communicate and liaise with Transgrid in relation to environmental performance and compliance matters; • implement the CEMP and SecureEnergy management plans; • monitor and report compliance of the works in relation to the approved documents including the environmental objectives set in Table 4.2; • review, and where required, revise environmental management documents; • review proposed changes to design and construction methodologies and where required, communicate them to the Environmental Approvals Manager to determine if consistency assessments are required; • specify the resources required to enable execution of environmental activities on-site; • specify the resources required to enable execution of emergency response systems on-site; • arrange and participate in HAZID workshops; • provide environmental coordinators, project line management, and SecureEnergy with feedback on environmental performance; • participate in the Target Zero commitment workshop; • receive and circulate the relevant environmental information; • coordinate and participate in scheduled environmental audits and reviews; • undertake statistical analysis and environmental incident trend reviews; • develop training and induction content;

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Role	Responsibilities
	• deliver the environmental component of training and induction such as site induction, toolbox talks and pre-start meetings; • promote environmental management improvements initiatives; • organise and participate in environmental meetings as required; • coordinate and participate in workplace inspections; • record, monitor and follow up close out of action items in InControl; • responsible for the overall environmental performance of the site; • provide leadership in the implementation of all environmental initiatives; and • specify the resources required to enable execution of environmental activities.
Environmental Advisors	The responsibilities of the Environmental Advisor include: • communicate of environmental requirements to project personnel including Superintendents and Supervisors; • being accountable for ongoing development and implementation of project environmental activities and practices; • record, monitor and follow up close out of action items; • develop and update environmental management documents; • ensure corrective actions are implemented; • participate in Target Zero workshops; • comply with statutory requirements, including duty of care; • liaise with supervisors on relevant environmental issues; • organise and participate in environmental meetings; • report and investigate all environment incidents in the area of control; • review and close out environmental incident reports; • deliver the environmental component of training and induction such as site induction, toolbox talks and pre-start meetings; • provide support and direction to all supervisors through positive discussions on environmental initiatives; • conduct weekly workplace inspections; • monitor high environmental risk activities and the commencement of activities in new areas or areas with significant environmental sensitivities; • support employees to perform their work in an environmentally conscious manner; • report all incidents and hazards to management; • monitor the use and maintenance of spill kits at all work sites; and • ensure work group employees participate in relevant environmental activities.
Supervisors	The environmental responsibilities of the Supervisors include: • plan for and incorporating environmental management into all work plans and activities; • ensure that instructions are issued and adequate information provided to field-based employees which relate to environmental risks on-site; • participate in HAZID workshops and audits; • motivate employees to report all environmental incidents; • participate in Target Zero workshops; • conduct inspections of their work area per the Audit and Inspection Schedule; • plan and incorporate environmental management into all work plans and activities; • open and maintain external communication during emergencies; • maintain a log of communications sent and received during an emergency; • report all incidents and hazards to management; • comply with statutory requirements, including duty of care; • report hazardous conditions; • participate in any relevant environmental training; • deliver the environmental component of training and induction such as toolbox talks and pre-start meetings; • provide suggestions to improve environmental management on the project;

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Role	Responsibilities
	- report any near miss or environmental incidents; and - participate in site environmental meetings as required.
All personnel, including subcontractors	The environmental responsibilities of all personnel include: - undertake works in accordance with the Clough's Management System and management plans; - follow directions from senior staff and project environmental personnel in relation to environmental matters; - follow the instructions in the WMS in relation to environmental matters; - participate in any relevant environmental training; - report any near miss or environmental incidents to their Supervisors; and - provide suggestions to improve environmental management on the project.

4.9.3 Other environmental resources

Specialist consultants and subcontractors will be engaged for environmental support roles, as required, such as:

- ecologists for pre-clearing survey and assessment including tree hollows, identification of exclusion zones for retained threatened flora populations;
- noise and vibration specialists for noise modelling, establishment and maintenance of monitoring equipment, and ongoing advice throughout construction;
- heritage consultants for review of the Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal heritage management sub-plans and archaeological survey, test excavations, salvage and reporting where required; and
- other resources as required during the course of the project.

4.9.4 Subcontractors and suppliers

All subcontractors will work in accordance with this CEMP, sub-plans and relevant procedures. Subcontractors are required to carry out their work in accordance with contract instructions and in an environmentally sound manner.

Subcontractors will not normally be required to prepare and implement a separate Environmental Management Plan in addition to this CEMP, except where the risk of environmental harm from the subcontractor's activities is assessed as significant or the subcontractor has control of a specific project area. SecureEnergy will ensure that any separate Environmental Management Plans are consistent with this CEMP, the relevant conditions of approval and legislative requirements.

All subcontractor personnel are required to attend a project induction, which includes an environment and sustainability component and task-specific training (if relevant) before they commence any work on-site. The Environmental Manager, or delegate, will confirm and implement requirements for effective subcontractor control based on known project risks and demonstrated subcontractor performance.

All suppliers will be required to comply with any relevant requirements of this CEMP and associated sub-plans, including sustainability requirements.

The Environmental Manager will confirm and implement actions to ensure suppliers and subcontractors are aware of the requirements within the CEMP that are relevant. This will occur during the procurement phase including final subcontractor and supplier assessment and selection and then carried through into the construction phase.

5 Environmental risk management

5.1 Risk and hazard management

Hazard and risk management approach will be used to determine the potential severity and likelihood of an activity's impact on the environment and to prioritise its significance.

Risk identification, assessment and management is part of the Clough Management System and will be undertaken in accordance with procedure *CORP-HSE-PR-G-0072 HSSE, Risk Management Procedure*. The procedure is consistent with *AS/NZS ISO 31000:2009 Australian Standard Risk Management*.

Over the life of the project, hazards and risks will be identified, assessed and controlled through the use of a number of different risk management tools, primarily risk assessments.

The objectives of undertaking hazard and risk assessments are to:

- identify hazardous activities, events or outcomes that have the potential to adversely affect the local environment and/or human health/property;
- assess hazards and risks and prioritised them using a consistent process aligned to Clough risk management principles;
- determine appropriate control measures;
- assess whether hazards and risk issues can be managed by the implementation of environmental management measures; and
- qualitatively evaluate residual risk with implementation of the protection measures.

Following identification and assessment the resultant control measures will be communicated, implemented and monitored to confirm their effectiveness. WMSs and Work Packs will be updated to provide specific instructions on how to conduct components of the construction. These will include the relevant environmental controls to be implemented which are identified through the hazard and risk assessment process.

Sensitive area plans will be used in conjunction with WMSs or Work Packs to help identify key risk areas and to promote ongoing communication to construction personnel during the project.

A summary of the Clough risk management processes, their purpose, the methodologies used and the stage in the project lifecycle to which they apply is provided in Table 5.1 and diagrammatically in Figure 5.1.

Table 5.1 - Project HSSE Risk Assessment Processes

Risk Assessment Process	Description	Methodology	Application						Reference Procedures	
			Corporate	Business Division	New Opportunity	Project Planning	Project Execution	Project Close-out		
Technical HSSE Assessments										
Design risks	Identify, assess and document inherent design risks	HAZID, HAZOP, FMEA			✓	✓		✓	Safety in Design Procedure	CORP-ENG-PR-G-0016
Design reviews - construction, operation, maintenance	Identify, assess and mitigation of HSSE hazards introduced by the design when facility being	HAZID, HAZOP			✓	✓			Safety in Design Procedure	CORP-ENG-PR-G-0016

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Risk Assessment Process	Description	Methodology	Application						Reference Procedures	
			Corporate	Business Division	New Opportunity	Project Planning	Project Execution	Project Close-out		
	constructed, operated or maintained									
Fire & Explosion analysis	Identify, assess and control potential sources of fire & explosion, and consequence mitigation through design	Fire and Explosion Study			✓	✓			Safety in Design Procedure	CORP-ENG-PR-G-0016
Threat Specific HSSE Hazard Assessment (where applicable to project)										
Environmental/Social Impact Assessment	Identify, assess and mitigate environment and community impacts	EIA, HAZID, Social Impact Study	✓	✓		✓			HSSE Risk Management Procedure	CORP-HSE-PR-G-0072
Natural Disasters Assessment (Emergency Events)	Identify, assess and mitigate potential natural disaster events which may affect the site (e.g. cyclone, wild fire, tsunami)	HAZID	✓	✓		✓			HSSE Risk Management Procedure	CORP-HSE-PR-G-0072
Task Based HSSE Hazard Assessment										
Project HSSE Assessment	Identify, assess and control potential HSSE impacts specific to the project & Site	HAZID				✓		✓	HSSE Risk Management Procedure	CORP-HSE-PR-G-0072
Construction Package HSSE Assessment	Identify, assess and control potential HSSE impacts specific to the Construction package	HAZID				✓	✓	✓	HSSE Risk Management Procedure	CORP-HSE-PR-G-0072
Subcontractor HSSE Assessment	Assess the HSSE capability of subcontractors to inform management strategy Identify, assess and control potential HSSE impacts of contract scope	PRE-QUAL/HAZID				✓	✓	✓	HSSE Risk Management Procedure	CORP-HSE-PR-G-0072
Work Team Task Assessment	Work teams identify, assess and control HSSE hazards of planned work	JHA					✓	✓	HSSE Risk Management Procedure	CORP-HSE-PR-G-0072
Personal Task Assessment	Individuals identify, assess and control HSSE hazards of planned task	TAKE 5					✓	✓	HSSE Risk Management Procedure	CORP-HSE-PR-G-0072

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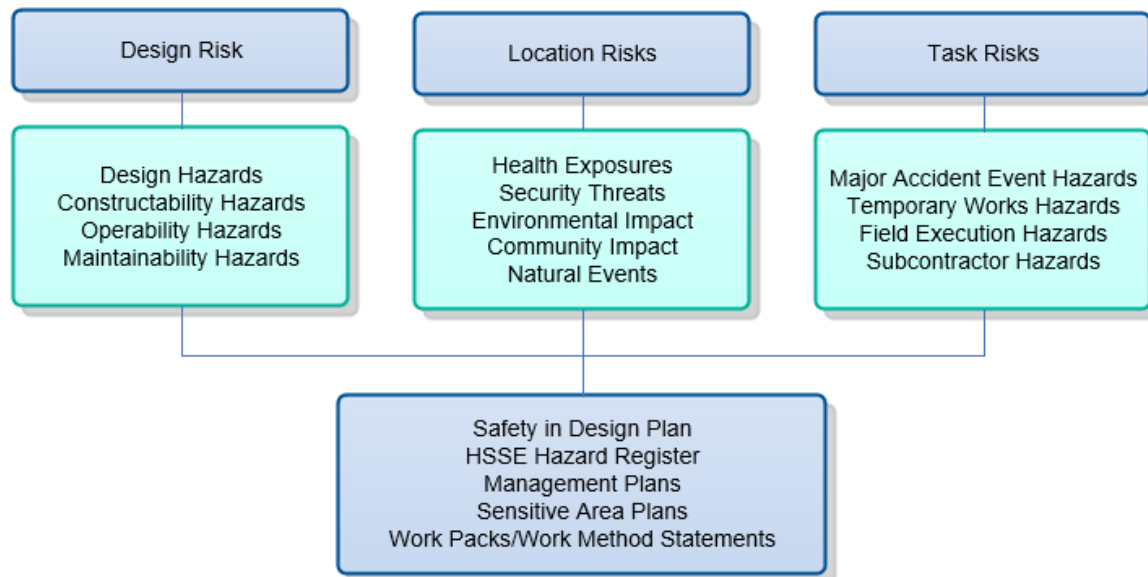


Figure 5.1 - HSSE Risk Management Framework

5.2 Environmental aspect and impact register

The environmental aspects of key construction activities and associated potential impacts will be continually identified, assessed and controlled throughout the project and included within the environmental risk register. The environmental aspect and impact register, provided in Appendix A3, will form a part of the consolidated risk register managed and reported in accordance with the *Risk Management Plan* (45860-QM-PL-G-1002).

The ongoing determination of environmental aspects and impacts will be achieved through the risk management processes outlined above, which results in the maintenance of a list of environmental risks (aspects and impacts), corresponding risk mitigation strategy and risk ranking for each risk. Each environmental risk is categorised, based on the following:

- the environmental aspect;
- type of potential impact (or consequence); and
- likelihood of occurrence.

Risk management measures are identified to reduce the environmental impacts of each activities to as low as reasonably practicable. These management measures are included in the Environmental Aspect and Impact Register. Risk management measures have been included in the relevant CEMP sub-plans, and will be addressed in relevant WMSs and communicated to the workforce as described in Section 4.4.

SecureEnergy will maintain the project risk register throughout the construction phase of the project. Risks will be required to be reviewed on a quarterly basis and will also be reviewed in response to incidents, changes in legal requirements, change in project scope, findings of inspections and audits and management reviews.

6 Training and awareness

Environmental training is an important means to raise environmental awareness and positively influence the attitude of workers engaged in the project whilst ensuring they are aware of their obligation and the requirements of this CEMP. Internal and on-the-job training will be provided by SecureEnergy on a regular basis for all employees and subcontractors.

Training will be delivered in accordance with the *HSSE Training Management Plan* (45860-HSE-PL-G-1011), with training and awareness delivered through:

- Target Zero leadership and behaviour programs;
- site inductions;
- toolbox talks;
- daily pre-start meetings; and
- WMS briefings and/or targeted environmental briefings e.g. erosion and sediment control, heritage and spill response.

Where required, the Environmental Manager (or delegate) will prepare and deliver the environmental components of the training material to highlight specific environmental and heritage sensitivities, risks and requirements related to the project or upcoming construction activities. Refer to the sections below for further detail.

6.1 Site induction

All personnel (including sub-contractors) will be required to attend a compulsory site induction that includes an environmental component prior to commencement on-site. This is done to ensure all personnel involved in the project are aware of the requirements of the CEMP and to ensure the implementation of environmental management measures. The Environmental Manager (or delegate) will prepare and deliver the environmental component of the site induction.

The environmental component will include an overview of the following elements:

- relevant details of the CEMP;
- relevant conditions of Infrastructure Approvals, environmental licences and permits;
- the location of key features of environmental and heritage sensitivity (i.e. heritage sites, threatened species and ecological communities, residences) and where this information can be found;
- relevant environmental management requirements and responsibilities;
- key management measures for the control of environmental issues;
- notification and response requirements in the event of unexpected finds (i.e. for heritage, contaminated land or threatened species);
- regulatory penalties and consequences of non-compliance;
- incident response and reporting; and
- emergency response and evacuation (fire and flooding).

6.2 Toolbox talks

Toolbox talks will be delivered by various SecureEnergy personnel such as Construction Manager, HSSE Manager and Environmental Manager, depending on the primary focus and content of the toolbox talk. Toolbox talks are necessary to raise the workforce's level of project and environmental awareness. Toolbox talks will generally occur monthly.

Toolbox talks will be tailored to specific environmental issues relevant to upcoming works and current environmental performance matters and will include general and specific discussion of the key environmental aspects of the project.

6.3 Daily pre-start meetings

Daily pre-start meetings will be conducted by the Supervisors prior to the start of work each day to inform workers of key safety, environmental and heritage sensitivity, activity coordination considerations and other information that may be relevant in the performance of the day's work.

6.4 WMS briefings and/or targeted environmental briefings

As outlined in Section 4.4, WMSs are developed as part of the preparation of every Work Pack. WMSs set out the construction methodology for a particular activity or set of activities, specific to the project and incorporate work-specific environmental hazard assessments. WMS briefing will be delivered by the Construction Manager (or delegate) or Supervisor to communicate key requirements, actions, processes and controls to construction personnel.

Targeted environmental briefings will be provided to individuals or groups of workers with a specific authority or responsibility for environmental management or those undertaking an activity with a high risk of environmental impact. The targeted environmental briefings will communicate the potential environmental risks/impacts of the activity and the mitigation measures to reduce the environmental risk. Targeted environmental briefings will be delivered by the Environmental Manager (or delegate).

7 Communication and complaints management

7.1 Communication

SecureEnergy and Transgrid are committed to ensuring effective communication is undertaken on a regular basis at all levels of the project. A high level of communication is an important factor in the successful and correct delivery of environmental outcomes on the project and it will ensure environmental performance is continually communicated, understood and improved.

7.1.1 Internal communication

The methods of internal (on-site) communication will include:

- inductions;
- toolbox talks;
- pre-start meetings;
- alerts, bulletins and/or initiatives; and
- Work Packs.

SecureEnergy will discuss environmental issues as a regular component of their toolbox and site meeting agenda.

SecureEnergy will present environmental communications to its workforce on a minimum weekly basis. This will include information on the management of environmental risks or key site environmental issues as required. Records of the topics, attendance and presenter's name will be maintained.

7.1.2 External communication

A *Community Communication Strategy* (CCS) (45860-CM-PL-G-1001) has been prepared for the project. The CCS provides a framework in the management of community and stakeholder communication and engagement. The CCS identifies the community engagement objectives, the people and organisations that will be consulted with, the delivery framework and potential issues the project needs to manage during project delivery.

The CCS also provides information on the communication tools and protocols which will support implementation, and descriptions of how community stakeholders will be kept informed of, and consulted about, the project throughout the delivery phase.

In particular, the CCS details the following elements:

- identification of community and key external stakeholders;
- procedures and mechanisms for providing information to the community and key stakeholders;
- opportunities and provision for the community to attend the construction site for visits, taking into consideration health and safety requirements;
- the formation of issue or location-based community forums;
- procedures and mechanisms for how the project will receive and respond to community feedback, enquiries and complaints; and
- procedures that explains how disputes will be resolved.

The community and stakeholders will be kept informed through the below framework:

- inform – to provide balanced and objective information to assist in understanding a problem/ options;
- consult – to obtain feedback on options and /or decisions;

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- involve - work with stakeholders to ensure concerns and aspirations are understood and considered; and
- collaborate – form a partnership with stakeholders in each aspect of the decision.

The communication approach to local communities and agencies is predominately aligned within the Inform and Consult stages with the focus on early consultation and providing up-to-date project information. There will however be opportunities in the Involve and Collaborate stage particularly through local employment, local supply chains and Aboriginal participation programs.

Communication tools which will be used by the project to inform stakeholders and the community will include but not be limited to:

- notifications of construction activities;
- notification of out of hours works (as required);
- written correspondence (letters/emails);
- advertisements (as required);
- newsletters;
- meetings;
- the project website which is located at <https://www.projectenergyconnect.com.au>; and
- enquiries and complaints line (24 hour) on 1800 560 577.

7.2 Complaints management

The protocol for managing and reporting any complaints is described in the *Enquiries, Complaint and Dispute Resolution Management Procedure* (45860-CON-PR-G-1001) provided in the CCS. The procedure includes a complaints management process which outlines how SecureEnergy will respond to complaints related to the project.

The complaints management process will use the Consultation Manager database to record information on all complaints received about the project during construction.

The key principles of the complaint management process is provided in Table 7.1 below. Refer to the CCS for further details.

Table 7.1 - Key principles for effective complaint and dispute resolution

Action	Description
Acknowledge	SecureEnergy staff should respect the communities' right to voice their concerns. All complaints received should be acknowledged to the complainant either by telephone or in writing.
Resolve	SecureEnergy staff should aim at first contact resolution for all community concerns. SecureEnergy staff should investigate community concerns in detail before negotiating a resolution. All SecureEnergy staff should use their relevant discretions to achieve a mutually acceptable resolution to complaints.
Escalate	All SecureEnergy staff should aim to escalate the complaint if the community member remains dissatisfied with the investigation and/or resolution offered by their first point of contact at SecureEnergy. All complaints where community request to speak to a higher-level representative, should also be escalated.
Record	SecureEnergy staff should aim through the Engagement Team at recording all relevant information, on the community account in Consultation Manager System, regarding customer concerns along with details of all discussions had with the community member in the process of investigating and/resolving the complaint. Detailed information on the resolutions offered to address community concerns should also be clearly recorded.
Communicate	SecureEnergy staff should remain in constant touch with the community member while their concerns are being investigated. The community member should be informed of all steps of the investigation and the resulting outcome at appropriate times.

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Action	Description
Report	SecureEnergy should report on all complaints received to the SecureEnergy Management Team and Transgrid. The reporting should include information on the number as well as type of complaints being received, the status of these complaints from time to time and the resulting outcomes or resolutions offered to close them.
Feedback	The SecureEnergy Engagement Team should aim at regular and intensive reviews to identify possible trends in the complaints being received. These reviews should be aimed at highlighting improvements required to avoid complaints being repeated.
Action	SecureEnergy should aim at effective implementation of improvements suggested directly by the community or highlighted by complaint trends.

The complaints management system will include a process to manage complaints including receiving, recording, tracking and responding to complaints within a defined timeframe. If a complaint cannot be responded to immediately, a follow up phone call or verbal response will be made to the complainant in accordance with the timeframes detailed below.

The key processes involved in recording complaints and enquiries are as follows:

- all enquiries/complaints will be recorded in a complaint register;
- complaints received for the duration of the project will be acknowledged verbally within 2 hours from the time of complaint unless the complainant agrees otherwise. Any complaints received out of hours will be responded to on the next working day;
- complaints received via email will be acknowledged within 24 hours;
- complaints received via letters will be acknowledged within 5 days of receipt. Where a phone number or email address is supplied, a response will be provided within 24 hours.

The community and stakeholder engagement staff will attend to enquiries and complaints received through the enquiries and complaints 1800 information line, project email address, from letters mailed to the project team, during community meetings or through construction/site staff.

The project enquiries and complaints 1800 number will be included on project communications, including notifications, advertisements, and on the SecureEnergy website.

All complaints will be investigated and dealt with impartially. All correspondence, agreements, resolutions and other relevant information will be recorded in Consultation Manager. The complaints register will be sent to the Environmental Representative on any day a complaint is received. If a complainant is not satisfied with the resolution provided, the complaint can be escalated, and alternative offers of resolution can be discussed.

7.2.1 Dispute resolution

Wherever possible, complaints will be resolved directly between SecureEnergy and the stakeholder.

If a complaints management process has been followed and the issue cannot be resolved, the *Enquiries, Complaint and Dispute Resolution Management Procedure* (45860-CON-PR-G-1001) provides a flowchart that outlines the process to manage and escalate complaints. As part of this procedure, a Community Complaints Mediator will be engaged to address any complaint where a member of the public is not satisfied by SecureEnergy's response. The escalated review process will include an assessment of the details of the complaint received, any findings of the investigation undertaken in response to the complaint, and any further matters raised by the complainant.

If a complaint requires referral to senior management and Transgrid, the complainant will be informed of this and the outcome of the review process.

8 Incidents and emergencies

8.1 Emergency preparedness and emergency response

Emergency management and planning including environmental emergencies will be undertaken in accordance with the Clough management system and relevant procedures. In line with the Clough management system, a three-tiered approach will be adopted for major incidents:

- Level 1 – on-site emergencies will be in accordance with the *Project Specific Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan* (45860-HSE-PL-G-1015);
- Level 2 – emergency situations where response exceeds the capacity of site resources incidents will be coordinated by the Incident Coordination Team in accordance with *Major Incident Coordination Plan* (CORP-HSE-PL-G-0002); and
- Level 3 – an emergency situation where the incident has the potential to, or has impacted, the business in terms of, reputation, and commercial liability. Incidents will be supported by the Major Incident Management Team in accordance with *Major Incident Management Plan* (CORP-HSE-PL-G- 0001).

An *Emergency Plan* (45860-HSE-PL-D-0012) has been prepared for the project in accordance with condition D45 of the Infrastructure Approval. The plan focuses on bushfire emergency management and planning which includes identifying fire risk and hazards as well as management measures that will be implemented to prevent, mitigate or respond to risk of bushfires. The Emergency Plan will include a procedure that would be implemented if there is a fire on-site or in the vicinity of the site.

8.2 Environmental incidents

In the event of an environmental incident, the Incident, Notification and Investigation Procedure Flowchart provided in Appendix A4 will be implemented. The flowchart applies to:

- incidents causing harm to the environment (in excess of predicted impacts described and assessed in the EIS, Submissions Report and Amendment Report);
- incidents resulting in non-compliance with approvals, licences, permits, consents and other legislative requirements; and
- near misses including high potential incidents and/or hazards.

Environmental incidents may include the following events caused by the works:

- chemical spills and leaks (including hydrocarbons);
- accidental spills or other incidents associated with the wastewater treatment plants;
- unauthorised discharge of contaminated waters to the environment;
- unauthorised/unapproved impact to heritage items, artefacts or sites;
- clearing or damage to vegetation outside of the designated clearing areas;
- unauthorised/unapproved damage or interference to threatened species, endangered ecological communities or critical habitat;
- unauthorised death or injury of native fauna;
- any non-compliance with legislation; and
- inappropriate waste disposal.

All efforts will be undertaken to avoid and reduce impacts of incidents. All site personnel are authorised to suspend a work activity that is likely to cause or actually causing or contributing to an incident. A supervisor/manager may request additional staff be deployed to the site to provide additional capacity or capability to manage the incident.

8.3 Incident notification and reporting

All environmental incidents that occur on the project, regardless of how minor, must be reported to a supervisor by personnel involved or witnesses to the incident immediately after the incident occurs. The Environmental Manager will be notified immediately of any environmental incident. The Environmental Manager will confirm whether the incident has caused or threatens material environmental harm under the POEO Act.

Transgrid will be notified of incidents and near misses immediately. Formal, documented reporting of incidents will be completed using InControl, and will be submitted to Transgrid in accordance with requirements under the Contract. The Environmental Representative will be included on all incident notifications.

If required, all external communication and reporting to the community and stakeholders will be in accordance with the CCS.

8.3.1 Incident notification and reporting in accordance with the Infrastructure Approval

An incident is defined in the Infrastructure Approval as ‘An occurrence or set of circumstances that causes or threatens to cause material harm and which may or may not be or cause a non-compliance’. In addition, material harm is defined in the Infrastructure Approval as the following:

[Material harm] is harm that:

- a) *involves actual or potential harm to the health or safety of human beings or to the environment that is not trivial, or*
- b) *results in actual or potential loss or property damage of an amount, or amounts in aggregate, exceeding \$10,000, (such loss includes the reasonable costs and expenses that would be incurred in taking all reasonable and practicable measures to prevent, mitigate or make good harm to the environment).*

This definition excludes “harm” that is authorised under either this approval or any other statutory approval.

The protocol for managing and reporting incidents will be in accordance with condition E6 and Appendix 3 of the Infrastructure Approval. As such, Transgrid will notify DPIE via the Major Projects website immediately after becoming aware that an incident has occurred. A written notification will then be provided to DPIE via the Major Projects website within seven days after becoming aware of the incident. SecureEnergy will provide the appropriate details to assist Transgrid. The written notification will include the following details:

- identify the development and application number;
- provide details of the incident (date, time, location, a brief description of what occurred and why it is classified as an incident);
- identify how the incident was detected;
- identify when the Proponent became aware of the incident;
- identify any actual or potential non-compliance with conditions of consent;
- describe what immediate steps were taken in relation to the incident;
- identify further action(s) that will be taken in relation to the incident; and
- identify a development contact for further communication regarding the incident.

Within 30 days of the date on which the incident occurred, or as otherwise agreed by the Planning Secretary, Transgrid will provide DPIE and any relevant public authorities with a detailed report on the incident addressing the following requirements, and any further reports that may be requested:

- a summary of the incident;

- outcomes of an incident investigation, including identification of the cause of the incident;
- details of the corrective and preventative actions that have been, or will be, implemented to address the incident and prevent recurrence; and
- details of any communication with other stakeholders regarding the incident.

Corrective and preventative actions will be identified from the incident reports and if required, this CEMP and CEMP-sub-plans will be updated in accordance with Section 1.10.

8.3.2 Incident notification and reporting in accordance with the EPBC Act

SecureEnergy will notify Transgrid of any event that impacts or has the potential to impact upon protected matters, as defined under the EPBC Act, immediately on becoming aware of the occurrence. Appropriate details will be provided to assist Transgrid in notifying DAWE in accordance with the requirements of the EPBC Act Approval (EPBC 2020/8673).

8.3.3 Incident notification and reporting in accordance with the POEO Act

SecureEnergy will notify Transgrid immediately after becoming aware of pollution incidents that causes or threatens material environmental harm to the environment.

Following initial verbal notification to Transgrid, SecureEnergy will notify the following

- appropriate regulatory authority;
- the EPA (if they are not the appropriate regulatory authority);
- the local authority (if the EPA is the appropriate regulatory authority);
- Ministry of Health;
- SafeWork NSW; and
- Fire and Rescue NSW.

The circumstances where this will take place include:

- if the actual or potential harm to the health or safety of human beings or ecosystems is not trivial; and
- if actual or potential loss or property damage (including clean-up costs) associated with an environmental incident exceeds \$10,000.

Any incidents that present an immediate threat to human health or property are to be reported immediately to 000.

8.3.4 InControl Data Entry

All incident notifications and investigations shall be entered into the incident management system (InControl). This system shall also act as the Incident Register and allows the project to monitor and analyse incident trends. <http://inx.australia.corp.clough.com/InControl/Default.aspx>

9 Inspections, monitoring and auditing

9.1 Environmental inspections

Implementation of a regular program of inspections is an essential part of the success of work activities. The current proposed inspection schedule is provided in Table 9.1.

The implementation and effectiveness of environmental protection measures described in this CEMP and sub-plans will be inspected and assessed on a weekly basis. A weekly checklist for environmental inspections will be developed, with the purpose of the checklist to:

- provide a surveillance tool to ensure that safeguards are being implemented;
- assess and document the effectiveness of implemented environmental management measures;
- identify where problems might be occurring;
- identify where sound environmental practices are not being implemented; and
- facilitate the identification and early resolution of problems.

Deficiencies and required actions will be analysed and prioritised at the completion of the inspection and timeframes for implementation of corrective actions agreed. Any non-conformances identified through the checklist process will be highlighted and an environmental inspection report (minor issues) or an environmental incident report completed.

SecureEnergy environmental staff and Transgrid environment staff might jointly undertake regular inspections of works sites, and in particular critical activities throughout construction of the project. The frequency of these inspections would vary depending on the complexity and anticipated risks associated with the stage of construction.

Table 9.1 - Inspection schedule

Activity	Frequency	Location	Responsibility	Record
Daily work site inspections	Daily	Immediate work area and equipment in work area	Supervisors	Site diary entry Pre-start sign on
Pre-start equipment inspections	Daily	The equipment/ machinery being used	Equipment/machinery operators	Pre-start checklist
Environmental site inspection	Weekly	Site wide	SecureEnergy Environmental Manager or nominated representative	Site inspection checklist
High risk works inspections	Prior to undertaking of high risk activities	In areas of high environmental sensitivity	SecureEnergy Environmental Manager or nominated representative	Pre-start checklist
Joint environmental site inspection	As required.	Site wide	Transgrid, SecureEnergy Environmental Manager or nominated representative	Transgrid inspection report

9.2 Monitoring

Monitoring will be undertaken to validate the impacts predicted for the project, to measure the effectiveness of environmental controls, and to address any relevant approval requirements.

The activity, description, timing, frequency of proposed monitoring and the relevant CEMP sub-plans in which specific details will be included is summarised in Table 9.2. The monitoring programs range from those involving formal sample collection, analysis and measurement, to those involving a more qualitative assessment. Refer to the relevant CEMP sub-plans for details on the respective monitoring and inspection requirements.

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Table 9.2 - Environmental monitoring summary

Condition/RMM	Activity	Management Plan	Description	Frequency and timing
Condition D25 RMM B15	Clearing supervision	Biodiversity Management Plan	Ecological supervision of clearing operations during removal of habitat trees.	In accordance with BMP
RMM LP7	Biosecurity	Biodiversity Management Plan	Visual inspection of the work site and implemented management measures to minimise the risk of off-site transportation of weeds.	In accordance with BMP
RMM HF3	Water quality monitoring program	Soil and Water Management Plan	Monitor the water quality conditions in the Darling River, Darling Anabranch and Murray River.	In accordance with SWMP
Condition D14 RMM NV5 RMM NV8	Noise and vibration monitoring	Noise and Vibration Management Plan	Noise and vibration monitoring program to compare the actual noise and vibration performance during construction against predicted performance.	In accordance with NVMP
Condition D32	Monitoring of the management measures in place to protect heritage features	Heritage Management Plan	Visual inspection of work site, including any fencing along the disturbance boundaries	In accordance with HMP
Condition D38	Traffic and transport monitoring	Traffic and Transport Management Plan	Monitoring of access track conditions, traffic signage and congestion impacts to level of service, and driver code of conduct.	In accordance with TTMP

Irrespective of the type of monitoring conducted, the results will be used to identify potential or actual problems arising from construction processes. Where monitoring results are outside of the expected range, the following process will be implemented. Refer to the specific CEMP sub-plan for further details:

- the results will be analysed by the SecureEnergy Environmental Manager or Environmental Advisor with the view of determining possible causes for the exceedance including a review of the potential construction activities impacting that site of the exceedance;
- a site inspection will be undertaken (where appropriate to assess potential cause);
- where the exceedance relates to construction impacts, the mitigation measures will be reviewed; and
- where required, the appropriate corrective and preventative actions will be identified and implemented.

9.3 Auditing

The purpose of auditing is to assess compliance with the CEMP, the Infrastructure Approval and any relevant legal and other requirements (e.g. licences, permits, regulations, contract documentation) and to form a part of continuous improvement described in Section 1.9.

In accordance with condition E11 of the Infrastructure Approval, independent audits will be undertaken in accordance with the *Independent Audit Post Approval Requirements* (2020). Independent audit will be undertaken within 12 weeks from the commencement of construction, follow by six-monthly interval for each subsequent audit until the completion of the construction phase of the project.

The independent audits will be undertaken in accordance with the requirements set out in Section 3 of the *Independent Audit Post Approval Requirements* (2020). At the end of each audit, the auditor is to prepare an independent audit report. The report includes details such as the audit methodology,

audit findings and recommendations and opportunities for improvement. SecureEnergy will review the draft report and provide a response of the audit findings. If the audit findings identifies any non-compliance, the nominated action and completion timing of the action will be provided as part of the response to each non-compliance.

The submission of the independent audit report and SecureEnergy's response to the audit findings will be submitted to the Department no later than two months from the date of the independent audit site inspection.

Corrective and preventative actions will be identified from the audit findings, and the implementation of those actions managed and monitored as per the process outlined in Section 11.

10 Reporting

10.1 Reporting non-compliances

10.1.1 Reporting non-compliances in accordance with the Infrastructure Approval

Non-compliance is defined in Infrastructure Approval as *'an occurrence, set of circumstances or development that is a breach of this approval'*. The procedure to respond to any non-compliance will be in accordance with condition E7 of the Infrastructure Approval. As such, the Planning Secretary will be notified in writing via the Major Projects website within seven days after Transgrid becomes aware of any non-compliance. SecureEnergy will provide the appropriate details to assist Transgrid. The written notification will include details such as:

- the non-compliance;
- the reasons for the non-compliance (if known); and
- what actions have been taken, or will be taken, to address the non-compliance.

A non-compliance which has been notified as an incident does not need to also be notified as a non-compliance.

10.1.2 Reporting non-compliances in accordance with the EPBC Act

SecureEnergy will notify Transgrid of any event that impacts or has the potential to impact upon protected matters, as defined under the EPBC Act, immediately on becoming aware of the occurrence. Appropriate details will be provided to assist Transgrid in notifying DAWE in accordance with the requirement of the EPBC Act. Transgrid will notify DAWE in writing of any non-compliance with the conditions or commitments made in plans as defined under the EPBC Act Approval.

10.1.3 Other reporting and notification requirements

SecureEnergy is required to prepare and submit various reports to Transgrid and/or the Department and to undertake reporting required under the Infrastructure Approval. A summary of these reports is provided in Table 10.1.

Table 10.1 - Other reporting requirements

No	Report	Requirement	Timing	Responsibility	Recipient
1	Monthly environmental report	For incorporation in project Monthly Reports.	Monthly	SecureEnergy Environmental Manager	Transgrid
2	Incident Report	Provide a written notification within seven days of becoming aware of the incident. Provide a report on the incident within 30 days of the date on which the incident occurred or as otherwise agreed to by the Planning Secretary.	Incident notification within seven days of becoming aware of the incident. Incident report within 30 days after the incident has occurred.	SecureEnergy/ Transgrid	DPIE
3	Non-compliance notification	Planning Secretary must be notified within 7 days after identifying the non-compliance.	As required	SecureEnergy/ Transgrid	DPIE
4	Independent audit report	As per the reporting requirements in the <i>Independent Audit Post</i>	Within 12 months of the commencement of construction and at six-	SecureEnergy/ Transgrid	DPIE

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No	Report	Requirement	Timing	Responsibility	Recipient
		<i>Approval Requirements</i> (2020).	monthly intervals for subsequent reports		
5	Pre-construction dilapidation report	As per condition D37 of the Infrastructure Approval.	Prior to the commencement of construction	SecureEnergy	DPIE
6	Post-construction dilapidation report	As per condition D37 of the Infrastructure Approval.	Within one month of completion of construction or on an annual basis	SecureEnergy	DPIE

11 Non-compliance, non-conformance, corrective and preventative action

A non-compliance is the failure to comply with the requirements of this CEMP, sub-plans and associated documents such as Infrastructure Approval and relative legislations.

A non-conformance is the failure to meet the procedural requirements and processes developed for the project such as work packs and WMS, or internal permits that forms part of the environmental management system.

Where a non-conformance and/or non-compliance has been identified, corrective actions will be developed as required and implemented to address the non-conformance that occurred. While preventative actions will be developed as required and implemented to minimise the potential for recurrence. In the event of a non-conformance the following will occur:

- the nature of the event will be investigated by the Environmental Manager;
- the effectiveness or need for new/additional controls will be reviewed;
- appropriate preventative and corrective actions will be developed and implemented; and
- the relevant environmental management practices and procedures implemented for the construction will be reviewed and revised.

Corrective and preventative actions may be generated from a number of sources, including but not limited to incidents, audits and management reviews. The actions will be systematically managed in accordance with the Clough management system to ensure that the required actions are tracked and closed out in a timely manner.

The completion of the required actions will be recorded. The action records will include details on the source of the action (e.g. audit, inspection or other), the action required, target close out date, actual close out date and the person responsible for the action item.

If the actions require changes to the CEMP and sub-plans, the update will occur as described in Section 1.10.

12 Contingency plan

Although the project has been assessed through the environmental impact assessment process and potential impacts identified, unpredicted impacts may occur as the project progresses. In the event that unexpected impacts are identified, the action or cause will be categorised and as required will be managed as:

- an emergency or environmental incident in accordance with Section 8; and/or
- a non-compliance or non-conformance in accordance with Section 11.

Reporting of the unpredicted impacts would be in line with the processes as described in Section 10.

Through the identification of corrective and/or preventative actions through the processes as described in Section 11, the following steps will be considered as relevant:

- a) determine the relevant impact assessment criterion/criteria, below which the impact should be reduced, consistent with the requirements of this CEMP and CEMP sub-plans;
- b) identify options to reduce the unexpected impacts to below the relevant criterion/criteria and appropriate timeframe for implementation;
- c) implement the selected measure(s) to reduce the unexpected impacts; and
- d) identify and implement an appropriate monitoring program to determine the effectiveness of the selected measure(s) to reduce the unexpected impact.

If the above monitoring program identifies that the unexpected impacts have not been reduced to below the nominated criterion/criteria, items b) to d) of the contingency process will be repeated.

This section does not apply to unexpected heritage, biodiversity or contamination finds. These will be managed in accordance with their respective Unexpected Finds Procedure.

13 Documentation

13.1 Records

The Environmental Manager is responsible for maintaining all environmental management documents. Further to Section 4.8, the following records are those that will be generated through delivery of the project:

- monitoring and inspection records;
- correspondence with public authorities;
- induction and training records;
- site specific records such as those prepared for dewatering and water management, out of hours works, clearing records, unexpected finds etc;
- waste classification records, waste disposal and recycling records for transporting and disposing of waste;
- plans, strategies and reports, and revisions thereof, to ensure compliance with the Infrastructure Approval;
- reports on environmental incidents, environmental non-conformances, and corrective actions;
- monthly reports and annual reports; and
- audit reports.

All environmental management documents are subject to ongoing review and continual improvement.

13.2 Document and data control

The Environmental Manager will coordinate the preparation, review and distribution, as appropriate, of the environmental documents listed above. During construction, environmental documents will be stored at the main site office and can be accessed on request to the SecureEnergy Environmental Manager.

The *Project Document Control Plan* (45860-IM-PL-G-0003) will be used to control the flow of documents and data within the SecureEnergy teams and between the SecureEnergy and the Transgrid, stakeholders and sub-contractors.

Documents and data that are to be issued and liable to change will be controlled to ensure that they are approved before issue and that the current issue or revision is known to and available to those requiring them. Controlled documents and data will be uniquely identified and will bear a defined revision number recorded on each page of the document.

After a number of changes have been made to a document it will be withdrawn and reissued as a new revision. Data will be issued on a revision basis only. Obsolete documents and data may be kept for contractual or other reasons but will be clearly marked 'superseded'.

Appendix A1 – Legal and other requirements

Legislation

Legislation/ Regulations	Aspect	Reference	Requirement	Applicability	Responsibility
Commonwealth Legislation					
<i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i> (EPBC Act)	Proposed action	Section 28	A person must not take an action that has, will have or is likely to have a significant impact on any of the matters of national environmental significance without approval.	Yes, the <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i> (EPBC Act) aims to protect matters of national environmental significance (MNES) including national heritage places. Following referral of the project to Department of Environment, Agriculture and Water, the project was determined on 25 June 2020 to be a controlled action under section 75 of the EPBC Act, and therefore required further assessment and approval under the <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i>. The referral number is EPBC 2020/8673. The EPBC Act controlling provisions for the proposed actions are: listed threatened species and communities (section 18 and 18A). It should be noted that no MNES were identified in the EIS or Amendment Report for the project.	Transgrid
	Bilateral Agreement	Chapter 3 Clause 45	A bilateral agreement is a written agreement between the Commonwealth and a State with the intention of protecting the environment, promoting the conservation and ecologically sustainable use of natural resources, ensuring an efficient, timely and effective process for environmental assessment and approval of actions and to minimising duplication in the environmental assessment and approval process.	EnergyConnect (NSW - Western Section) will be assessed using the bilateral assessment process in accordance Amending Agreement No. 1.	Transgrid
<i>Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Heritage Protection Act 1984</i>	Protection of areas and objects	Section 10	Comply with any declarations relating to the project area	No declarations have been made relating to the project area. In the event that declarations are made, this HMP will be updated if required.	Transgrid SecureEnergy
		Section 20	Report any discovery of Aboriginal remains to the Federal Minister for the Environment and Heritage.	Yes, notification requirements are detailed in the Heritage Management Plan.	SecureEnergy

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Legislation/ Regulations	Aspect	Reference	Requirement	Applicability	Responsibility
		Section 22	Comply with the provisions of any declaration in relation to a significant Aboriginal area or object.	Yes, a Heritage Management Plan has been prepared and will be implemented for the project to outline the compliance requirements for the declared Aboriginal areas or objects within the project footprint.	Transgrid SecureEnergy
<i>Native Title Act 1993</i>	Native Title Land	All	Native Title claims, registers and Indigenous Land Use Agreements are administered under the Act.	The project area intersects with the Barkandji Traditional Owners #8 (Part A) native title area (determined). Barkandji Traditional Owners will be included in consultation and archaeological survey for the project.	Transgrid SecureEnergy
New South Wales Legislation					
<i>State Environmental Planning Policy (State and Regional Development) 2011</i>	All	Part 3 Clause 13	Declaration of critical State Significant Infrastructure	On 29 August 2019 the NSW Minister for Planning and Public Spaces declared EnergyConnect critical State significant infrastructure (CSSI) under the <i>State Environmental Planning Policy (State and Regional Development) 2011</i> on the basis that it is critical to the State for environmental, economic or social reasons. The project may be carried out without development consent under Part 4 of the EP&A Act, however application for approval of the CSSI is required.	Transgrid
<i>Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979</i> (EP&A Act)	All	Section 5.5	A determining authority has the duty to fully consider the environmental impact (including Aboriginal or non-Aboriginal heritage) of an activity and is required to 'take into account the fullest extent possible all matters affecting, or likely to affect the environment' arising from the proposal.	The <i>EnergyConnect (NSW - Western Section) - Environmental Impact Statement</i> was submitted to Department of Planning, Industry and Environment in October 2020 and publicly exhibited between 26 September 2019 and 10 December 2020. On 14 April 2021, the response to submissions was finalised in the <i>EnergyConnect (NSW - Western Section) – Submissions Report</i>. A separate <i>EnergyConnect (NSW - Western Section) – Amendment Report</i>, to document design changes and additional environmental assessment undertaken, was also finalised on 14 April 2021. Transgrid prepared and provided a memorandum titled <i>EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section) Response to DPIE Request for Information – 7 May 2021</i> and subsequent discussions to DPIE on the 10 August 2021 in response to DPIE requested additional information (<i>EnergyConnect (NSW –</i>	Transgrid

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Legislation/ Regulations	Aspect	Reference	Requirement	Applicability	Responsibility
				Western Section)(SSI-10040) Request for Additional Information).	
		Section 5.19	Approval of the Minister required to carry out critical State significant infrastructure (CSSI). Comply with the conditions of the Infrastructure Approval and generally in accordance with the revised mitigation measures from the Response to DPIE Request for Information.	The project requires approval from the NSW Minister for Planning and Public Spaces under Division 5.2, Part 5 of the EP&A Act. The project was assessed as above. Approval for EnergyConnect (NSW - Western Section) was granted by the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces.	Transgrid
<i>Roads Act 1993</i>	Road usage	Section 138	Road occupancy licences (ROLs) required for any activity likely to impact on traffic flow ROL may be required from TfNSW or Wentworth Shire Council based on road owner	A Road Occupancy Licence (ROL) will be obtained for all activity likely to impact the operational efficiency of the road network, as required by the relevant roads authority. The licence applies to the occupation of the road corridor only and does not grant approval for the works being undertaken.	SecureEnergy
<i>Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 (BC Act)</i>	Flora and Fauna	All	Legislation responsible for the conservation of biodiversity in NSW through the protection of threatened flora and fauna species, populations and Endangered Ecological Communities (EECs). The Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016, together with the Biodiversity Conservation Regulation 2017, established the Biodiversity Offsets Scheme which is outlined below.	The biodiversity impacts of the project have been assessed in accordance with the BC Act, which includes the Biodiversity Assessment Method (BAM) and documented in a Biodiversity Development Assessment Report (BDAR). A Biodiversity Management Plan has been prepared and will be implemented for the project to manage the conservation and protection of threatened flora and fauna.	Transgrid
		Part 6 Division 1 Clause 6.2	This Act, and the <i>Biodiversity Conservation Regulation 2017</i> , outlines the framework for addressing impacts on biodiversity from development and clearing. Biodiversity Offsets Scheme is a framework to avoid, minimise and offset impacts on biodiversity from development and clearing, and to ensure land that is used to offset impacts is secured in-perpetuity.	As part of the assessment under the BC Act, the biodiversity offset credits has been estimated for the project and are outlined in the BDAR. Biodiversity Offset Credits is applicable for clearing on the project. Transgrid as the proponent will retire the full biodiversity offset credit liability of the development.	Transgrid
<i>Fisheries Management Act 1994</i>	Taking or possessing fish or marine vegetation	Section 37	Permit to take and possess fish or marine vegetation	A section 37 permit is required for any activity that involves taking or possessing fish or marine vegetation that would otherwise be unlawful under the <i>Fisheries Management Act 1994</i> including any collecting activities.	Transgrid SecureEnergy

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Legislation/ Regulations	Aspect	Reference	Requirement	Applicability	Responsibility
				There is currently no intention to take and possess fish or marine vegetation, however in the event that this is required, a permit would be developed.	
	Mangroves, seagrasses and marine vegetation	Section 205	Do not harm any mangroves, seagrasses or other marine vegetation on public water land protected by the regulations without a permit.	As the project has been declared as Critical State significant infrastructure, in accordance with s.5.23 of EP&A Act, section 205 of the <i>Fisheries Management Act 1994</i> does not apply.	Not applicable
	Fish passage	Section 219	Do not block fish passage without a permit	As the project has been declared as critical State significant infrastructure, in accordance with s.5.23 of EP&A Act, section 219 of the <i>Fisheries Management Act 1994</i> does not apply.	Not applicable
<i>Biosecurity Act 2015</i>	Weeds and Pest Management	Section 22	Under Part 3 of the Biosecurity Act 2015, landowners or land managers have a general biosecurity duty to prevent, eliminate or minimise the biosecurity risk posed or likely to be posed by priority weeds. A biosecurity risk exists where priority weeds have the potential to negatively impact on agriculture, industry, the liveability of our city, human health or the environment. Invasive weeds are known as 'Biosecurity Matter' or 'Priority Weeds'.	Biosecurity matters will be discussed with the affected landholders and addressed in project management plans for each property.	Transgrid SecureEnergy
<i>Local Land Services Act 2013</i>	Clearing of native vegetation in regulated rural areas	Part 5A Division 3 Clause 60N and Clause 60O	Clause 60N details the offence to clear native vegetation in a regulated rural area. Clause 60O details the planning approval and authorisation for clearing native vegetation in a regulated rural area.	Yes, as detailed 60O(b) of the Act, approval and authorisation for clearing native vegetation in a regulated rural area is subject to approval of the project under Part 5 of the EP&A Act. Infrastructure Approval will satisfy this compliance requirement.	Transgrid
<i>National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 (NP&W Act)</i>	Aboriginal places and objects	Part 6 Division 2 Clause 90	This Act provides protection for Aboriginal cultural heritage in NSW, including Aboriginal objects and declared Aboriginal places. Section 86 creates the offence and section 90 creates the requirement to obtain a permit to impact an Aboriginal object, place, land, activity or person.	As the project has been declared as critical State significant infrastructure, in accordance with s.5.23 of EP&A Act, section 90 of the <i>National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974</i> , which outlines the requirements for Aboriginal heritage impact permits, does not apply.	Not applicable
		Part 6 Division 1 Clause 89A	Notify the NPWS within reasonable time of becoming aware of the location or discovery of certain Aboriginal objects.	Yes, notification requirements are detailed in the Heritage Management Plan.	SecureEnergy

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Legislation/ Regulations	Aspect	Reference	Requirement	Applicability	Responsibility
<i>Native Title Act 1994</i>	Native Title Land	All	Native Title claims, registers and Indigenous Land Use Agreements are administered under the Act.	The project area intersects with the Barkandji Traditional Owners #8 (Part A) native title area (determined). Barkandji Traditional Owners will be included in consultation and archaeological survey for the project.	Transgrid SecureEnergy
<i>Rural Fires Act 1997</i>	Bushfire prone land	Section 100B	Bush fire safety authorities	As the project has been declared as critical State significant infrastructure, in accordance with s.5.23 of EP&A Act, approval under Section 100B of <i>Rural Fires Act 1997</i> does not apply.	Not applicable
<i>Heritage Act 1977</i>	Heritage	Section 57	Do not undertake an activity that will affect a place, building, work, relic, moveable object or precinct which is subject to an Interim Heritage Order or is listed on the State Heritage Register without approval from the Heritage Council.	As the project has been declared as critical State significant infrastructure, in accordance with s.5.23 of EP&A Act, approval under Section 57 (1) of <i>Heritage Act 1977</i> does not apply.	Not applicable
		Section 139	An excavation permit is required under certain circumstances. A person must not disturb or excavate land with knowledge or reasonable cause to suspect that the disturbance or excavation will or is likely to result in a relic being discovered, exposed, moved, damaged or destroyed; or a person must not disturb or excavate land on where a relic has been discovered or exposed.	As the project has been declared as critical State significant infrastructure, in accordance with s.5.23 of EP&A Act, approval under Section 139 of <i>Heritage Act 1977</i> does not apply.	Not applicable
		Section 146	A person who is aware or believes that he or she has discovered or located a relic must within a reasonable time notify the Heritage Council of the location of the relic, unless he or she believes on reasonable grounds that the Heritage Council is aware of the location of the relic, and within the period required by the Heritage Council, furnish the Heritage Council with such information concerning the relic as the Heritage Council may reasonably require.	Yes, notification requirements are detailed in the Heritage Management Plan.	SecureEnergy
<i>Water Management Act 2000 (WM Act)</i>	Water access licence	Section 60A	Do not take water from a water source (a lake, river or estuary or place where water occurs naturally on or below the surface of the ground	Yes, the WM Act applies to areas of New South Wales that have a water sharing plan. The project area is subject to the following water sharing plans:	SecureEnergy

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Legislation/ Regulations	Aspect	Reference	Requirement	Applicability	Responsibility
			and includes coastal waters) without an access licence.	• NSW Murray Darling Basin Fractured Rock Groundwater Sources 2011, Lachlan Fold Belt Murray Darling Basin Groundwater Source; and • Darling Alluvial Groundwater Sources – including unconfined aquifers with high connectivity to the Darling River • NSW Murray Darling Porous Rock Groundwater Sources – including remaining unconfined, semiconfined and confined aquifers. Section 60A of the WM Act requires that a water access licence (WAL) be obtained to extract water from a water source. Section 21 and Schedule 4 of the <i>Water Management (General) Regulation 2018</i> does however provide exemptions for the requirement to obtain water access licences. Relevant exemptions from Part 1 of Schedule 4 are detailed below: • clause 7 provides an exemption for water taken in the course of certain aquifer interference activities (in relation to taking up to 3 ML of groundwater from a groundwater source); and • clause 17A provides exemption for the taking of groundwater for excavation works where they are a holder of a water supply work authority in relation to taking of more than 3 ML of groundwater. Any other water required for construction purposes would however require a water access licence. This includes extraction for: • interception activities (i.e. intercepted groundwater during piling); • potable uses for human consumption associated with the accommodation camp.	
	Impacts to water supply work and water use	Section 89 Section 90 Section 91	Under Section 89, a water use approval confers a right on its holder to use water for a particular purpose at a particular location. Under Section 90, approval is required for the authorisation to construct and use a specified water supply work such as pumps,	Section 5.23 of the EP&A Act provides that water use approval under section 89, a water management work approval under section 90 or an activity approval (other than an aquifer interference approval) under section 91 of the Water	SecureEnergy

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Legislation/ Regulations	Aspect	Reference	Requirement	Applicability	Responsibility
	Activity approvals		bore, spear points or wells at a specified location, drainage work or flood work. Under Section 91, there are two kinds of activity approvals, controlled activity approvals and aquifer interference approvals. A controlled activity approval is required for carrying out a specified controlled activity at a specified location in, on or under waterfront land. An aquifer interference approval is required for carrying out one or more specified aquifer interference activities at a specified location, or in a specified area.	Management Act do not apply to state significant infrastructure. An activity approval is therefore not required, however an aquifer interference licence may be required when an activity involves any of the following: a) the penetration of an aquifer, b) the interference with water in an aquifer, c) the obstruction of the flow of water in an aquifer, d) the taking of water from an aquifer in the course of carrying out mining, or any other activity prescribed by the regulations, e) the disposal of water taken from an aquifer as referred to in paragraph (d). However, an aquifer interference licence is not required if an activity ensures that no more than minimal harm will be done. Stated under Section 3.3 of the NSW Aquifer Interference Policy, there are a number of activities that are considered as having a minimal impact on water dependent assets which includes monitoring bores and wells that are required by a development consent under Part 4 or an approval under Part 5.1, of the EP&A Act, or required or undertaken as a result of an environmental assessment under Part 5 of EP&A Act. Since the environmental assessment for the project requires the confirmation of groundwater level. An aquifer interference licence is not required.	
<i>Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997</i> (POEO Act)	Schedule Activity	Section 47 Section 48	Do not carry out or allow an activity listed in Schedule 1, or carry out work to enable such an activity, unless the premises are licensed by the EPA.	Environment protection licences (EPL) is required for the carrying out of scheduled activities as listed under Schedule 1 of the Act. EPL is likely to be required for the following scheduled activities: 16 Crushing, grinding or separating An EPL is required if there is a capacity to process more than 150 tonnes of material per day or 30,000 tonnes per year. The need for a crushing or	SecureEnergy

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Legislation/ Regulations	Aspect	Reference	Requirement	Applicability	Responsibility
				screening plant will not be known until further geotechnical investigation works have occurred. Should a crushing or screening plant be required and the capacity needed is more than 150 tonnes per day or 30,000 tonnes per year, then an EPL will be obtained.	
	Harming the environment	Section 115 Section 116 Section 117	Do not risk harming the environment by wilfully or negligently: - disposing of waste unlawfully. - causing any substance to leak, spill or otherwise escape (whether or not from a container); or - causing any controlled substance to be emitted into the atmosphere.	Yes, the relevant management measures are included within the Soil and Water Management Plan, Waste Management Plan and Air Quality Management Plan.	SecureEnergy
	Water pollution	Section 120	Do not cause or permit water pollution.	Yes, the relevant management measures have been incorporated within the Soil and Water Management Plan.	SecureEnergy
	Land pollution	Section 142	Do not cause or permit land pollution other than under authority of a licence or regulation (however it is not a land pollution offence to place virgin excavated natural material or lawful pesticides and fertilisers on land, or by placing matter on land that has been notified to the EPA as an unlicensed landfill and which is operated in accordance with the regulations	Yes, the relevant management measures have been incorporated within the Soil and Water Management Plan.	SecureEnergy
	Notification of pollution incidents	Section 148	Notify the EPA immediately of pollution incidents where material harm to the environment is caused or threatened.	Yes, notification requirements are detailed in Section 8 of this CEMP.	SecureEnergy
	Prepare PIRMP if EPL required	Section 153A-F	Requires the holder of an EPL to prepare a pollution incident response management plan (PIRMP)	A PIRMP will be prepared as part of the EPL, if an EPL is required.	SecureEnergy
	Plant maintenance and operation	Section 139	Do not operate plant if it emits noise caused by failure to maintain or operate the plan in a proper and efficient manner.	Yes, the relevant management measures have been incorporated within the Noise and Vibration Management Plan.	SecureEnergy

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Legislation/ Regulations	Aspect	Reference	Requirement	Applicability	Responsibility
	Control equipment	Section 167	Properly and efficiently maintain and operate any installed pollution control equipment (including monitoring devices).	Yes, the relevant management measures have been incorporated within the Soil and Water Management Plan.	SecureEnergy
	Littering	Part 5.6A	Do not litter in a public place or an open private place. Do not litter from a vehicle. Only deposit advertising material in receptacles provided for mail or newspapers or under the door of the premises. Do not deposit advertising material on or in vehicles.	Yes, the relevant management measures have been incorporated within the Waste Management Plan.	SecureEnergy
	Waste and transportation	Section 143	Only transport waste to a facility that can lawfully accept the waste.	Section 143 Notices are to be obtained for waste that is sent to a facility/premise in accordance with the Waste Management Plan.	SecureEnergy
<i>Contaminated Land Management Act 1997</i>	Reporting contamination	Section 60	Duty to report contamination.	Yes, if project activities have caused land contamination, or a landowner becomes aware of land that is contaminated, there is a legal duty under section 60 of the <i>Contaminated Land Management Act 1997</i> to notify the EPA.	SecureEnergy
<i>Work, Health and Safety Act 2011</i> <i>Work Health and Safety and Regulation 2011</i>	Health and safety of workers and workplaces	All	This Act provides work health and safety regulations for the management of contaminated waste such as asbestos as well as consideration of health and safety hazards to on-site workers associated with normal construction operations.	Yes, management of contaminated waste including hazardous waste such as asbestos are detailed in the Waste Management Plan. The health and safety of on-site workers' wellbeing are detailed in the HSSE Plan.	SecureEnergy
<i>Protection of the Environment Operations (Waste) Regulation 2005</i>	Waste and transportation	Part 4	Comply with record keeping requirements in relation to the transport of certain types of waste.	Yes, the relevant management measures have been incorporated within the Waste Management Plan.	SecureEnergy
<i>Dangerous Goods (Road and Rail Transport) Act 2008</i>	Hazards and risks	Section 9	Ensure that dangerous goods are transported in a safe manner.	Dangerous goods are required to be transported in a safe manner. Vehicles that transport dangerous goods are required to be licensed. Drivers transporting dangerous goods are required to be licensed. Licences to transport dangerous goods will be obtained if required.	SecureEnergy and SecureEnergy's Subcontractors

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Legislation/ Regulations	Aspect	Reference	Requirement	Applicability	Responsibility
<i>Road Transport Act 2013</i>	Provisions concerning road users, road transport and the improvement of road safety	All	To consolidate most of the existing statutory provisions concerning road users, road transport and the improvement of road safety in this jurisdiction To provide the Agreed Reforms within the meaning of the Inter-Governmental Agreement for Regulatory and Operational Reform in Road, Rail and Intermodal Transport entered into by the Commonwealth, the States and the Territories. To facilitate recovery of expenses incurred in the administration of this Act and the collection of fees and charges payable. To provide for additional matters concerning the regulation of road users and road transport and the improvement of road safety in this jurisdiction.	All drivers are required to have a valid driver's licence. All vehicles must be registered with the applicable vehicle registration system.	SecureEnergy and SecureEnergy's Subcontractors
<i>NSW Road Rules 2014</i>	Safe and efficient movement of traffic	All	To consolidate in a single instrument the road rules that are applicable in New South Wales. To provide for road rules that are based on the Australian Road Rules so as to ensure that the road rules applicable in this State are substantially uniform with road rules applicable elsewhere in Australia, To provide for other road rules to be observed in this State in relation to matters that are not otherwise dealt with in the Australian Road Rules	Support the objectives of the legislation by ensuring mitigation recommendations are aligned with the Road Rules.	SecureEnergy

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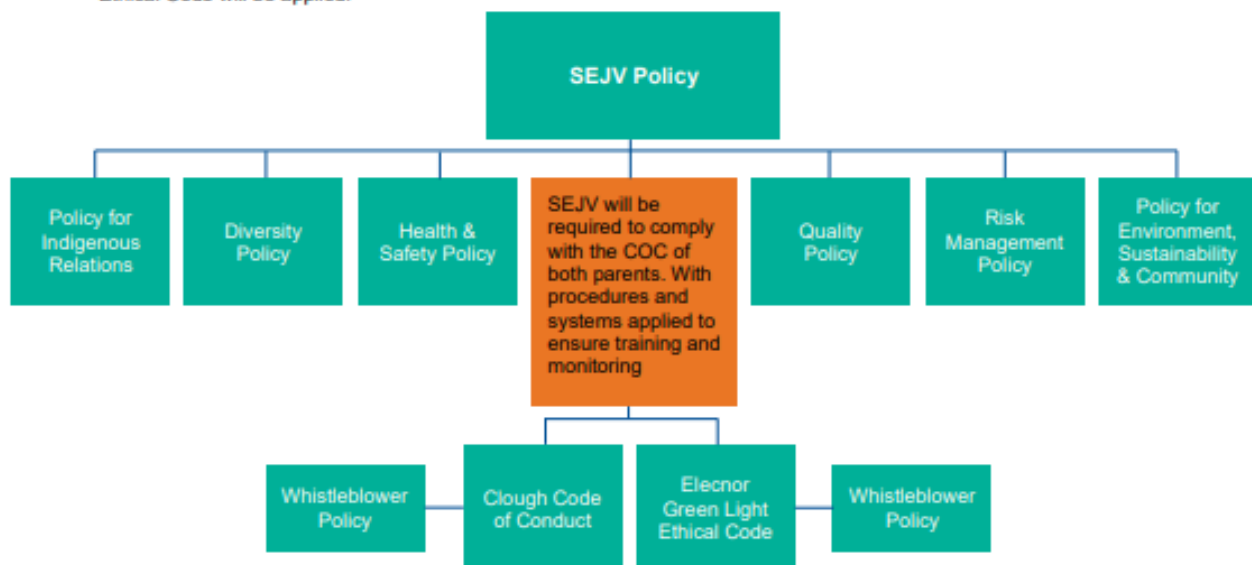
Appendix A2 – Policy for Environment, Sustainability and Community



SecureEnergy Policy Model

SecureEnergy JV (ABN 56 282 382 697), is a joint Venture between Clough Projects Australia Pty Ltd (ABN 26 109 444 215) and Green Light Contractors Pty Ltd (ACN 168 435 658) commonly referred to as "SEJV". SEJV has been initially formed to deliver the Project Energy Connect (PEC) with a view that SEJV will become a viable delivery vehicle that will service substation and transmission network sector projects over the coming years.

It is agreed within the Joint Venture Deed that SEJV will adopt and use Clough's Management Systems (CMS). As a result, SEJV will adopt the Clough Policies that inform these systems as amended from time to time. The exception to this is Clough's Code of Conduct policy. In this instance it is proposed that both Clough's Code of Conduct and Elecnor's Ethical Code will be applied.



John Galvin
SteerCo Member - Clough
SecureEnergy JV
Date 10/02/2021

Paul Farris

Paul Farris
SteerCo Member - Clough
SecureEnergy JV
Date Feb 15, 2021

Carlos Fernandez
SteerCo Member - Elecnor
SecureEnergy JV
Date Feb 25, 2021

Samuel Basanta
SteerCo Member - Elecnor
SecureEnergy JV
Date Feb 16, 2021

All personal information obtained by SecureEnergy Joint Venture during the implementation of this policy will be controlled in accordance with the Clough Policy for Privacy and the Privacy Amendment (Private Sector) Act 2000.

Document No.

Rev No.

secureenergy
CLOUGH ELECNOR JOINT VENTURE

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Policy for Environment, Sustainability & Community

Clough strives to deliver environmentally sustainable outcomes for energy, materials and water, during all stages of its operations. Clough values sustainable development and believes respect for the environment and the community in which it operates is fundamental to business success.

Clough ensures human, financial and technological resources are provided for the active management and maintenance of the Clough Management System, aligned with the requirements of AS/NZS ISO 14001:2004 to drive continual improvement.

At Clough employees and contractors show their commitment to minimising environment and social impacts and promoting sustainable development by:

- Sharing a belief in a culture of zero harm where harm to people or the environment is unacceptable;
- Stopping work where an activity could harm the environment or community;
- Planning and performing activities to achieve zero harm outcomes; and
- Understanding their roles, responsibilities and behaviours expected of them.

Clough engages with clients, partners, stakeholders and communities to understand key environmental aspects, potential impacts and support the development of sustainable solutions.

PRINCIPLES:

Wherever Clough operates the following principles apply to promote sustainable development, in all its operating environments:

- **Personal Responsibility** – Individuals take personal responsibility to comply with relevant laws and regulations and apply responsible standards as detailed in the Clough Management System where laws do not exist.
- **Social Responsibility** – Clough respects the traditional rights of indigenous peoples and values cultural heritage in the areas we work.
- **Accountability** – Clough holds all levels in our organisation accountable for compliance with regular monitoring, reviewing and reporting on our progress against our targets that promote efficient use of resources.
- **Risk Management** – Clough identifies, assesses and manages risks to the environment and our host communities.
- **Learning Culture** – Clough maintains regular, transparent and effective communication with all employees, stakeholders and communities affected by its activities and improves the livelihoods of the communities in which we operate through local employment and training opportunities.
- **One Consistent Approach** - Design and construct to efficiently use energy and raw materials, minimise waste, reduce and prevent pollution.

The Chief Executive Officer of Clough Limited is accountable to the Board of Directors for ensuring that this Policy is implemented throughout Clough's operation

Clough undertakes to communicate this policy to all persons working for or on its behalf and to the public as required. The policy will be reviewed every three years to maintain relevance to Clough business activities.



Peter Bennett
Chief Executive Officer & Managing Director
Clough Limited
November 2018

All personal information obtained by Clough during the implementation of this policy will be controlled in accordance with the Clough Policy for Privacy and the Privacy Amendment (Private Sector) Act 2000.

CORP-GOV-POL-G-0014

Rev No. 8



Appendix A3 – Environmental Aspect and Impact Register

No.	Activity	Environmental category	Impact/Risk	Aspect/Cause	Possible Outcome	Consequence	Likelihood	Initial Risk Rating	Risk Management Measures (DRAFT)	Consequence	Likelihood	Residual Risk Rating	Risk Owner
1	Earthworks Vegetation clearing	Heritage	Damage to heritage items, including culturally significant sites, artefacts and heritage values	Clearing outside the project footprint, plant operation and excavation outside project footprint, vibrations from plant operation and transport impacts exceed those assessed and cause structural damage to sensitive items.	- Unapproved impacts to heritage items - Loss of items of cultural significance - Impacts to relationships with traditional owners - Potential regulatory action from agencies - Project delays - Financial penalties - Reputational impacts	Major	Almost certain	23 - Very High	- Sensitive Area Plans (SAPs) to include heritage items - Noise and Vibration Management Plan - Unexpected Heritage Find Procedure - Physical demarcation of identified heritage locations	Major	Unlikely	14 – Moderate	SecureEnergy
2	Vegetation clearing	Biodiversity	Injury/mortality of fauna	Removal of occupied habitat, including hollow bearing trees, shrubs, nests, ground cover, rocks.	- Impacts to fauna - Reputational impacts - Potential regulatory action from agencies	Moderate	Possible	13 - Moderate	- Biodiversity Management Plan - Pre-clearing procedure - Unexpected threatened species find procedure - Fauna handling procedure - Use of fauna spotters/handlers	Moderate	Unlikely	12 – Moderate	Transgrid and SecureEnergy
3	Vegetation clearing	Bushfire	Ignition of bushfire.	Sparks from machinery ignites combustible vegetation and fire gets out of control.	- Significant impact to local environment through bushfire - Potential destruction of project infrastructure and equipment - Potential for fatality/injury to personnel and members of the public - Damage to public property and adjacent properties - Loss of biodiversity - Project delays - Significant reputational impact - Potential regulatory actions from agencies - Financial penalties	Catastrophic	Likely	24 – Very High	- Bushfire Management Plan - FRACM - Hot Works permits	Catastrophic	Unlikely	21 – High	SecureEnergy
4	Earthworks Vegetation clearing	Biosecurity	Introduction and spread of weeds, pests and pathogens causing native/threatened species population declines.	Vehicular movements from disturbed and contaminated areas into undisturbed areas within the project area.	- Impact to biodiversity in exceedance of the approved Project - Spread of weeds/impacts to native vegetation - Long term maintenance requirements	Major	Possible	19 – High	- Biosecurity Management Plan - Weed and seed inspections - Hygiene inspections of vehicle prior to accessing site - Washdown bays	Major	Unlikely	14 – Moderate	Transgrid and SecureEnergy
5	Earthworks Vegetation clearing	Biodiversity	Removal of vegetation/habitat not permitted to be impacted by the project approval	Vegetation clearing outside of project boundary.	- Unauthorised impact to flora - Project delays - Financial penalties - Reputational impacts	Major	Almost certain	23 - Very High	- Biodiversity Management Plan - Set-up exclusion zones and defined clearing limits and no-go zones - Sensitive Area Plans (SAPs) - Unexpected biodiversity find procedure - Clearing and land disturbance Permits - Clearing register	Moderate	Unlikely	12 – Moderate	Transgrid and SecureEnergy
6	Earthworks Vegetation clearing	Surface water	Contamination of surface water. Reduction in water quality. Dispersion of contaminants	Newly exposed sediment and topsoil carried into catchments and watercourses during rainfall events.	- Water pollution - Loss of topsoil - Impacts to aquatic habitat and fauna - Potential regulatory action from agencies - Financial penalties - Reputational impacts	Major	Possible	19 – High	- Soil and Water Management Plan - Surface Water Monitoring Program - Erosion and Sediment Control Strategy and PESCPs - Clean water diversions - Process and intercepted water management - Discharge permit - Sediment basins and water treatment	Major	Unlikely	14 – Moderate	SecureEnergy

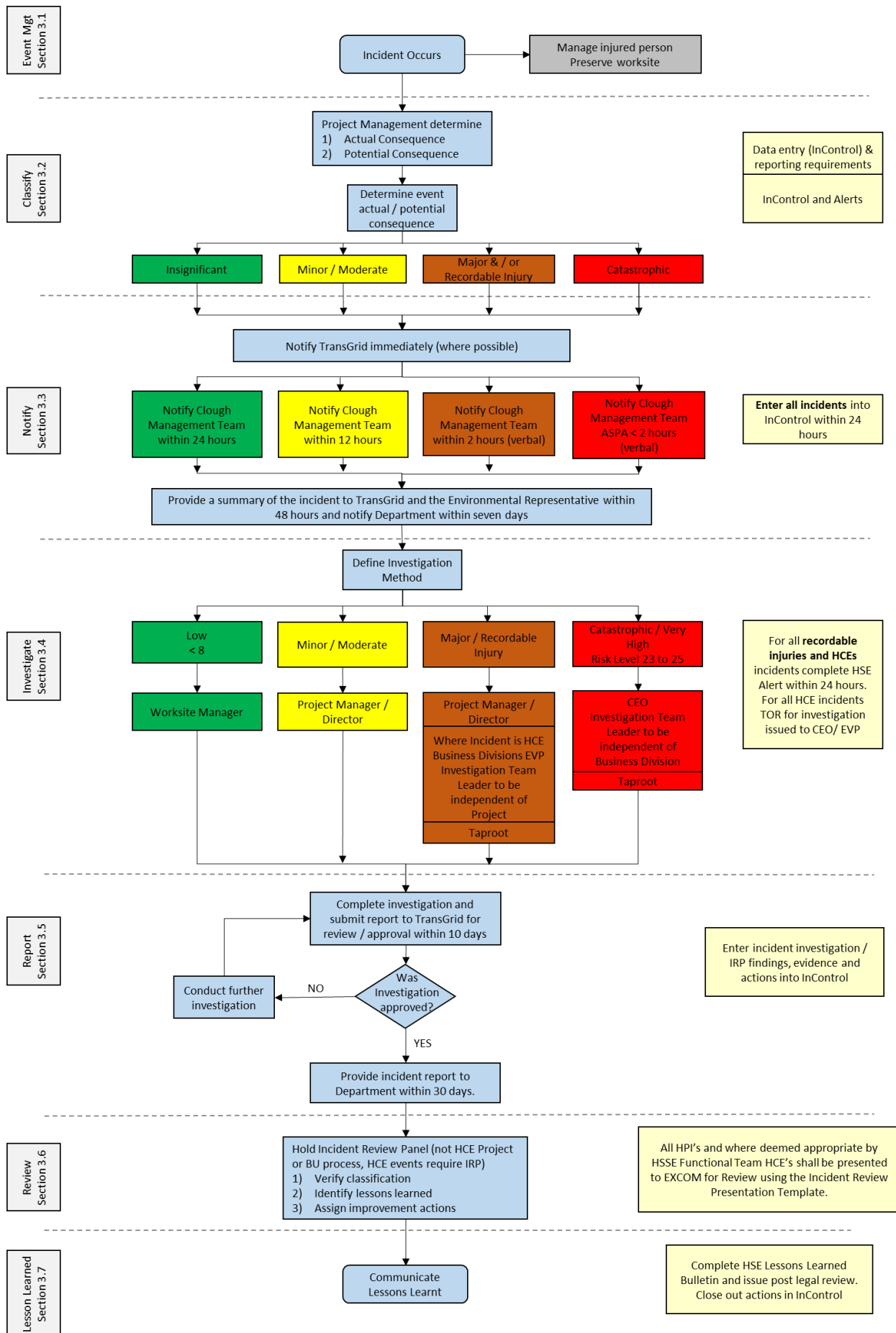
No.	Activity	Environmental category	Impact/Risk	Aspect/Cause	Possible Outcome	Consequence	Likelihood	Initial Risk Rating	Risk Management Measures (DRAFT)	Consequence	Likelihood	Residual Risk Rating	Risk Owner
7	Earthworks Vegetation clearing	Biodiversity	Fauna disturbance/relocation	Construction activities in fauna habitats causes fauna to relocate away from area.	- Reduction in localised population of fauna including threatened species - Adverse fauna monitoring impacts	Minor	Likely	11 - Moderate	- Biodiversity Management Plan - Sensitive Area Plans (SAPs) to included fauna habitats of significance - Unexpected biodiversity find procedure	Minor	Possible	10 - Moderate	Transgrid and SecureEnergy
8	Earthworks Vegetation clearing	Noise and vibration	Increased noise and vibration levels at sensitive receivers	Noise levels from construction activities and transport of materials, equipment and personnel exceeds the levels assessed in the Project approval. The project site is remote from sensitive receivers, noise impacts are more likely an issue along the access route through local towns.	- Sleep disturbance at sensitive receiver locations - Loss of support from local community	Moderate	Almost certain	18 – High	- Noise and Vibration Management Plan - Traffic and Transport Management Plan - Out of Hours Work Procedure - Out of Hours Work Permit - Noise monitoring record - Vibration monitoring record	Moderate	Rare	7 – Low	SecureEnergy
9	Earthworks Vegetation clearing	Air Quality	Visible dust plumes and deposition of dust on surfaces, impacts to amenity, dust generation from exposing of topsoil and sub soil through vegetation removal.	Exposed sediment and stockpiled of fine material become airborne in strong winds and carried to other areas.	- Excessive dust emission/deposition in surrounding environment - Air quality impacts exceed the approved project levels	Moderate	Almost certain	18 – High	- Air Quality Management Plan - Implement dust-suppression through use of water cart - Rehabilitation/stabilisation of cleared areas where possible	Moderate	Unlikely	12 – Moderate	SecureEnergy
10	Earthworks Vegetation clearing	Waste	Excess use of natural resources and energy leading to production of greenhouse gases.	Unnecessary operation/idling of vehicles, machinery and plant.	- Excessive consumption of diesel and other resources - Unnecessary production of greenhouse gases	Minor	Possible	10 - Moderate	Training/instruction to on-site staff, machinery and plant operators to shut down vehicles and equipment when not in use	Minor	Rare	5 – Low	SecureEnergy
11	Earthworks	Biodiversity	Impacts on vegetation/habitat beyond the project boundary.	Improper stockpiling of excavated material and engineered fill.	- Unapproved impacts beyond project boundary - Potential regulatory action from agencies - Project delays - Financial penalties - Reputational impacts	Major	Possible	19 – High	- Biodiversity Management Plan - Utilisation of allocated stockpile areas - Stockpiling procedure - Training for all contractors	Moderate	Rare	7 - Low	Transgrid and SecureEnergy
12	Earthworks	Landform	Loss and/or degradation of topsoils and subsoils.	Exposed sediment carried into catchments and watercourses during rainfall events due to lack of controls or inadequately installed controls.	- Adverse water quality impacts - Loss of amenity - Potential regulatory action from agencies - Reputational impacts	Moderate	Likely	17 – High	- Soil and Water Management Plan - Water Quality Monitoring Program - Erosion and Sediment Control Strategy and PESCPs - Clean water diversions - Process and intercepted water management - Sediment basins and water treatment (as required)	Moderate	Unlikely	12 – Moderate	SecureEnergy

No.	Activity	Environmental category	Impact/Risk	Aspect/Cause	Possible Outcome	Consequence	Likelihood	Initial Risk Rating	Risk Management Measures (DRAFT)	Consequence	Likelihood	Residual Risk Rating	Risk Owner
13	Transport of materials, equipment and personnel	Biodiversity	Frequent injury/mortality of protected fauna	Driving vehicles on access roads during times of high fauna activity. Excessive speed on access roads. Inattention of drivers on potential for fauna impacts.	- Trigger EPBC Act thresholds for impacts on Commonwealth listed species, - Potential regulatory action from agencies - Financial penalties - Reputational impacts - Personal injury due to collision with larger fauna including kangaroos and horses.	Major	Possible	19 – High	- Biodiversity Management Plan - Site inductions - Traffic and Transport Management Plan	Moderate	Unlikely	12 – Moderate	Transgrid and SecureEnergy
14	Transport of materials, equipment and personnel	Biosecurity	Introduction and spread of weeds, pests and pathogens causing native/threatened species population declines.	Vehicular movements from disturbed and contaminated areas into undisturbed areas within the project area.	- Impact to biodiversity in exceedance of the approved Project - Spread of weeds/impacts to native vegetation - Long term maintenance requirements	Major	Possible	19 – High	- Biodiversity Management Plan - Biosecurity Plan - Site inductions - Weed and seed inspections - Hygiene inspections of vehicle prior to accessing site	Major	Unlikely	14 – Moderate	Transgrid and SecureEnergy
15	Transport of materials, equipment and personnel	Surface water	Contamination of surface water. Reduction in water quality. Dispersion of contaminants.	Vehicular spills along access road or within Project compounds.	- Hydrocarbon pollution - Potential regulatory action from agencies - Financial penalties - Reputational impacts	Major	Possible	19 – High	- Soil and Water Management Plan - Spill Response Procedure	Moderate	Unlikely	12 – Moderate	SecureEnergy
16	Transport of materials, equipment and personnel	Air Quality	Visible dust plumes and deposition of dust on surfaces.	Transportation vehicles movements cause dust particle to become airborne and carried in wind to other areas.	- Excessive dust emission/deposition in surrounding environment - Air quality impacts exceed the approved project levels - Adverse biodiversity impacts - Reputational impacts	Moderate	Possible	13 - Moderate	- Air Quality Management Plan - Implement dust-suppression through use of water cart - Cover all loads during transportation	Moderate	Unlikely	12 – Moderate	SecureEnergy
17	Transport of materials, equipment and personnel	Waste	Excess use of natural resources and energy.	Materials shipped from distant locations, excessive personal vehicle usage, repeated movements back and forth from site.	- Unnecessary production of greenhouse gases - Impacts of the project exceed those assessed in the EIS	Moderate	Likely	17 – High	Traffic and Transport Management Plan	Moderate	Unlikely	12 – Moderate	SecureEnergy
18	Transport of materials, equipment and personnel	Traffic and Transport	Roadworks on local roads blocking or excessively delaying traffic movements and thoroughfare.	Increased traffic volumes and congestion, increased road noise, degradation of roadways, traffic delays. Heavy and light vehicles moving in convoys through local towns to the project site.	- Traffic delays on local and regional roads - Increased road safety hazard - Adverse reputational impacts - Increased noise and air quality impacts	Moderate	Likely	17 – High	- Traffic and Transport Management Plan - Traffic Control Plans - Engagement with community to manage expectations - Community Communication Strategy - Manage timing of oversize/ overmass (OSOM) movements in accordance with TfNSW requirements	Minor	Unlikely	6 – Low	SecureEnergy
19	Stockpile/ spoil emplacement	Biodiversity	Introduction and spread of weeds, pests and pathogens causing native/threatened species population declines.	Disturbance of natural areas and storage of spoil provides opportunity for weeds to establish and spread beyond the project area.	- Impact to biodiversity in exceedance of the approved Project - Spread of weeds/impacts to native vegetation - Long term maintenance requirements	Major	Possible	19 – High	- Biodiversity Management Plan - Training for all contractors	Major	Unlikely	14 – Moderate	Transgrid and SecureEnergy

No.	Activity	Environmental category	Impact/Risk	Aspect/Cause	Possible Outcome	Consequence	Likelihood	Initial Risk Rating	Risk Management Measures (DRAFT)	Consequence	Likelihood	Residual Risk Rating	Risk Owner
20	Stockpile/ spoil emplacement	Surface Water	Erosion and sedimentation. Contamination of surface water. Reduction in water quality. Dispersion of contaminants.	Runoff from spoil stockpiles causes contaminated/polluted stormwater discharge into watercourses due to lack of controls or inadequately installed controls.	- Adverse water quality impacts - Loss of amenity - Potential regulatory action from agencies - Reputational impacts	Major	Possible	19 – High	- Soil and Water Management Plan - Erosion and Sediment Control Strategy and PESCPs	Major	Unlikely	14 – Moderate	SecureEnergy
21	Storage of hazardous materials	Surface water	Contamination of surface water. Reduction in water quality. Dispersion of contaminants.	Spill of stored hazardous material escaping containment into waterways.	- Hydrocarbon pollution - Potential regulatory action from agencies - Financial penalties - Reputational impacts	Major	Possible	19 – High	- Soil and Water Management Plan - Bunded areas for storage of fuels and oils	Major	Unlikely	14 – Moderate	SecureEnergy
22	Storage of hazardous materials	Groundwater	Contamination of groundwater.	Spill or leaks of stored hazardous material dispersing into ground water.	- Potential for irreparable damage to groundwater quality - Long term impacts to groundwater dependent species or ecosystems	Major	Unlikely	14 – Moderate	- Soil and Water Management Plan - Bunded areas for storage of fuels and oils	Moderate	Rare	7 - Low	SecureEnergy
23	Rock crushing/ screening	Noise and vibration	Increased noise and vibration levels at sensitive receivers.	Rock crushing and screening activities situated too close to sensitive receivers.	- Sleep disturbance at sensitive receiver locations - Loss of support from local community	Moderate	Unlikely	12 – Moderate	- Noise and Vibration Management Plan - Management of operational hours and intensity level	Moderate	Rare	7 - Low	SecureEnergy
24	Rock crushing/ screening	Air Quality	Increased dust emissions.	Rock crushing and screening activities not implementing adequate dust suppression mitigation.	- Excessive dust emission/deposition in surrounding environment - Air quality impacts exceed the approved project levels - Adverse biodiversity impacts	Major	Possible	19 – High	- Air Quality Management Plan - Weather monitoring prior to operation - Use of covers and water spray	Minor	Unlikely	6 – Low	SecureEnergy
25	Storage/ disposal of hazardous materials	Waste	Contamination of soil and water, unlawful disposal of waste.	Inadequate storage of hazardous materials, inadequate spill management practices, improper disposal practices.	- Contamination of soil and water in sensitive environment - Potential regulatory action from agencies - Financial penalties - Loss of community support - Reputational impacts	Major	Possible	19 – High	- Waste Management Plan - Use of licensed disposal contractors - Appropriate bunded storage of hazardous materials	Major	Unlikely	14 – Moderate	SecureEnergy
26	Operation of accommodation camp	Waste	Excess use of natural resources and energy.	Inefficient use of resources within the accommodation camp.	Excessive use of resources such as water and electricity	Minor	Likely	11 - Moderate	Energy efficient design of site facilities	Minor	Unlikely	6 – Low	SecureEnergy
27	Operation of accommodation camp	Waste	Odour impacts, contamination of soil and water in sensitive environment, excess waste sent to landfill.	Inadequate management of camp waste including sewerage and mixed waste.	- Unlawful disposal of waste Excess waste generation - Contamination of waste streams - Contamination of soil and water - Potential regulatory action from agencies	Moderate	Possible	13 - Moderate	- Waste Management Plan - Use of licensed waste disposal contractors - Waste tracking and register of waste disposal	Major	Unlikely	14 – Moderate	SecureEnergy
28	Operation of accommodation camp	Surface water	Contamination of surface water. Reduction in water quality. Dispersion of contaminants.	Leak from the wastewater treatment plant into the receiving environment	- Environmental contamination - Potential regulatory action from agencies - Financial penalties - Reputational impacts	Moderate	Likely	17 – High	- Soil and Water Management Plan - Wastewater treatment plant to be self-bunded	Minor	Unlikely	6 – Low	SecureEnergy

No.	Activity	Environmental category	Impact/Risk	Aspect/Cause	Possible Outcome	Consequence	Likelihood	Initial Risk Rating	Risk Management Measures (DRAFT)	Consequence	Likelihood	Residual Risk Rating	Risk Owner
29	Hot works and plant operations	Bushfire	Ignition of bushfire.	Sparks from machinery or hot work activities ignites combustible vegetation and fire gets out of control.	- Significant impact to local environment through bushfire - Potential destruction of project infrastructure and equipment - Potential for fatality/injury to personnel and members of the public - Damage to public property and adjacent properties - Loss of biodiversity - Project delays - Significant reputational impact - Potential regulatory actions from agencies - Financial penalties	Catastrophic	Likely	24 – Very High	- Bushfire Management Plan - FRACM - Hot Works Permits	Catastrophic	Unlikely	15 – Moderate	SecureEnergy
30	Inflow of workforce to local area	Socio economic	Business impacts, increased housing demand.	Workforce size relocating to local area.	- Housing rental/purchase prices increase due to increased demand - Local services struggle to meet demands - Loss of community support for the project	Minor	Possible	10 - Moderate	- Establishment of construction camps to provide accommodation for workforce - Encourage personnel to purchase local produce and use local business to stimulate positive economic growth in the locality	Minor	Unlikely	6 – Low	SecureEnergy
31	Working in bushfire prone areas	Bushfire	Ignition of bushfire.	Siting of temporary infrastructure and personnel in bushfire prone areas without appropriate bushfire mitigation in place.	- Damage to construction site, works and accommodation camps - Project delays - Safety impacts	Moderate	Possible	13 - Moderate	- Pre-position firefighting equipment - Safety and emergency systems and procedures - Implement preparatory actions of Bushfire Management Plan	Minor	Unlikely	6 – Low	SecureEnergy

Appendix A4 – Incident, Notification and Investigation Procedure Flowchart



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Appendix A5 – Management measures for unassigned conditions of the Infrastructure Approval and RMMs

ID	Management measures	When to implement	Responsibility	Reference
MM1	Permanent engineering batters and water management measures will be designed to integrate with the existing landforms and natural features.	Detailed design	Design Manager	RMM LV3
MM2	Lighting at construction compound and accommodation camps will be designed: - to minimise off-site lighting impacts to sensitive receivers; - include the use of low intensity lighting where practicable, except where required for safety or emergency purposes; - generally does not emit light above the horizon, except where required for safety or emergency purposes; and - generally in accordance with <i>AS4282-2019 Control of the obtrusive effects of outdoor lighting</i>.	Detailed design	Supervisor	RMM LV4 Condition D41
MM3	The project will be designed in accordance with <i>Guidelines for Limiting Exposure to Time-Varying Electric and Magnetic Fields (1 Hz – 100 kHz) (International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection</i> and the EMF guidelines of set out in Table 19-2 of the EIS where practicable and feasible, otherwise in line with Transgrid's Transmission Line Design Manual – Major New Build.	Detailed design	Design Manager	RMM HR1 Condition D45
MM4	The storage, handling, and transport of dangerous goods will be undertaken in accordance with: - the relevant Australian Standards and guidelines, particularly: - AS1940 <i>The storage and handling of flammable and combustible liquids</i>; - AS/NZS 1596:2014 <i>The storage and handling of LP Gas, the Dangerous Goods Code</i>; and - the EPA's <i>Storing and Handling of Liquids: Environmental Protection – Participants Manual</i>.	Construction	Supervisor, Environmental Manager, HSSE	Condition D44
MM5	Works to public infrastructure will be undertaken, in consultation with the applicable public authority or service provider, in the following events: - where any public infrastructure that is damaged by the project; and - where any public infrastructure needs to be relocated as a result of the project. Public infrastructure works does not include any damage to roads caused from general road usage.	Construction	Supervisor	Condition A8
MM6	The Proponent will ensure that all new buildings and structures, and any alterations or additions to existing buildings and structures, are constructed in accordance with the relevant requirements of the BCA; and where the BCA is not applicable, to the relevant Australian Standard.	Construction	Supervisor	Condition A10
MM7	Advertisement signs, logos and other off-site visual materials related to the project will be avoided or minimised to reduce visual impacts, where reasonable and practicable, except where required for site identification, or traffic and haulage purposes, or safety purposes.	Construction	Supervisor, Environmental Manager	Condition D42

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Appendix A6 – Conditions of the Infrastructure Approval and Revised Mitigation Measures

Table A6. 1 - Conditions of the Infrastructure Approval and reference document

Condition no.	Condition requirement	Document reference
	PART A – ADMINISTRATIVE CONDITIONS	
	Obligation to Minimise Harm to the Environment	
A1	In meeting the specific performance measures and criteria of this approval, all reasonable and feasible measures must be implemented to prevent, and if prevention is not reasonable and feasible, minimise, any material harm to the environment that may result from the construction, operation, rehabilitation or decommissioning of the development.	Construction Environmental Management Plan - Appendix B
	Terms of Approval	
A2	The development may only be carried out: a) in compliance with the conditions of this approval; b) in accordance with all written directions of the Planning Secretary; c) generally in accordance with the EIS; and d) generally in accordance with the Development Layout in Appendix 1.	Construction Environmental Management Plan - Section 1.11
A3	The Proponent must comply with any requirement/s of the Planning Secretary arising from the Department's assessment of: a) any strategies, plans or correspondence that are submitted in accordance with this approval; b) any reports, reviews or audits commissioned by the Department regarding compliance with this approval; and c) the implementation of any actions or measures contained in these documents.	Construction Environmental Management Plan – Section 1.7
A4	The conditions of this approval and directions of the Planning Secretary prevail to the extent of any inconsistency, ambiguity or conflict between them and a document listed in condition A2(c) or A2(d). In the event of an inconsistency, ambiguity or conflict between any of the documents listed in condition A2(c) or A2(d), the most recent document prevails to the extent of the inconsistency, ambiguity or conflict.	Construction Environmental Management Plan – Section 1.11
A5	Any document that must be submitted within a timeframe specified in or under the terms of this approval may be submitted within a later timeframe agreed with the Planning Secretary. This condition does not apply to the immediate written notification required in respect of an incident under condition E6.	Construction Environmental Management Plan - Section 1.7
	Lapse of Approval	
A6	This approval will lapse if the Proponent does not physically commence the development within 5 years of the date on which it is granted.	Construction Environmental Management Plan – Section 1.2

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Condition no.	Condition requirement	Document reference
	Evidence of Consultation	
A7	Where conditions of this approval require consultation with an identified party, the Proponent must: a) consult with the relevant party prior to submitting the subject document to the Planning Secretary for approval; and b) provide details of the consultation undertaken including: (i) the outcome of that consultation, matters resolved and unresolved; and (ii) details of any disagreement remaining between the party consulted and the Proponent and how the Proponent has addressed the matters not resolved.	Construction Environmental Management Plan – Section 1.6
	Protection of Public Infrastructure	
A8	Unless the Proponent and the applicable authority agree otherwise, the Proponent must: a) undertake any works on or in the vicinity of public infrastructure in consultation with the applicable public authority or service provider responsible for that public infrastructure; b) repair, or pay the full costs associated with repairing, any public infrastructure that is damaged by the development; and c) relocate, or pay the full costs associated with relocating, any public infrastructure that needs to be relocated as a result of the development. This condition does not apply to any damage to roads caused as a result of general road usage which is expressly provided for in the conditions of this approval.	Construction Environmental Management Plan – Appendix A5
	Demolition	
A9	The Proponent must ensure that all demolition work on site is carried out in accordance with <i>AS 2601-2001: The Demolition of Structures</i> (Standards Australia, 2001)	Not applicable to Stage 1. Stage 1 works does not include demolition works.
	Structural Adequacy	
A10	The Proponent must ensure that all new buildings and structures, and any alterations or additions to existing buildings and structures, are constructed in accordance with the relevant requirements of the BCA; and where the BCA is not applicable, to the relevant Australian Standard. <i>Notes:</i> • Under Part 6 of the EP&A Act, the Proponent is required to obtain construction and occupation certificates for the development. • Part 8 of the EP&A Regulation sets out the requirements for the certification of the development.	Construction Environmental Management Plan – Appendix A5
	Compliance	
A11	The Proponent must ensure that all of its employees, contractors (and their sub-contractors) are made aware of, and are instructed to comply with, the conditions of this approval relevant to activities they carry out in respect of the development.	Construction Environmental

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Condition no.	Condition requirement	Document reference
		Management Plan – Section 6.1
	Operation of Plant and Equipment	
A12	All plant and equipment used on site, or in connection with the development, must be: a) maintained in a proper and efficient condition; and b) operated in a proper and efficient manner.	Appendix B2 Noise and Vibration Management Plan
	Applicability of Guidelines	
A13	References in the conditions of this approval to any guideline, protocol, Australian Standard or policy are to such guidelines, protocols, Standards or policies in the form they are in as at the date of this approval.	Construction Environmental Management Plan – Section 3.4
A14	However, consistent with the conditions of this approval and without altering any limits or criteria in this approval, the Planning Secretary may, when issuing directions under this approval in respect of ongoing monitoring and management obligations, require compliance with an updated or revised version of such a guideline, protocol, Standard or policy, or a replacement of them.	Construction Environmental Management Plan – Section 3.4
	Community Communication Strategy	
A15	Prior to the commencement of construction, the Proponent must prepare a Community Communication Strategy to provide mechanisms to facilitate communication between the Proponent and the community (including adjoining affected landowners) during construction. The Community Communication Strategy must: a) identify landowners for potentially impacted receivers; b) ensure that the landowners identified in (a) are consulted during construction; c) set out procedures and mechanisms for the regular distribution of information to the wider community; d) establish a public liaison officer(s) to engage with the local community; and e) set out procedures and mechanisms: - through which the community can discuss or provide feedback to the Proponent; - through which the Proponent will respond to enquiries or feedback from the community; and - to resolve any issues and mediate any disputes that may arise in relation to construction of the development. The Proponent must implement the Community Communication Strategy for the duration of construction.	Community Communication Strategy
	Environmental Representative	
A16	Prior to commencing the development, an Environmental Representative (ER) must be approved by the Planning Secretary and engaged by the Proponent.	Construction Environmental

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Condition no.	Condition requirement	Document reference
		Management Plan – Section 4.9.2
A17	The Planning Secretary's approval of an ER must be sought no later than one (1) week before commencing the development.	Construction Environmental Management Plan – Section 4.9.2
A18	The proposed ER must be a suitably qualified and experienced person who was not involved in the preparation of the documents listed in condition A2, and is independent from the design and construction of the development. The ER must meet only the requirements set out in section 2.2, 2.3,2.4 and 3 in the <i>Environmental Representative Protocol</i> (Department of Planning and Environment, October 2018).	Construction Environmental Management Plan – Section 4.9.2
A19	From commencing the development, until commencing operation, or as agreed with the Planning Secretary, the approved ER must: a) review the documents identified in conditions A15, B1, B2, D3, D10, D11, D29, D37 D47, D52 and D53, and any other documents that are identified by the Planning Secretary, to ensure they are consistent with requirements in or under this approval and if so: (i) make a written statement to this effect before submission of such documents to the Planning Secretary (if those documents are required to be approved by the Planning Secretary); or (ii) make a written statement to this effect before the implementation of such documents (if those documents are required to be submitted to the Department for information or are not required to be submitted to the Department); b) as may be requested by the Planning Secretary, assist the Department in the resolution of community complaints; and c) consider any minor amendments to be made to the plans / strategies in conditions A15, D11, D52, D53, E3, E4, E5, E6, E7 that involve updating or are of an administrative nature and do not increase impacts to nearby sensitive receivers, and ensure they are consistent with the terms of this approval and, if satisfied such amendment is necessary, approve the amendment. This does not include any modifications to the terms of this approval.	Construction Environmental Management Plan – Section 4.9.2
A20	The Proponent must provide the ER with all documentation requested by the ER in order for the ER to perform their functions specified in condition A19, as well as the complaints register for any complaints received (on the day they are received).	Construction Environmental Management Plan – Section 1.10 and 7.2

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Condition no.	Condition requirement	Document reference																		
	PART B - CONSTRUCTION ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PLAN																			
	Construction Environmental Management Plan																			
B1	Prior to the commencement of construction, a Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) must be prepared to detail how the performance outcomes, commitments and mitigation measures specified in the EIS will be implemented and achieved during construction to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary.	Construction Environmental Management Plan Traffic and Transport Management Plan Noise and Vibration Management Plan Biodiversity Management Plan Soil and Water Management Plan Heritage Management Plan																		
B2	The following CEMP Sub-plans must be prepared in consultation with the relevant government agencies identified for each CEMP Sub-plan in Table 1. Table 1: CEMP Sub-plans <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th><th>Required CEMP Sub-plan</th><th>Relevant government agencies and stakeholders to be consulted for each CEMP Sub-plan</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>(a)</td><td>Noise and Vibration</td><td>Council</td></tr> <tr> <td>(b)</td><td>Soil and Water</td><td>DPIE Water Council</td></tr> <tr> <td>(c)</td><td>Biodiversity</td><td>BCS Council</td></tr> <tr> <td>(d)</td><td>Heritage</td><td>Heritage NSW Aboriginal stakeholders</td></tr> <tr> <td>(e)</td><td>Traffic and Transport</td><td>TfNSW Council</td></tr> </tbody> </table>		Required CEMP Sub-plan	Relevant government agencies and stakeholders to be consulted for each CEMP Sub-plan	(a)	Noise and Vibration	Council	(b)	Soil and Water	DPIE Water Council	(c)	Biodiversity	BCS Council	(d)	Heritage	Heritage NSW Aboriginal stakeholders	(e)	Traffic and Transport	TfNSW Council	Construction Environmental Management Plan Appendix B1 Traffic and Transport Management Plan Appendix B2 Noise and Vibration Management Plan Appendix B3 Biodiversity Management Plan Appendix B4 Soil and Water Management Plan Appendix B5 Heritage Management Plan
	Required CEMP Sub-plan	Relevant government agencies and stakeholders to be consulted for each CEMP Sub-plan																		
(a)	Noise and Vibration	Council																		
(b)	Soil and Water	DPIE Water Council																		
(c)	Biodiversity	BCS Council																		
(d)	Heritage	Heritage NSW Aboriginal stakeholders																		
(e)	Traffic and Transport	TfNSW Council																		

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Condition no.	Condition requirement	Document reference
B3	Details of all information requested by an agency to be included in a CEMP Sub-plan as a result of consultation must be provided with the relevant CEMP Sub-Plan.	Construction Environmental Management Plan Appendix B1 Traffic and Transport Management Plan Appendix B2 Noise and Vibration Management Plan Appendix B3 Biodiversity Management Plan Appendix B4 Soil and Water Management Plan Appendix B5 Heritage Management Plan
B4	Any of the CEMP Sub-plans may be submitted along with, or subsequent to, the submission of the CEMP but in any event prior to the commencement of construction.	Construction Environmental Management Plan Appendix B1 Traffic and Transport Management Plan Appendix B2 Noise and Vibration Management Plan Appendix B3 Biodiversity Management Plan Appendix B4 Soil and Water Management Plan Appendix B5 Heritage Management Plan

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Condition no.	Condition requirement	Document reference
B5	Construction must not commence until the CEMP and all CEMP Sub-plans have been approved by the Planning Secretary. The CEMP and CEMP Sub-plans, as approved by the Planning Secretary, must be implemented for the duration of construction. Where construction of the development is staged, construction of a stage must not commence until the CEMP and sub-plans for that stage have been approved by the Planning Secretary	Construction Environmental Management Plan Appendix B1 Traffic and Transport Management Plan Appendix B2 Noise and Vibration Management Plan Appendix B3 Biodiversity Management Plan Appendix B4 Soil and Water Management Plan Appendix B5 Heritage Management Plan
	Management Plan Requirements	
B6	The CEMP and CEMP Sub-plans required under this approval must be prepared by suitably qualified and experienced persons in accordance with relevant guidelines, and include where relevant: a) a summary of relevant background or baseline data; b) details of: (iii) the relevant statutory requirements (including any relevant approval or licence conditions); (iv) any relevant limits or performance measures and criteria; and (v) the specific performance indicators that are proposed to be used to judge the performance of, or guide the implementation of, the development or any management measures; c) any relevant commitments or recommendations identified in the EIS; d) a description of the measures to be implemented to comply with the relevant statutory requirements, limits, or performance measures and criteria; e) a program to monitor and report on the: (vi) impacts and environmental performance of the development (including a table summarising all the monitoring and reporting obligations under the conditions of this approval); and (vii) effectiveness of the management measures set out pursuant to paragraph d); f) a contingency plan to manage any unpredicted impacts and their consequences and to ensure that ongoing impacts reduce to levels below relevant impact assessment criteria as quickly as possible; g) a program to investigate and implement ways to improve the environmental performance of the development over time; h) a protocol for managing and reporting any:	Construction Environmental Management Plan Appendix B1 Traffic and Transport Management Plan Appendix B2 Noise and Vibration Management Plan Appendix B3 Biodiversity Management Plan Appendix B4 Soil and Water Management Plan Appendix B5 Heritage Management Plan

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Condition no.	Condition requirement	Document reference
	(viii) incident, non-compliance or exceedance of any impact assessment criterion and performance criterion; (ix) complaint; or (x) failure to comply with other statutory requirements; and i) set out the procedures that would be implemented to: (xi) keep the local community and relevant agencies informed about the operation and environmental performance of the development; (xii) receive, handle, respond to, and record complaints; (xiii) resolve any disputes that may arise; (xiv) respond to any non-compliance; (xv) respond to emergencies; and j) a description of the roles and environmental responsibilities, authority and accountability for all relevant employees, as well as training and awareness; and k) a protocol for periodic review of the CEMP and associated subplans and programs. The Planning Secretary may waive some of these requirements if they are unnecessary or unwarranted for particular management plans.	
PART C – OPERATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT		
Operational Environmental Management Plan		
C1	An Operational Environmental Management Plan (OEMP) must be prepared to detail how the performance outcomes, commitments and mitigation measures made and identified in the EIS will be implemented and achieved during operation. This condition (condition C1) does not apply if condition C2 of this approval applies.	Not applicable to Stage 1. This condition is relevant to the operational phase of the project
C2	An OEMP is not required for the development if the Proponent has an Environmental Management System (EMS) or equivalent as agreed with the Planning Secretary, and demonstrates, to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary, that through the EMS: a) the performance outcomes, commitments and mitigation measures, made and identified in the EIS, and specified relevant terms of this approval can be achieved; b) issues identified through ongoing risk analysis can be managed; c) there is a clear plan depicting all the monitoring to be carried out in relation to the development, including a table summarising all the monitoring and reporting obligations under the conditions of this approval; d) there is a strategic framework for environmental management of the development; e) the role, responsibility, authority and accountability of all key personnel involved in the environmental management of the development is clear; and f) procedures are in place for:	Not applicable to Stage 1. This condition is relevant to the operational phase of the project

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Condition no.	Condition requirement	Document reference
	- keeping the local community and relevant agencies informed about the operation and environmental performance of the development; - receiving, handling, responding to, and recording complaints; - resolving any disputes that may arise; - responding to any non-compliance; and - responding to emergencies.	
C3	Prior to the commencement of operations, the OEMP or EMS or equivalent as agreed with the Planning Secretary must be prepared to the satisfaction of Planning Secretary.	Not applicable to Stage 1. This condition is relevant to the operational phase of the project
PART D - KEY ISSUE CONDITIONS		
Noise and Vibration		
Construction Hours		
D1	Road upgrades, construction, demolition, upgrading or decommissioning activities may only be undertaken between: a) 7 am to 6 pm Monday to Friday; b) 8 am to 1 pm Saturdays; and c) at no time on Sundays and NSW public holiday; unless the Planning Secretary agrees otherwise.	Appendix B2 Noise and Vibration Management Plan
D2	The following construction activities may be carried out outside the hours specified in condition D1 above: a) the delivery or dispatch of materials as requested by the NSW Police Force or other public authorities for safety reasons; b) emergency work to avoid the loss of life, property or to prevent material harm to the environment; and c) works carried out in accordance with the hours and noise limits specified in any negotiated agreements with sensitive receivers (owners and occupiers), provided the negotiated agreements are in writing and finalised before the commencement of works.	Appendix B2 Noise and Vibration Management Plan
D3	An Out-of-Hours Work Protocol must be prepared to identify a process for the consideration, management and approval of works which are outside the hours defined in conditions D1, D2, and D7 The Protocol must be approved by the Planning Secretary before commencing works. The Protocol must: a) be prepared in consultation with Council; b) provide a process for the consideration of out-of-hours works against the relevant noise and vibration criteria, including the determination of low and high-risk activities; c) provide a process for the identification of mitigation measures for potential impacts, including respite periods in consultation with any affected receivers;	Appendix B2 Noise and Vibration Management Plan Out of Hours Work Protocol

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Condition no.	Condition requirement	Document reference
	d) provide a process for the identification of out-of-hours works undertaken by third parties in the vicinity of the site, and coordination of out-of-hours works with these third parties to achieve respite periods in locations where receivers may be affected by concurrent activities; e) identify an approval process that considers the risk of activities, proposed mitigation, management, and coordination, including where: - low risk activities can be undertaken without the approval of the Planning Secretary and with the approval of the ER; and - high risk activities that are approved by the Planning Secretary; and f) identify Department, Council and community notification arrangements for approved out of hours work	
	Construction and Decommissioning	
D4	The Proponent must take all reasonable and feasible steps to minimise the construction, upgrading or decommissioning noise of the development in the locations where the noise is audible to sensitive receivers, including any associated traffic noise.	Appendix B2 Noise and Vibration Management Plan
D5	The Proponent must implement mitigation measures: - to ensure that the noise generated by any construction, upgrading or decommissioning activities is managed in accordance with the requirements for construction 'noise affected' management levels established in accordance with <i>Interim Construction Noise Guideline</i> (DECC, 2009); and - with the aim of achieving the road traffic noise assessment criteria for residential land uses from <i>NSW Road Noise Policy</i> (DECCW, 2011).	Appendix B2 Noise and Vibration Management Plan
D6	The Proponent must comply with the following vibration limits: - vibration criteria established using the Assessing vibration: a technical guideline (DEC, 2006) (for human exposure); - BS 7385 Part 2-1993 "Evaluation and measurement for vibration in buildings Part 2" as they are "applicable to Australian conditions"; and - vibration limits set out in the German Standard DIN 4150-3: Structural Vibration- effects of vibration on structures (for structural damage).	Appendix B2 Noise and Vibration Management Plan
D7	Blasting may only be carried out on the site between 9 am and 5 pm Monday to Friday and between 9 am to 1 pm on Saturday. No blasting is allowed on Sundays or public holidays.	Not applicable to Stage 1. No blasting is proposed for the project.

Condition no.	Condition requirement	Document reference											
D8	The Proponent must ensure that any blasting carried out on the site does not exceed the criteria in Table 2. Table 2: Blasting criteria <table><tr><th>Location</th><th>Airblast overpressure (dB(Lin Peak))</th><th>Ground vibrations(m m/s)</th><th>Allowable exceedance</th></tr><tr><td rowspan="2">Any non-associated residence</td><td>120</td><td>10</td><td>0%</td></tr><tr><td>115</td><td>5</td><td>5% of the total number of blasts or events over the rolling period of 12 months</td></tr></table>	Location	Airblast overpressure (dB(Lin Peak))	Ground vibrations(m m/s)	Allowable exceedance	Any non-associated residence	120	10	0%	115	5	5% of the total number of blasts or events over the rolling period of 12 months	Not applicable to Stage 1. No blasting is proposed for the project.
Location	Airblast overpressure (dB(Lin Peak))	Ground vibrations(m m/s)	Allowable exceedance										
Any non-associated residence	120	10	0%										
	115	5	5% of the total number of blasts or events over the rolling period of 12 months										
	Operation												
D9	The Proponent must implement all reasonable and feasible measures with the aim of ensuring that the noise generated by the operation of the development does not exceed 35 dB(A) LAeq,15min to be determined in accordance with the procedures in the <i>NSW Noise Policy for Industry</i> (EPA, 2017) at any non-associated residence.	Not applicable to Stage 1. This condition is relevant to the operational phase of the project.											
D10	Within 12 months of the date of this approval, the Proponent must prepare an Operational Noise Review to confirm noise predictions and control measures that would be implemented for the operation of the development. The Review must: a) be prepared by a suitably qualified and experienced person whose appointment has been endorsed by the Planning Secretary; b) be prepared in consultation with impacted residences; c) identify residences predicted to experience noise levels that exceed 40 dB(A) LAeq,15min at the reasonably most affected point of the residence, determined in accordance with the <i>NSW Noise Policy for Industry</i> (EPA, 2017); d) detail the noise mitigation measures to achieve the noise criteria identified, including the timing of implementation; e) provide evidence of consultation with affected landowners; f) include a consultation strategy to seek feedback from directly affected landowners on the noise mitigation measures; and g) identify procedures for the management of operational noise complaints. The Proponent must implement any identified mitigation measures prior to the commencement of operation.	Not applicable to Stage 1. This condition is relevant to the operational phase of the project											
	Operational Noise Monitoring												
D11	Within 6 months of the commencement of operations (or the commencement of operation of a stage, if the development is to be staged), the Proponent must: a) undertake noise monitoring to determine whether the development is complying with the relevant conditions of this approval; and b) submit a copy of the monitoring results to the Department.	Not applicable to Stage 1. This condition is relevant to the operational phase of the project.											

Condition no.	Condition requirement	Document reference
D12	The Proponent must undertake further noise monitoring of the development if required by the Planning Secretary.	Not applicable to Stage 1. This condition is relevant to the operational phase of the project.
	Noise and Vibration CEMP Sub-Plan	
D13	The Noise and Vibration CEMP Sub-Plan required under condition B2 must: a) ensure the requirements in conditions D1 to D12 are complied with; b) include a description of the reasonable and feasible measures that would be implemented to minimise noise and vibration impacts of the development; c) include a detailed description of the noise and vibration management system for the development; d) include a protocol for the identification, notification and management of works that exceed the noise management levels; and e) include a monitoring program that evaluates and reports on the effectiveness of the noise and vibration management system.	Appendix B2 Noise and Vibration Management Plan Out of Hours Work Protocol Community Communication Strategy
	Air Quality	
D14	In addition to the performance outcomes, commitments and mitigation measures specified in the EIS, the Proponent must take all reasonable steps to: a) minimise the off-site dust, fume, blast emissions and other air pollutants of the development; and b) minimise the surface disturbance of the site.	Air Quality Management Plan
	Soil and Water	
	Water Supply	
D15	The Proponent must ensure that it has sufficient water for all stages of the development, and if necessary, adjust the scale of the development to match its available water supply. <i>Note: Under the Water Act 1912 and/or the Water Management Act 2000, the Proponent is required to obtain the necessary water licences for the development.</i>	Appendix B4 Soil and Water Management Plan
	Erosion and Sedimentation	
D16	The Proponent must: a) minimise erosion and control sediment generation; and b) ensure all land disturbances have appropriate drainage and erosion and sediment controls designed, installed and maintained in accordance with <i>Managing Urban Stormwater - Soils and Construction Volume 1</i> (Landcom, 2004) and <i>Managing Urban Stormwater – Soils and Construction Volume 2C Unsealed Roads</i> (DECC, 2008);	Appendix B4 Soil and Water Management Plan Erosion and Sediment Control Strategy

Condition no.	Condition requirement	Document reference
	Pollution of Waters	
D17	Unless otherwise authorised by an EPL, the Proponent must ensure the development does not cause any water pollution, as defined under Section 120 of the POEO Act.	Appendix B4 Soil and Water Management Plan
D18	The Proponent must: a) ensure that appropriate components of the concrete batching plants and substation are suitably bunded; and b) minimise any spills of hazardous materials or hydrocarbons, and clean up any spills as soon as possible after they occur.	Appendix B4 Soil and Water Management Plan
D19	The Proponent must ensure that any groundwater dewatering activities do not discharge to watercourses.	Not applicable to Stage 1 works. Groundwater dewatering activities is not proposed as part of Stage 1 works.
	Riparian Areas	
D20	The Proponent must ensure: a) all activities on waterfront land are constructed in accordance with the <i>Guidelines for Controlled Activities on Waterfront Land</i> (2012), unless DPIE Water agrees otherwise; and b) the geomorphic condition of the major rivers and distributary channels crossed by the development is not impacted.	Not applicable to Stage 1 works. Waterway crossings activities is not proposed as part of Stage 1 works and the Darling River, Great Darling Anabranch or Murray River are not in the vicinity of Stage 1 disturbance area.
	Flooding	
D21	The Proponent must ensure that the development: a) does not materially alter the flood storage capacity, flows or characteristics in the development area or off-site; and b) is designed, constructed and maintained to reduce impacts on surface water, localised flooding and groundwater at the site, unless otherwise agreed by Council.	Appendix B4 Soil and Water Management Plan Accommodation Camp Management Plan
	Acid Sulfate Soils	
D22	The Proponent must ensure that any construction activities in identified areas of acid sulfate soil risk are undertaken in accordance with the <i>Acid Sulfate Soil Manual (Acid Sulfate Soil Management Advisory Committee, 1998)</i> .	Not applicable to Stage 1 works. The Stage 1 disturbance area is not identified as acid sulfate soil risk prone areas

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Condition no.	Condition requirement	Document reference
	Salinity	
D23	The Proponent must ensure that any construction activities in identified areas of moderate to high salinity are undertaken in accordance with the <i>Salinity Training Manual</i> (DPI, 2014) and <i>Book 4 Dryland Salinity: Productive use of Saline Land and Water</i> (NSW DECC, 2008).	Appendix B4 Soil and Water Management Plan
	Soil and Water CEMP Sub-Plan	
D24	The Soil and Water CEMP Sub-Plan required under condition B2 must include provisions for: - ensuring the requirements in conditions D15 to D23 are complied with; - managing flood risk during construction; - investigating, assessing and managing contaminated land, soils and groundwater in the development area; - investigating, assessing and managing the potential for asbestos and other hazardous materials in the development area; and - managing any unexpected and / or suspected contaminated land, asbestos and unexploded ordinance excavated, disturbed or otherwise discovered during construction.	Appendix B4 Soil and Water Management Plan Unexpected Contamination Finds Procedure
	Biodiversity	
	Restrictions on Clearing and Habitat	
D25	Unless otherwise agreed with the Planning Secretary, the Proponent must: - ensure that no more than: 19.6 hectares (ha) of BC Act listed Sandhill Pine Woodland in the Riverina, Murray-Darling Depression and NSW Southwestern Slopes bioregions; 0.04 ha of habitat for BC Act listed flora species <i>Acacia acanthoclada</i> (Harrow Wattle); 0.32 ha of habitat for BC Act and EPBC Act listed flora species <i>Atriplex infrequens</i> (A saltbush); 1.51 ha of habitat for BC Act listed flora species <i>Austrostipa nullanulla</i> (A spear-grass); 14 individuals of BC Act listed <i>Santalum murrayanum</i> (Bitter Quandong); and 6.91 ha of habitat for BC Act and EPBC Act listed fauna species <i>Polytelis anthopeplus monarchoides</i> (Regent Parrot) (eastern subspecies); - is cleared for the development; and - minimise: - the impacts of the development on hollow-bearing trees; - the impacts of the development on threatened bird and bat populations; and - the clearing of native vegetation and key habitat.	Appendix B3 Biodiversity Management Plan

Condition no.	Condition requirement	Document reference
	Biodiversity Offsets Package	
D26	Prior to carrying out any development that would impact on biodiversity values, the Proponent must prepare a Biodiversity Offset Package (Package) that is consistent with the EIS, in consultation with BCS and to the satisfaction of the Secretary in writing. The Package must include, but not necessarily be limited to: (a) details of the specific biodiversity offset measures to be implemented and delivered in accordance with the EIS; (b) the cost for each specific biodiversity offset measure, which would be required to be paid into the Biodiversity Conservation Fund if the relevant measure is not implemented and delivered (as calculated in accordance with Division 6 of the Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 (NSW) and the offsets payment calculator that was established as at 29 July 2021); (c) the timing and responsibilities for the implementation and delivery of the measures required in the Package; and (d) confirmation that the biodiversity offset measures will have been implemented and delivered no later than 31 December 2023. Following approval, the Proponent must implement and deliver the Biodiversity Offset Package.	Appendix B3 Biodiversity Management Plan Biodiversity Offset Package
D27	Prior to carrying out any development that could impact the biodiversity values requiring offset, the Proponent must establish an escrow account and pay into that account \$48 million, in accordance with the Deed of Agreement with the Planning Secretary executed on 13 September 2021. The Proponent must comply with the terms of the Deed. <i>Note: this condition provides security to the Minister for the performance of the Proponent's obligations under this approval in relation to biodiversity offsets and release funds for payment into the Biodiversity Conservation Trust in the event that the biodiversity offsets (either in whole or part) are not delivered in accordance with the Package by the Proponent.</i>	Not applicable. TransGrid will establish an escrow account prior to development.
	Biodiversity CEMP Sub-Plan	
D28	The Biodiversity CEMP Sub-Plan required under condition B2 must include: a) a description of the measures that would be implemented for: • minimising the amount of native vegetation clearing within the approved development footprint; • minimising the loss of key fauna habitat, including tree hollows; • minimising the impacts on fauna on site, including undertaking pre-clearance surveys; • minimising the potential indirect impacts on threatened flora and fauna species, migratory species and 'at risk' species; • rehabilitating and revegetating disturbance areas; • protecting native vegetation and key fauna habitat outside the approved disturbance area; • maximising the salvage of resources within the approved disturbance area – including vegetative and soil resources – for beneficial reuse (such as fauna habitat enhancement) during the rehabilitation and revegetation of the site; • collecting and propagating seed (where relevant); • controlling weeds; • controlling erosion; and • bushfire management; b) details of the Proponent's commitment to make a one off \$150,000 funding contribution targeted at further scientific study into the impacts of electric and magnetic fields on birds in Australia;	Appendix B3 Biodiversity Management Plan Preclearing and Clearing Procedure Fauna Handling Procedure Soil and Water Management Plan Emergency Plan

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Condition no.	Condition requirement	Document reference
	c) preparation and implementation of a two year bird impact monitoring program at the commencement of operations; and d) a detailed program to monitor and report on the effectiveness of these measures.	
	Heritage	
D29	Prior to commencing construction, the Proponent must provide an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Strategy, prepared in consultation with the Aboriginal stakeholders and Heritage NSW, to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary. The Strategy must: a) identify any additional risk zones outside the potential archaeological deposits (PADs) where construction must not commence until subsurface testing in b) and surveys in c) are complete; b) describe additional subsurface testing that will be undertaken to confirm the significance of the PADs that would be impacted by the final transmission infrastructure design and ancillary facilities in line with the Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in NSW (DECCW, 2010); c) describe additional Aboriginal heritage surveys that will be undertaken where ground disturbance activities are required outside of the heritage survey area; d) include details of ongoing consultation with the Aboriginal stakeholders, including any written responses and records of any meetings; and e) include an updated Aboriginal cultural heritage assessment report, which: • is based on the findings of the subsurface testing in b) and surveys in c); • describes any potential additional impacts to heritage items; • identifies further mitigation measures, including avoidance or salvage; • includes detailed justification where the final transmission line alignment is not able to avoid impacts to heritage items; and • provides an updated and consolidated list of sites that would be protected and remain in-situ throughout construction and sites that would be salvaged and relocated to suitable alternative locations.	Appendix B5 Heritage Management Plan Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Strategy
	Avoidance and Salvage	
D30	The Proponent must implement all reasonable and feasible measures to avoid and minimise harm to heritage items and potential archaeological deposits (PADs) identified in the EIS and the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Strategy required by condition D29, prior to carrying out any development that could harm the items or deposits.	Appendix B5 Heritage Management Plan
D31	The Proponent must ensure the development does not cause any harm to heritage items identified for avoidance in the approved Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Strategy or any Aboriginal heritage items located outside the approved development footprint.	Appendix B5 Heritage Management Plan
D32	Prior to carrying out any activity that could harm heritage items, the Proponent must salvage and relocate all heritage items identified for salvage and relocation in the updated and approved Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Strategy to a suitable alternative location, in accordance with the <i>Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in NSW</i> (DECCW, 2010).	Appendix B5 Heritage Management Plan
D33	The Proponent must ensure the development does not cause any harm to heritage items PEC-W-H-1 and PEC-W-SE-H1.	Not applicable to Stage 1 works. No works associated with Stage 1 of

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Condition no.	Condition requirement	Document reference
		construction will impact PEC-W-H-1 or PECW-SE-H1.
	Heritage CEMP Sub-Plan	
D34	The Heritage CEMP Sub-Plan required under condition B2 must: f) be prepared by a suitably qualified and experienced person whose appointment has been endorsed by the Planning Secretary; g) include a description of the measures that would be implemented for: - addressing the outcomes of the additional assessment, testing and surveys identified in condition D29; - protecting the heritage items identified in conditions D31 and D33, including fencing off the heritage items (where required) prior to carrying out any development that could harm the heritage items, and protecting any items located outside the approved development corridor; - salvaging and relocating the heritage items identified in condition D32; - minimising and managing the impacts of the development on heritage items within the development corridor, including: - a strategy for the long-term management of any heritage items or material collected during the test excavation or salvage works; - a contingency plan and reporting procedure if: - heritage items outside the approved disturbance area are damaged; - previously unidentified heritage items are found; or - Aboriginal skeletal material is discovered; - ensuring workers on site receive suitable heritage inductions prior to carrying out any development on site, and that records are kept of these inductions; and - ongoing consultation with Aboriginal stakeholders during the implementation of the plan; and h) include a program to monitor and report on the effectiveness of these measures and any heritage impacts of the development.	Appendix B5 Heritage Management Plan Unexpected Heritage Finds Procedure
	Traffic and Transport	
	Designated Heavy and Over-Dimensional Vehicle Routes	
D35	All over-dimensional vehicles associated with the development must only travel to and from the site via the Primary Access Route described in the EIS, as identified in the figure in Appendix 2, unless the Planning Secretary agrees otherwise. Notes: <i>The Proponent is required to obtain relevant permits under the Heavy Vehicle National Law (NSW) for the use of over-dimensional vehicles on the road network.</i>	Appendix B1 Traffic and Transport Management Plan

Condition no.	Condition requirement	Document reference
D36	All heavy and light vehicles associated with the development: a) must travel to and from the site via the Primary Access Route described in the EIS, as identified in the figure in Appendix 2; and b) may travel to and from the site via the Secondary Access Routes and Water Supply Routes, subject to the requirements in conditions D37 and D38, to the satisfaction of the relevant roads authority, unless the Planning Secretary agrees otherwise.	Appendix B1 Traffic and Transport Management Plan
	Traffic Strategy	
D37	Prior to commencing construction, the Proponent must prepare a Traffic Strategy, in consultation with the relevant roads authority, to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary, which: a) for all access routes: - identifies the location and type of any necessary road upgrades (including roads, intersections, crossing points and access points), including consideration of relevant amenity impacts; - ensures that any road upgrades comply with the Austroads Guide to Road Design (as amended by TfNSW supplements), unless the relevant roads authority agrees otherwise; - includes a detailed assessment of potential impacts of any necessary road upgrades (such as heritage and biodiversity impacts), including consideration of appropriate mitigation measures; - identifies whether intersections, crossing points and access points would be permanent or temporary; and - includes measures for notifying, seeking feedback from and addressing the concerns of impacted residents along the routes; b) for Secondary Access Routes and Water Supply Routes: - provides detailed usage of the routes, including maximum daily numbers of heavy and light vehicles and approximate durations of use; - includes an assessment of dust impacts to any residences along the routes and identifies mitigation measures to minimise any impacts; and - identifies any residences along the routes that would experience road traffic noise above the relevant assessment criteria from Table 3 in <i>NSW Road Noise Policy</i> (DECCW, 2011) due to project-related traffic and identifies mitigation measures to minimise impacts.	Traffic Strategy Air Quality Management Plan
D38	Prior to commencing construction, the proponent must implement the road upgrades and the mitigation measures identified in the Traffic Strategy in condition D37, to the satisfaction of the relevant roads authority and the Planning Secretary, respectively.	Traffic Strategy
	Road Maintenance	
D39	The Proponent must: a) undertake an independent dilapidation survey to assess the: - existing condition of all local roads on the transport route (including local road crossings) prior to construction, upgrading or decommissioning works; and - condition of all local roads on the transport route (including local road crossings): - within 1 month of the completion of construction, upgrading or decommissioning works, or within a timeframe agreed to by the relevant roads authority;	Appendix B1 Traffic and Transport Management Plan Independent dilapidation survey reports

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Condition no.	Condition requirement	Document reference
	- on an annual basis during construction, or within a timeframe agreed to by the relevant roads authority; b) repair (or pay the full costs associated with repairing) any damage to local roads on the transport route (including local road crossings), if dilapidation surveys identify that the road has been damaged by the development during construction, upgrading or decommissioning works; in consultation with the relevant roads authority, to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary.	
	Traffic and Transport CEMP Sub-Plan	
D40	The Traffic and Transport CEMP Sub-Plan required under condition B2 must include: a) details of the transport route to be used for all development-related traffic; b) details of the road upgrade works required by condition D38 of this approval; c) details of the measures that would be implemented to: • minimise traffic safety impacts of the development and disruptions to local road users during construction, upgrading or decommissioning works, including: - a description of the proposed dilapidation surveys required by condition D39 of this approval; - a description of the proposed measures for managing traffic flow around the work sites, construction compounds and accommodation camps; - temporary traffic controls, including detours and signage; - procedures for stringing cables and transmission lines across roads; - notifying the local community about development-related traffic impacts; - procedures for receiving and addressing complaints from the community about development-related traffic; - minimising potential cumulative traffic impacts with other projects in the area; - minimising potential conflict between development-related traffic and rail services, stock movements and school buses, in consultation with local schools, including preventing queuing on the public road network; - implementing measures to minimise development-related traffic on the public road network outside of standard construction hours; - minimising dirt tracked onto the public road network from development-related traffic; - details of the employee shuttle bus service (if proposed), including pick-up and drop-off points and associated parking arrangements for construction workers, and measures to encourage employee use of this service; - encouraging car-pooling or ride sharing by employees; - scheduling of haulage vehicle movements to minimise convoy length or platoons; - responding to local climate conditions that may affect road safety such as fog, dust, wet weather and flooding; - ensuring loaded vehicles entering or leaving the site have their loads covered or contained; - responding to any emergency repair or maintenance requirements; - provisions for maintaining emergency vehicle access at all times; - a traffic management system for managing over-dimensional vehicles; and	Appendix B1 Traffic and Transport Management Plan Traffic Strategy Community Communication Strategy Drivers Code of Conduct Flood Response Plan

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Condition no.	Condition requirement	Document reference
	– fatigue management. • comply with the traffic conditions in this approval; d) include a drivers code of conduct that addresses: • travelling speeds; • procedures to ensure that drivers to and from the development adhere to the designated over-dimensional and heavy vehicle routes; • procedures to ensure that drivers to and from the development implement safe driving practices; and • include a detailed program to monitor and report on the effectiveness of these measures and the code of conduct; and e) a flood response plan detailing procedures and options for safe access to and from the site in the event of flooding.	
	Visual amenity	
	Visual Impact Mitigation	
D41	Unless the Planning Secretary agrees otherwise, for a period of 2 years from the commencement of operations, the owners of R1489, R2022 and R2023 may ask the Proponent to implement visual impact mitigation measures on their land to minimise the visual impacts of the development on their residence (including its curtilage). Upon receiving such a written request from the owner of these residences, the Proponent must implement appropriate mitigation measures (such as landscaping and vegetation screening) in consultation with the owner. These mitigation measures must be reasonable and feasible, aimed at reducing the visibility of the transmission line and towers from the residence and its curtilage, and commensurate with the level of visual impact on the residence. All agreed mitigation measures must be implemented within 12 months of receiving the written request, unless the Planning Secretary agrees otherwise. If the Proponent and the owner cannot agree on the measures to be implemented, or there is a dispute about the implementation of these measures, then either party may refer the matter to the Planning Secretary for resolution. To avoid any doubt, mitigation measures are not required to be implemented to reduce the visibility of transmission lines and towers from any other locations on the property other than the residence and its curtilage.	Not applicable to Stage 1. This condition is relevant to from the commencement of the operational phase of the project
	Visual Appearance	
D42	The Proponent must: a) take reasonable steps to minimise the off-site visual impacts of the development; and b) not mount any advertising signs or logos on site, except where this is required for identification or safety purposes.	Construction Environmental Management Plan – Appendix A5
	Lighting	
D43	The Proponent must: a) take all reasonable steps to minimise the off-site lighting impacts of the development; and b) ensure that any external lighting associated with the development:	Construction Environmental Management Plan – Appendix A5

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Condition no.	Condition requirement	Document reference
	- is installed as low intensity lighting (except where required for safety or emergency purposes); - does not shine above the horizontal; and - complies with <i>Australian/New Zealand Standard AS/NZS 4282:2019 – Control of Obtrusive Effects of Outdoor Lighting</i>.	
	Hazard and risk	
	Dangerous Goods	
D44	The Proponent must ensure that the storage, handling, and transport of dangerous goods is undertaken in accordance with the relevant Australian Standards and guidelines, particularly <i>AS1940 The storage and handling of flammable and combustible liquids and AS/NZS 1596:2014 The storage and handling of LP Gas, the Dangerous Goods Code</i> , and the EPA's <i>Storing and Handling of Liquids: Environmental Protection – Participants Manual</i> .	Construction Environmental Management Plan – Appendix A5
	Electric and Magnetic Fields	
D45	The Proponent must ensure that the design, construction and operation of the development is managed to comply with the applicable electric and magnetic fields (EMF) limits in <i>the International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection (ICNIRP) Guidelines for limiting exposure to time-varying electric and magnetic fields (1Hz – 100kHz)</i> (ICNIRP, 2010).	Construction Environmental Management Plan – Appendix A5
	Bushfire safety	
	Operating Conditions	
D46	The Proponent must: - minimise the fire risks of the development, including managing vegetation fuel loads on-site; - ensure that the development: - complies with the relevant asset protection requirements in the RFS's <i>Planning for Bushfire Protection 2019</i> (or equivalent) and Standards for Asset Protection Zones; - is suitably equipped to respond to any fires on site, including provision of a 20,000 litre water supply tank fitted with a 65 mm Storz fitting and a FRNSW compatible suction connection located at each of the construction compounds and accommodation camps; - incorporates the recommendations of a fire risk assessment as per TransGrid's design standards; - ensure that buildings within the compounds and accommodation camps comply with Australian Standard AS3959-2018 <i>Construction of buildings in bushfire-prone areas</i> (or equivalent) and RFS's <i>Planning for Bushfire Protection 2019</i>; - develop procedures to manage potential fires on site, in consultation with the RFS and FRNSW; - assist the RFS, FRNSW and emergency services as much as practicable if there is a fire in the vicinity of the site; and - notify the relevant local emergency management committee following completion of construction of the development, and prior to commencing operations.	Accommodation Camp Management Plan

Condition no.	Condition requirement	Document reference
	Emergency Plan	
D47	Prior to commencing construction, the Proponent must develop and implement a comprehensive Emergency Plan and detailed emergency procedures for the development, in consultation with the local Fire Control Centre, and provide a copy of the plan to the local Fire Control Centre. The Proponent must keep two copies of the plan on-site in a prominent position adjacent to the site entry point(s) to the Buronga Substation at all times. The plan must: - be consistent with: - RFS's Planning for Bushfire Protection 2019 (or equivalent); - RFS's Development Planning - A Guide to Developing a Bush Fire Emergency Management and Evacuation Plan; - the Fire and Rescue NSW Act 1989; - the Work Health and Safety (WHS) Act 2011; - identify the fire risks and hazards and detailed measures for the development to prevent or mitigate fires igniting; - include procedures that would be implemented if there is a fire on-site or in the vicinity of the site; - list works that should not be carried out during a total fire ban; - include availability of fire suppression equipment, access and water; - include procedures for the storage and maintenance of any flammable materials; - detail access provisions for emergency vehicles and contact details for both a primary and alternative site contact who may be reached 24/7 in the event of an emergency; - include a figure showing site infrastructure, any Asset Protection Zones and the on-site water supply tank(s); - include location of hazards (physical, chemical and electrical) that may impact on fire fighting activities and procedures to manage identified hazards during fire fighting activities; - include details of the location, management and maintenance of any Asset Protection Zone and who is responsible for the maintenance and management of the Asset Protection Zone; - include bushfire emergency management planning; - include details of the how RFS would be notified, and procedures that would be implemented, in the event that: - there is a fire on-site or in the vicinity of the site; - there are any activities on site that would have the potential to ignite surrounding vegetation; or - there are any proposed activities to be carried out during a bushfire danger period that have the potential to ignite surrounding vegetation; and - include details on how live transmission infrastructure can be safely isolated in an emergency.	Emergency Plan
	Waste	
D48	Waste generated during construction, operation, upgrading and decommissioning must be dealt with in accordance with the following priorities: waste generation must be avoided and where avoidance is not reasonably practicable, waste generation must be reduced;	Waste Management Plan

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Condition no.	Condition requirement	Document reference
	b) where avoiding or reducing waste is not possible, waste must be re-used, recycled, or recovered; and c) where re-using, recycling or recovering waste is not possible, waste must be treated or disposed of.	
D49	The importation of waste and the storage, treatment, processing, reprocessing or disposal of such waste must comply with the <i>Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997</i> , the <i>Protection of the Environment Operations (Waste) Regulation 2014</i> , and orders or exemptions under the regulation.	Waste Management Plan
D50	Waste must only be exported to a site licensed by the EPA for the storage, treatment, processing, reprocessing or disposal of the subject waste, or in accordance with a Resource Recovery Exemption or Order issued under the <i>Protection of the Environment Operations (Waste) Regulation 2014</i> , or to any other place that can lawfully accept such waste.	Waste Management Plan
D51	All waste that is removed from site must be classified in accordance with the EPA's <i>Waste Classification Guidelines</i> , with appropriate records and disposal dockets retained for audit purposes.	Waste Management Plan
Accommodation camp		
D52	Prior to establishing the accommodation camps, the Proponent must prepare an Accommodation Camp Management Plan to the satisfaction of Council, unless the Planning Secretary agrees otherwise. The plan must: a) ensure utilities at the accommodation camps, including water, wastewater, waste and electricity, are designed and located in accordance with Council specifications and relevant standards, in consultation with Council; b) ensure the accommodation camp complies with conditions D21 and D46; c) ensure any treated wastewater from the accommodation camps used for dust suppression during construction: • complies with the <i>Australian and New Zealand Environment and Conservation Council (ANZECC) & Agriculture and Resource Management Council of Australia and New Zealand (ARMCANZ) (2000) guidelines for irrigation water quality</i>; • meets the requirements of the <i>Public Health Act 2010</i>; d) include measure for dust suppression within the accommodation camps; e) provide the site layout including building locations, vehicle access and movement, site servicing and utilities infrastructure; and f) include measures to support local suppliers in servicing the camp where possible. Following approval, the Proponent must implement the Accommodation Camp Management Plan.	Accommodation Camp Management Plan
Local Business and Employment Strategy		
D53	Prior to commencing construction, the Proponent must prepare a Local Business and Employment Strategy for the development in consultation with Council. This strategy must investigate options for prioritising the employment of local and Aboriginal workforce and suppliers for the construction of the development, where feasible. The Proponent must implement the Accommodation and Employment Strategy.	Local Business and Employment Strategy
Rehabilitation		
D54	Within 6 months of the completion of construction, upgrading or decommissioning, unless the Planning Secretary agrees otherwise, the Proponent must rehabilitate the areas where ancillary facilities, accommodation camps and earthwork material sites are located, to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary. This rehabilitation must comply with the objectives in Table 3.	Appendix B3 Biodiversity Management Plan

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Condition no.	Condition requirement	Document reference								
	Table 3: Rehabilitation objectives <table><tr><th>Feature</th><th>Objective</th></tr><tr><td>Ancillary facilities, accommodation camps, earthwork material sites, the existing 220 kV transmission line between Buronga substation and the NSW / Victoria border (Line 0X1), and the temporary bypass transmission line between Tower 1 and Tower 19 of existing transmission line 0X1.</td><td> • Safe, stable and non-polluting • Progressively rehabilitate the site as soon as possible following disturbance • To be decommissioned and removed, unless the Planning Secretary agrees otherwise </td></tr><tr><td>Land use</td><td> • To be decommissioned and removed, unless the Planning Secretary agrees otherwise </td></tr><tr><td>Community</td><td> • Ensure public safety at all times </td></tr></table>	Feature	Objective	Ancillary facilities, accommodation camps, earthwork material sites, the existing 220 kV transmission line between Buronga substation and the NSW / Victoria border (Line 0X1), and the temporary bypass transmission line between Tower 1 and Tower 19 of existing transmission line 0X1.	• Safe, stable and non-polluting • Progressively rehabilitate the site as soon as possible following disturbance • To be decommissioned and removed, unless the Planning Secretary agrees otherwise	Land use	• To be decommissioned and removed, unless the Planning Secretary agrees otherwise	Community	• Ensure public safety at all times	
Feature	Objective									
Ancillary facilities, accommodation camps, earthwork material sites, the existing 220 kV transmission line between Buronga substation and the NSW / Victoria border (Line 0X1), and the temporary bypass transmission line between Tower 1 and Tower 19 of existing transmission line 0X1.	• Safe, stable and non-polluting • Progressively rehabilitate the site as soon as possible following disturbance • To be decommissioned and removed, unless the Planning Secretary agrees otherwise									
Land use	• To be decommissioned and removed, unless the Planning Secretary agrees otherwise									
Community	• Ensure public safety at all times									
PART E - ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT, REPORTING AND AUDITING										
Revision of Strategies, Plans and Programs										
E1	The Proponent must review and, if necessary, revise the strategies, plans or programs required under this approval to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary within 3 month of the: • submission of an incident report under condition E6; • submission of an audit report under condition E11; or • any modification to the conditions of this approval.	Construction Environmental Management Plan – Section 1.10, Section 8.3.1, and Section 9.3.								
Staging, Combining and Updating Strategies, Plans or Programs										
E2	With the approval of the Planning Secretary, the Proponent may: a) prepare and submit any strategy, plan or program required by this approval on a staged basis (if a clear description is provided as to the specific stage and scope of the development to which the strategy, plan or program applies, the relationship of the stage to any future stages and the trigger for updating the strategy, plan or program); b) combine any strategy, plan or program required by this approval (if a clear relationship is demonstrated between the strategies, plans or programs that are proposed to be combined); and c) update any strategy, plan or program required by this approval (to ensure the strategies, plans and programs required under this approval are updated on a regular basis and incorporate additional measures or amendments to improve the environmental performance of the development). If the Planning Secretary agrees, a strategy, plan or program may be staged or updated without consultation being undertaken with all parties required to be consulted in the relevant condition in this approval.	Construction Environmental Management Plan – Section 2.3								

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Condition no.	Condition requirement	Document reference
	If approved by the Planning Secretary, updated strategies, plans or programs supersede the previous versions of them and must be implemented in accordance with the condition that requires the strategy, plan or program. If the Planning Secretary agrees, a strategy, plan or program may be staged without addressing particular requirements of the relevant condition of this approval if those requirements are not applicable to the particular stage.	
	Notifications	
	Notification of Department	
E3	Prior to commencing construction, operations, upgrading or decommissioning of the development or, the Proponent must notify the Department in writing via the Major Projects website portal of the date of commencing the relevant phase. If any of these phases of the development are to be staged, then the Proponent must notify the Department in writing prior to commencing the relevant stage, and clearly identify the development that would be carried out during the relevant stage.	Construction Environmental Management Plan – Section 2.3
	Final Layout Plans	
E4	Prior to commencing construction, the Proponent must submit detailed plans of the final layout of the development to the Department via the Major Projects website, including: d) details on siting of transmission towers, ancillary infrastructure and / or ancillary facilities; and e) showing comparison to the approved layout. The Proponent must ensure that the development is constructed in accordance with the Final Layout Plans.	Construction Environmental Management Plan – Section 1.7
	Work as Executed Plans	
E5	Prior to commencing operations, the Proponent must submit plans that confirm the constructed layout of the development and showing comparison to the final layout plans to the Planning Secretary, via the Major Projects website.	Not applicable to Stage 1. This condition is relevant prior to the commencement of the operational phase of the project.
	Incident Notification	
E6	The Department must be notified via the Major Projects website portal immediately after the Proponent becomes aware of an incident. The notification must identify the development (including the development application number and the name of the development if it has one), and set out the location and nature of the incident. Subsequent notification requirements must be given, and reports submitted in accordance with the requirements set out in Appendix 3.	Construction Environmental Management Plan – Section 8.3.1
	Non-compliance Notification	
E7	The Planning Secretary must be notified in writing via the Major Projects website within seven days after the Proponent becomes aware of any non-compliance.	Construction Environmental

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Condition no.	Condition requirement	Document reference
		Management Plan – Section 10.1.1
E8	A non-compliance notification must identify the development and the application number for it, set out the condition of approval that the development is non-compliant with, the way in which it does not comply and the reasons for the non-compliance (if known) and what actions have been, or will be, undertaken to address the non-compliance.	Construction Environmental Management Plan – Section 10.1.1
E9	A non-compliance which has been notified as an incident does not need to also be notified as a non-compliance.	Construction Environmental Management Plan – Section 10.1.1
Notification of Landowners		
E10	Prior to the commencement of construction, the Proponent must notify the owners of the owners of R1489, R2022 and R2023 of their rights under condition D41.	Not applicable to Stage 1. Owners of R1489, R2022 and R2023 are not in the vicinity of Stage 1 works.
Independent Environmental Audit		
E11	Independent Audits of the development must be conducted and carried out at the frequency described and in accordance with the Independent Audit Post Approval Requirements (2020), unless otherwise agreed or directed by the Planning Secretary.	Construction Environmental Management Plan – Section 9.3
Access to Information		
E12	The Proponent must: a) make the following information publicly available on its website as relevant to the stage of the development: (i) the EIS; (ii) current statutory approvals for the development; (iii) approved strategies, plans or programs required under the conditions of this approval; (iv) the proposed staging plans for the development if the construction, decommissioning and/or operation of the development is to be staged; (v) a comprehensive summary of the monitoring results of the development, which have been reported in accordance with the various plans and programs approved under the conditions of this approval; (vi) a record of complaints, which is to be updated on a monthly basis; (vii) any independent environmental audit, and the Proponent's response to the recommendations in any audit; and	Community Communication Strategy

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Condition no.	Condition requirement	Document reference
	(viii) any other matter required by the Planning Secretary; and b) keep this information up to date.	
	APPENDIX 1 - DEVELOPMENT LAYOUT	
	APPENDIX 2 - OVER-DIMENSIONAL AND HEAVY VEHICLE ACCESS ROUTE	
	APPENDIX 3 - INCIDENT NOTIFICATION AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS	
	Written Incident Notification Requirements	
1.	A written incident notification addressing the requirements set out below must be submitted to the Planning Secretary via the Major Projects website within seven days after the Proponent becomes aware of an incident. Notification is required to be given under this condition even if the Proponent fails to give the notification required under condition E6 or, having given such notification, subsequently forms the view that an incident has not occurred.	Construction Environmental Management Plan – Section 8.3.1
2.	Written notification of an incident must: a) identify the development and application number; b) provide details of the incident (date, time, location, a brief description of what occurred and why it is classified as an incident); c) identify how the incident was detected; d) identify when the Proponent became aware of the incident; e) identify any actual or potential non-compliance with conditions of approval; f) describe what immediate steps were taken in relation to the incident; g) identify further action(s) that will be taken in relation to the incident; and h) identify a development contact for further communication regarding the incident.	Construction Environmental Management Plan – Section 8.3.1
3.	Within 30 days of the date on which the incident occurred or as otherwise agreed to by the Planning Secretary, the Proponent must provide the Planning Secretary and any relevant public authorities (as determined by the Planning Secretary) with a detailed report on the incident addressing all requirements below, and such further reports as may be requested.	Construction Environmental Management Plan – Section 8.3.1
4.	The Incident Report must include: a) a summary of the incident; b) outcomes of an incident investigation, including identification of the cause of the incident; c) details of the corrective and preventative actions that have been, or will be, implemented to address the incident and prevent recurrence; and d) details of any communication with other stakeholders regarding the incident.	Construction Environmental Management Plan – Section 8.3.1

Table A6. 2 - Revised mitigation measure and reference document

Revised mitigation measure no.	RMM requirement	Reference document
	Biodiversity	
B1	Impacts to matters of biodiversity conservation significance will be avoided to the greatest extent practicable during finalisation of the detailed design and construction methodology for the project. Micro-siting of the transmission line infrastructure and associated construction working areas and other areas of disturbance will occur to avoid impacts wherever practicable. Site features with the highest biodiversity conservation significance, in particular, threatened species recorded and their habitat, including <i>Acacia acanthoclada</i> , <i>Atriplex infrequens</i> , <i>Austrostipa nullanulla</i> , <i>Dodonaea stenozyga</i> and <i>Santalum murrayanum</i> , will be given the highest priority.	Appendix B3 Biodiversity Management Plan
B2	Where vegetation disturbance activities are required in areas that have not previously been subject to biodiversity survey, additional survey will be carried out prior to works occurring to inform detailed design and construction methodology. These surveys will be carried out by a suitably qualified ecologist.	Not applicable to Stage 1 works. All of the Stage 1 work areas have been subject to biodiversity survey.
B3	Opportunities to locate site offices, compounds and ancillary facilities in areas of limited biodiversity value (e.g. cleared land or areas of native vegetation with vegetation integrity scores of less than 17 (in accordance with the NSW Government Biodiversity Assessment Method Operational Manual) will be prioritised.	Appendix B3 Biodiversity Management Plan
B4	Existing tracks and clearings will be used, where possible, to avoid the construction of new tracks. Where this is not possible, the design will seek to minimise impacts to native vegetation as a priority.	Not applicable to Stage 1 works. The existing tracks proposed to be used are located along the transmission line corridor.
B5	Transmission line structures will be located and constructed to minimise impact to vegetated riparian corridors, wherever practicable.	Not applicable to Stage 1 works. There are no riparian zones in the Stage 1 disturbance area.
B6	Conductor line-marking techniques will be implemented during detailed design to minimise bird strike. Use of bird diverters, most likely consisting of the “flapper” variety, will be implemented. Positioning and exact diverter model will be finalised during detailed design but at minimum these will be used within one kilometre of wetland / riverine habitats to reduce impacts on aerial fauna species from collision and allow safer passage within these areas.	Not applicable to Stage 1 works. There are no riparian zones in the Stage 1 disturbance area.
B7	TransGrid will establish a series of 20-metre-wide connectivity corridors near tower locations that occur in woodland vegetation. These would occur at strategic locations that would be developed as part of a Connectivity Strategy under the Biodiversity Management Plan. These connectivity corridors will involve native vegetation retention up to the 10 metre wide temporary construction centreline clearing zone to better facilitate woodland connectivity.	Not applicable to Stage 1 works. This requirement is applicable to the transmission line easement. A Connectivity Strategy will be provided in further revisions of the BMP.

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Revised mitigation measure no.	RMM requirement	Reference document
B8	A two year monitoring program following the completion of construction will be implemented to better understand interactions of bird species with the transmission lines and towers. Problematic interactions identified during the program would be considered and options for addressing them implemented as practicable. Options that would be considered include nesting deterrents in high risk areas, installation of alternative nest habitat, relocation of nests or their deconstruction in certain circumstances.	Not applicable to Stage 1 works. This is applicable to the operational phase only.
B9	TransGrid will make a one off funding contribution targeted at further scientific study into the impacts of electric and magnetic fields on birds in Australia.	Not applicable to Stage 1 works. This RMM is applicable 'Prior to the completion of construction'.
B10	Nest boxes will be provided to offset the loss of tree hollow fauna habitat in accordance with a Supplementary Hollow and Nest Strategy. The strategy will include the following requirements: • survey of tree hollows and nests within the proposed clearing extents • the size, type, number and location of nest boxes required will be based on the results of the ecological surveys • appropriately sized nest boxes will be installed within the vicinity of hollow-bearing trees (subject to landholder agreement and suitable existing trees being present) no more than two weeks prior to clearing of the tree • all nest boxes in a particular location will be installed within 6 months after clearing • "nest boxes" will include consideration of natural tree hollow re-use and new tree hollow creation • measures to address and manage nests (such as raptor nests) pre-clearing will be included.	Appendix B3 Biodiversity Management Plan Supplementary Hollow and Nest Strategy
B11	Pre-clearing surveys will be completed prior to clearing at each location by a suitability qualified ecologist. The proposed clearing extents will be marked out on site prior to the pre-clearing surveys. During the surveys, the ecologist will: • survey the proposed clearing extent • identify any fauna that will require relocation prior to clearing • confirm the location and mark out the extents of any biodiversity exclusion zone • confirm that hollow-bearing trees within and adjacent to the clearing extents are prominently marked/tagged • confirm that nest boxes are in place (where required) in suitable locations adjacent to areas to be cleared, or suitable locations for installation have been identified.	Appendix B3 Biodiversity Management Plan Pre-clearing and Clearing Procedure
B12	The results of the pre-clearing surveys will be used to update and confirm the accuracy of sensitive area maps.	Appendix B3 Biodiversity Management Plan Pre-clearing and Clearing Procedure
B13	Biodiversity exclusion zones for retained vegetation, including identified threatened flora populations will be clearly identified by a suitably qualified ecologist prior to the commencement of clearing or any site activity that could damage the vegetation within the exclusion zone. Biodiversity exclusion zones will be physically marked and demarcated, and included on sensitive area maps, prior to clearing.	Appendix B3 Biodiversity Management Plan Pre-clearing and Clearing Procedure

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Revised mitigation measure no.	RMM requirement	Reference document
B14	Training on biodiversity management practices and the requirements for the project will be provided to all relevant project personnel, including relevant subcontractors, through inductions, toolbox talks and targeted training. Construction workforce will be supplied with sensitive area maps (showing clearing boundaries and exclusion zones), including updates as required.	Appendix B3 Biodiversity Management Plan Accommodation Camp Management Plan
B15	Clearing of native vegetation will be monitored to confirm actual impacts to biodiversity values to inform any final biodiversity offset requirements within the biodiversity offset package. The final offset requirements will be informed by a BAM-C calculation on the recorded clearing. Any additional credit liability identified by this calculation will be met.	Appendix B3 Biodiversity Management Plan
B16	Shrub or ground stratum native vegetation within vegetated riparian zones (within the definition of <i>Water Management Act 2000</i>) of the Great Darling Anabranch, Darling River and/or Murray River (and other defined riparian areas) will be protected to the greatest extent practicable, with vegetation clearing ideally limited to the tree stratum only, with trunk bases being retained in-situ.	Not applicable to Stage 1 works. There are no riparian zones in the Stage 1 disturbance area.
B17	Activities within vegetated riparian zones will be managed to minimise impacts to aquatic environments. Riparian areas subject to disturbance will be progressively stabilised and rehabilitated.	Not applicable to Stage 1 works. There are no riparian zones in the Stage 1 disturbance area.
B18	A species unexpected finds protocol will be implemented if threatened ecological communities, flora and fauna species, not assessed in the biodiversity assessment, are identified in the disturbance area.	Appendix B3 Biodiversity Management Plan Unexpected Threatened Species Finds Procedure Accommodation Camp Management Plan
B19	TransGrid will maintain vegetation for the project in accordance with commitments in the EIS, as amended in the Amendment Report. Vegetation maintenance protocols will be developed accordingly prior to the commencement of any vegetation maintenance activities within the easement and implemented during the operational phase of the project. The vegetation maintenance protocols will identify and address the biodiversity exclusion zones identified in the construction phase and the areas within the maintenance zone where the vegetation is not of a height/growth form that will ever require management. Relevant TransGrid operational personnel and associated vegetation maintenance contractors will receive in training in the vegetation maintenance protocols prior to the commencement of any vegetation maintenance.	Not applicable to Stage 1 works. This is applicable to the operational phase only.
B20	TransGrid will retire the total quantum of the project's biodiversity offset credit liability confirmed in accordance with the Biodiversity Assessment Method. TransGrid will develop a Biodiversity Offset Package that identifies measures to address the project's offset obligations and the timing and responsibility for implementation. Before commencing any project activities that impact biodiversity values, TransGrid will: confirm the Biodiversity Offset Package with the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment, and	Appendix B3 Biodiversity Management Plan Biodiversity Offset Package will be prepared by TransGrid

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Revised mitigation measure no.	RMM requirement	Reference document
	provide security to the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces for a Biodiversity Conservation Fund payment to cover any outstanding offset credit liability if the package is not implemented.	
	Aboriginal heritage	
AH1	The detailed design and construction methodology, and associated final disturbance area, will be developed to avoid impacts to features/items of Aboriginal archaeological significance as far as practical. Avoidance and minimisation of impact to features/items and Potential Archaeological Deposits (PADs) of moderate or higher archaeological significance will be prioritised.	Appendix B5 Heritage Management Plan
AH2	Aboriginal stakeholder consultation will be carried out in accordance with the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents (DECCW, 2010a). Engagement with Registered Aboriginal Parties (RAPs) will consist of the following: - Aboriginal heritage site surveys (AH3) – review of proposed methodologies and involvement in the survey activities in the field (for ground or vegetation disturbance outside of previously surveyed areas) - test excavation activities (AH4) – review of proposed methodologies and involvement in the test excavation activities in the field - review of the draft addendum report/s (relating to surveys (AH3), test excavations (AH4) and scar trees (AH5)), and consultation on the draft reports which will typically be in the form of a RAP meeting - provision of final addendum report/s will be provided to RAPs (AH3, AH4, AH5) - involvement in establishment of Aboriginal heritage exclusion zones prior to construction commencing (AH7). Further cultural information will be gathered during consultation undertaken in association with these activities. All addendum reports to the Aboriginal Cultural Assessment Report (CHAR) will be provided to RAPs for comment, and input will be considered, and actioned wherever practicable.	Appendix B5 Heritage Management Plan
AH3	An Aboriginal heritage survey will be carried out with RAPs where ground or vegetation disturbance activities are required in all locations outside of the previously surveyed heritage survey area (including water supply points), prior to works occurring in any such areas. These surveys will be carried out in accordance with the <i>Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigations of Aboriginal Objects in NSW</i> (2010). If no sites are found or if sites are found and they will not be impacted, then a letter report will be provided that gives notification of this and clearance to proceed. Where sites are located and will be impacted, a draft survey addendum report/s to the ACHAR will be prepared for each of these survey areas. The report(s) will: - detail findings of the survey activities - detail where test excavation is required in accordance with AH4 to inform detailed design - outline any additional mitigation strategies beyond those required by AH5 to AH12	Not applicable to Stage 1 works. All areas for Stage 1 have been surveyed. This RMM is therefore not applicable to Stage 1.

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Revised mitigation measure no.	RMM requirement	Reference document
	be presented to the RAPs for comment. Final reports will be provided to RAPs and to Heritage NSW for their information prior to the commencement of construction that impacts these locations.	
AH4	In developing the detailed design and construction methodology, the construction contractor will review the location of all identified PADs and will aim to avoid and/or minimise direct impacts to the identified PADs. Where direct impacts cannot be avoided, test excavation programs will be carried out in the parts of any PADs where direct impact is likely (including where the root-ball of trees are being removed). The purpose of the test excavations will be to determine the presence or absence and significance of subsurface archaeological deposits. Test excavations works will be carried out in accordance with a methodology that is presented to and consulted on with the RAPs. Test excavation addendum report/s to the ACHAR will be prepared for each test excavation program(s) which will: - detail findings of the test excavation activities - outline how the detailed design has been further developed to avoid or minimise impacts to the identified constraints/features of significance/PADs - as applicable, detail any additional mitigation strategies beyond those required by AH6 to AH12, and the required timing for these to be implemented - be presented to the RAPs for comment. Final reports will be provided to RAPs and to Heritage NSW prior to the commencement of construction that impacts these locations. The addendum report(s) may be staged to enable progressive commencement of construction. Any additional mitigation strategies beyond those required by AH6 to AH12, and the required timing of implementation, will be included with the Construction Environmental Management Plan and implemented accordingly.	Not applicable to Stage 1 works. No Stage 1 activities are proposed within any identified PADs
AH5	All scarred trees identified during archaeological survey will be assessed by a qualified arborist to determine tree age and likely cause of the scarring in order to confirm the scientific significance prior to any impact to the scarred trees. Impacts to all scarred trees (including those of cultural significance) will be avoided where possible through design or construction methodology and must only be removed for permanent infrastructure and/or to meet Vegetation Clearance Requirements at Maximum Line Operating Conditions (TransGrid, 2003). If any scarred tree cannot be avoided, the tree will be subject to 3D scanning, followed by salvage of the scarred trunk. The results of this assessment will be reported on in addendum reports. Reports will be provided to RAPs for comment. Final reports will be provided to RAPs and to Heritage NSW.	Not applicable to Stage 1 works. There are no scarred trees in the location of the Stage 1 works, therefore this measure is not relevant to Stage 1.
AH6	All portions of artefact scatters that are to be directly impacted will require surface collection prior to construction commencement in those areas. Additionally, based on the outcomes of the test excavation, items or PADs will be subject to surface collection or salvage prior to the commencement of construction in those areas. The activities will be documented in a surface collection report.	Not applicable to Stage 1 works. There are no artefact scatters which will be directly impacted by Stage 1 works.

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Revised mitigation measure no.	RMM requirement	Reference document
AH7	Aboriginal heritage exclusion zones will be established to protect: - known features/items of significance that have been identified to remain in-situ throughout construction (and not subject AH6) - scarred trees that are to remain in-situ. Suitable controls will be identified in the heritage management sub-plan, which may include site fencing and sediment control. Aboriginal heritage zones will be demarcated by a suitably qualified archaeologist in consultation with the RAPs prior to the commencement of construction at each location. Areas of PADs that are located within areas of vegetation clearance where ground disturbance will not occur will be managed through construction methodologies and will not be delineated as exclusion zones. These methodologies will be developed in the heritage sub-plan.	Appendix B5 Heritage Management Plan
AH8	Construction planning and management will ensure that indirect impacts to features of heritage significance located outside areas of direct impact do not occur (including physical disturbance from surface water drainage or other mechanism).	Appendix B5 Heritage Management Plan
AH9	Cultural and historic heritage awareness training will be carried out for all personnel working on the proposal prior to the personnel participating in construction activities. The training shall cover features of heritage significance within and adjacent to project locations and project protocols that must be complied with to minimise and manage potential impacts to those features.	Appendix B5 Heritage Management Plan
AH10	If at any time during construction, any items of potential Aboriginal archaeological or cultural heritage significance, or human remains are discovered, they will be managed in accordance with the Aboriginal heritage unexpected finds protocol (refer to Appendix 2 of the <i>Non-Aboriginal and Aboriginal Cultural Assessment Report</i> (Navin, 2021)).	Appendix B5 Heritage Management Plan Unexpected Heritage Finds Procedure Accommodation Camp Management Plan
AH11	A temporary repository of any retrieved archaeological material and Aboriginal objects will be appropriately secured and under the care of the archaeological consultant. The strategy for the long-term conservation of salvaged or collected Aboriginal objects will be determined in consultation with the RAPs.	Appendix B5 Heritage Management Plan
AH12	Features/items of heritage significance that will remain in-situ within the transmission line easement will be mapped and recorded within GIS systems managed by TransGrid. Relevant TransGrid systems and procedures will be updated as required with protocols that will be implemented during operation to ensure that impacts to the features/items of significance do not occur during maintenance activities. to ensure inadvertent impacts do not occur during maintenance activities.	Not applicable to Stage 1. This mitigation measure is associated with the operational phase and is therefore not applicable to Stage 1 works.

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Revised mitigation measure no.	RMM requirement	Reference document
	Non-Aboriginal Heritage	
NAH1	A non-Aboriginal heritage exclusion zone will be established for sites PEC-W-H-1 and PEC-W-SE-H1 (Survey Marker Trees). These sites will be fenced during construction and vegetation clearance for the proposal, to avoid inadvertent impacts during works. If impacts cannot be avoided, then the tree will be archivally recorded and research undertaken to confirm the nature and history of the item prior to impact occurring.	Not applicable to Stage 1 works. This measure is not relevant to Stage 1 works as the works are not in the vicinity of these items.
NAH2	Should the disturbance area for the proposal extend beyond the survey area, further assessment by an archaeologist will be carried to determine the likelihood of occurrence and significance of potential archaeology and impacts from the proposal (including built heritage) prior to the commencement of construction in these areas. The results of this assessment will be reported on in addendum reports for non-Aboriginal heritage. Reports will be provided to Heritage NSW.	Not applicable to Stage 1 works. All areas for Stage 1 have been surveyed. This RMM is therefore not applicable to Stage 1.
NAH3	If at any time during construction, any items of potential non-Aboriginal archaeological significance, or human remains are discovered, they will be managed in accordance with the non-Aboriginal unexpected finds protocol (refer to Appendix 2 of the <i>Non-Aboriginal & Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report</i> (Navin, 2021)).	Appendix B5 Heritage Management Plan Unexpected Heritage Finds Procedure Accommodation Camp Management Plan
	Land use and property	
LP1	During detailed design, access tracks (temporary and permanent) will be determined in consultation with landholders and to minimise impacts to agricultural activities to the greatest extent possible. Where permanent tracks are required, a single access track will be designed to serve both temporary and permanent purposes, where possible.	Land and Property Access Management Plan
LP2	The locations of transmission line structures, other permanent structures and the extents of associated construction areas or compounds) will be located where possible to avoid or minimise impacts, or as agreed with the affected landholder, on: • cropping and irrigated horticultural land • areas used for set up and pack up of agricultural equipment, entry points and turning areas • radiocommunication sensitive areas • drainage catchments for farm dams • locations of high biosecurity risk.	Land and Property Access Management Plan
LP3	Final transmission line easement will be located parallel with existing transmission lines or road corridors or along property boundaries, where possible, to reduce potential fragmentation of properties and disturbance to existing land uses, subject to the outcomes of land access negotiations with affected landholders.	Not applicable to Stage 1 works. There are no transmission line easement works as part of the Stage 1 works.

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Revised mitigation measure no.	RMM requirement	Reference document
LP4	To minimise disruption to agricultural activities: - landholders will be consulted regarding any required adjustments to property infrastructure (fences, access tracks, etc) and the proposed timing and location of construction works, especially where some restriction on vehicular or stock movements will be necessary. Appropriate arrangements will be negotiated with the affected parties and in place prior to any such disruption - property infrastructure (such as gates) will be managed in accordance with landholder requirements and any damage caused by construction will be repaired promptly - use of existing roads, tracks and other existing disturbed areas will be prioritised - where access is required across open spaces, care will be exercised to ensure that minimum damage is caused to the surface by confining vehicular or plant movement, as far as possible, to one route.	Land and Property Access Management Plan
LP5	Disturbed areas will be stabilised and appropriately rehabilitated as soon as feasible and reasonable following the completion of construction. This will be carried out in consultation with the relevant landholder.	Not applicable to Stage 1 works. This requirement is relevant to the completion of construction.
LP6	Procedures will be implemented so that potential impacts or conflicts between livestock and construction activities are appropriately managed. Procedures will be developed in consultation with affected landholders will include management of: - noise intensive activities during sensitive periods within the livestock production cycle (such as lambing and calving) - vehicle movements and other activities within the vicinity of livestock - movement of stock away from potential stressors created by construction activities.	Appendix B1 Traffic and Transport Management Plan Appendix B2 Noise and Vibration Management Plan
LP7	Biosecurity controls will be implemented during construction to minimise the risk of off-site transport or spread of disease, pests or weeds. Controls will include (but not limited to): - inspections and cleaning of vehicles, machinery, and personnel equipment prior to movement on and off the construction work areas or between properties - minimising movements across adjoining farmland including trip numbers and locations - additional measures where localised areas of high biosecurity risks have been identified. The specific controls applicable to a property will be identified in consultation with the affected landholder. The effectiveness of these controls will be regularly monitored.	Appendix B3 Biodiversity Management Plan Biosecurity Management Plan Accommodation Camp Management Plan
LP8	Where present, weeds will be managed in consultation with Western Local Land Services (LLS), Wentworth Shire Council and NSW Department of Primary Industries.	Appendix B3 Biodiversity Management Plan Biosecurity Management Plan Accommodation Camp Management Plan

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Revised mitigation measure no.	RMM requirement	Reference document
LP9	In the event of new infestations of notifiable weeds as a result of construction activities, the relevant control authority will be notified as per <i>Biosecurity Act 2015</i> and Biosecurity Regulation 2017.	Appendix B3 Biodiversity Management Plan Biosecurity Management Plan Accommodation Camp Management Plan
LP10	Fencing and access arrangements along the transmission line easement, such as locked gates, will be determined in consultation with landholders and implemented.	Not applicable to Stage 1. This mitigation measure is associated with the operational phase and is therefore not applicable to Stage 1 works.
LP11	Biosecurity controls, confirmed in consultation with the affected landholders, will be implemented during operation to minimise the risk of off-site transport or spread of disease, pests or weeds during maintenance activities.	Not applicable to Stage 1. This mitigation measure is associated with the operational phase and is therefore not applicable to Stage 1 works.
LP12	Where present within the operational transmission line easement and associated areas for permanent infrastructure, weeds will be managed in accordance with the <i>Biosecurity Act 2015</i> .	Not applicable to Stage 1. This mitigation measure is associated with the operational phase and is therefore not applicable to Stage 1 works.
LP13	Management of access including opening and closing of gates and monitoring of fencing will be done in accordance with landholder requirements. Any damage caused by maintenance activities will be repaired promptly.	Not applicable to Stage 1. This mitigation measure is associated with the operational phase and is therefore not applicable to Stage 1 works.
Landscape and visual amenity		
LV1	Opportunities for the retention and protection of existing trees within the disturbance area will be identified during detailed construction planning. Trees that do not pose any risk to the safe operation of the transmission infrastructure will be retained where practicable.	Not applicable to Stage 1. There will likely be limited opportunities for tree retention for Stage 1 as the area is required as an earthworks material site, camp and compound.

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Revised mitigation measure no.	RMM requirement	Reference document
LV2	Temporary and permanent access will be designed to minimise vegetation removal, changes to landform, and visual impacts.	Not applicable to Stage 1. Access within the earthworks material site, substation, accommodation camp and construction compound will require clearing of vegetation. There is considered to be limited opportunity for access to be designed to minimise impacts for the Stage 1 disturbance area, as the access tracks will be located within the earthworks material area and within the construction compound and accommodation camp.
LV3	Proposed permanent engineering batters and water management measures will be designed to integrate with the existing landforms and natural features.	Construction Environmental Management Plan
LV4	Lighting at construction compound and accommodation camps will be designed and operated in accordance with AS4282-2019 Control of the obtrusive effects of outdoor lighting.	Construction Environmental Management Plan Accommodation Camp Management Plan
LV5	Transmission line structures, where possible, are designed: - to maximise distance from private residences - to use local vegetation and landform to provide screening from residences or from the road - to be regularly spaced to reduce the potential visual impact where the proposal alignment is visible for a long duration, and in open landscapes - to be positioned alongside existing transmission line structures where they are adjacent to existing transmission lines where feasible - to avoid the location of transmission line structures on locally prominent landforms - to minimise clearing along creeklines.	Not applicable to Stage 1 works. Stage 1 works does not include construction of the transmission line structures.
LV6	Where the transmission line crosses a roadway, transmission line structures will be located to maximise the distance from the roadway where feasible and where it will achieve an improved visual amenity outcome, where feasible and reasonable.	Not applicable to Stage 1 works. Stage 1 works does not include construction of the transmission line structures.

Revised mitigation measure no.	RMM requirement	Reference document
LV7	The Tree Protection Zone (as defined in AS4970-2009 Protection of Trees on Development Sites) of retained trees within or immediately adjacent to the disturbance area will be protected through the restriction of construction activities (refer Section 4.2 of AS4970- 2009), to minimise the impact of the works on the long term health of these trees.	Appendix B3 Biodiversity Management Plan
LV8	Opportunities for screening vegetation to be provided on private property will be investigated where, once at a mature height, it will reduce an identified visual impact from a residence. This will be undertaken in negotiation with the affected resident. This will be informed by further assessment to determine the extent of the impact and appropriateness of any screening vegetation. Any such screening vegetation will be planted prior to completion of construction and will be maintained by the landholder.	Not applicable to Stage 1 works. Stage 1 works does not include screening vegetation works.
LV9	Lighting at the substation will be designed and operated in accordance with AS/NZS 4282:2019 Control of the obtrusive effects of outdoor lighting.	Not applicable to Stage 1 works. Stage 1 works does not include the operation of Buronga substation.
Social and economic		
SE1	A Community and Stakeholder Engagement Plan will be implemented. This will include: - targeted stakeholder consultation with Local Government, chamber of commerce, Traditional Owners, landholders, emergency services and service providers to ensure plans for the proposal are integrated with local needs and priorities and proactively respond to community or stakeholder concerns including those of neighbouring or nearby landholders - culturally appropriate ceremonies of recognition aligned with proposal activities and key milestones, in alignment with the TransGrid Reconciliation Action Plan.	Community Communication Strategy
SE2	All acquisitions of privately-owned land would be carried out in consultation with the landholders through the private treaty process or in accordance with the requirements of the <i>Land Acquisition (Just Terms Compensation) Act 1991</i> and the supporting NSW Government Land Acquisition Reform 2016.	Not applicable to Stage 1 works. Transgrid is responsible for the acquisitions of privately-owned land required for the project.
SE3	A Local Business and Employment Strategy will be implemented to guide local opportunities during construction, and where possible, align with existing plans and strategies of Wentworth Shire Council and Mildura Rural City Council, and TransGrid's Reconciliation Action Plan. The initiatives will be prepared in consultation with Wentworth Shire Council, Mildura Rural City Council and key community stakeholders and organisations in the region. The strategy will consider local market conditions and capacity, and will include initiatives for: - local supplier and labour procurement targets - Aboriginal workforce and business participation - training and upskilling programs for local labour force - programs to inform local businesses of contracting opportunities and requirements	Local Business and Employment Strategy Accommodation Camp Management Plan

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Revised mitigation measure no.	RMM requirement	Reference document
	- consideration of use of available local infrastructure and services for construction activities such as the Wentworth Aerodrome, where feasible - transitioning the local workforce following the completion of construction.	
SE4	A Community Benefit Plan will be implemented to guide opportunities to deliver benefits to local communities during and following construction. The plan will be prepared in consultation with Wentworth Shire Council, Mildura Rural City Council and key community stakeholders and organisations in the region, and will align with TransGrid's Community Partnerships Program. The plan will include (but is not limited to): - initiatives to create positive social contributions in local communities and to respond to community priorities and needs - initiatives for Aboriginal heritage impacts of the proposal to be managed in partnership with local Aboriginal organisations - exploring opportunities to repurpose temporary infrastructure to address local infrastructure needs.	Community Benefit Plan
SE5	A Workforce Management Plan will be implemented to provide construction workforce support services to promote health and wellbeing and to manage positive social integration with existing communities. The plan will be prepared in consultation with Wentworth Shire Council, Mildura Rural City Council and social infrastructure service providers near accommodation camps so that the needs of the construction workforce are coordinated to minimise pressure on existing health services and social infrastructure.	Workforce Management Plan
Hydrology, flooding and water quality		
HF1	Permanent operational infrastructure and landforms within the transmission line corridor will be designed and implemented/formed to minimise any potential scour and erosion risks associated with surface water runoff.	Appendix B4 Soil and Water Management Plan
HF2	Detailed construction planning will consider flood risk at construction areas. This will include identification of measures that will be implemented to not worsen flood impacts downstream and on other property and infrastructure during construction up to and including the 1% AEP flood event, and review of site layout and staging of construction works to avoid or minimise obstruction of overland flow paths and to limit the extent of flow diversion required. Procedures as detailed in the flood emergency management procedures will be implemented in response to flood events, including the evacuation of personnel.	Not applicable to Stage 1 works. Stage 1 disturbance area is identified as flood prone land
HF3	A water quality monitoring program will be implemented to establish baseline water quality conditions in the Darling River, Darling Anabranch and Murray River prior to construction, and to observe any changes in water quality that may be attributable to the proposal during construction. The frequency, location and duration of sampling will be detailed in the monitoring program, but will include: - at least two monitoring locations located downstream and upstream of the proposal on the Darling River, Darling Anabranch and, Murray River - monitoring for total dissolved solids, total suspended solids, total nitrogen and total phosphorus.	Not applicable to Stage 1 works. The Darling River, Great Darling Anabranch or Murray River are not in the vicinity of Stage 1 disturbance area.

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Revised mitigation measure no.	RMM requirement	Reference document
	Sampling will commence at least 6 months prior to the commencement of construction at each respective location, and then monthly during construction until the surfaces in the vicinity of the waterways that were disturbed by proposal activities are adequately stabilised and no longer pose a significant sedimentation risk to the waterways. The monitoring program will include corrective and preventative actions that will be taken to address any water quality issues caused by the proposal, as indicated by the water quality monitoring results.	
HF4	Water supply options and management will be undertaken in accordance with agreements between the construction contractor and Wentworth Shire Council.	Appendix B4 Soil and Water Management Plan Accommodation Camp Management Plan
HF5	Erosion and sediment measures will be implemented in accordance with the principles and requirements in: • <i>Managing Urban Stormwater – Soils and Construction, Volume 1</i> (Landcom 2004), and <i>Volumes 2A and 2C</i> (NSW Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water 2008), commonly referred to as the 'Blue Book' • <i>Best Practice Erosion and Sediment Control</i> (IESCA – 2008) • TransGrid's HSE Guideline • <i>Guidelines for Controlled Activities on Waterfront Land</i> (NRA 2018).	Appendix B4 Soil and Water Management Plan Erosion and Sediment Control Strategy Accommodation Camp Management Plan
HF6	Maintenance works in the vicinity of waterways will be conducted in accordance with the TransGrid's HSE Guideline.	Not applicable to Stage 1. This mitigation measure is associated with the operational phase and is therefore not applicable to Stage 1 works.
Air Quality		
AQ1	Construction air quality management measures will be detailed in the Air Quality Management Plan and implemented during construction to minimise particulate and gaseous emissions as far as possible. Measures will include (but not limited to): • use of water sprays or dust suppression surfactants as required for dust suppression where required and appropriate • adjusting the intensity of activities based on observed dust levels and weather forecasts • minimising the amount of materials stockpiled and position stockpiles away from surrounding receivers • vehicle movements to be strictly limited to designated entry/exit routes and parking areas, and measures to minimise the tracking of material onto paved roads • covering of loads • stabilising disturbed areas as soon as practicable, including new access routes • minimising the extent of disturbance as far as practicable	Air Quality Management Plan Accommodation Camp Management Plan

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Revised mitigation measure no.	RMM requirement	Reference document
	regularly conducting visual inspections of dust emissions and applying additional controls as required.	
AQ2	Ensure that all vehicles and machinery are fitted with appropriate emission control equipment and maintained in a proper and efficient manner.	Air Quality Management Plan Accommodation Camp Management Plan
AQ3	Measures will be implemented at concrete batching plants to minimise emissions to air as far as possible and will be regularly inspected with additional controls implemented as required. Measures to minimise emissions to air may include: - all aggregate and sand will be stored appropriately in storage bins or bays to minimise dust generation, and material will not exceed the height of the bay - cement silos and hoppers will be fitted with dust filters - all inspection points and hatches will be fully sealed - all dry raw materials to be transferred into the bowl of an agitator via front end loaders by maintaining adequate moisture levels and/or an enclosed conveyor - the cement silo will be fitted with fitted with emergency pressure alert and automatic cut off overfill protection - transfer of cement from storage to batching will occur via sealed steel augers - regularly inspect dust emissions and apply additional controls as required.	Air Quality Management Plan
AQ4	To minimise dust emissions associated with the proposed crushing and screening activities, the following will be implemented: - ensure screen covers are fitted to the screening operations - control dust emissions from crushing operations using water sprinklers, where required and appropriate - inspect the water sprinklers on a regular basis to ensure operational efficiency - where practicable, install wind breaks in appropriate locations adjacent to the dust generating equipment and processes - prior to crushing, dampen the rocks during dry weather conditions.	Air Quality Management Plan
AQ5	To ensure potential odour emissions from the wastewater treatment plants are minimised, the following additional management measures will be implemented: - prevent excessive inorganic material accumulating on the screens by disposing of screened material in waste bins on a regular basis - place waste bins containing screened material and sludge as far away as practicable from the construction compound and accommodation sites - ensure waste bins are fully closed at all times - remove screened material and sludge from site at regular intervals and dispose in an appropriate manner.	Air Quality Management Plan Accommodation Camp Management Plan

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Revised mitigation measure no.	RMM requirement	Reference document
	Noise and vibration	
NV1	An Operational Noise Review will be prepared to confirm the predicted noise impacts from the proposal (based on the final detailed design) and refine the operational mitigation measures that will be implemented so operational noise impacts complies with the proposal noise trigger levels, where feasible and reasonable.	Not applicable to Stage 1. This mitigation measure is associated with the operational phase and is therefore not applicable to Stage 1 works.
NV2	Where exceedances of the project proposal specific trigger noise levels are predicted, feasible and reasonable operational noise and vibration mitigation measures will be further investigated during detailed design, in consultation with the affected receivers. This may include (in order of priority): - land use planning and provision of appropriate buffer distances to increase the distance between the final transmission line alignment and the surrounding sensitive receivers and ultimately minimise the number of sensitive receivers within the audible risk noise zones - noise control at the noise source - noise control along the noise transfer path, such as noise barriers. - noise control at the receiver, such as 'at property' treatment to upgrade aspects of the dwellings including the façade or ventilation systems. Additional measures identified through this process will be implemented prior to commencement of operation.	Not applicable to Stage 1. This mitigation measure is only applicable to the 330kV transmission line.
NV3	Construction methodologies and measures that minimise noise and vibration levels during construction will be investigated during detailed design and implemented where feasible and reasonable. This will be supported through the completion of additional assessments (where construction noise levels are likely to exceed relevant noise management levels based on the final construction methodology). This will: - consider the proposed layouts of work areas or construction compounds and accommodation camps - the noise and vibration generating activities that will take place - assess the predicted noise and vibration levels against the relevant management levels - incorporate feasible and reasonable mitigation and management measures in accordance with the ICNG.	Appendix B2 Noise and Vibration Management Plan
NV4	Further engagement and consultation with affected receivers will be carried out to understand their preferences for mitigation and management measures where exceedances of noise management levels are predicted. Based on this consultation, appropriate mitigation and management options will be considered and implemented where feasible and reasonable to minimise the impacts.	Appendix B2 Noise and Vibration Management Plan Out of Hours Work Protocol Community Communication Strategy Accommodation Camp Management Plan

Revised mitigation measure no.	RMM requirement	Reference document
NV5	A Construction Noise and Vibration Management Plan (CNVMP) will be prepared by the construction contractor prior to construction works and will (as a minimum): • examine feasible and reasonable noise mitigation where management levels are likely to be exceeded • examine feasible and reasonable noise measures to manage traffic noise impacts on public roads where exceedances above 2 dB are identified at any sensitive receiver • describe associated noise and vibration monitoring programs, as required • describe proactive and reactive strategies for dealing with any noise complaints • outline community consultation measures including notification requirements. This CNVMP will be implemented for the duration of construction.	Appendix B2 Noise and Vibration Management Plan Community Communication Strategy
NV6	An out of hours works (OOHW) protocol will be implemented for all construction activities likely to generate noise levels above the relevant noise management level at any sensitive receiver outside the standard construction hours defined in <i>Interim Construction Noise Guideline</i> (DECC, 2009). The OOHW protocol and will include: • details of what works are required outside standard construction hours • noise management safeguards and other reasonable and feasible mitigation and management measures (including agreement with sensitive receivers), including avoiding or minimising activities or the use of equipment likely to generate the highest noise levels, and implementing respite periods where works are likely to result in NML exceedances for sensitive receivers • community consultation procedures, including letterbox drops, notification protocols, and site contact information for the works • complaints handling procedures. The OOHW protocol would not apply to the operation of the accommodation camps at Buronga and Wentworth.	Appendix B2 Noise and Vibration Management Plan Out of Hours Work Protocol
NV7	Where noise intensive equipment is to be used near sensitive receivers and is likely to result in an exceedance of the applicable noise management level, the works will be scheduled for during standard construction hours (unless agreements with affected sensitive receivers have been reached).	Appendix B2 Noise and Vibration Management Plan Out of Hours Work Protocol
NV8	Where residences or other sensitive receivers/structures are within the minimum working distances for vibration (as identified in Table 17-3 of the EIS): • different construction methods with lower source vibration levels will be investigated and implemented, where feasible • attended vibration measurements will be undertaken at the start of the works to determine actual vibration levels at the structure. Works will cease if the monitoring indicates vibration levels are likely to, or do, exceed the relevant criteria.	Not applicable to Stage 1. No residences or other sensitive receivers/ structures are within the minimum working distances for vibration as a result of the Stage 1 works.
NV9	Temporary batching plants along the transmission line corridor will be positioned to ensure compliance with NMLs at the nearest sensitive receivers.	Not applicable to Stage 1.

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Revised mitigation measure no.	RMM requirement	Reference document
		No batching plants are proposed as part of the Stage 1 works.
NV10	If blasting is required, a blasting vibration and overpressure assessment will be completed to demonstrate that blasting and associated activities will not exceed noise and vibration limits at residences or other sensitive receivers. Based on outcomes of this assessment, a blast management strategy will be implemented that details how blasting will be carried out in a manner that complies with relevant noise and vibration limits, and notification requirements with landholders.	Not applicable to Stage 1. No blasting is proposed for the project.
Traffic		
TA1	Site access / egress points will be designed to minimise conflicts with vehicle movements on the road network and in accordance with relevant safety requirements. This may include the provision of acceleration and deceleration lanes at accommodation camp locations. Any designs will be in accordance with the Traffic Control at Worksites, Austroads Guide to Road Design and Austroads Guide to Traffic Management, and approved by the relevant road authority.	Appendix B1 Traffic and Transport Management Plan Traffic Strategy
TA2	Road pre-condition surveys will be carried out for the public road network in the vicinity of access points to construction compounds, construction camps and construction areas, and for roads for which proposal-related traffic within the Wentworth Shire LGA will be the main source of traffic prior to the use of the roads by proposal-related heavy vehicles. The pre-condition surveys will be undertaken in consultation with relevant councils and road owners. This will include identification of existing conditions and mechanisms to repair damage to the road network caused by construction vehicles associated with the proposal. Construction access routes will be subject to regular inspections, in consultation with the relevant roads authority, to monitor the condition of these roads. Any identified issues attributable to project-related use will be rectified to maintain road safety.	Appendix B1 Traffic and Transport Management Plan Independent dilapidation surveys reports
TA3	The community will be notified in advance of proposed road network changes through appropriate forms of communication.	Appendix B1 Traffic and Transport Management Plan
TA4	Road Occupancy Licence(s) will be sought (as required) for any road closures (full or partial) prior to any such closure. The timing of any closures will be carried out to minimise impacts to the road network in accordance with the conditions of the licence.	Appendix B1 Traffic and Transport Management Plan
TA5	Permits from the National Heavy Vehicle Regulator (NHVR) will be obtained where required to provide oversized and overmass vehicles access during construction. Permit applications will be supported by a Vehicle Movement Plan (VMP), prepared to indicate the proposed heavy vehicle route(s). The Vehicle Movement Plan will consider activities of adjoining land uses and safety of the public, particularly when entering urban areas from rural highways.	Appendix B1 Traffic and Transport Management Plan
TA6	Construction access/egress, and construction movements, will be managed to ensure pedestrian and cyclist safety.	Appendix B1 Traffic and Transport Management Plan

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Revised mitigation measure no.	RMM requirement	Reference document
TA7	Adjustments to haulage routes in response to road closures by Wentworth Shire Council (e.g. during wet weather conditions or during other maintenance or other upgrade activities) will be identified in consultation with Wentworth Shire Council and affected residents, and suitable management measures identified and implemented.	Appendix B1 Traffic and Transport Management Plan
TA8	Access to properties for emergency vehicles will be provided at all times.	Appendix B1 Traffic and Transport Management Plan Accommodation Camp Management Plan
TA9	Access to properties will be maintained or alternative arrangements agreed in consultation with landholders.	Appendix B1 Traffic and Transport Management Plan
TA10	Following completion of construction, condition surveys will be carried out. Any damage as a result of construction vehicles will be repaired following the completion of construction (and as needed through the construction period to maintain safe road conditions).	Appendix B1 Traffic and Transport Management Plan
TA11	TransGrid will commit to a Road Maintenance Agreement with Wentworth Shire Council to ensure appropriate remediation of roads used by project-related vehicles to address any damage and deterioration caused by the construction of the proposal.	Appendix B1 Traffic and Transport Management Plan
Hazards and risks		
HR1	The proposal will be designed and constructed in accordance with the Guidelines for Limiting Exposure to Time-Varying Electric and Magnetic Fields (1 Hz – 100 kHz) (International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection (ICNIRP), 2010) The design will meet the EMF exposure guidelines set out in Table 19-2 of the EIS and worst case scenarios within TransGrid's <i>Transmission Line Design Manual – Major New Build</i> .	Construction Environmental Management Plan
HR2	A minimum 50m wide managed Asset Protection Zone will be provided to the hazard perimeter of the fixed construction equipment and camp site buildings unless an alternative fire protection approach that achieves the same level of bushfire risk management is identified by a suitably qualified specialist during detailed design. Any Asset Protection Zone zone will be regularly maintained to provide a maximum grass height of 100mm -150mm during the prescribed Bushfire Danger Period and when the grassland fuel reaches 70 per cent cured. Vegetation inside the main construction compounds and accommodation camp sites will be regularly maintained to a maximum height of 75mm.	Emergency Plan Accommodation Camp Management Plan
HR3	Buildings within the construction compound and camp site will be constructed to comply with Section 3 and Section 5 (BAL 12.5) of A.S. 3959 – 2018 – 'Construction of Buildings in Bushfire Prone Areas'. The sub-floor space of each building will be enclosed with stainless steel flymesh securely fixed to the external wall/s and buried into the ground. All joints will be overlapped and sealed.	Emergency Plan Accommodation Camp Management Plan

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Revised mitigation measure no.	RMM requirement	Reference document
HR4	Water for fire-fighting operations will be confirmed during detailed design with consideration to occupancy density and site layout. This will include onsite static water supply and fire-fighting hose reels. All weather access having a minimum width of 4 metres will be provided to the static water supply tanks.	Emergency Plan Accommodation Camp Management Plan
HR5	Consultation with emergency services, including the Rural Fire Service and Fire and Rescue NSW will be undertaken during detailed design to ensure emergency access provisions are provided during operation.	Emergency Plan Accommodation Camp Management Plan
HR6	Prior to the occupation of the construction camps and offices, all bush fire protection and mitigation measures would be certified as compliant with relevant regulatory requirements by a suitably qualified bush fire consultant.	Emergency Plan Accommodation Camp Management Plan
HR7	Shielding will be used and a water supply (nine kilogram water fire extinguisher) and trained operator present during all outdoor hot works/grinding activities, and during vegetation slashing within and adjacent to the construction compound and camp sites. No outdoor hot works will be undertaken during periods of Total Fire Ban and Catastrophic Fire Weather Days unless there is a suitable fire suppression unit present on site and only with prior agreement with local fire services.	Emergency Plan Accommodation Camp Management Plan
HR8	All chemicals, fuels or other hazardous substances will be stored in accordance with the supplier's instructions and relevant legislation, Australian Standards and applicable guidelines. The capacity of any bunded area shall be at least 130 per cent of the largest chemical volume contained within the bunded area. The location of the bunded enclosure/s shall be shown on the site plans.	Appendix B4 Soil and Water Management Plan Accommodation Camp Management Plan
HR9	Dangerous goods and hazardous substances will be transported in accordance with relevant legislation and codes, including the <i>Dangerous Goods (Road and Rail Transport) Act 2008</i> , Road and Rail Transport (Dangerous Goods) (Road) Regulation 1998 and the <i>Australian Code for the Transport of Dangerous Goods by Road and Rail</i> (National Transport Commission, 2007).	Appendix B1 Traffic and Transport Management Plan
HR10	Appropriate spill containment equipment will be provided and located at strategic, accessible locations.	Appendix B4 Soil and Water Management Plan Accommodation Camp Management Plan
HR11	Security measures will be implemented to minimise the risk of arson within and adjoining construction areas. The location of appropriate security measures will be determined using a risk based approach.	Emergency Plan Accommodation Camp Management Plan
HR12	All chemicals or other hazardous substances at the Buronga substation will be stored in bunded and weatherproof facilities away from drainage lines, and in accordance with supplier's instructions and relevant legislation, Australian Standards and applicable guidelines. The capacity of the bunded area will be at least 130 per cent of the largest	Not applicable to Stage 1. This mitigation measure is associated with the operational phase and is

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Revised mitigation measure no.	RMM requirement	Reference document
	chemical volume contained within the bunded area. The location of the bunded enclosure/s will be shown on the site plans.	therefore not applicable to Stage 1 works.
HR13	Emergency spill procedures will be implemented to avoid and manage accidental spillages of fuels, chemicals or fluids during operation and maintenance activities in accordance with the TransGrid's HSE Guideline. Environmental spill kits will be provided at strategic, accessible locations, and staff will be trained in spill response procedures.	Not applicable to Stage 1. This mitigation measure is associated with the operational phase and is therefore not applicable to Stage 1 works.
HR14	The proposal will be designed, operated and maintained in accordance with TransGrid's Bushfire Risk Management Plan. This includes reduction in fuel loads, management of asset protection zones and inspections of infrastructure.	Emergency Plan Accommodation Camp Management Plan
HR15	The Buronga substation Emergency Response Manual will be updated to include the new proposed design and required revised emergency response procedures.	Not applicable to Stage 1. This mitigation measure is associated with the operational phase and is therefore not applicable to Stage 1 works.
Soils, contamination and groundwater		
SCG1	Locations of transmission line structure foundations, and ancillary construction sites will be positioned to avoid disturbance to any known farm dams where practicable.	Not applicable to Stage 1 works. There are no known farm dams in the vicinity of the Stage 1 disturbance area.
SCG2	Existing areas of waterlogging and poor drainage will be avoided, where possible, with regard to both access tracks and permanent structures.	Appendix B4 Soil and Water Management Plan
SCG3	Construction materials will be selected to withstand high saline soil and groundwater environment (where applicable).	Appendix B4 Soil and Water Management Plan
SCG4	A review of additional geotechnical and hydrogeology data, and any publicly available mapping of high priority groundwater dependant ecosystems (GDEs) as documented in the latest relevant water sharing plan, will be carried out to confirm the groundwater conditions and to: - determine if any additional mitigation measures are required to limit groundwater inflows, or impacts to GDEs - confirm no or minimal impact to groundwater sources as per the minimal impact criteria listed within the Aquifer Interference Policy.	Appendix B4 Soil and Water Management Plan
SCG5	Disturbance to areas of medium risk of contamination will be avoided or minimised where practicable during construction. This includes the position of foundations for transmission line structures and ancillary construction sites.	Not applicable to Stage 1 works.

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Revised mitigation measure no.	RMM requirement	Reference document
	Areas of medium risk of contamination that will be disturbed by construction activities will be further investigated including completion of a site inspection. Where considered to be required, a Phase 2 investigation will be completed in accordance with NEPM 2013. Mitigation measures identified through further investigation will be implemented.	Areas of disturbance subject to Stage 1 of the project were identified as low contamination risk.
SCG6	To limit the potential for groundwater inflows, the construction methodology for transmission line structure foundations will ensure that excavations will not occur within 40 metres of the Darling River, Great Darling Anabranch or Murray River. Where groundwater may be encountered, the design and construction methodology will be adjusted to minimise groundwater inflows. The depth of groundwater will be confirmed prior to commencement of construction at each relevant transmission line structure locations.	Not applicable to Stage 1 works. The Darling River, Great Darling Anabranch or Murray River are not in the vicinity of Stage 1 disturbance area.
SCG7	Direct impacts to registered bores GW088454 (nested), GW087531 and GW600452 will be avoided, where possible. If the bores are: - not required to be removed during construction, then they will be clearly demarcated with a 5x5 metre construction exclusion zone - are to be removed during construction or unavoidably damaged, then make good provisions will apply in consultation with the registered bore owner.	Not applicable to Stage 1 works. Registered bore GW087531 is located on the opposite side of Arumpo Road and outside the indicative Stage 1 disturbance area.
SCG8	Prior to ground disturbance in areas of potential acid sulfate soil occurrence (e.g. in low lying areas surrounding former or current lakes and river beds), testing would will be carried out to determine the presence of actual and/or potential acid sulfate soils. If acid sulfate soils are encountered, they will be managed in accordance with the <i>Acid Sulfate Soil Manual</i> (ASSMAC, 1998) and TransGrid's HSE Guideline.	Not applicable to Stage 1 works. Areas of disturbance subject to Stage 1 of the project were identified as having a low risk of acid sulfate soils.
SCG9	Prior to ground disturbance, a visual inspection will be undertaken for the presence of saline soils. Areas of known or suspected salinity will be subject to further testing as required. If salinity is confirmed, excavated soils will be managed in accordance with <i>Book 4 Dryland Salinity: Productive use of Saline Land and Water</i> (NSW DECC 2008) and the <i>Salinity Training Manual</i> (DPI, 2014) to manage salinity impacts. Erosion controls will be implemented in accordance with <i>The Blue Book</i> (Landcom, 2004).	Appendix B4 Soil and Water Management Plan
SCG10	Earthworks and construction activities that result in compaction of soils will be limited where possible in areas within 40 metres of the Darling River, Murray River and Great Darling Anabranch to prevent potential impacts to groundwater.	Not applicable to Stage 1 works. The Darling River, Great Darling Anabranch or Murray River are not in the vicinity of Stage 1 disturbance area.
SCG11	A bore condition assessment is to be conducted prior and post construction on GW088454 (nested), GW087531 and GW600452 where required to identify any adverse impact to the bores integrity that may have resulted during construction.	Appendix B4 Soil and Water Management Plan

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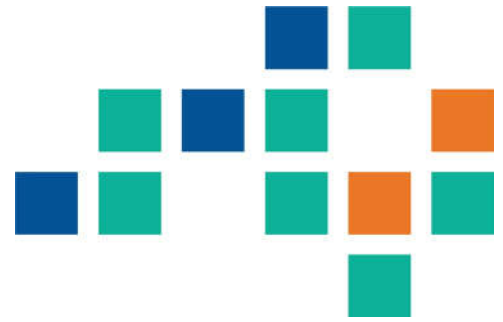
Revised mitigation measure no.	RMM requirement	Reference document
	If impacts are identified, repair or replacement of the bore will be undertaken in discussion with the registered owner.	
SCG12	Construction materials, spoil and waste will be suitably stored to minimise the potential for soil, groundwater or water quality impacts.	Appendix B4 Soil and Water Management Plan Accommodation Camp Management Plan
SCG13	The discovery of previously unidentified contaminated material will be managed in accordance with a contamination unexpected finds procedure.	Appendix B4 Soil and Water Management Plan Unexpected Contamination Finds Procedure Accommodation Camp Management Plan
SCG14	The application of treated wastewater will be managed so that: • application rates account for soil conditions and the protection of water quality (including groundwater). This includes salinity conditions and the prevention of runoff from application areas • buffer distances to sensitive receivers (such as waterways and farm dams) as set out in Designing and Installing On-Site Wastewater Systems (WaterNSW, 2019) are met • climatic conditions are considered during application to ensure treated wastewater is applied to intended areas • equipment used will reflect the management of human, livestock and environmental risks.	Accommodation Camp Management Plan
SCG15	Incident response procedures for wastewater treatment plants (and use of treated wastewater) will be implemented to avoid, minimise and manage accidental spills or other incidents that impact the function of the wastewater treatment plants.	Accommodation Camp Management Plan
SCG16	A site-specific risk assessment will occur for locations where there is a risk of encountering UXO. The risk assessment will be carried out prior to any activities that could interact with UXO. This will include field verification to validate the historical assessment of UXO contamination and identify appropriate mitigation practices. The risk assessment will occur with input from an appropriate UXO specialist and will identify if and when an explosives engineer is required during site activities. An unexpected finds procedure will be implemented. The procedure will specify the actions that site personnel must take to minimise the risk to and from any UXO encountered. The management actions identified in the risk assessment will be implemented prior to and during all relevant site activities. All personnel conducting intrusive works within an identified UXO area will be provided with appropriate safety and awareness briefing(s) prior to the participating in the intrusive works.	Not applicable to Stage 1 works. Identified UXO prone areas are not in the vicinity of Stage 1 disturbance area.
Waste management and resources		
WM1	The proposal will achieve an ISCA verified 'Design' and 'As-built' rating of Excellent under v1.2 of the IS rating tool.	Sustainability Strategy

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Revised mitigation measure no.	RMM requirement	Reference document
WM2	Measures to minimise excess spoil generation will be investigated at detailed design. This will include a focus on optimising the design to minimise spoil volumes and the reuse of material on-site.	Waste Management Plan
WM3	Opportunities to re-use or recycle construction and demolition waste will be investigated during detailed design.	Waste Management Plan
WM4	All waste will be assessed, classified, managed and disposed of in accordance with the <i>Waste Classification Guidelines</i> (NSW EPA, 2014).	Waste Management Plan Accommodation Camp Management Plan
WM5	Waste streams will be segregated to avoid cross- contamination of materials and maximise reuse and recycling opportunities.	Waste Management Plan Accommodation Camp Management Plan
WM6	All waste generated and surplus spoil to be removed from the construction of the proposal will be transported to appropriately licensed waste disposal transfer facilities or other facilities lawfully able to accept materials.	Waste Management Plan Accommodation Camp Management Plan
WM7	Waste during operations will be managed in accordance with TransGrid's existing Environmental Management System and processes for the identification, classification, handling and management of waste.	Not applicable to Stage 1. This mitigation measure is associated with the operational phase and is therefore not applicable to Stage 1 works
WM8	All waste will be assessed, classified, managed and disposed of in accordance with the <i>Waste Classification Guidelines</i> (NSW EPA, 2014).	Not applicable to Stage 1. This mitigation measure is associated with the operational phase and is therefore not applicable to Stage 1 works
Cumulative impacts		
CI1	Co-ordination of traffic management arrangements between major construction projects will occur in consultation with the relevant road authorities (Transport for NSW and local councils) and/or other proponents as relevant. This will consider any potential conflicts in relation to deliveries and identified haulage routes during the program.	Appendix B1 Traffic and Transport Management Plan

Appendix B – Environmental Management Plans

INTERNAL



Biodiversity Management Plan EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section) Stage 1 45860-HSE-PL-D-0006

REV	DATE	GENERAL DESCRIPTION	PREPARED	REVIEWED	VERIFIED	VERIFIED	APPROVED
A	23/06/2021	Issued for internal review	L.Coetzee	R.Walker-Edwards	G.Crighton	JL.Barrenechea	D.Whatmough
B	25/06/2021	Issued for Transgrid review	L.Coetzee	R.Walker-Edwards	G.Crighton	JL.Barrenechea	D.Whatmough
C	1/08/2021	Issued for Transgrid review	R.Walker-Edwards	M.Lee	G.Crighton	JL.Barrenechea	D.Whatmough
D	1/10/2021	Issued for Transgrid review	R.Walker-Edwards	M.Lee	G.Crighton	JL.Barrenechea	D.Whatmough
E	23/11/2021	Revised to address agency comments	R.Walker-Edwards	M.Lee	G.Crighton	JL.Barrenechea	D.Whatmough
F	21/12/2021	Revised to address BCD and ER comments	 R.Walker-Edwards	 M.Lee	 G.Crighton	 JL.Barrenechea	 D.Whatmough

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Revision History	
Rev.	Detailed Description
A	Issued for internal review
B	Issued for Transgrid review
C	Updated following Transgrid review and draft Infrastructure Approval
D	Updated following Transgrid review and to address the Infrastructure Approval
E	Updated following receipt of BCD comments and Transgrid review
F	Updated following receipt of BCD and ER comments

Key Document Stakeholders
To be communicated with during reviews and revisions of this document

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Abbreviations

Acronym	Definition
Amendment Report	<i>EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section) Amendment Report</i>
BAM	<i>Biodiversity Assessment Method 2017</i>
BC Act	<i>Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016</i>
BCS	Biodiversity, Conservation and Science Directorate of the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
BMP	Biodiversity Management Plan
BOS	Biodiversity Offset Scheme
CCS	Community Communication Strategy
CEMP	Construction Environmental Management Plan
CSSI	Critical State significant infrastructure
Cth	Commonwealth
DPIE or Department	NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
EEC	Endangered Ecological Communities
EIS	<i>EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section) Environmental Impact Statement</i>
EP&A Act	<i>Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979</i>
EPBC Act	<i>Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i>
ER	Environmental Representative
Final BDAR	<i>Revised Biodiversity Development Assessment Report</i> (August, 2021)
GDE	Groundwater dependent ecosystem
IBRA	Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation for Australia
LGA	Local government area
LLS	Local Land Services
MNES	Matters of national environmental significance under the EPBC Act
NSW	New South Wales
PCT	Plant community type
PESCP	Progressive Erosion and Sediment Control Plan
Planning Secretary	Planning Secretary under the EP&A Act, or nominee
project, the	EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section)
Project study area	The study area for the EIS, which comprises a one kilometre wide corridor between the SA/NSW border near Chowilla and Buronga and a 200m wide corridor between Buronga and the NSW/Victoria border at Monak, near Red Cliffs.
Response to DPIE Request for Information	The 'additional information letter dated 10 August 2021' in the definition section of the Infrastructure Approval; document is also titled <i>EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section) Response to DPIE Request for Information – 7 May 2021 and subsequent discussions</i>
RMM	Revised mitigation measures
SA	South Australia
SAP	Sensitive area plans
SecureEnergy	Elecnor and Clough Projects Australia Pty Ltd have formed the SecureEnergy Joint Venture (SecureEnergy). SecureEnergy is the contractor who will be carrying out the project on behalf of Transgrid.
Submissions Report	<i>EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section) Submissions Report</i>

Once printed this document becomes uncontrolled. Refer to SecureEnergy Intranet for a controlled copy.

Acronym	Definition
WONS	Weeds of National Significance
WMS	Work method statement

1 Introduction

1.1 Context

This Biodiversity Management Plan (BMP or this plan) forms part of the Construction Environment Management Plan (CEMP) for Stage 1 of EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section).

This plan has been prepared to address the relevant requirements of the Infrastructure Approval (SSI 10040), the *EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section) Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)*, the *EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section) Submissions Report* (Submissions Report), the *EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section) Amendment Report* (Amendment Report) and the additional information letter dated 10 August 2021 (Response to DPIE Request for Information).

1.2 Background

On 29 August 2019 the NSW Minister for Planning and Public Spaces declared EnergyConnect critical State significant infrastructure (CSSI) under the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act) on the basis that it is critical to the State for environmental, economic or social reasons. Within NSW, EnergyConnect is therefore subject to assessment under Part 5, Division 5.2 of the EP&A Act.

Transgrid have two environmental planning approval applications for the sections within NSW:

- EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section) – SA/NSW border to Buronga and Buronga to the NSW/Victorian border (the project); and
- EnergyConnect (NSW – Eastern Section) – Buronga to Wagga Wagga.

A referral under the Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) was submitted on 27 May 2020. The Australian Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment (DAWE) determined the project to be a controlled action on 26 June 2020 and thus, it would be assessed using the bilateral assessment process. As such, the project also requires approval from the Australian Minister for the Environment under the EPBC Act.

The EIS was prepared for the project in October 2020 and was placed on public exhibition from 30 October 2020 to 10 December 2020. A total of 20 submissions were received, with 15 from government agencies, three from organisations and two from the public.

The Submissions Report was prepared for the project in response to the submissions and was finalised on 14 April 2021.

Transgrid also prepared a separate Amendment Report to document design changes and additional environmental assessment undertaken since exhibition of the EIS. The Amendment Report describes the updated project for which approval has been sought and was also finalised on 14 April 2021.

On 7 May 2021, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) requested additional information (*EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section) (SSI-10040) Request for Additional Information*) to assist with the assessment of the project. In response Transgrid prepared and provided the Response to DPIE Request for Information, which included revised mitigation measures (RMMs) in Appendix G which are to be applied. The Response to DPIE Request for Information was dated 10 August 2021.

Approval for the project under the EP&A Act was granted by the NSW Minister for Planning and Public Spaces (Infrastructure Approval SSI 10040). Approval for the project under the EPBC was granted by the Australian Minister for the Environment.

Transgrid have engaged SecureEnergy, a joint venture between Elecnor and Clough Projects Australia Pty Ltd to design and construct their portion of the EnergyConnect project.

1.3 Staging

Condition E2 allows preparation of plans on a staged basis, with the approval of the Planning Secretary. Where a plan is staged, the scope of works can be carried out without addressing particular requirements of conditions of approval that are not applicable to the particular stage. This BMP is staged in accordance with condition E2.

The conditions of the Infrastructure Approval, and the RMMs identified in Appendix G of the Response to DPIE Request for Information, that are relevant to the construction phase biodiversity requirements are included in Table 2.1 and Table 2.2, respectively. The applicability of each requirement to this BMP is also addressed in the identified tables.

Stage 1 of construction (covered by this BMP) is proposed to occur ahead of the main transmission line works in order to expedite the overall delivery program for EnergyConnect.

The Buronga substation is located on Arumpo Road in Buronga. The existing 220kV substation will be upgraded and expanded to a new 330kV substation on a land parcel adjacent to the existing 220kV substation. Refer to Figure 1.1 for the indicative disturbance area of Stage 1 of construction.

The key project components of Stage 1 of construction include, but are not limited to, the activities provided in Table 1.1.

Table 1.1 - Key project components of Stage 1 of construction

Key activity	Description of key activity
Environmental investigations, including biodiversity and heritage protection, salvage and recordings	These key activities nominated in this stage will have already commenced as part of the pre-construction minor works permitted in accordance with the Infrastructure Approval. The definition of 'construction' within the Infrastructure Approval excludes these activities. They will therefore not be subject to the Stage 1 CEMP and CEMP sub-plans.
Other survey work, such as road dilapidation surveys, and surveys of the general alignment and existing utilities	
Site establishment at Buronga substation upgrade and expansion site	The main site establishment activities that would be undertaken at Buronga substation upgrade and expansion site include: - clearing of vegetation within the disturbance area (including scrub, undergrowth and ground vegetation); - clearing and removal of topsoils. Topsoil would be stockpiled on site for later reuse; - establishing crushing and screening plants (if required), ancillary facilities, including but not limited to offices and amenities, and internal roads; and - installing fencing (including fencing around the site where required), signage and security measures as well as any necessary construction environmental management measures such as erosion and sediment controls.
Bulk earthworks at Buronga substation upgrade and expansion site	Bulk earthworks to form the Buronga substation pad which includes placement of around 350,000 cubic metres of rock/gravel/soil from the earthworks material site to allow for the construction of the substation pad in preparation for concrete foundations. Crushing and screening activities may be required in order to meet the engineering requirements. Existing soil that does not meet engineering requirements for the substation pad will be temporary stockpiled.
Site establishment of the Buronga accommodation camp	The main activities that would be undertaken at Buronga construction compound and accommodation camp includes: - clearing of vegetation within the disturbance area (including scrub, undergrowth and ground vegetation); - clearing and removal of topsoils. Topsoil would be stockpiled on site for later reuse; - establishing the accommodation camp and associated facilities, including but not limited to site offices, amenities, wastewater treatment plant, power generators, hazardous material and fuel storage area and internal roads;

Key activity	Description of key activity
Site establishment and operation of the Buronga construction compound	- establishing and operating site offices, and other ancillary facilities, including but not limited to amenities, and internal roads; - connections and pre-commissioning of on-site utilities (wastewater treatment plant, electrical power, lighting and etc.) for the construction compound and accommodation camps; and - installing temporary fencing, signage and security measures as well as any necessary construction environmental management measures such as erosion and sediment controls, where required.
Access points	The establishment of access points would include: - establishing vehicle access and egress points including adjustment of roads to ensure safe vehicle movements; and - establishing truck wheel wash or rumble grids. The definition of construction within the Infrastructure Approval does not include road upgrades (which includes access points). Road upgrade works are, however, incorporated within the Traffic and Transport Management Plan as required by condition D40 b).
Water supply points – establishment and/or use	A series of water supply points have been identified as suitable connection points to existing water supply pipelines. The proposed water supply points which are to be established and / or used include: - Alcheringa Drive, Buronga; and - Modica Crescent, Buronga.
Utility works, adjustments and protection	General utility works, adjustment and protection, including internal and external drainage, to allow for the Buronga substation expansion and upgrades works to occur, the establishment of the accommodation camp and the establishment and operation of the construction compound.

The Stage 1 works will involve clearing the indicative disturbance area identified within Figure 1.1. Further detail in relation to the impacts associated with Stage 1 are identified within Section 4.2 of this plan.

Some activities nominated in this stage will have already commenced as part of the pre-construction minor works permitted in accordance with the Infrastructure Approval. These works will remain excluded from the definition of ‘construction’ and will therefore not be subject to the Stage 1 CEMP and this BMP.

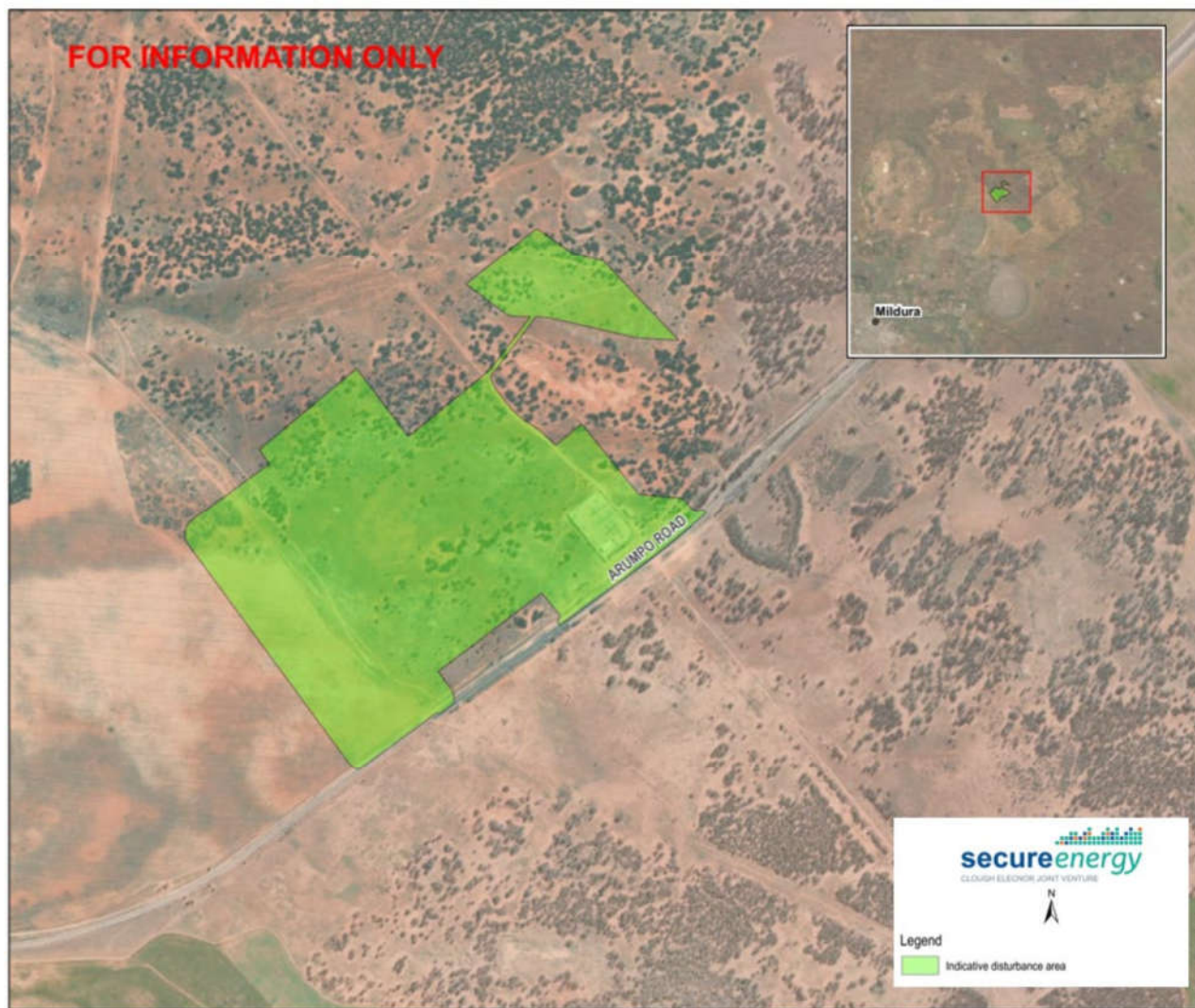


Figure 1.1 - Indicative disturbance area of Stage 1 of construction

1.4 Environmental management system

The overall environmental management system for the project is described in Section 4 of the CEMP. This BMP is a sub-plan that forms part of the CEMP and is also part of the environmental management framework for the project, as described in the CEMP. Figure 1.2 shows the CEMP framework for the project.

Management measures identified in this plan will be incorporated into relevant site-based documents including, but not limited to, site or activity specific work packs or work method statements (WMSs), sensitive area plans (SAPs) or training and awareness material.

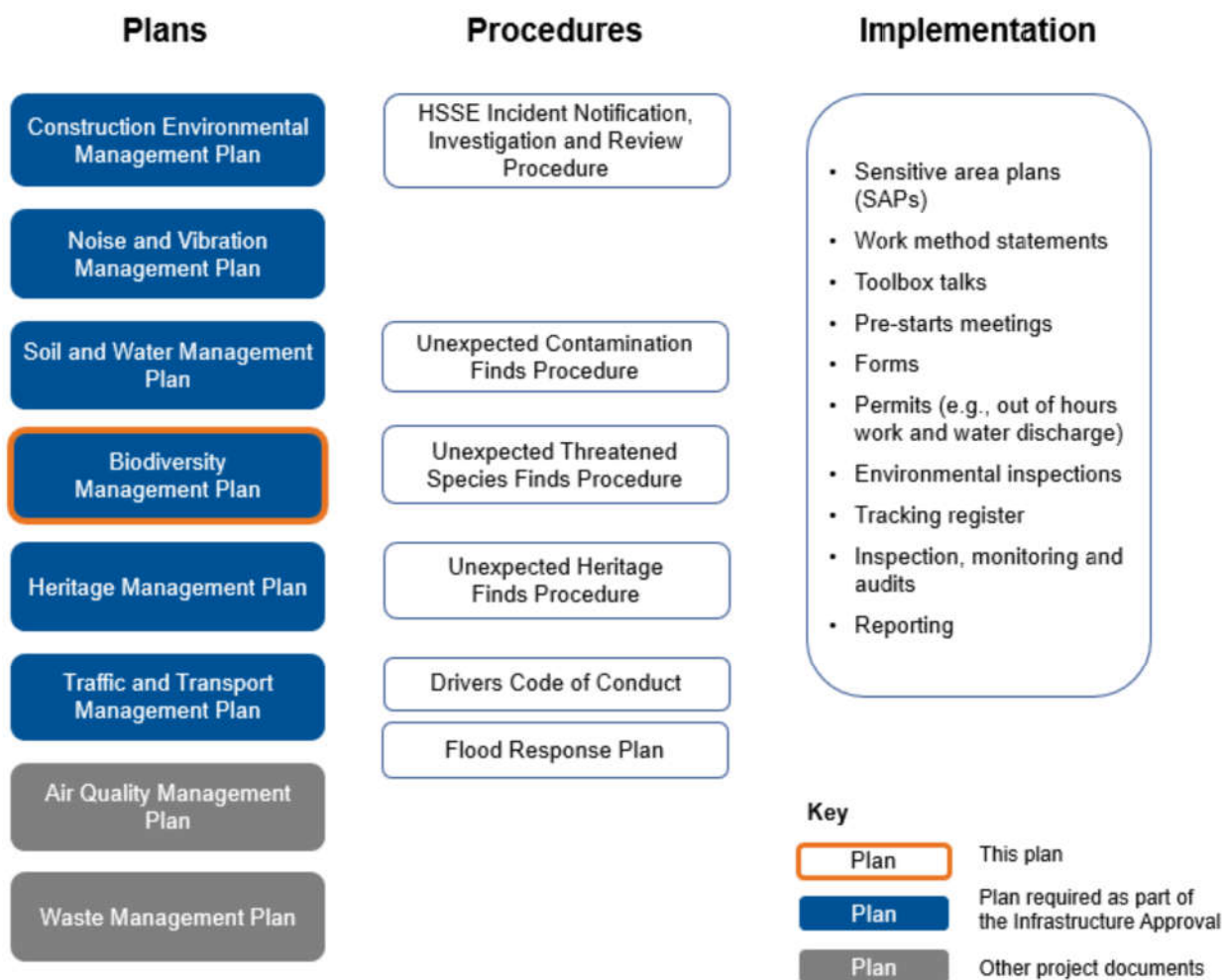


Figure 1.2 - CEMP framework

1.5 Purpose and objective

The purpose of this BMP is to describe the approach to manage biodiversity impacts that will be adopted during construction of the project.

The key objective of this plan is to detail management measures and inform site procedures so that biodiversity impacts are minimised and managed within the scope permitted by the Infrastructure Approval. To achieve this, the following will be undertaken:

- implement appropriate measures to address the requirements outlined in the Infrastructure Approval, EIS, Amendment Report, Response to DPIE Request for Information and Final BDAR;
- implement appropriate measures during construction to minimise biodiversity impacts; and
- implement appropriate measures to comply with all relevant legislative requirements as described in Section 2.1 of this plan.

As a means of assessing environmental performance, environmental objectives (performance measures), targets (criteria) and performance indicators have been established for the project and are provided within Section 4.2 of the CEMP. The performance measures and indicators relevant to biodiversity management are detailed within Table 1.2.

Table 1.2 - Environmental objectives, targets and performance indicators relevant to biodiversity

Aspects	Objectives (performance measures)	Targets (criteria)	Performance indicators
Biodiversity	Minimise and manage the impacts of the project on biodiversity.	No exceedance to clearing values of known biodiversity including flora and fauna species as specified in condition D25.	Total area as recorded on clearing register.

1.6 Preparation of this plan

In accordance with condition B6 of the Infrastructure Approval, this plan has been prepared by suitably qualified and experienced persons. This plan was prepared by:

- Laureenne Coetzee; and
- Rebecca Walker-Edwards.

1.7 Consultation

1.7.1 Development of this plan

In accordance with condition B2 of the Infrastructure Approval, this plan has been prepared in consultation with:

- Biodiversity and Conservation Services (BCS); and
- Wentworth Shire Council (council).

The plan was issued to relevant stakeholders for review and comment. Following review, Wentworth Shire Council confirmed that they had no comments in relation to the plan. Comments from BCS have been incorporated into this plan where appropriate. Details of all consultation with BCS and Wentworth Shire Council will be submitted to DPIE along with the submission of this management plan.

1.7.2 Ongoing communication and consultation

SecureEnergy will use a range of tools in accordance with the *Community Communication Strategy* (CCS) (45860-CM-PL-G-1001) to facilitate ongoing consultation and communication with the community and stakeholders regarding the project. Communication tools include, but are not limited to, stakeholder briefings, project website, community drop-in sessions via the project's mobile van, door knocks and project factsheets. Notifications will be issued for, but not limited to following, commencement of construction, significant milestones and changes to the scope of work. Refer to the CCS for further information.

In accordance with condition E12 a) of the Infrastructure Approval, project documents including the EIS, approved strategies, plans or programs required under the conditions of approval and independent reports will be publicly available on the project website. The project website is <https://www.projectenergyconnect.com.au>. A 24-hour toll-free telephone number (1800 560 577) is also available for any project enquiries.

1.7.3 Complaints

Complaints will be managed by the Community and Stakeholder Engagement Team with the use of Consultation Manager database. Complaints will be received via phone calls, emails and letters. Any complaint received is regarded as a high priority and will be recorded, tracked and responded to in accordance with the CCS. Complaints will be investigated and dealt with impartially. The key principles of the complaint management process include:

- acknowledge - SecureEnergy staff should respect the communities' right to voice their concerns. All complaints received should be acknowledged to the complainant either by telephone or in writing;
- resolve - SecureEnergy staff should aim at first contact, resolution for all community concerns. SecureEnergy staff should investigate community concerns in detail before negotiating a resolution. All SecureEnergy staff should use their relevant discretions to achieve a mutually acceptable resolution to complaints;
- escalate - all SecureEnergy staff should aim to escalate the complaint if the community member remains dissatisfied with the investigation and/or resolution offered by their first point of contact at SecureEnergy. All complaints where community request to speak to a higher-level representative, should also be escalated;
- record – SecureEnergy staff should aim through the Engagement Team at recording all relevant information, on the community account in Consultation Manager System, regarding customer concerns along with details of all discussions had with the community member in the process of investigating and/resolving the complaint. Detailed information on the resolutions offered to address community concerns should also be clearly recorded;
- communicate – SecureEnergy staff should remain in constant touch with the community member while their concerns are being investigated. The community member should be informed of all steps of the investigation and the resulting outcome at appropriate times;
- report – SecureEnergy should report on all complaints received to the SecureEnergy Management Team and Transgrid. The reporting should include information on the number as well as type of complaints being received, the status of these complaints from time to time and the resulting outcomes or resolutions offered to close them;
- feedback – the SecureEnergy Engagement Team should aim at regular and intensive reviews to identify possible trends in the complaints being received. These reviews should be aimed at highlighting improvements required to avoid complaints being repeated;
- action - SecureEnergy should aim at effective implementation of improvements suggested directly by the community or highlighted by complaint trends.

Wherever possible, complaints will be resolved directly between SecureEnergy and the stakeholder. If a complaints management process has been followed and the issue cannot be resolved, dispute resolution will be undertaken in accordance with the CCS. DPIE may request the Environmental Representative (ER) to assist in dispute resolution of community complaints.

All complaints will be provided to the ER and a summary of complaints received, such as a complaints register, will be updated monthly on the project website.

1.8 Submission and approval

Prior to submission to DPIE, the BMP will be reviewed by the ER to ensure that the plan is consistent with the requirements of the Infrastructure Approval. A written statement to this effect will be prepared and submitted to DPIE. This review will be undertaken in accordance with condition A19 of the Infrastructure Approval.

The BMP will be submitted to DPIE for review and approval by the Planning Secretary prior to commencing Stage 1 construction.

Stage 1 of construction will not commence until the CEMP and all sub-plans required under condition B2 that are relevant to the stage have been approved by the Planning Secretary. The approved BMP will then be implemented for Stage 1 construction activities.

1.9 Periodic review

This BMP will be reviewed at least annually and updated if required, in accordance with Section 1.10 of the CEMP. Any updates to the BMP will be approved by the Environmental Representative or Planning Secretary as described in Section 1.10 of the CEMP.

2 Environmental requirements

2.1 Legislation

Legislation relevant to the management of biodiversity includes:

- *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act);
- *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016* (BC Act);
- *Biosecurity Act 2015*;
- *Fisheries Management Act 1994*; and
- *Local Land Services Act 2013*.

Relevant provisions of the above legislation are detailed within the register of legal and other requirements included in Appendix A1 of the CEMP. The legislation relevant to biodiversity is replicated in Appendix F of this BMP.

2.2 Conditions of Approval

The conditions of the Infrastructure Approval relevant to biodiversity are presented in Table 2.1. A cross reference is also included to indicate where the condition is addressed within this plan or other project management documents.

Table 2.1 - Conditions of Approval relevant to biodiversity

Condition no.	Requirement	Where addressed	How addressed						
B1	Prior to commencing construction, a Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) must be prepared to detail how the performance outcomes, commitments and mitigation measures specified in the EIS will be implemented and achieved during construction to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary.	Section 2.3 Section 5 The CEMP	The CEMP has been prepared and will be implemented during construction. The CEMP incorporates and responds to all relevant conditions of the Infrastructure Approval and RMMs identified in the EIS, Submissions Report, Amendment Report and Response to DPIE Request for Information. Section 2.3 and Section 5 of this BMP describe how the commitments of the EIS relevant to biodiversity will be implemented.						
B2	The following CEMP Sub-plans must be prepared in consultation with the relevant government agencies identified for each CEMP Sub-plan in Table 1. Table 1: CEMP Sub-plans <table><tr><th></th><th>Required CEMP Sub-plan</th><th>Relevant government agencies and stakeholders to be consulted for each CEMP Sub-plan</th></tr><tr><td>(c)</td><td>Biodiversity</td><td>BCS Council</td></tr></table>		Required CEMP Sub-plan	Relevant government agencies and stakeholders to be consulted for each CEMP Sub-plan	(c)	Biodiversity	BCS Council	Section 1.7	This BMP was provided to BCS and Wentworth Shire Council for consultation. The outcomes of consultation have been incorporated throughout the BMP.
	Required CEMP Sub-plan	Relevant government agencies and stakeholders to be consulted for each CEMP Sub-plan							
(c)	Biodiversity	BCS Council							

Condition no.	Requirement	Where addressed	How addressed
B3	Details of all information requested by an agency to be included in a CEMP Sub-plan as a result of consultation must be provided with the relevant CEMP Sub-Plan.	Section 1.7	This BMP has been developed in consultation with BCS and Wentworth Shire Council. Details of all consultation with BCS and Wentworth Shire Council will be submitted to DPIE along with the submission of this BMP.
B4	Any of the CEMP Sub-plans may be submitted along with, or subsequent to, the submission of the CEMP but in any event prior to commencing construction.	Section 1.8	This BMP will be submitted as a CEMP Sub-Plan to DPIE for review and approval by the Planning Secretary prior to commencing Stage 1 of construction.
B5	Construction must not commence until the CEMP and all CEMP Sub-plans have been approved by the Planning Secretary. The CEMP and CEMP Sub-plans, as approved by the Planning Secretary, must be implemented for the duration of construction. Where construction of the development is staged, construction of a stage must not commence until the CEMP and sub-plans for that stage have been approved by the Planning Secretary.	Section 1.8	Stage 1 of construction will not commence until the CEMP and all CEMP Sub-plans (including this BMP), or where staging is proposed and the plans required for that stage, have been approved by the Planning Secretary. The CEMP and CEMP Sub-plans (including this BMP) will be implemented for the duration of construction for Stage 1.
B6	The CEMP and CEMP Sub-plans required under this approval must be prepared by suitably qualified and experienced persons in accordance with relevant guidelines, and include where relevant:	Title page Section 1.6	This BMP has been jointly prepared by suitably qualified and experienced people and in accordance with relevant guidelines.
	a) a summary of relevant background or baseline data;	Section 3	The biodiversity values of the Stage 1 disturbance area is outlined in Section 3.
	b) details of: (i) the relevant statutory requirements (including any relevant approval or licence conditions);	Section 2 Appendix C	The relevant legislation, conditions, RMMs and guidelines applicable to biodiversity are outlined in Section 2. Appendix F provides further detail on the relevant legislation applicable to biodiversity.

Condition no.	Requirement	Where addressed	How addressed
	(ii) any relevant limits or performance measures and criteria; and	Section 1.5 Section 4.2 of the CEMP – Objectives and targets	The objectives (performance measures) and targets (criteria) relevant to biodiversity management are outlined in Section 1.5. The CEMP also provides project-wide environmental objectives (performance measures) and targets (criteria).
	(iii) the specific performance indicators that are proposed to be used to judge the performance of, or guide the implementation of, the development or any management measures;	Section 1.5 Section 4.2 of the CEMP – Objectives and targets	The performance indicators relevant to biodiversity management are outlined in Section 1.5 of this BMP. The CEMP also provides project-wide performance indicators.
	c) any relevant commitments or recommendations identified in the EIS;	Section 2.3	Relevant biodiversity commitments and recommendations identified in the EIS, known as RMMs, have been outlined in Section 2.3.
	d) a description of the measures to be implemented to comply with the relevant statutory requirements, limits, or performance measures and criteria;	Section 5	Specific biodiversity related safeguards and management measures to address potential impacts associated with Stage 1 of construction and comply with the relevant statutory requirements, limits and performance measures are outlined in Section 5, and Appendix A to Appendix D.
	e) a program to monitor and report on the:		
	(i) impacts and environmental performance of the development (including a table summarising all the monitoring and reporting obligations under the conditions of this approval); and	Section 6, including: Section 6.3 Section 6.4 Section 6.5 Section 6.6 Table 6.1 and Table 6.2	Monitoring, inspections, auditing and reporting is outlined in Section 6.3 to 6.6 of this BMP.
	(ii) effectiveness of the management measures set out pursuant to paragraph d);	Section 6.8	Monitoring of the effectiveness of the management measures is outlined in Section 6.

Condition no.	Requirement	Where addressed	How addressed
	f) a contingency plan to manage any unpredicted impacts and their consequences and to ensure that ongoing impacts reduce to levels below relevant impact assessment criteria as quickly as possible;	Section 6 Appendix A Section 8 of the CEMP – Incidents and emergencies Section 10 of the CEMP – Reporting Section 11 of the CEMP – Non-conformances, corrective and preventative action	Section 6.8 outlines a contingency plan in the event that unpredicted impacts are identified. In the event of the discovery of any unexpected threatened species find, the Unexpected Threatened Species Finds Procedure (Appendix A) will be followed. The CEMP also provides additional detail regarding incidents and emergencies, reporting, non-compliance, non-conformance, corrective and preventative actions.
	g) a program to investigate and implement ways to improve the environmental performance of the development over time;	Section 1.9 Section 6 Section 1.9 of the CEMP – Continuous improvement	Section 6 of this BMP outlines procedures for compliance management, including details for monitoring, inspections, auditing and reporting. This BMP will reviewed at least annually as described in Section 1.9 of this BMP and Section 1.9 of the CEMP. The Plan-Do-Check-Act model will be applied to the continuous improvement process, also outlined in Section 1.9 of the CEMP.
	h) a protocol for managing and reporting any: (i) incident, non-compliance or exceedance of any impact assessment criterion and performance criterion;	Section 6.7 Section 6.8 Section 8 of the CEMP – Incidents and emergencies Section 10 of the CEMP – Reporting Section 11 of the CEMP – Non-compliance, non-conformance, corrective and preventative action	Section 6.7 and 6.8 describes the procedures for emergencies, incidents and non-compliances, including those related to biodiversity. Additional detail for managing incidents and emergencies, non-compliances and non-conformances is included in the CEMP. The protocol for reporting of any incidents, non-compliances or non-conformances is included in Section 10 of the CEMP.

Condition no.	Requirement	Where addressed	How addressed
	(ii) complaint; or	Section 1.7.3 Community Communication Strategy Section 7.2 of the CEMP – Complaints management	A summary of the complaints management procedure and reporting of complaints is included in Section 1.7.3 of this BMP. The procedure for managing and reporting any complaints is described in the <i>Enquiries, Complaint and Dispute Resolution Management Procedure</i> provided in the CCS. The procedure includes a complaints management process which outlines how SecureEnergy will respond to complaints related to the project.
	(iii) failure to comply with other statutory requirements;	Section 6.7 Section 8 of the CEMP – Incidents and emergencies Section 10 of the CEMP – Reporting Section 11 of the CEMP – Non-compliance, non-conformance, corrective and preventative action	In the event of failure to comply with statutory requirements, the procedures summarised in Section 6.7 of this BMP and described in more detail in the CEMP would be followed
	i) set out the procedures that would be implemented to: (i) keep the local community and relevant agencies informed about the construction and environmental performance of the development;	Section 1.7.2 Community Communication Strategy	The local community and relevant agencies will be kept informed of construction progress and environmental performance through communication tools such as notifications, the project's mobile van and the project website as summarised in Section 1.7.2 of this BMP. Detailed information regarding project communication is found in the CCS.

Condition no.	Requirement	Where addressed	How addressed
	(ii) receive, handle, respond to, and record complaints;	Section 1.7.3 Community Communication Strategy	Section 1.7.3 of this BMP summarises the complaints management system, which includes a process to manage complaints including receiving, recording, tracking and responding to complaints within a defined timeframe. The complaints management system is described in detail in the CCS.
	(iii) resolve any disputes that may arise;	Community Communication Strategy Section 7.2 of the CEMP – Complaints management	Section 1.7.3 of this BMP describes dispute resolution, which is described in detail in the CCS. Wherever possible, complaints will be resolved directly between SecureEnergy and the stakeholder.
	(iv) respond to any non-compliance;	Section 6.7 Section 10.1 of the CEMP – Reporting non-compliances Section 11 of the CEMP – Non-compliance, non-conformance, corrective and preventative action	Section 6.7 of this BMP outlines that where a non-compliance has been identified, corrective actions will be developed as required and implemented to address the non-conformance that occurred (as described in more detail in the CEMP). Reporting of non-compliances will be undertaken as described in the CEMP.
	(v) respond to emergencies; and	Section 6.7 Section 8.1 of the CEMP – Emergency preparedness and emergency response	Emergency management and planning including environmental emergencies related to biodiversity will be undertaken in accordance with the Clough management system and relevant procedures as described in Section 6.7 of this BMP. Additional detail regarding emergency management is described in the CEMP.

Condition no.	Requirement	Where addressed	How addressed
	j) a description of the roles and environmental responsibilities, authority and accountability for all relevant employees, as well as training and awareness; and	Table 5.2 Section 6.1 Section 6.2 Section 4.9 of the CEMP – Roles and responsibilities	Section 6.2 identifies that SecureEnergy's organisational structure and overall roles and responsibilities are outlined in the CEMP. Specific responsibilities for the implementation of mitigation measures are detailed in Table 5.2 of this BMP. Training and awareness for all site personnel is outlined in Section 6.1.
	k) a protocol for periodic review of the CEMP and associated subplans and programs.	Section 1.9 Section 1.10 of the CEMP – Updating the CEMP	This BMP will be reviewed at least annually in accordance with the CEMP.
	<i>The Planning Secretary may waive some of these requirements if they are unnecessary or unwarranted for particular management plans.</i>	Noted	Noted
Restrictions on clearing and habitat			
D25	Unless otherwise agreed with the Planning Secretary, the Proponent must: a) ensure that no more than: 19.6 hectares (ha) of BC Act listed Sandhill Pine Woodland in the Riverina, Murray-Darling Depression and NSW Southwestern Slopes bioregions; 0.04 ha of habitat for BC Act listed flora species <i>Acacia acanthoclada</i> (Harrow Wattle); 0.32 ha of habitat for BC Act and EPBC Act listed flora species <i>Atriplex infrequens</i> (A saltbush); 1.51 ha of habitat for BC Act listed flora species <i>Austrostipa nullanulla</i> (A spear-grass); 14 individuals of BC Act listed <i>Santalum murrayanum</i> (Bitter Quandong); and 6.91 ha of habitat for BC Act and EPBC Act listed fauna species <i>Polytelis anthopeplus monarchoides</i> (Regent Parrot) (eastern subspecies). is cleared for the development; and b) minimise: - the impacts of the development on hollow-bearing trees; - the impacts of the development on threatened bird and bat populations; and - the clearing of native vegetation and key habitat.	Table 5.2 – BD3 and BD4 Section 6.3 Section 6.6 Appendix B - Pre-clearing and Clearing Procedure	The mitigation measures identified within Section 5 will be implemented to ensure that clearing for the development minimises impacts to hollow-bearing trees, threatened bird and bat populations, the clearing of native vegetation and key habitat. Clearing will be managed in accordance with the Preclearing and Clearing Procedure located within Appendix B. Progressive monitoring of the clearing quantities will occur to ensure that harm will not exceed the limits prescribed in D25a). Monitoring, inspections and auditing described in Section 6 of this BMP will check the implementation and effectiveness of the management measures identified in Section 5.

Condition no.	Requirement	Where addressed	How addressed
Biodiversity Offset Package			
D26	Prior to carrying out any development that would impact on biodiversity values, the Proponent must prepare a Biodiversity Offset Package (Package) that is consistent with the EIS, in consultation with BCS and to the satisfaction of the Secretary in writing. The Package must include, but not necessarily be limited to:	Section 5.4 Biodiversity Offset Package	Transgrid will prepare a Biodiversity Offset Package prior to development in consultation with BCS and to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary. Information relating to the offset package is provided in Section 5.4.
	a) details of the specific biodiversity offset measures to be implemented and delivered in accordance with the EIS;	Section 5.4 Biodiversity Offset Package	The Biodiversity Offset Package will include specific offset measures which are to be implemented.
	b) the cost for each specific biodiversity offset measure, which would be required to be paid into the Biodiversity Conservation Fund if the relevant measure is not implemented and delivered (as calculated in accordance with Division 6 of the Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 (NSW) and the offsets payment calculator that was established as at 29 July 2021);	Section 5.4 Biodiversity Offset Package	The Biodiversity Offset Package will include the cost for each specific measure which will be required to be paid if the measure is not implemented.
	c) the timing and responsibilities for the implementation and delivery of the measures required in the Package; and	Section 5.4 Biodiversity Offset Package	The timing and responsibilities for implementation of the measures will be included in the Package.
	d) confirmation that the biodiversity offset measures will have been implemented and delivered no later than 31 December 2023.	Section 5.4 Biodiversity Offset Package	The Package will confirm that measures will be implemented by 31 December 2023.
	Following approval, the Proponent must implement and deliver the Biodiversity Offset Package.	Section 5.4 Biodiversity Offset Package	The Package will be implemented following approval.
D27	Prior to carrying out any development that could impact the biodiversity values requiring offset, the Proponent must establish an escrow account and pay into that account \$48 million, in accordance with the Deed of Agreement with the Planning Secretary executed on 13 September 2021. The Proponent must comply with the terms of the Deed. <i>Note: this condition provides security to the Minister for the performance of the Proponent's obligations under this approval in relation to biodiversity offsets and release funds for payment into the Biodiversity Conservation Trust in the event that the biodiversity offsets (either in whole or part) are not delivered in accordance with the Package by the Proponent.</i>	N/A	Transgrid will establish an escrow account prior to development.

Condition no.	Requirement	Where addressed	How addressed
Biodiversity CEMP Sub-Plan			
D28	The Biodiversity CEMP Sub-Plan required under condition B2 must include: a) a description of the measures that would be implemented for: minimising the amount of native vegetation clearing within the approved development footprint;	Table 5.2 – BD3, BD4, BD5, BD6, BD7 Appendix B - Pre-clearing and Clearing Procedure	The BMP includes measures that would be implemented within Section 5, Section 6 and the Appendices. Vegetation clearing will be minimised through ongoing review of detailed design, construction methodologies and construction impacts to determine opportunities to minimise clearing.
	minimising the loss of key fauna habitat, including tree hollows;	Section 5.2 Table 5.2 – BD3, BD14 Appendix B - Pre-clearing and Clearing Procedure	Impacts to key fauna habitat and tree hollows will be minimised where possible through review of detailed design and temporary design (ie access tracks and laydown locations).
	minimising the impacts on fauna on site, including undertaking pre-clearance surveys;	Section 5.1 Table 5.2 – BD6, BD7 Appendix B - Pre-clearing and Clearing Procedure Appendix C – Fauna Handling Procedure	Pre-clearing surveys will include inspections for fauna prior to clearing. Identified fauna will be relocated into adjacent suitable habitat. This process is identified within the Pre-clearing and Clearing Procedure in Appendix A and the Fauna Handling Procedure in Appendix C.
	minimising the potential indirect impacts on threatened flora and fauna species, migratory species and 'at risk' species;	Table 5.2 – BD12, BD13, BD14, BD16, BD18, BD19, BD20, BD21	For Stage 1, indirect impacts to threatened fauna and flora species, migratory species and 'at risk' species may include for example, soil and water runoff impacting the adjoining threatened ecological community (PCT 21 – Slender Cypress Pine). Measures have been incorporated within Table 5.2 in relation to erosion and sedimentation management.
	rehabilitating and revegetating disturbance areas;	Section 5.7 Soil and Water Management Plan	There will be no, or limited, rehabilitation done as part of the Stage 1 works. Progressive rehabilitation of the Stage 1 earthworks material site may occur as areas are no longer required. Further detail is provided within Section 5.7.

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Condition no.	Requirement	Where addressed	How addressed
	protecting native vegetation and key fauna habitat outside the approved disturbance area;	Section 5.1 Section 5.3 Table 5.2 – BD7 Appendix B - Pre-clearing and Clearing Procedure	Vegetation and key fauna habitat located outside of the Stage 1 disturbance area will be delineated and identified in accordance with the Pre-clearing and Clearing Procedure within Appendix B and the measures within Section 5.1, 5.3 and Table 5.2.
	maximising the salvage of resources within the approved disturbance area – including vegetative and soil resources – for beneficial reuse (such as fauna habitat enhancement) during the rehabilitation and revegetation of the site;	Table 5.2 – BD10 Section 5.7 Appendix B - Pre-clearing and Clearing Procedure Soil and Water Management Plan	The salvage of resources is included within Table 5.2 and Section 5.7 Rehabilitation.
	collecting and propagating seed (where relevant);	Table 5.2 – BD15	The ecologist will determine if it is relevant to collect seed. This requirement is incorporated within Table 5.2 and Appendix B – Pre-clearing and Clearing Procedure.
	controlling weed;	Appendix D	The Biosecurity Management Plan is included within Appendix D. This includes measures to control the spread of weeds.
	controlling erosion; and	Table 5.2 – BD18, BD19, BD20, BD21 Soil and Water Management Plan	Table 5.2 includes measures for controlling erosion. The Soil and Water Management Plan has also been prepared for Stage 1 to control and minimise erosion and sedimentation impacts.
	bushfire management;	Table 5.2 – BD22, BD23, BD24 Emergency Plan	Table 5.2 includes measures for bushfire management. The Emergency Plan has also been prepared to prevent and mitigate the potential for fires, including bushfire.
	b) details of the Proponent's commitment to make a one off \$150,000 funding contribution targeted at further scientific study into the impacts of electric and magnetic fields on birds in Australia;	N/A	Transgrid will make a one off \$150,000 funding contribution targeted at further scientific study into the impact of electric and magnetic fields on birds in Australia at the commencement of operations.

Condition no.	Requirement	Where addressed	How addressed
	c) preparation and implementation of a two year bird impact monitoring program at the commencement of operations; and	N/A	Transgrid will prepare and implement a two year bird monitoring program at the commencement of operations
	d) a detailed program to monitor and report on the effectiveness of these measures.	Section 6.3 Section 6.4 Section 6.5 Section 6.6 Section 6.8	Monitoring and reporting on the effectiveness of these measures will be undertaken in accordance with Section 6.3 to Section 6.6, and Section 6.8. This will include pre-clearing inspections, clearing inspections, weekly inspections, auditing and reporting. Inspections will assess the effectiveness of the measures being implemented to meet the requirements of the BMP. Monitoring and reporting will focus on clearing monitoring and reporting to track the spatial extent of clearing and inform any final biodiversity offset requirements.

Rehabilitation

D54	Within 6 months of the completion of construction, upgrading or decommissioning, unless the Planning Secretary agrees otherwise, the Proponent must rehabilitate the areas where ancillary facilities, accommodation camps and earthwork material sites are located, to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary. This rehabilitation must comply with the objectives in Table 3. Table 3: Rehabilitation objectives <table><tr><th>Feature</th><th>Objective</th></tr><tr><td>Ancillary facilities, accommodation camps, earthwork material sites, the existing 220 kV transmission line between Buronga substation and the NSW / Victoria border (Line 0X1), and the temporary bypass transmission line between Tower 1 and Tower 19 of existing transmission line 0X1.</td><td> • Safe, stable and non-polluting • Progressively rehabilitate the site as soon as possible following disturbance • To be decommissioned and removed, unless the Planning Secretary agrees otherwise </td></tr><tr><td>Land use</td><td> • Restore land capability to pre-existing use </td></tr><tr><td>Community</td><td> • Ensure public safety at all times </td></tr></table>	Feature	Objective	Ancillary facilities, accommodation camps, earthwork material sites, the existing 220 kV transmission line between Buronga substation and the NSW / Victoria border (Line 0X1), and the temporary bypass transmission line between Tower 1 and Tower 19 of existing transmission line 0X1.	• Safe, stable and non-polluting • Progressively rehabilitate the site as soon as possible following disturbance • To be decommissioned and removed, unless the Planning Secretary agrees otherwise	Land use	• Restore land capability to pre-existing use	Community	• Ensure public safety at all times	Section 5.7	There would be no rehabilitation proposed for the Stage 1 disturbance area. Progressive temporary rehabilitation would be proposed if areas of the earthworks material site are no longer required. Progressive rehabilitation would be carried out in accordance with progressive erosion and sediment control plans (to provide safe, stable and non-polluting areas), with progressive rehabilitation occurring as soon as possible following disturbance.
Feature	Objective										
Ancillary facilities, accommodation camps, earthwork material sites, the existing 220 kV transmission line between Buronga substation and the NSW / Victoria border (Line 0X1), and the temporary bypass transmission line between Tower 1 and Tower 19 of existing transmission line 0X1.	• Safe, stable and non-polluting • Progressively rehabilitate the site as soon as possible following disturbance • To be decommissioned and removed, unless the Planning Secretary agrees otherwise										
Land use	• Restore land capability to pre-existing use										
Community	• Ensure public safety at all times										

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2.3 Revised mitigation measures

The revised mitigation measures (RMMs) are defined in Appendix G of the Response to DPIE Request for Information. The RMMs relevant to biodiversity are detailed in Table 2.2 below.

A cross reference is also included to indicate where the measure is addressed within this plan or other project management documents. The management measures that will be implemented for the project are provided in Section 5 of this plan.

Table 2.2 - Revised mitigation measures relevant to biodiversity

Reference	Revised mitigation measures	Application location(s)	Where addressed	How addressed
B1	Impacts to matters of biodiversity conservation significance will be avoided to the greatest extent practicable during finalisation of the detailed design and construction methodology for the project. Micro-siting of the transmission line infrastructure and associated construction working areas and other areas of disturbance will occur to avoid impacts wherever practicable. Site features with the highest biodiversity conservation significance, in particular, threatened species recorded and their habitat, including <i>Acacia acanthoclada</i> , <i>Atriplex frequens</i> , <i>Austrostipa nullanulla</i> , <i>Dodonaea stenozyga</i> and <i>Santalum murrayanum</i> , will be given the highest priority.	All locations	Table 5.2 – BD3, BD4, BD5, BD6, BD7, BD9, BD11, BD12 Appendix B - Pre-clearing and Clearing Procedure Appendix C – Fauna Handling Procedure Appendix E – Biodiversity mapping	During detailed design and review of temporary design, opportunities to site items in locations where impacts to matters of biodiversity conservation significance are reduced, will occur. There is limited opportunity for the Stage 1 disturbance area as the full extent of the nominated disturbance area is required. Further opportunities will be reviewed in subsequent stages of the project.
B2	Where vegetation disturbance activities are required in areas that have not previously been subject to biodiversity survey, additional survey will be carried out prior to works occurring to inform detailed design and construction methodology. These surveys will be carried out by a suitably qualified ecologist.	All locations	N/A	Not applicable to Stage 1 works. All of the Stage 1 work areas have been subject to biodiversity survey and assessment accordingly to the BAM, as per this requirement.
B3	Opportunities to locate site offices, compounds and ancillary facilities in areas of limited biodiversity value (e.g. cleared land or areas of native vegetation with vegetation integrity scores of less than 17 (in accordance with the NSW Government Biodiversity Assessment Method Operational Manual) will be prioritised.	All locations	Table 5.2 – BD2	The earthworks material site will be required to impact threatened ecological community to enable earthworks material to be won or obtained for the substation foundation. This impact is approved as part of the Infrastructure Approval and the loss of biodiversity values will be offset. The site office and construction compound are located in an area of limited biodiversity value. Further opportunities will be reviewed in subsequent stages of the project.
B4	Existing tracks and clearings will be used, where possible, to avoid the construction of new tracks. Where this is not possible, the design will seek to	Transmission line corridor	N/A	Not applicable to Stage 1 works. The existing tracks proposed to be used are

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Reference	Revised mitigation measures	Application location(s)	Where addressed	How addressed
	minimise impacts to native vegetation as a priority.			located along the transmission line corridor.
B5	Transmission line structures will be located and constructed to minimise impact to vegetated riparian corridors, wherever practicable.	Transmission line corridor within the riparian zone as defined by "Guidelines for riparian corridors on waterfront land" (DPI – Office of Water, July 2012) of Great Darling Anabranche, Darling River and/or Murray River	N/A	Not applicable to Stage 1 works. There are no riparian zones in the Stage 1 disturbance area.
B6	Conductor line-marking techniques will be implemented during detailed design to minimise bird strike. Use of bird diverters, most likely consisting of the "flapper" variety, will be implemented. Positioning and exact diverter model will be finalised during detailed design but at minimum these will be used within one kilometre of wetland / riverine habitats to reduce impacts on aerial fauna species from collision and allow safer passage within these areas.	Transmission line corridor – within one kilometre of wetland / riverine habitats (i.e. Great Darling Anabranche, Darling River and Murray River)	N/A	Not applicable to Stage 1 works. There are no riparian zones in the Stage 1 disturbance area.
B7	TransGrid will establish a series of 20-metre-wide connectivity corridors near tower locations that occur in woodland vegetation. These would occur at strategic locations that would be developed as part of a Connectivity Strategy under the Biodiversity Management Plan. These connectivity corridors will involve native vegetation retention up to the 10-metre-wide temporary construction centreline clearing zone to better facilitate woodland connectivity.	All locations	N/A	Not applicable to Stage 1 works. This requirement is applicable to the transmission line easement. A Connectivity Strategy will be provided in further revisions of the BMP.
B8	A two year monitoring program following the completion of construction will be implemented to better understand interactions of bird species with the transmission lines and towers. Problematic interactions identified during the program would be considered and options for addressing them implemented as practicable. Options that would be considered include nesting deterrents in high risk areas, installation of alternative nest habitat, relocation of nests or their deconstruction in certain circumstances.	Transmission line – within one kilometre of wetland / riverine habitats (i.e. Great Darling Anabranche, Darling River and Murray River)	N/A	Not applicable to Stage 1 works This is applicable to the operation phase only.

Reference	Revised mitigation measures	Application location(s)	Where addressed	How addressed
B9	TransGrid will make a one off funding contribution targeted at further scientific study into the impacts of electric and magnetic fields on birds in Australia.	Not applicable	N/A	Not applicable to Stage 1 works This RMM is applicable 'Prior to the completion of construction'.
B10	Nest boxes will be provided to offset the loss of tree hollow fauna habitat in accordance with a Supplementary Hollow and Nest Strategy. The strategy will include the following requirements: - survey of tree hollows and nests within the proposed clearing extents - the size, type, number and location of nest boxes required will be based on the results of the ecological surveys - appropriately sized nest boxes will be installed within the vicinity of hollow-bearing trees (subject to landholder agreement and suitable existing trees being present) no more than two weeks prior to clearing of the tree - all nest boxes in a particular location will be installed within 6 months after clearing "nest boxes" will include consideration of natural tree hollow re-use and new tree hollow creation - measures to address and manage nests (such as raptor nests) pre-clearing will be included.	All locations where hollow bearing trees are being removed	Section 5.2 Table 5.2 - BD3, BD13	The presence of tree hollow habitat with the Stage 1 disturbance area will be confirmed during pre-clearing surveys (Section 5.1 and Appendix B). If present, a Supplementary Hollow and Nest Strategy will be prepared and will include the requirements of RMM B10. Detail relating to the Supplementary Hollow and Nest Strategy is included in Section 5.2. Any nest boxes required for Stage 1 will be installed within the vicinity of hollow-bearing trees no more than two weeks prior to clearing of the tree and within 6 months after clearing in a particular location.
B11	Pre-clearing surveys will be completed prior to clearing at each location by a suitability qualified ecologist. The proposed clearing extents will be marked out on site prior to the pre-clearing surveys. During the surveys, the ecologist will: - survey the proposed clearing extent - identify any fauna that will require relocation prior to clearing - confirm the location and mark out the extents of any biodiversity exclusion zones - confirm that hollow-bearing trees within and adjacent to the clearing extents are prominently marked/tagged - confirm that nest boxes are in place (where required) in suitable locations adjacent to areas to be cleared, or suitable	All locations	Section 5.1 Table 5.2 – BD10 Appendix B - Pre-clearing and Clearing Procedure	Pre-clearing surveys will be undertaken in accordance with the Pre-clearing and Clearing Procedure located within Appendix B and the requirements listed within Section 5.1. Pre-clearing surveys will be undertaken by the project ecologist in accordance with the requirement of RMM B11. These requirements are listed within Appendix B.

Reference	Revised mitigation measures	Application location(s)	Where addressed	How addressed
	locations for installation have been identified.			
B12	The results of the pre-clearing surveys will be used to update and confirm the accuracy of sensitive area maps.	All locations	Section 5.1 Table 5.2 – BD5 Appendix B - Pre-clearing and Clearing Procedure	The Pre-clearing and Clearing Procedure includes the requirement to update any sensitive area maps (as required based on findings).
B13	Biodiversity exclusion zones for retained vegetation, including identified threatened flora populations will be clearly identified by a suitably qualified ecologist prior to the commencement of clearing or any site activity that could damage the vegetation within the exclusion zone. Biodiversity exclusion zones will be physically marked and demarcated, and included on sensitive area maps, prior to clearing.	All locations	Section 5.1 Section 5.3 Table 5.2 – BD7 Appendix B - Pre-clearing and Clearing Procedure	The Pre-clearing and Clearing Procedure includes the requirement for the ecologist to identify biodiversity exclusion zones. The ecologists' tasks and responsibilities are also identified within Table 5.2.
B14	Training on biodiversity management practices and the requirements for the project will be provided to all relevant project personnel, including relevant subcontractors, through inductions, toolbox talks and targeted training. Construction workforce will be supplied with sensitive area maps (showing clearing boundaries and exclusion zones), including updates as required.	All locations	Table 5.2 – BD1, BD5 Section 6.1 Section 4.5 of the CEMP Appendix B - Pre-clearing and Clearing Procedure	Training will be carried out by the site inductions, toolbox trainings and targeted training. Table 5.2 and Section 6.1 provides information in relation to the training and awareness that will be provided to all site personnel. Sensitive area maps for the relevant works locations will be covered in the training and provided to the construction workforce (Section 5.1).
B15	Clearing of native vegetation will be monitored to confirm actual impacts to biodiversity values to inform any final biodiversity offset requirements within the biodiversity offset package. The final offset requirements will be informed by a BAMC calculation on the recorded clearing. Any additional credit liability identified by this calculation will be met.	All locations	Section 5.3 Table 5.2 – BD25 Section 6.3 Section 6.6	Monitoring of native vegetation which is cleared will occur in accordance with the requirements detailed within Section 5.3 and the reporting requirements included within Section 6.6. This will include the reporting of information relating to the type of clearing (eg Disturbance Area A) and the spatial extent of each PCT, TEC and threatened flora.
B16	Shrub or ground stratum native vegetation within vegetated riparian zones (within the definition of <i>Water Management Act 2000</i>) of the Great Darling Anabranch, Darling River and/or Murray River (and other defined riparian areas) will be protected to the greatest extent practicable, with vegetation clearing	Transmission line within the riparian zone as defined by "Guidelines for riparian corridors on waterfront land" (DPI – Office of	N/A	Not applicable to Stage 1 works. There are no riparian zones in the Stage 1 disturbance area.

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Reference	Revised mitigation measures	Application location(s)	Where addressed	How addressed
	ideally limited to the tree stratum only, with trunk bases being retained in-situ.	Water, July 2012) of Great Darling Anabran, Darling River and/or Murray River		
B17	Activities within vegetated riparian zones will be managed to minimise impacts to aquatic environments. Riparian areas subject to disturbance will be progressively stabilised and rehabilitated.	Transmission line within the riparian zone as defined by "Guidelines for riparian corridors on waterfront land" (DPI – Office of Water, July 2012) of Great Darling Anabran, Darling River and/or Murray River	N/A	Not applicable to Stage 1 works. There are no riparian zones in the Stage 1 disturbance area.
B18	A species unexpected finds protocol will be implemented if threatened ecological communities, flora and fauna species, not assessed in the biodiversity assessment, are identified in the disturbance area.	All locations	Appendix A – Unexpected Threatened Species Finds Procedure Table 5.2 – BD12	If an unexpected threatened species is discovered, the Unexpected Threatened Species Finds Procedure will be followed.
B19	TransGrid will maintain vegetation for the project in accordance with commitments in the EIS, as amended in the Amendment Report. Vegetation maintenance protocols will be developed accordingly prior to the commencement of any vegetation maintenance activities within the easement and implemented during the operational phase of the project. The vegetation maintenance protocols will identify and address the biodiversity exclusion zones identified in the construction phase and the areas within the maintenance zone where the vegetation is not of a height/growth form that will ever require management. Relevant TransGrid operational personnel and associated vegetation maintenance contractors will receive in training in the vegetation maintenance protocols prior to the commencement of any vegetation maintenance.	All locations	N/A	Not applicable to Stage 1 works. This is applicable to the operation phase only.
B20	TransGrid will retire the total quantum of the project's biodiversity offset credit liability confirmed in accordance with the Biodiversity Assessment Method. TransGrid will develop a Biodiversity Offset Package that	All locations	Transgrid	Prior to the commencement of development that would impact on any biodiversity values, a Biodiversity Offset Package will be

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Reference	Revised mitigation measures	Application location(s)	Where addressed	How addressed
	identifies measures to address the project's offset obligations and the timing and responsibility for implementation. Before commencing any project activities that impact biodiversity values, TransGrid will: - confirm the Biodiversity Offset Package with the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment, and - provide security to the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces for a Biodiversity Conservation Fund payment to cover any outstanding offset credit liability if the package is not implemented.			prepared by Transgrid for the project. The Biodiversity Offset Package will be prepared in consultation with BCS and to the satisfaction of the Secretary. Transgrid has already provided security to the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces (in the form of an escrow account – refer to Condition D27) for a Biodiversity Conservation Fund payment to cover any outstanding offset credit liability if the package is not implemented.
Land use and property				
LP7	Biosecurity controls will be implemented during construction to minimise the risk of off-site transport or spread of disease, pests or weeds. Controls will include (but not limited to): - inspections and cleaning of vehicles, machinery, and personnel equipment prior to movement on and off the construction work areas or between properties - minimising movements across adjoining farmland including trip numbers and locations - additional measures where localised areas of high biosecurity risks have been identified. The specific controls applicable to a property will be identified in consultation with the affected landholder. The effectiveness of these controls will be regularly monitored.	All locations	Table 5.2 – BD16 Appendix D - Biosecurity Management Plan	Appendix D provides a Biosecurity Management Plan which will be implemented to minimise the risk of off-site transport or spread of disease, pests or weeds. The Biosecurity Management Plan includes an inspection checklist for vehicles and equipment. Information from Property Management Plans and consultation with landowners will be used to identify specific controls applicable to a property.
LP8	Where present, weeds will be managed in consultation with Western Local Land Services (LLS), Wentworth Shire Council and NSW Department of Primary Industries.	All locations	Table 5.2 – BD16 Appendix D - Biosecurity Management Plan	Consultation with Western LLS, Wentworth Shire Council and Department of Primary Industries will occur where weeds are present. Wentworth Shire Council will review the Biosecurity Management Plan as part of this BMP review.
LP9	In the event of new infestations of notifiable weeds as a result of construction activities, the relevant control authority will be notified as per <i>Biosecurity Act 2015</i> and <i>Biosecurity Regulation 2017</i> .	All locations	Table 5.2 – BD17 Appendix D - Biosecurity Management Plan	Notification processes are included within the Biosecurity Management Plan.

Reference	Revised mitigation measures	Application location(s)	Where addressed	How addressed
Landscape and visual amenity				
LV1	Opportunities for the retention and protection of existing trees within the disturbance area will be identified during detailed construction planning. Trees that do not pose any risk to the safe operation of the transmission infrastructure will be retained where practicable.	Whole of proposal	N/A	Not applicable to Stage 1. There will likely be limited opportunities for tree retention for Stage 1 as the area is required as an earthworks material site, camp and compound.
LV2	Temporary and permanent access will be designed to minimise vegetation removal, changes to landform, and visual impacts.	Whole of proposal	N/A	Not applicable to Stage 1. Access within the earthworks material site, substation, accommodation camp and construction compound will require clearing of vegetation. There is considered to be limited opportunity for access to be designed to minimise impacts for the Stage 1 disturbance area, as the access tracks will be located within the earthworks material area and within the construction compound and accommodation camp.
LV7	The Tree Protection Zone (as defined in AS4970-2009 Protection of Trees on Development Sites) of retained trees within or immediately adjacent to the disturbance area will be protected through the restriction of construction activities (refer Section 4.2 of AS4970-2009), to minimise the impact of the works on the long term health of these trees.	Whole of proposal	Table 5.2 – BD12	Where tree protection zones can be protected on the boundary of Disturbance Area A, they will be. This measure is included within Table 5.2.

2.4 Permits and licences

Due to the potential for impacts on Matters of National Environmental Significance (MNES), a referral (EPBC 2020/8673) was prepared and lodged with the Commonwealth Department of Agriculture, Water and Environment under the EPBC Act. The Commonwealth Minister's delegate determined on 25 June 2020 that the proposed action is a "controlled action" under the EPBC Act.

A Scientific Licence under Part 2 of the BC Act (including Animal Ethics Approval under the *Animal Research Act 1985*) is required for fauna handling/rescue and survey work. Where rescued fauna requires rehabilitation and care, only wildlife rehabilitation organisations authorised under Part 2 of the BC Act may be used.

As this project has been designated CSSI and assessed under Part 5 of the EP&A Act, permits relating to fish passage are not required.

2.5 Guidelines

The main guidelines, specifications, and policy documents relevant to this plan include:

- NSW *Biodiversity Assessment Method 2017* (BAM).

Transgrid has assessed the project's potential impacts to biodiversity values in accordance with the Biodiversity Assessment Method. The final biodiversity credit liability will be confirmed in accordance with the Biodiversity Assessment Method.

3 Existing environment

The following section summarises the existing biodiversity within and adjacent to Stage 1 of the project including species, communities and habitats based. The key reference documents include:

- Section 9.3 of the EIS; and
- the Final BDAR.

3.1 Vegetation communities

Stage 1 of the project occurs in the Murray Darling Depression region and within the South Olary Plain subregion.

There are four main habitat types within the project area. Stage 1 is categorised as predominantly Arid Woodland / Shrublands habitat, which is associated with arid interior areas. The mallee is dominated by spinifex or chenopod understorey and is typically modified from agricultural or grazing use.

The native vegetation and plant community types (PCTs) identified within the disturbance area of Stage 1 includes:

- PCT 15 – Black Box open woodland wetland with chenopod understorey mainly on the outer floodplains in south-western NSW (mainly Riverina Bioregion and Murray Darling Depression Bioregion);
- PCT 21 – Slender Cypress Pine – Sugarwood – Western Rosewood open woodland on sandy rises mainly in the Riverina Bioregion and Murray Darling Depression Bioregion;
- PCT 58 – Black Oak – Western Rosewood open woodland on deep sandy loams mainly in the Murray Darling Depression Bioregion;
- PCT 170 – Chenopod sandplain mallee woodland/shrubland of the arid and semi-arid (warm) zones; and
- PCT 171 – Spinifex linear dune mallee mainly of the Murray Darling Depression Bioregion.

Mapping of the PCTs within and adjacent to the Stage 1 area is indicated within Figure 3.1.

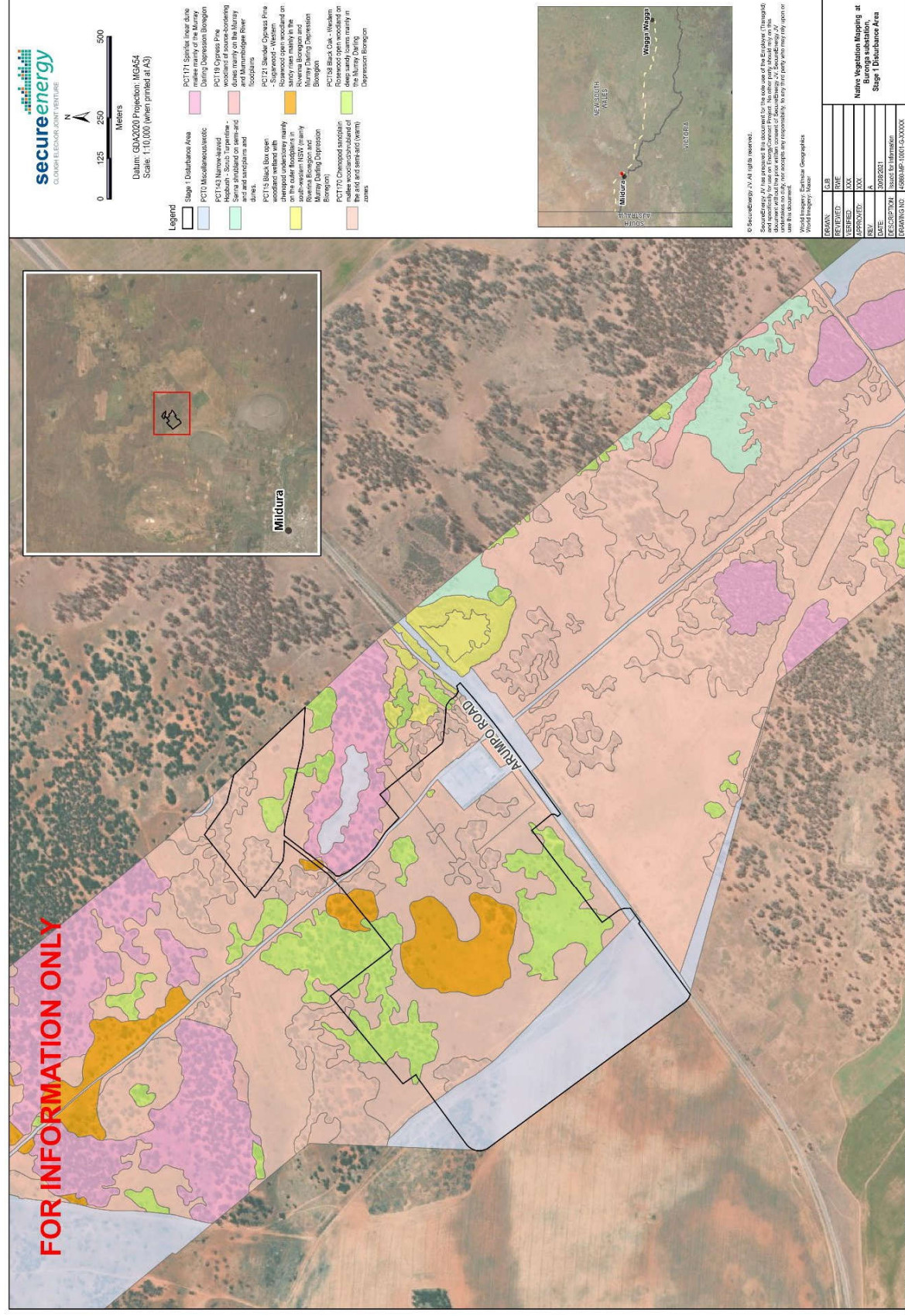


Figure 3.1 - Native vegetation and BC Act threatened ecological community

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3.2 Threatened ecological communities

A total of four candidate threatened ecological communities listed under the BC Act were considered to have the potential to occur within the project study area of EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section).

Of these four candidate communities, only Sandhill Pine Woodland in the Riverina, Murray Darling Depression and NSW South Western Slopes bioregions (Sandhill Pine Woodland) was recorded. This community is listed as endangered under the BC Act. Sandhill Pine Woodland is not listed under the EPBC Act.

Two PCTs confirmed within the project study area are considered likely to be associated with this threatened ecological community. These are:

- PCT 19 – Cypress Pine woodland of source-bordering dunes mainly on the Murray and Murrumbidgee River floodplains; and
- PCT 21 – Slender Cypress Pine – Sugarwood – Western Rosewood open woodland on sandy rises mainly in the Riverina Bioregion and Murray Darling Depression Bioregion.

PCT 21 - Slender Cypress Pine is located within the disturbance area of the Stage 1 works at the Buronga substation area. Refer to Figure 3.1 for mapping of this threatened ecological community within the Stage 1 disturbance area.

3.3 Threatened flora species

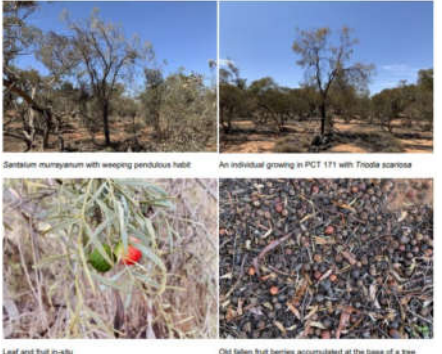
The biodiversity surveys carried out to inform the EIS did not identify any threatened flora species under the BC Act or the EPBC Act within the Stage 1 disturbance area.

A total of 20 candidate threatened flora species were considered to have potential associated habitat within the project study area and were the subject of targeted surveys. Of these, no threatened flora were recorded in the Stage 1 disturbance area.

Threatened flora species which were recorded in other locations of the project study area, and have the potential to occur within the Stage 1 disturbance area due to the PCTs identified at this site, are listed within Table 3.1.

Table 3.1 - Potential threatened flora species

Species name	Common name	BC Act ¹	EPBC Act ²	Images (Source: WSP)	Associated PCT
<i>Acacia acanthoclada</i>	Harrow Wattle	E	-	 Acacia acanthoclada with stock proof fencing under PVP No. 11PVP00009 Acacia acanthoclada on edge of track on the northern side of Renmark Road Acacia acanthoclada flowers globular and golden Acacia acanthoclada with branches rigid and spreading	PCT 171

Species name	Common name	BC Act ¹	EPBC Act ²	Images (Source: WSP)	Associated PCT
<i>Dodonaea stenozyga</i>	Desert Hopbush	CE	-	 Large mature <i>Dodonaea stenozyga</i> individuals with woody stems <i>Dodonaea stenozyga</i> mounded shrub habit growing on red sand in PCT 171 (detail) <i>Dodonaea stenozyga</i> with angular branchlets and four-winged fruits <i>Dodonaea stenozyga</i> perpendiculate leaves and four-winged fruit	PCT 170 PCT 171 PCT 172
<i>Santalum murrayanum</i>	Bitter Quandong	E	-	 <i>Santalum murrayanum</i> with weeping pendulous habit An individual growing in PCT 171 with <i>Trochilodroma</i> Leaf and fruit detail Old fallen fruit berries accumulated at the base of a tree	PCT 170 PCT 171 PCT 172

(1) V = vulnerable, E = endangered, CE = critically endangered under the BC Act

(2) V = vulnerable under the EPBC Act.

3.4 Threatened fauna species

The biodiversity surveys carried out to inform the EIS did not identify any threatened fauna species under the BC Act or the EPBC Act within the Stage 1 disturbance area.

Species that have the potential to occur within the Stage 1 disturbance area due to the PCTs within this location are listed within Table 3.2.

Table 3.2 - Potential threatened fauna species

Species name	Common name	BC Act ¹	EPBC Act ²
<i>Falco hypoleucos</i>	Grey Falcon	V	-
<i>Grantiella picta</i>	Painted Honeyeater	V	-
<i>Leipoa ocellata</i>	Malleefowl	E	V
<i>Manorina melanotis</i>	Black-eared Miner	CE	E
<i>Pachycephala rufogularis</i>	Red-lored Whistler	CE	V
<i>Polytelis anthopeplus monarchoides</i>	Regent Parrot	E	V
<i>Nyctophilus corbeni</i> (syn. <i>N. timoriensis</i>)	South-eastern Long-eared Bat	V	V

(1) V = vulnerable, E = endangered, CE = critically endangered under the BC Act

(2) V = vulnerable, E = endangered under the EPBC Act.

3.5 Migratory species

No migratory fauna species were recorded in the Stage 1 disturbance area, however there is a moderate potential for the occurrence of migratory species within adjacent habitat.

Twenty-six migratory species are considered to have the potential to occur in the broader locality of the project study area, and an additional nine marine bird species may occur in habitats within the project study area. Three migratory and/or marine bird species listed were recorded within the project study area during the field surveys. These include the White-bellied Sea Eagle, Rainbow Bee-eater and Great Egret. An additional seven migratory species were recorded outside the proposal study area in local or regional wetlands such as the South Australian Chowilla Regional Reserve and therefore could move through the proposal study area at times.

3.6 Groundwater dependent ecosystems

The Stage 1 works will not impact any groundwater dependent ecosystems (GDEs). The closest GDE to Buronga substation is a grouping of Mallee and *Eucalyptus largiflorens* that occur proximal to the townships of Buronga, approximately one kilometre from the project study area and approximately two kilometres from the Stage 1 disturbance area.

3.7 Pest species

During the consultation process for the EIS, local landholders and the Western Local Land Services (LLS) biosecurity officers identified rabbits, foxes, kangaroos, goats, wild dogs and pigs as the main vertebrate pests in the vicinity of the project study area. These pest animals can cause damage to primary production, the natural environment and cultural assets.

No specific pest species were reported to have been identified in the vicinity of the Stage 1 disturbance area.

3.8 Weeds

The weeds identified across the project and legislation or document under which they were identified are included in the *Biosecurity Management Plan* (45860-HSE-PLN-D-0032) located in Appendix D.

There are several species of weeds identified in the EIS that are likely to be located in the vicinity of the project study area including:

- six species of weeds recorded during property inspections under the *Biosecurity Act 2015* (DPI, 2020);
- a likely occurrence of six noxious weeds, declared under the former *Noxious Weeds Act 1993*;
- 11 species that are identified as regional priority weeds on the *Western Regional Strategic Weed Management Plan 2017 – 2022* (Western LLS, 2017);
- one state priority weed – Bitou bush (*Chrysanthemoides monilifera*);
- four weeds that were specifically mentioned as problematic weeds by landholders and the Wentworth Shire Council biosecurity officer: Khaki weed, caltrops, thornapple and onionweed; and
- Noogoora burr and Bathurst burr, which can be a problem in irrigation fields and contaminate wool.

Note that the reporting above is in line with what was reported in the EIS, however the *Biosecurity Act 2015* repeals and replaces the *Noxious Weeds Act 1993*. The term “priority weed” replaces the term “noxious weed” for the purposes of the Act (s 32).

The EIS does not contain any specific weed information for the Stage 1 disturbance area.

3.8.1 Weeds under the *Biosecurity Act 2015*

Technical Paper 3 (Agricultural land impact assessment) reported that weeds recorded by authorised officers during property inspections under *Biosecurity Act 2015* (DPI, 2020b) are as follows:

- Horehound (*Marrubium vulgare*);
- Common pear (*Opuntia stricta*);
- Burr ragweed (*Ambrosia confertiflora*);
- Boneseed (*Chrysanthemoides monilifera*);
- Hudson pear (*Cylindropuntia rosea*); and
- African boxthorn (*Lycium ferocissimum*).

3.8.2 Weeds under the former *Noxious Weeds Act 1993*

Under the former *Noxious Weeds Act 1993* the following weeds were declared noxious in the Wentworth Shire local government area (LGA):

Class 4 (Locally controlled weeds)

- Rope pear (*Cylindropuntia imbricata*);
- Hudson pear (*Cylindropuntia rosea*); and
- Prickly pear (*Opuntia spp.*).

Class 5 (Restricted plant)

- Athel pine (*Tamarix spp.*);
- Bridal creeper (*Asparagus asparagoides*); and
- Willows (*Salix spp.*).

4 Environmental aspects and impacts

4.1 Construction activities

An environmental aspect is an element of an organisation's activities, products, or services that has or may have an impact on the environment (ISO 14001 Environmental management systems). The relationship of aspects and impacts is one of cause and effect.

Key construction activities of Stage 1 and the associated environmental aspects that could result in adverse impacts to biodiversity include:

- removal of vegetation as a result of clearing activities reducing available habitat and local biodiversity;
- stripping of topsoils as part of the initial earthwork's activities removing or harming any existing seed bank present and limiting natural regeneration potential;
- dust generation due to earthworks and vehicle movements affecting adjacent habitat;
- construction activities generally affecting the amenity and breeding cycles of any nearby fauna;
- introduction or spread of weeds and pathogens due to vehicle and machinery movements;
- surface grading and earthworks affecting root stock and soil structure, limiting natural regeneration potential;
- compaction of soils due to earthworks and vehicle movements increasing runoff and soil erosion risk and reducing future revegetation potential; and
- construction plant and equipment and site activities resulting in ignition of vegetation.

4.2 Impacts

The potential for impacts on biodiversity will depend on a number of factors. Primarily impacts will be dependent on the nature, extent and magnitude of construction activities and their interaction with the natural environment. Impacts associated with Stage 1 works will include:

- loss or degradation of native vegetation;
- loss or degradation of threatened ecological communities – approximately 8.68 hectares of the permitted 19.6 hectares of PCT21 Slender Cypress Pine (Sandhill Pine Woodland) will be impacted due to the Stage 1 disturbance area;
- loss or degradation of threatened species habitat;
- temporary reduced viability of adjacent habitat due to noise, dust or light spill;
- loss of natural regeneration potential due to impacts to root systems and soils;
- loss of biodiversity due to increase competition from introduced weeds and pathogens; and
- loss of vegetation and habitat due to fire caused or exacerbated by project-related activities.

As the disturbance area for the Stage 1 works is restricted to the works at Buronga substation and the accommodation camp and compound, the impacts on biodiversity are expected to be limited relative to the overall project impacts.

5 Management measures

A range of environmental requirements and mitigation measures are identified in the EIS, the Submissions Report and the Infrastructure Approval.

Specific safeguards and management measures to address impacts to biodiversity for Stage 1 are identified within Section 5.1 to Section 5.5 and in Table 5.2.

5.1 Pre-clearing surveys

The pre-clearing survey and marking out of the clearing extents and limits will be undertaken by the project ecologist. Extents will be marked by delineation using regularly placed pegs or identification markers in areas that are not adjacent to sensitive areas or by highly visible barrier or star pickets with tape or other appropriate measures in areas that are adjacent to sensitive areas. The pre-clearing surveys of the clearing extent will be undertaken prior to clearing and will include:

- confirmation of the location and extents of any biodiversity exclusion zones;
- identification and demarcation of all hollow bearing trees. Identification and demarcation may also occur during earlier surveys. If this is the case, the ecologist will confirm that hollow bearing trees are prominently marked / tagged;
- identification of fauna that require relocation;
- the identification of nearby habitats for suitable release of fauna; and
- identification of suitable resources for salvage and beneficial reuse within the approved disturbance area. This may include, for example, logs or tree hollows.

The pre-clearing survey will be undertaken in accordance with the *Pre-clearing and Clearing Procedure* (45860-HSE-PR-D-0002) included within Appendix B.

The results of the pre-clearing surveys will be used to update and confirm the accuracy of sensitive area plans and these will be communicated and distributed to the construction team as part of the work packs.

5.1.1 Management of nests

Should any nests be identified during pre-clearing or clearing surveys, the following will occur:

- check nest to identify if active (i.e. 10-15 minute watch to see if being attended/there is movement);
- stop work in the surrounding area (20m minimum buffer);
- where the nest is active and is located at height:
 - if there is an elevated work platform (EWP) or tree climber present, use this approach to retrieve the nest along with any eggs/hatchlings;
 - if an EWP or tree climber is not present, the tree will not be removed until the nest can be safely relocated;
- fauna spotter catcher/ecologist to oversee process and advise if feasible to attempt relocation within the local area; and
- if not feasible to relocate, fauna spotter catcher/ecologist to secure within a dark, cool area until eggs/fledglings can be transported to a licensed wildlife carer.

5.2 Supplementary Hollow and Nest Strategy

During pre-clearing surveys, the project ecologists will survey and document tree hollows and nests within the proposed clearing extent as outlined in the *Pre-clearing and Clearing Procedure* (45860-HSE-PR-D-0002). If the surveys identify tree hollow habitat within the disturbance area, a

Supplementary Hollow and Nest Strategy will be prepared to inform the types of nest boxes that would be required.

The *Supplementary Hollow and Nest Strategy* will include the following:

- the size, type, number and location of nest boxes required based on the results of the ecological surveys;
- appropriately sized nest boxes will be installed within the vicinity of hollow-bearing trees (subject to landholder agreement and suitable existing trees being present) no more than two weeks prior to clearing of the tree;
- all nest boxes in a particular location will be installed within six months after clearing;
- “nest boxes” will include consideration of natural tree hollow re-use and new tree hollow creation where reasonable and feasible; and
- measures to address and manage nests (such as raptor nests) pre-clearing will be included.

The *Supplementary Hollow and Nest Strategy* will be implemented.

5.2.1 Nest box locations

The location of the nest boxes will be determined by the project ecologist following identification of the hollow bearing trees and available nearby habitat. Should there be no suitable areas and trees adjacent to this site, the boxes will be installed at the nearest suitable area. Suitability will be determined by installation guidelines. Spacing of the boxes in relation to the species natural home range is important to consider as overcrowding can be counterproductive and has potential to deter animals from using it.

The project ecologist will also determine the potential for relocation of natural tree hollows for re-use, either by attachment within adjacent vegetation, or by placement on the ground to create habitat for ground-dwelling fauna.

An ecologist will provide advice on recommended installation e.g. tree attachment, suitable height, density, location, aspect and timing of nest boxes and outlined in the *Supplementary Hollow and Nest Strategy*.

Considerations for the location and position of nest boxes will include:

- installing nest boxes as close as possible to the location of the original hollow-bearing tree;
- placing in areas of native vegetation ideally connected to other areas of native vegetation;
- placing nest boxes at varying heights according to the heights recommended height for the target species (refer also to Table 5.1);
- positioning the nest box on the tree in a location which will consider the hot afternoon sun and the predominant aspects of severe storms; and
- recipient tree should be robust and in good health.

5.2.2 Number of boxes required

The number and type of nest boxes to be installed will be determined based on the results of the surveys undertaken by WSP (as part of the Final BDAR) and any further surveys which are undertaken by the project ecologist.

Hollow data will be collected during pre-clearing surveys and will include:

- size/diameter and shape of the hollow entrance (cm);
- approximate depth (cm) of the hollow;
- height (m) of the hollow from the ground; and

- suitability/evidence of fauna.

This data will be compared to species specific nest box dimensions to help determine an estimated quantity of nest boxes and specific types.

5.2.3 Nest box construction

Nest box dimensions will be detailed within the *Supplementary Hollow and Nest Strategy*, with Franks and Franks (*Nest boxes for wildlife*) used as a guide in determining nest box size. Table 5.1 provides an overview of some proposed nest box sizes based on *Nest boxes for wildlife*. Please note that it's recognised that there were no possums identified during field surveys, however this information is included as a general reference as the distribution of the Common Brushtail Possum does extent to the project area.

Table 5.1 - Nest box dimensions (from *Nest boxes for wildlife* 2011)

Species	Inside measurement (mm)	Entrance diameter (mm)	Depth of chamber (mm) (from bottom of entrance hole)	Height above ground (m)	Comments
Small birds	150 x 150	50	30	3-6	Horizontal spout entrance
Parrots	150 x 200	65	400	2-4	
Cockatoo	300 x 400	200	1200	8-10	Very heavy chewer; angled spout entrance
Possums	250 x 250	100	300	2-4	Will use several den sites
Microbat	n/a	30 hole, 20 slot	400	3-5	Bottom opening

Nest boxes will likely be constructed in plywood or timber.

The lid should overhang the front and sides of the nest box by at least 25 mm to prevent water damage. A hinged lid is recommended for monitoring and maintenance purposes.

To assist with drainage, three small holes should be drilled into the base of the nest box. Either rough-sawn timber or grooves cut into the face of the box will allow animals to grip to the box. Grip should also be considered inside the box, either with mesh or grooves cut into the walls to allow young to climb out of the box.

A nest box identification number will be placed on the nest box (stamped on the side or bottom of the nest box).

5.2.4 Nest box installation

The installation of nest boxes in suitable habitat outside of the clearing extent is proposed to compensate for the loss of hollow-bearing trees which will be removed for the project.

The preferred method of attaching nest boxes to trees is the Habisure system, which involves:

- a length of plastic-coated soft fencing wire will be passed through the nest box and around the tree trunk;
- where the wire is in contact with the tree trunk or branch it will be threaded through a length of garden hose to protect the tree;
- details of each nest box will be recorded and include:
 - the GPS location;
 - date of installation;

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- identification number; and
- nest box type.

Nest boxes will be installed during the following period:

- no more than two weeks prior to clearing of the tree; and
- all nest boxes in a particular location will be installed within six months after clearing.

5.2.5 Nest box monitoring and maintenance

Monitoring and maintenance of nest boxes will be detailed within the *Supplementary Hollow and Nest Strategy*.

Monitoring during construction will determine the use of nest boxes during the construction phase and will occur on an annual basis. Any requirement to maintain or replace nest boxes due to deterioration or invasion by pest species, will also be assessed based on the viability of the nest box to continue to be used by the target species. Where longer term use is considered unviable, consideration and assessment will be made to determine if nest box replacement is required.

Any longer-term maintenance and monitoring (post-construction) would be detailed within the Operational Environmental Management Plan.

5.3 Vegetation clearing

All vegetation clearing will be undertaken in accordance with the *Pre-clearing and Clearing Procedure* (45860-HSE-PR-D-0002) included within Appendix B.

5.3.1 Staged or non-staged clearing

All areas that need to be cleared will be subject to staged or non-staged clearing. Staged clearing occurs in locations where the ecologist identifies habitat and is typically referred to as 'two-stage clearing'. Habitat vegetation will be identified with unique identifier numbers (identified by use of spray paint). Flagging will also be placed around the trunk of the vegetation.

Areas where two-stage clearing is required will clear non-habitat vegetation first, with habitat vegetation removed approximately 24 hours following this. Habitat vegetation will be removed following an inspection by the ecologists / fauna handlers. Relocation of fauna will occur.

Areas where no staging is required may be removed in one step. No habitat has been identified in these locations.

Both two-staged and non-staged areas are also subject to the requirements of the disturbance areas.

5.3.2 Disturbance areas

The method of clearing required changes based on the disturbance area. The key disturbance areas are as follows:

1. Disturbance Area A;
2. Disturbance Area A centreline clearing;
3. Disturbance Area B; and
4. Other areas (hazard / high risk trees and fauna corridors).

Disturbance Area A

Disturbance Area A includes the accommodation camps, construction compounds, the required asset protection zones and the substation. The Final BDAR indicated the Stage 1 disturbance area as Disturbance Area A within Figure 5.1.

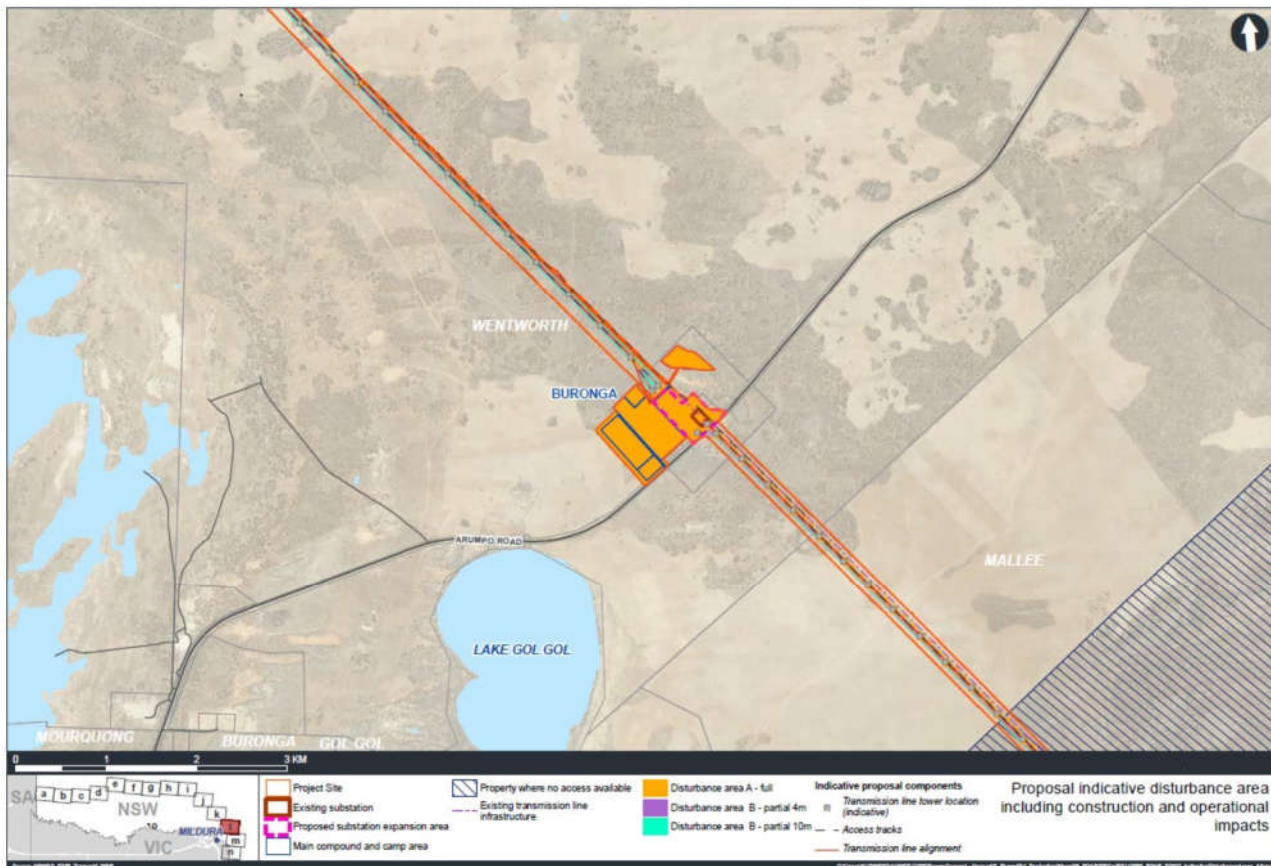


Figure 5.1 - Disturbance areas at the Stage 1 disturbance area

Vegetation is permitted to be removed to ground within Disturbance Area A. Where possible opportunities to retain vegetation will occur through review of temporary design and construction methodologies. There are, however, limited opportunities with the Stage 1 disturbance area, as the area is required for the earthworks material site, and the accommodation camp and construction compound. The full extent of the Stage 1 disturbance area will likely require clearing.

Any clearing will be subject to the management measures within Table 5.2 and the Pre-Clearing and Clearing Procedure in Appendix B.

Disturbance Area A – centreline clearing, Disturbance Area B and other areas

The Stage 1 disturbance area does not include Disturbance Area A centreline clearing, Disturbance Area B or the other areas (hazard / high risk trees and fauna corridors). These disturbance areas are located within the transmission line easement.

As this management plan relates only to Disturbance Area A clearing, information on the alternative clearing types will be included in subsequent versions of the Biodiversity Management Plan.

5.4 Biodiversity Offset Package

The extent of clearing of native vegetation will be recorded to confirm actual impacts to biodiversity values to inform any final biodiversity offset requirements within the biodiversity offset package. Actual clearing extents will be provided to Transgrid, who will calculate the final biodiversity offset requirements in accordance with the requirements of the BC Act, the RMMs and applicable conditions of approval. The following information will be recorded and provided to Transgrid in GIS format:

- the clearing extent; and

- the type of clearing at each clearing location as per the clearing approach identified and assessed in the EIS and BDAR (i.e., Disturbance Area A, Disturbance Area B4, Disturbance Area B10 etc).

5.5 Fauna handling

A *Fauna Handling Procedure* (45860-HSE-PRG-1005) has been developed for the project and is included in Appendix C. The procedure will be implemented.

5.6 Unexpected threatened species finds

If any threatened species or threatened ecological community is unexpectedly encountered during construction, the *Unexpected Threatened Species Finds Procedure* (45860-HSE-PR-D-0002) will be implemented. Refer to Appendix A.

5.7 Rehabilitation

The rehabilitation objectives for the project are detailed within condition D54 of the Infrastructure Approval. Condition D54 states that the rehabilitation objectives for the ancillary facilities, accommodation camps, and the earthwork material site are:

- safe, stable and non-polluting;
- progressively rehabilitate the site as soon as possible following disturbance;
- to be decommissioned and removed, unless the Planning Secretary agrees otherwise;
- restore land capability to pre-existing use;
- ensure public safety at all times.

The Stage 1 disturbance area will present little opportunity for permanent rehabilitation works. There will also be no decommissioning of project infrastructure undertaken as part of Stage 1. Detail relating to permanent rehabilitation and decommissioning works will be detailed in subsequent stages of the BMP.

Any rehabilitation works for Stage 1 will be temporary in nature. In undertaking temporary rehabilitation, the following will occur:

- material resources will be salvaged and stockpiled for beneficial reuse in future. This will include soil and vegetative resources such as hollows and mulch;
- topsoil will be removed and stockpiled for future reuse;
- stabilisation of the accommodation camp and construction compound will occur through the application of hardstand material. Any decommissioning or rehabilitation of these areas will be carried out in accordance with the Stage 2 BMP;
- stabilisation of any areas available within the earthworks material site will occur in accordance with the progressive erosion and sediment control plans. Stabilisation would occur progressively, as any of the sections of the earthworks material site are no longer required; and
- stockpiled topsoil would be reused in progressive rehabilitation works. Mulch and woody debris will be a by-product of vegetation clearing activities. Where practicable, this material will be reused in the progressive rehabilitation works.

Table 5.2 - Biodiversity management measures

ID	Management measure	When to implement	Responsibility	Source Requirement
General				
BD1	Training will be provided to all project personnel, including relevant sub-contractors on biodiversity management practices and the requirements from this plan through inductions, toolbox talks and activity specific training.	Pre-construction	HSSE Manager	Good Practice
BD2	The Buronga accommodation camp and construction compound is located within an area of reduced biodiversity value. Any site offices or crib sheds which may be required for Stage 1 will be located in an area of limited biodiversity value (e.g. cleared land or areas of native vegetation with vegetation integrity scores of less than 17 (in accordance with the NSW Government Biodiversity Assessment Method Operational Manual) will be prioritised).	Detailed design	Design Manager, Construction Manager, Environmental Manager	RMM B3
BD3	Clearing of native vegetation and key habitat will be minimised where possible. This will include minimising impacts on the clearing of hollow-bearing trees and threatened species. Opportunities to minimise clearing will occur through review of temporary design and construction methodologies for the Stage 1 disturbance area.	Pre-construction and construction	Environmental Manager, Supervisor, Engineer	Condition D25
BD4	Clearing is not to exceed the follow limits: 19.6 hectares (ha) of BC Act listed Sandhill Pine Woodland in the Riverina, Murray-Darling Depression and NSW Southwestern Slopes bioregions; 0.04 ha of habitat for BC Act listed flora species <i>Acacia acanthoclada</i> (Harrow Wattle); 0.32 ha of habitat for BC Act and EPBC Act listed flora species <i>Atriplex infrequens</i> (A saltbush); 1.51 ha of habitat for BC Act listed flora species <i>Austrostipa nullanulla</i> (A spear-grass); 14 individuals of BC Act listed <i>Santalum murrayanum</i> (Bitter Quandong); and 6.91 ha of habitat for BC Act and EPBC Act listed fauna species <i>Polytelis anthopeplus monarchoides</i> (Regent Parrot) (eastern subspecies). For Stage 1 the Sandhill Pine Woodland is identified within the Final BDAR as being impacted by the Stage 1 disturbance area. GIS mapping indicates the area for Stage 1 is approximately 8.68 hectares of the permitted 19.6 hectares of PCT21 Slender Cypress Pine (Sandhill Pine Woodland). This is subject to the pre-clearing survey and delineation of the biodiversity exclusion zone by the project ecologist. Spatial data and threatened species locations will be provided to the detailed design team for consideration in detailed construction planning.	Pre-construction and construction	Design Manager, Construction Manager, Environmental Manager, Supervisor	Condition D25

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ID	Management measure	When to implement	Responsibility	Source Requirement
BD5	Sensitive area plans will be prepared and will include: - the location of clearing boundaries; - the location of exclusion zones; and - the location of threatened flora or vegetation which is to be retained. The sensitive area plans will be issued to relevant site personnel with updates issued as required. Sensitive area plans will be updated based on the results of the pre-clearing surveys.	Construction	Environmental Advisor, Environmental Manager	RMM B12 RMM B14
Preclearing and clearing				
BD6	Pre-clearing surveys will be completed prior to construction by a suitability qualified ecologist in accordance with the <i>Pre-clearing and Clearing Procedure</i> (45860-HSE-PR-G-1008) located in Appendix B.	Pre-construction	Environmental Advisor, Environmental Manager, Ecologist	Condition D28 RMM B11
BD7	Prior to clearing, biodiversity exclusion zones for retained vegetation, including identified threatened flora populations, will be: - clearly identified by a suitably qualified ecologist prior to the commencement of clearing or any site activity that could damage the vegetation within the exclusion zone; - physically marked and demarcated; and - included on sensitive area plans.	Pre-construction	Environmental Advisor, Environmental Manager, Ecologist	RMM B13
BD8	Clearing will be carried out in accordance with the <i>Pre-clearing and Clearing Procedure</i> (45860-HSE-PR-G-1008) located in Appendix B.	Pre-construction and construction	Environmental Manager, Supervisor, Construction Manager	Condition D28 RMM B11
BD9	Threatened species and their habitats will be identified through the sensitive area plans (SAPs). Impacts to threatened species will be avoided as far as practicable during detailed design and when determining construction methodologies. No threatened flora species were identified in the Stage 1 disturbance area. In the event that unexpected threatened species are identified, the Unexpected Threatened Species Finds Procedure will be implemented.	Detailed design and construction	Design Manager, Environmental Advisor, Environmental Manager, Supervisors	Condition D28 RMM B1
BD10	Resources within the approved disturbance area will be identified for salvage and beneficial reuse prior to clearing.	Pre-construction	Environmental Advisor, Environmental Manager, Supervisor	Condition D28
BD11	The Tree Protection Zone (as defined in <i>AS4970-2009 Protection of Trees on Development Sites</i>) of retained trees within or immediately adjacent to the disturbance area will be protected through the restriction of construction activities (refer Section 4.2 of AS4970- 2009), to minimise the impact of the works on the long-term health of these trees.	Pre-construction	Environmental Advisor, Environmental Manager, Supervisors	RMM LV7

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ID	Management measure	When to implement	Responsibility	Source Requirement
Threatened species management				
BD12	The <i>Unexpected Threatened Species Finds Procedure</i> (45860-HSE-PR-D-0002) located in Appendix A of this plan will be implemented if threatened ecological communities and threatened flora and fauna species, not assessed in the biodiversity assessment, are identified in the disturbance area.	Construction	All personnel	RMM B18
Habitat retention and restoration				
BD13	Nest boxes will be provided to offset the loss of tree hollow fauna habitat in accordance with a Supplementary Hollow and Nest Strategy. The strategy will include: - a survey of tree hollows and nests within the proposed clearing extents; - the size, type, number and location of nest boxes based on the results of the ecological surveys; - appropriately sized nest boxes will be installed within the vicinity of hollow-bearing trees (subject to landholder agreement and suitable existing trees being present) no more than two weeks prior to clearing of the tree; - all nest boxes in a particular location will be installed within 6 months after clearing; - nest boxes will include consideration of natural tree hollow re-use and new tree hollow creation; and - measures to address and manage nests (such as raptor nests) pre-clearing will be included.	Pre-construction and construction	Environmental Manager	RMM B10
BD14	Resources such as topsoil, hollows and mulch within the approved disturbance area will be reused where possible for rehabilitation of the site.	Pre-construction	Environmental Manager, Supervisor	Condition D28
BD15	Where relevant, and in consultation with the ecologist, seed will be collected or obtained to assist with stabilisation of disturbed areas.	Construction	Environmental Manager, Ecologist	Condition D28
Biosecurity controls				
BD16	The biosecurity controls outlined in the <i>Biosecurity Management Plan</i> (45860-HSE-PLN-D-0032) in Appendix D will be implemented during construction to minimise the risk of off-site transport or spread of disease, pests or weeds. Controls will include (but not limited to): - inspections and cleaning of vehicles, machinery, and personnel equipment prior to movement on and off the construction work areas; and - minimising movements across adjoining farmland including trip numbers and locations where possible. Additional measures where localised areas of high biosecurity risks have been identified will be implemented. The effectiveness of these controls will be regularly monitored.	Construction	Environmental Manager, Environmental Advisor, Supervisor	RMM LP7 RMM LP8

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ID	Management measure	When to implement	Responsibility	Source Requirement
	Where weeds are present within the disturbance area, weeds will be managed in consultation with Western LLS, Wentworth Shire Council and NSW Department of Primary Industries.			
BD17	In the event of new infestations of notifiable weeds as a result of construction activities, the relevant control authority will be notified as per <i>Biosecurity Act 2015</i> and <i>Biosecurity Regulation 2017</i> .	Construction	Environmental Manager	RMM LP9
Soil and water quality				
BD18	Soil and water quality management measures will be implemented in accordance with the <i>Soil and Water Management Plan</i> (45860-HSE-PL-D-0008) to minimise erosion during clearing.	Pre-construction and construction	Environmental Manager, Supervisor, Engineer	Condition D28
BD19	An <i>Erosion and Sediment Control Strategy</i> (ESCS) (45860-HSE-DOC-D-0002) has been provided in Appendix A of the Soil and Water Management Plan. It has been prepared in line with the principles and requirements in: <i>Managing Urban Stormwater – Soils and Construction, Volume 1</i> (Landcom 2004), commonly referred to as the 'Blue Book'; <i>Managing Urban Stormwater – Soils and Construction, Volumes 2A and 2C</i> (NSW Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water 2008); <i>Best Practice Erosion and Sediment Control</i> (IESCA – 2008); - Transgrid's HSE Guideline; and <i>Guidelines for Controlled Activities on Waterfront Land</i> (NRA 2018). The ESCS will be implemented to guide the development of the Progressive Erosion and Sediment Control Plan (PESCPs) for the project.	Construction	Environmental Manager	Condition D16 b) RMM HF5 RMM SCG9
BD20	Progressive Erosion and Sediment Control Plan (PESCPs) will be prepared and implemented for locations where soil disturbance will occur. The PESCPs will outline controls to be implemented to manage and aim to minimise soil erosion and movement of sediment and other pollutants to land and/or waters. The PESCPs will be progressively updated throughout the project to reflect the current construction activities occurring on site and to allow the removal of any measures that are ineffective or no longer needed.	Construction	Environmental Manager	Condition D16 a) RMM HF5
BD21	Disturbed areas will be stabilised to minimise soil and water impacts. This will be carried out in consultation with the relevant landholder.	Construction	Environmental Manager, Supervisor, Engineer	Condition D28 RMM LP5

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ID	Management measure	When to implement	Responsibility	Source Requirement
Bushfire management				
BD22	Construction activities will be managed in accordance with the <i>Emergency Plan</i> (45860-HSE-PL-D-0025). The Emergency Plan includes measures to minimise the potential for bushfire risk and will be prepared in consultation with Rural Fire Service. It will be made publicly available upon approval.	Construction	Environmental Advisor, Environmental Manager	Condition D28
BD23	The following resources will be available at the work front/work locations to respond to localised fires: • fire-fighting appliances such as a 'slip-on' fire-fighting unit, tanker trailers or water cart should be positioned nearby where possible; • water filled knapsacks; • shovels; and • fire extinguisher located within vehicles.	Construction	Supervisor	Condition D47 e)
BD24	The following will be implemented during all outdoor hot works, grinding activities and vegetation slashing within and adjacent to the construction compound: • shielding will be used; • a water supply will be present (nine kilogram water fire extinguisher); and • a trained operator will be present.	Construction	Supervisor, Project Manager, HSSE team	RMM HR7
Monitoring				
BD25	Clearing of native vegetation will be monitored to confirm actual impacts to biodiversity values to inform any final biodiversity offset requirements. The clearing report will be provided within two weeks of completion of clearing.	Pre-construction and construction	Design Manager, Environmental Manager	RMM B15
BD26	Monitor weather forecasts from Mildura Airport AWS to determine when adverse bushfire weather conditions are predicted.	Construction	Supervisor, Environmental Manager, HSSE team	Good practice
BD27	Monitor the Fire Danger Ratings of Wentworth Shire Council on NSW RFS website.	Construction	HSSE team	Good practice

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6 Compliance management

6.1 Training and awareness

All site personnel will undergo the SecureEnergy site induction. The induction training addresses elements related to biodiversity management including, but not limited to:

- relevant legislation;
- the environmental management system, including the CEMP;
- biodiversity values;
- land disturbance and clearing;
- biosecurity and weeds; and
- sensitive area plans.

Targeted training in the form of toolbox talks or specific training will also be delivered to personnel with a key role in biodiversity management. Examples of training topics include:

- clearing procedures;
- no-go zones;
- threatened species within the project area;
- unexpected finds procedure for threatened species; and
- biosecurity procedures.

Further details regarding the staff induction and training are in Section 6 of the CEMP.

6.2 Roles and responsibilities

SecureEnergy's organisational structure and overall roles and responsibilities are outlined in Section 4 of the CEMP. Specific responsibilities for the implementation of mitigation measures are detailed in Section 5 of this BMP.

6.3 Monitoring

The impacts and environmental performance of the project relevant to biodiversity matters, and the effectiveness of the management measures identified in Section 5 will be monitored through the proposed monitoring program in Table 6.1.

Table 6.1 - Monitoring program

Item	Scope	Frequency	Responsibility	Records/ reporting
Weekly inspections	Inspection of the performance and effectiveness of exclusion zones when works are being undertaken in the Stage 1 areas.	Weekly	Environmental Advisor Supervisors	Weekly Environmental Inspection Checklist
Pre-clearing inspection	Inspecting work areas before clearing in accordance with the <i>Pre-clearing and Clearing Procedure</i> (45860-HSE-PR-G-1008).	24 hours prior to clearing	Ecologist Environmental Advisor	Clearing and Land Disturbance Permit
During clearing supervision	Ecological supervision of clearing operations and removal of habitat trees during two-stage clearing approach in accordance with the <i>Pre-clearing and Clearing</i>	During second stage of two-stage clearing	Ecologist / Fauna handler Environmental Advisor	Clearing report

Item	Scope	Frequency	Responsibility	Records/ reporting
	<i>Procedure</i> (45860-HSE-PR-G-1008).			
Monitoring vegetation clearing	Clearing of native vegetation will be monitored to confirm actual impacts to biodiversity values to inform any final biodiversity offset requirements within the biodiversity offset package.	Prior to and during clearing	Environmental Manager Transgrid (offsets) Ecologist	Clearing Register
Nest box monitoring	Monitoring and inspection of nest boxes that have been installed for the project, as per the vegetation clearing offset requirements. Monitoring and associated data to involve: - confirmed presence or absence of fauna activity and/or habituation including occupation by pest insects e.g. termite/European bees; - nest box maintenance requirements and/ or replacement of the asset where necessary; - verification of nest box identification i.e asset number.	Annually	Ecologist / Environmental Manager	Annual report
Fauna handling and rescue	Handling and rescue of fauna in accordance with the <i>Fauna Handling Procedure</i> (45860-HSE-PRG-1005).	As discovered	Supervisor Environmental Advisor	Fauna Handling Record Sheet

6.4 Inspections

Weekly inspections will be performed by Environmental Advisor and documented in the Weekly Environmental Checklist. The inspections will check the implementation and effectiveness of the management measures identified in Section 5 and the environmental performance of the project relevant to biodiversity. Visual monitoring of delineated/fenced disturbance boundaries will be undertaken.

6.5 Auditing

Audits will be undertaken to assess the effectiveness of the management measures and overall compliance with this plan, and other relevant approvals, licences and guidelines. Audit requirements are detailed in Section 9.3 of the CEMP.

6.6 Reporting

Reporting which will be undertaken in accordance with the BMP is summarised within Table 6.2.

Table 6.2 - Reporting program

Item	Scope	Frequency	Responsibility	Recipient
Clearing report	Following completion of clearing a clearing report will be prepared summarising clearing details. The clearing report will be provided within two weeks of completion of clearing.	Following clearing	Environmental Manager	Transgrid

Item	Scope	Frequency	Responsibility	Recipient
Monitoring reporting	Reporting of biodiversity matters on the project website in accordance with condition E12.	As required	Environmental Manager	Transgrid
Audit reports	Independent audits undertaken in accordance with the Infrastructure Approval will include audits of biodiversity measures (based on the Independent Auditor's program). Audit reports will be prepared. Further detail in relation to auditing is provided within Section 9.3 of the CEMP.	At intervals, no greater than 26 weeks from the date of the initial Independent Audit or as otherwise agreed by the Secretary.	Environmental Manager / Independent Auditor	Transgrid DPIE

The clearing reports will include:

- information on clearing operations, dates, procedures and areas;
- the type of clearing (i.e. Disturbance Area A);
- the spatial extent and type of clearing of each Plant Community Type;
- the spatial extent and type of clearing of threatened ecological communities and threatened flora;
- the number of individuals and type of clearing for *Santalum murrayanum* (Bitter Quandong);
- the spatial extent and type of clearing of habitat for *Polytelis anthopeplus monarchoides* (Regent Parrot) (eastern subspecies);
- live animal sightings, captures, any releases or injured/shocked wildlife;
- fauna that may have died as a result of clearing; and
- photographs of any rescued fauna.

The spatial extent of clearing will be recorded in GIS file format.

Clearing of native vegetation will be monitored and recorded to inform any final biodiversity offset requirements within the biodiversity offset package. This information will be tracked in the *Clearing and Land Disturbance Register* (45860-HSE-REG-1008).

6.7 Emergencies, incidents and non-compliances

Emergency management and planning including emergencies related to biodiversity matters will be undertaken in accordance with the Clough management system and relevant procedures. Emergencies will be managed in accordance with the relevant Health, Safety, Security and Environment (HSSE) Plan as identified in Section 8.1 of the CEMP – Emergency preparedness and emergency response.

Environmental incidents, including incidents related to biodiversity matters (e.g. unauthorised/unapproved impact to threatened ecological communities) will be managed as described in Section 8.2 of the CEMP – Environmental incidents and the Incident, Notification and Investigation Procedure Flowchart provided in Appendix A4 of the CEMP.

Incident reporting is described in Section 8.3 of the CEMP – Incident notification and reporting.

Where a non-compliance has been identified, including those relevant to biodiversity matters (e.g. not installing nest boxes within the required timeframe), corrective actions will be developed as required and implemented to address the non-conformance that occurred as described in Section 11 of the CEMP – Non-compliance, non-conformance, corrective and preventative action. Reporting of non-compliances will be undertaken as described in Section 10.1 of the CEMP – Reporting non-compliances.

6.8 Contingency plan

Although the project has been assessed through the environmental impact assessment process and potential impacts identified, unpredicted impacts may occur as the project progresses. In the event that unexpected impacts are identified, the action or cause will be categorised and as required will be managed as:

- an emergency or environmental incident in accordance with Section 8 of the CEMP – Incidents and emergencies; and/or
- a non-compliance or non-conformance in accordance with Section 11 of the CEMP – Non-compliance, non-conformance, corrective and preventative action.

Reporting of the unpredicted impacts would be in line with the above processes and as described in Section 10 of the CEMP – Reporting.

Through the identification of corrective and/or preventative actions through the above processes, the following steps will be considered as relevant:

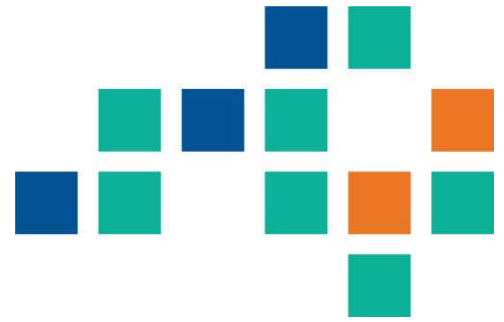
- a) determine the relevant impact assessment criterion/criteria, below which the impact should be reduced, consistent with the requirements of this BMP;
- b) identify options to reduce the unexpected impacts to below the relevant criterion/criteria and appropriate timeframe for implementation;
- c) implement the selected measure(s) to reduce the unexpected impacts; and
- d) identify and implement an appropriate monitoring program to determine the effectiveness of the selected measure(s) to reduce the unexpected impact.

If the above monitoring program identifies that the unexpected impacts have not been reduced to below the nominated criterion/criteria, items b) to d) of the contingency process will be repeated.

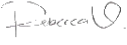
This section does not apply to unexpected threatened species finds. These will be managed in accordance with the Unexpected Threatened Species Finds Procedure included in Appendix A of this BMP.

Appendix A – Unexpected Threatened Species Finds Procedure

INTERNAL



Unexpected Threatened Species Finds Procedure EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section) 45860-HSE-PR-D-0002

REV	DATE	GENERAL DESCRIPTION	PREPARED	REVIEWED	VERIFIED	VERIFIED	APPROVED
A	23/06/2021	Issued for internal review	L.Coetzee	R.Walker-Edwards	G.Crighton	JL.Barrenechea	D.Whatmough
B	25/06/2021	Issued for TransGrid review	L.Coetzee	R.Walker-Edwards	G.Crighton	JL.Barrenechea	D.Whatmough
C	5/08/2021	Issued for TransGrid review	R.Walker-Edwards	M.Lee	G.Crighton	JL.Barrenechea	D.Whatmough
D	23/11/2021	Revised to address agency comments	R.Walker-Edwards	M.Lee	G.Crighton	JL.Barrenechea	D.Whatmough
E	16/12/2021	Issued for TransGrid review	 R.Walker-Edwards	 M.Lee	 G.Crighton	 JL.Barrenechea	 D.Whatmough

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Revision History	
Rev.	Detailed Description
A	Issued for internal review
B	Issued for TransGrid review
C	Issued for TransGrid review
D	Revised to address agency comments
E	Issued for TransGrid review

Key Document Stakeholders
To be communicated with during reviews and revisions of this document

1 Introduction

This Unexpected Threatened Species Finds Procedure is part of the *Biodiversity Management Plan* (45860-HSE-PL-D-0006) prepared for EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section) and forms part of the overall environmental management framework for the project.

1.1 Purpose

The purpose of this procedure is to detail the actions to be taken in the event that an unexpected actual or potential threatened species or endangered ecological communities is encountered during project works.

2 Induction/Training

All site personnel (including subcontractors) will undertake an induction which will include details relating to this procedure. Training may also occur through toolbox talks, pre-starts and targeted training as required.

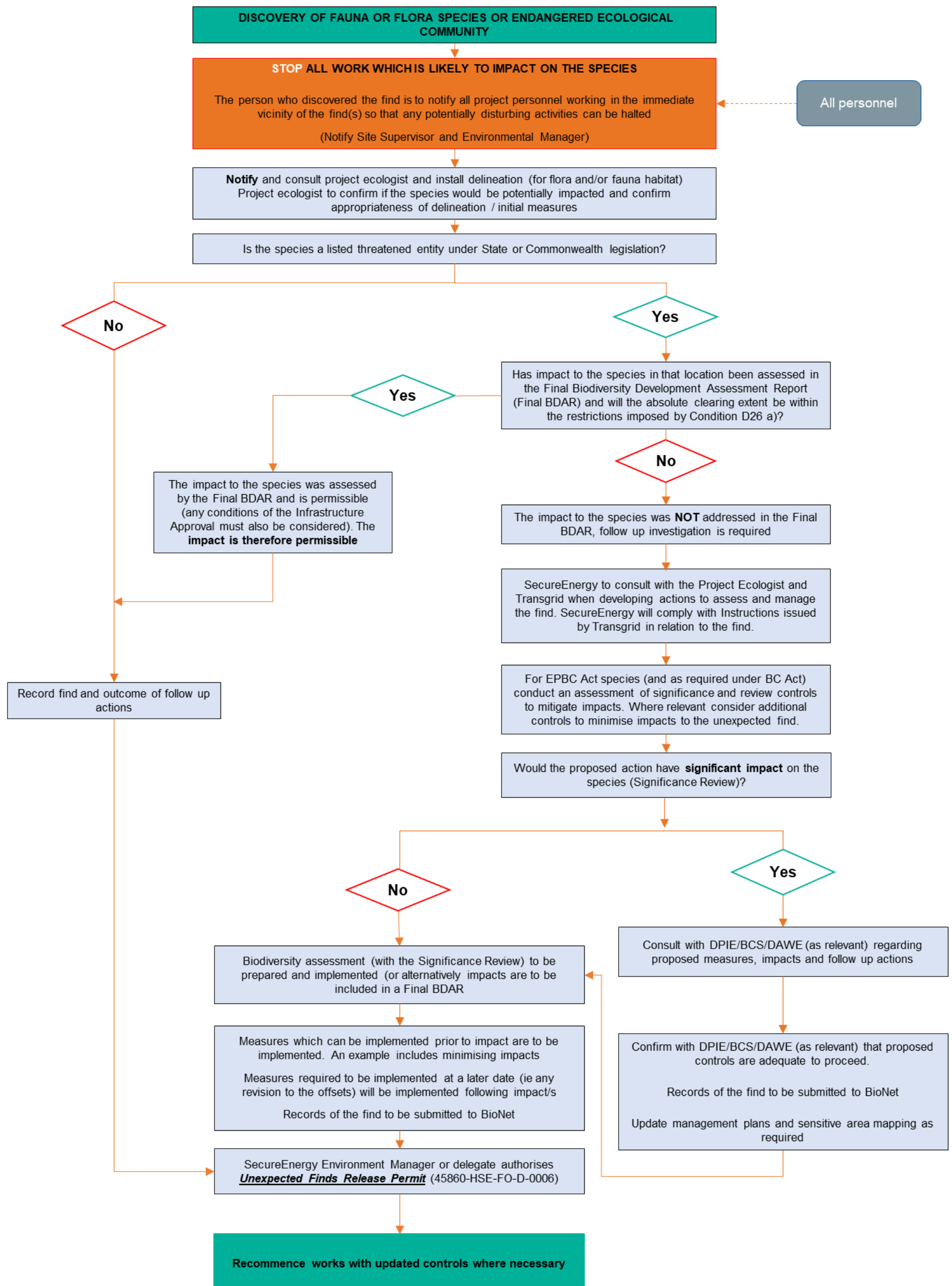
3 Scope

This procedure is applicable for the following:

- all activities conducted by site personnel (including sub-contractors) that have the potential to encounter unexpected threatened species finds (usually during pre-clearing inspections and construction);
- where the project does not have approval to impact the threatened species; and
- where mitigation measures for managing the disturbance (apart from this procedure) are not contained in the environmental impact assessment.

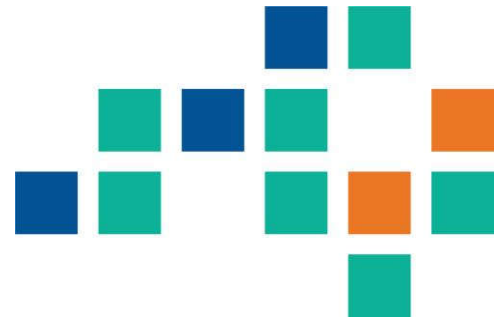
Biodiversity Management Procedure

Unexpected Threatened Species Finds Procedure

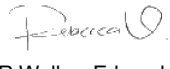
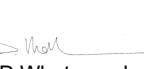


Appendix B – Pre-clearing and Clearing Procedure

INTERNAL



Pre-clearing and Clearing Procedure EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section) Stage 1 45860-HSE-PR-G-1008

REV	DATE	GENERAL DESCRIPTION	PREPARED	REVIEWED	VERIFIED	VERIFIED	APPROVED
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C	3/08/2021	Issued for TransGrid review	R.Walker-Edwards	M.Lee	G.Crighton	JL.Barrenechea	D.Whatmough
D	11/10/2021	Issued for TransGrid review	M.Lee	R.Walker-Edwards	G.Crighton	JL.Barrenechea	D.Whatmough
E	22/11/2021	Issued for TransGrid review	R.Walker-Edwards	M.Lee	G.Crighton	JL.Barrenechea	D.Whatmough
F	16/12/2021	Issued for ER review	 R.Walker-Edwards	 M.Lee	 G.Crighton	 JL.Barrenechea	 D.Whatmough

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A	Issued for internal review
B	Issued for TransGrid review
C	Updated following receipt of TransGrid's comments and draft conditions of Approval
D	Updated following TransGrid review and to address the Infrastructure Approval
E	Updated following TransGrid review
F	Updated following ER review

Key Document Stakeholders
To be communicated with during reviews and revisions of this document

1 Introduction

This Pre-clearing and Clearing Procedure is an appendix to *the Biodiversity Management Plan* (45860-HSE-PL-D-0006) and forms part of overall environmental management framework for the project.

1.1 Purpose

The purpose of this Pre-clearing and Clearing Procedure is to describe how SecureEnergy proposes to manage clearing during construction of the Stage 1 works to minimise impacts on biodiversity.

2 Induction/Training

Personnel taking part in construction activities shall be informed of this Pre-clearing and Clearing Procedure through the site-specific induction, daily prestart briefings or targeted training as required.

Personnel involved in clearing activities will be subject to toolbox talks and daily prestart meetings which will discuss items such as the following:

- the proposed clearing for the day;
- the limits of clearing;
- processes to follow;
- known or potentially occurring threatened species; and
- sensitive areas.

3 Scope

This procedure is applicable for the following pre-clearing and clearing activities conducted by site personnel (including sub-contractors) for Stage 1 of the project.

For clarity, the Stage 1 clearing and grubbing activities will occur at the following locations:

- the Buronga substation site; and
- the earthworks material site area adjacent to the existing substation; and
- at the Buronga accommodation camp and construction compound.

Note: There is no transmission line easement clearing in this procedure. A revised Pre-clearing and Clearing Procedure will be prepared for other project areas.

4 Pre-clearing

The following tasks are required to occur prior to clearing:

- a suitably qualified and experienced ecologist will be engaged for the project (the Project Ecologist);
- a clearing and grubbing work pack will be developed for Construction teams;
- opportunities to retain and protect existing vegetation within the disturbance area will be identified during construction planning through review of temporary design and construction methodologies for the Stage 1 disturbance area;
- the predicted extent clearing of native vegetation will be monitored against:
 - the extent of clearing of the Sandhill Pine Woodland in the Riverina, Murray-Darling Depression and NSW Southwestern Slopes bioregions listed under *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016* as permitted by condition D25 of the Infrastructure Approval. All

reasonable and feasible measures will be implemented to ensure that clearing to no more than the values detailed within condition D25; and

- the Plant Community Types as detailed within the *Revised Biodiversity Development Assessment Report* (Final BDAR)(August 2021).

The predicted extent of clearing will also consider the type of clearing (i.e. Disturbance Area A);

- the extent of clearing required for construction and permanent infrastructure will be marked on site by the Survey team and will be confirmed on a survey plan;
- the Project Ecologist is to identify and mark out the extent and clearing limit for the installation of delineation and exclusion zone;
- the Supervisor will ensure the clearing limit is delineated. Delineation and exclusion zones will be set out in accordance with the Sensitive Area Plans for that work area. The clearing limits will be delineated using regularly placed pegs or identification markers in areas which are not adjacent to sensitive areas (such as threatened ecological communities); or highly visible barrier or star pickets with tape such as colour-coded UV-stabilised rope, bunting, nightline or other similarly robust and durable material in locations adjacent to sensitive areas or where pegs and identification markers will not be suitably visible (for example of obscured by existing vegetation);
- threatened flora populations that will be retained will be clearly identified by a suitably qualified ecologist prior to any site activity that could damage the vegetation within the exclusion zone;
- the Environment team will ensure delineation is installed and maintained consistently through Stage 1 to mark boundaries and sensitive areas and to reduce the risk of error or misinterpretation of boundaries;
- prior to clearing commencing, the Project Ecologist will:
 - identify and demarcate hollow bearing trees that are suspected to accommodate fauna;
 - record GPS coordinates for all identified hollow bearing trees during the pre-clearing survey;
 - record the total number of hollows which will be incorporated into the *Supplementary Hollow and Nest Strategy* (45860-HSE-DOC-D-0004);
 - confirm nearby habitat suitable for the release of any fauna that may be encountered during clearing works;
 - check for the presence of threatened flora and fauna species by visual inspection of potential habitat features. If found, the *Unexpected Threatened Species Finds Procedure* (45860-HSE-PR-D-0002) will be followed;
 - identify and confirm the location of any weeds present within and immediately adjacent to the clearing extents;
 - check for any signs or observations of domestic fauna such as stray sheep and cattle. Ecologists to notify the Environment team who will contact the Land and Property Access Manager. The Land and Property Access Manager will contact the owner to collect and / or manage their animals if required;
 - the Project Ecologist will capture and/or remove fauna that have the potential to be disturbed as a result of clearing activities and relocate any captured fauna into pre-determined habitat identified for fauna release;
- any relevant findings from the pre-clearing inspections will be used to update and confirm the accuracy of sensitive area plans;
- the construction workforce will be supplied with sensitive area maps (showing clearing boundaries, exclusion zones and the location of threatened flora or vegetation which is to be retained) through the relevant Work Packs;

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- resources within the approved disturbance area (i.e. topsoil) will be reused where possible for rehabilitation of the site;
- Environment team to check clearing limits and other delineation requirements are installed prior to clearing as per *Clearing and Land Disturbance Permit* (45860-HSE-FO-G-1004);
- the Supervisor, clearing operators and Environment team to discuss any findings from the pre-clearing walk during the daily pre-start meetings including changes to sequence of clearing, sensitive areas, avoidance areas, or habitat features; and
- the *Clearing and Land Disturbance Permit* (45860-HSE-FO-G-1004) will be approved by the Environment Manager or delegate prior to clearing activity commencing.

5 Vegetation clearing

5.1 Clearing where there are no habitat features (One-stage clearing)

If no habitat features have been identified in the pre-clearing surveys, then a two-stage clearing process is not required and clearing can be undertaken in a single-step without the ecologist present. An example is crop land/agricultural pasture area.

All other demarcation and flagging is to occur as required by the *Clearing and Land Disturbance Permit* (45860-HSE-FO-G-1004).

5.2 Clearing where there is habitat features (Two-stage clearing)

Where habitat features have been identified during the pre-clearing surveys, two-stage clearing is required. Habitat vegetation will be identified with unique identifier numbers (identified by use of spray paint). Flagging will also be placed around the trunk of the vegetation. For these locations, the clearing area will be surveyed by the Project Ecologist within 24 hours or immediately prior to clearing, to:

- obtain updated information on fauna and flora habitat that is present, including:
 - inspection of identified habitat features for evidence of fauna habitation;
 - demarcate any newly identified habitat;
 - capture and relocate non-mobile fauna, such as reptiles and frogs; and
- collect data on any newly identified threatened species in the area.

5.2.1 Initial clearing – removal of non-habitat vegetation

In this first stage, only non-habitat vegetation will be removed. All marked habitat features will be retained until the final stage of clearing. This allows respite between the initial disturbance and the final removal of habitat. The changed environment and the disturbance from clearing should encourage residing fauna to individually relocate voluntarily without human handling.

A respite period of approximately 24 hours after removal of non-habitat vegetation is intended to allow resident fauna the opportunity to vacate remaining habitat before final clearing commences.

5.2.2 Final clearing

A suitably qualified and experienced fauna handler will be onsite to:

- thoroughly inspect all hollows that are accessible from the ground immediately prior to clearing;
- carefully supervise removal of habitat features and hollows when trees are dropped to the ground;
- ensure detected fauna will be encouraged to self-relocate or will be captured and released in the identified release areas;
- to capture and relocate any encountered fauna to pre-identified release sites;

- ensure that any injured wildlife is transported to veterinarian or wildlife carer; and
- where breeding fauna or dependent young are detected during the clearing works, consult with a licensed carer to determine whether the animal/s require ongoing care or can be safely relocated to adjacent habitat.

Locations of fauna release (including GPS coordinates) will be recorded in a post-clearing report.

Once all fauna habitat inspection and any required fauna removal is complete, the remaining vegetation clearing will commence.

6 Unexpected Threatened Species Finds Procedure

The *Unexpected Threatened Species Finds Procedure* (45860-HSE-PR-D-0002) is applicable to all activities that have the potential to impact upon threatened flora and fauna species that have not been assessed and approved.

If during construction activities the project ecologist (or other project personnel) identify a threatened species or threatened ecological community that has not been (or is suspected to have not been) assessed as a part of the project assessment, the *Unexpected Threatened Species Finds Procedure* (45860-HSE-PR-D-0002) will be followed.

7 Reporting

Post-clearing reports will be prepared by project ecologists and will include:

- information on clearing operations, dates, procedures and areas;
- the type of clearing (i.e. Disturbance Area A);
- a breakdown of the spatial extent and type of clearing of each Plant Community Type;
- a breakdown of the spatial extent and type of clearing of threatened ecological communities and threatened flora;
- live animal sightings, captures, any releases or injured/shocked wildlife;
- fauna that may have died as a result of clearing; and
- photographs of any rescued fauna.

The spatial extent and type of clearing will be recorded in GIS file format and provided to TransGrid to allow the final offset requirements to be calculated based on the recorded clearing in accordance with REMM B15.

Clearing of native vegetation will be monitored and recorded to inform any final biodiversity offset requirements within the biodiversity offset package. This information will be tracked in the *Clearing and Land Disturbance Register* (45860-HSE-REG-1008).

Appendix C – Fauna Handling Procedure

INTERNAL



Fauna Handling Procedure EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section) 45860-HSE-PR-G-1005

REV	DATE	GENERAL DESCRIPTION	PREPARED	REVIEWED	VERIFIED	VERIFIED	APPROVED
A	23/06/2021	Issued for internal review	L.Coetzee	R.Walker-Edwards	G.Crighton	JL.Barrenechea	D.Whatmough
B	25/06/2021	Issued for TransGrid review	L.Coetzee	R.Walker-Edwards	G.Crighton	JL.Barrenechea	D.Whatmough
C	5/08/2021	Issued for TransGrid review	 R.Walker-Edwards	 M.Lee	 G.Crighton	 JL.Barrenechea	 D.Whatmough

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A	Issued for internal review
B	Issued for TransGrid review
C	Updated following receipt of TransGrid's comments and draft Infrastructure Approval

Key Document Stakeholders
To be communicated with during reviews and revisions of this document

1 Introduction

This Fauna Handling Procedure is part of the *Biodiversity Management Plan* (BMP) (45860-HSE-PL-D-0006) for EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section) and forms part of the overall environmental management framework for the project.

1.1 Purpose

This procedure is applicable to the handling of any fauna encountered during construction if required.

Handling of fauna may be necessary when they are encountered and need to be relocated or if injured, taken to a vet or wildlife carer. Fauna handling should be undertaken either by the project ecologist or a person skilled in handling the species of fauna encountered.

Should any threatened species be identified, the *Unexpected Threatened Species Find Procedure* (45860-HSE-PR-D-0002) would be implemented.

2 Induction/Training

All site personnel (including sub-contractors) will undertake a site induction which will include details relating to this procedure. Training may also occur through toolbox talks, pre-starts meetings and targeted training as required.

Training will include the need for fauna handlers to be appropriately licensed or approved under relevant legislation. This includes the need for:

- those handling reptiles to have a Biodiversity Conservation Licence under the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016*; and
- any injured native fauna to be taken to a vet or to a licensed wildlife rehabilitation provider. The wildlife rehabilitation provider must hold a Biodiversity Conservation Licence (Wildlife Rehabilitation Licence) under the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016*.

3 Scope

This procedure is applicable for the following:

- all activities conducted by site personnel (including subcontractors) that have the potential to encounter fauna; and
- vegetation clearing and land disturbance.

4 General fauna handling requirements

Fauna may be encountered in a variety of situations during delivery of the project.

During clearing activities, any fauna handling will be carried out by the project ecologist or a trained fauna handler.

During other construction activities (when the project ecologist or fauna handler may not be present on site), fauna may require handling by other project personnel. Wherever possible, the project ecologist or trained fauna handler will be used and if they are not available, the Environment Team will attend to the fauna. Due to the remoteness and large distances between work sites there may be times when the project ecologist or fauna handler will not always be present on site and it is more important to move the fauna from danger or harm. In these circumstances, SecureEnergy personnel may be required to handle the fauna (i.e. where that movement removes the fauna from danger or harm). The general fauna handling requirements during construction are as follows:

- any fauna removed from hollows will only be removed in accordance with the *Pre-clearing and Clearing Procedure*. Fauna will be removed by hand. Removal may require cutting the entrance

of the hollow with a chainsaw, therefore extreme care is advised. If a chainsaw must be used to increase the entrance size, a suitable plug (for example, several scrunched-up cloth capture bags or towels) must be placed between the animal and the chainsaw wherever feasible. Care must be taken not to injure the animal during the extraction process. Firm but gentle pressure will be applied, to encourage the animal from the hollow. An inverted cloth capture bag must be used if appropriate to the circumstance, so that when the animal is extracted, the bag can be pulled over the animal immediately. Where it is not possible to extract the animal from a hollow, the log can be carefully removed intact and located outside of the disturbance area so that the fauna can leave of their own accord. Ensure that egress from the hollow is not blocked when placing the log down;

- if nocturnal fauna is required to be kept during the day, they will be kept in either standard pet carrying cages, ventilated cardboard/plastic animal boxes or cloth capture bags. Captive fauna will generally be kept at a cool or ambient temperature and shaded conditions to avoid any heat stress. Water will be provided if necessary. Captured fauna will be kept in accordance with recommendations from the project ecologist. The project ecologist is to regularly monitor captive fauna when in attendance, otherwise monitoring will be conducted Environment team in consultation with project ecologist;
- if juvenile fauna is displaced and cannot be re-united with its parent(s), they must be taken to an authorised wildlife shelter within the region; and
- in the event that fauna is injured during construction, the animal should initially be assessed and first aid rendered by the project ecologist (if available) and subsequently taken to a Veterinarian for further assessment and treatment, and if necessary, euthanasia. Injured fauna will be kept in shaded conditions with water provided if necessary. Providing external heat (where available) may assist.

If fauna is handled or moved during clearing activities, this will be recorded in clearing reports. A *Fauna Handling Record Sheet* (45860-HSE-FO-D-001) will not be required to be completed during these activities. During other times of project delivery, if fauna is handled or moved, the *Fauna Handling Record Sheet* (45860-HSE-FO-D-001) is to be completed.

If fauna is struck by a vehicle this is recorded by the Environment team in the *Fauna Strike Register* (45860-HSE-REG-D-0001).

4.1 Fauna strike during travel

Due to the linear nature of the project, there will be a range of different roads and access tracks in which project personnel or subcontractors are likely to encounter fauna within and to and from worksites, ancillary areas and camps. The likelihood of encountering fauna during dawn and dusk is increased.

If during travel to and from the project on nominated project road or access tracks, SecureEnergy personnel or subcontractors accidentally strike fauna, the following is to occur:

- where safe to do so, direct the vehicle to a slow stop in a safe location with clear visibility to other oncoming vehicles;
- if the animal is deceased, where safe to do so, and if physically possible, move the animal off to the side of the road as far away from the road edge as practical. This will prevent any further fauna strike to other animals feeding on the carcass. If it is not physically possible to move the animal (due to size, nature of impact or safety concerns), leave it in place, note the location of and report the event to the Supervisor on return to the work site or camp. The Supervisor is to report the strike to the Environment team who will record the event in the *Fauna Strike Register* (45860-HSE-REG-D-0001);
- if the animal is alive, and escapes into adjacent habitat, note the location of the impact and the report the strike to the Environment team;

- if the animal is alive but injured, first aid should be provided and the Environment team should be contacted. The animal should be taken to a Veterinarian for further assessment and treatment;
- if the animal is alive but too dangerous to assist (e.g., a raptor such as a Wedge-tailed Eagle), note the location and report the event to the Supervisor on return to the work site or camp. The supervisor is to report the strike to the Environment Team; and
- if the animal is deceased but has an orphan in the pouch, contact the Environment team who will seek advice from the project ecologist regarding the best way to remove, store and transport the orphaned fauna. If the joey's mouth is attached to the teat, do not try to detach them, but instead, if possible, take the deceased mother, or cut off the teat. Where possible and safe to do so, recover the animal, keep warm in blanket or towel and transport in an aerated box to the work site or camp. Personnel to report immediately to the supervisor who will report the strike to the Environment team who will complete the *Fauna Handling Record Sheet* (45860-HSE-FO-D-001) and manage the animal in accordance with advice from the project ecologist.

4.2 Transmission line bird strike/electrocution

There is the potential that birds may accidentally fly into powerlines in the project easement or they may perch on transmission lines and spread their wings causing potential electrocution. If during construction of the project, any birds are found to be impacted by the project itself (such as by the bypass line), they must be reported to the Supervisor. The Supervisor is to notify the Environment team and they would complete *Fauna Handling Record Sheet* (45860-HSE-FO-D-001) and manage the animal with project ecologists.

4.3 Livestock interactions

Refer to the *Livestock and Construction Conflict Management Procedure* (45860-HSE-PR-G-1007).

5 Specific handling requirements

5.1 Birds

General rescue approach for birds:

- where possible and safe to do so, gain access to nests using an elevated platform/ladder. Capture and remove any nestlings;
- place nestlings in cotton capture bags and assess for injuries. Store bags containing nestlings in a pet carrying cage or ventilated cardboard box. The animal container will be covered to reduce stress on the bird. Deliver to specialist wildlife carer; and
- if adult birds are captured, they will be released away from construction activities.

5.2 Ground dwelling mammals: Echidna

General rescue approach for echidnas:

- if echidnas are found within the construction zone or during habitat removal, they will need to be captured and relocated;
- dig echidna out by hand or carefully by shovel to the side of the echidna. The aim is to get a hand(s) beneath the echidna and to grasp a hind leg(s) and lift the echidna from the soil; and
- place in a dig-proof container, such as a ventilated plastic box or garbage bin. Captive echidnas will be kept in a cool, well ventilated location, out of direct sun. Uninjured echidnas will be translocated and released as soon as possible.

5.3 Ground dwelling mammals: Native rodents

General rescue approach for native rodents:

- capture rodents using a hand net; and
- once captured, rodents will be placed into a cloth capture bag, assessed and if not injured, retained until dusk and then released into appropriate habitat.

5.4 Ground dwelling mammals: Kangaroos, wombats and wallabies

General rescue approach for kangaroos, wallabies and wombats:

- if a macropod is within the construction zone, activities in the area which may impact the macropod may need to cease;
- in the event that a juvenile macropod is displaced (thrown from a pouch) and cannot be re-united with its parent, orphaned macropods will be taken to a vet or wildlife carer; and
- uninjured adults will be calmly ushered from construction zone (as required).

5.5 Reptiles: Snakes, lizards, turtles

General rescue approach for reptiles:

- reptiles will be captured by the project ecologist (when they are available) or with a person who is licensed under the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016* to catch and release reptiles;
- snakes will only be captured and relocated if they present a potential threat to construction personnel or are likely to be harmed by the works. In most cases, snakes will attempt to move away from a disturbed area; and
- lizards will be released as soon as possible after capture into suitable habitat outside of the construction zone.

5.6 Amphibians: Frogs

General rescue approach for frogs:

- the capture and relocation of frogs require specific attention to minimise disease transmission. The following hygiene protocol applies:
 - capture, handling and housing of wild frogs will be minimised or avoided where possible;
 - single-use latex, nitrile or vinyl gloves or single-use plastic bags will be used when handling/capturing frogs (where available);
 - hand washing with 70% ethanol (allowing hands to dry) between handling individual frogs is acceptable if no gloves are available (note, repeated use on human skin is not recommended). Alcohol is toxic to frogs so hands must be washed thoroughly in water after treatment with alcohol;
 - each frog is to be housed separately in plastic zip lock bags (with air holes punched into the bag prior to frog capture). Bagged frogs are to be kept in a cool quiet location and released into suitable habitat at the earliest opportunity (immediate release ideal or release before night fall on the day of capture); and
 - plastic bag will not be re-used and are to be disposed of after a single use.

5.7 Arboreal mammals: Possums

General rescue approach for arboreal mammals:

- the project ecologist will be on site to inspect trees for possums that may need to be relocated;
- if possums are found during vegetation clearing, the project ecologist will determine if capture and relocation is warranted;
- possums will be captured either by hand or net and placed into a suitable cage;

- captured possums will be released at a location deemed suitable by the project ecologist; and
- in the event that juvenile possums/glidens are displaced and cannot be re-united their mother, they will be taken to an authorised wildlife shelter within the region.

5.8 Other mammals: Microbats

General rescue approach for microbats:

- there is potential for microbats to carry the Australian Bat Lyssavirus (a rabies like virus), a disease potentially fatal to humans. To reduce the risk of infection, only experienced and vaccinated personnel be authorised to handle microbats;
- the project ecologist is to be on site during the removal of vegetation and to inspect trees for microbats that may need to be relocated;
- microbats will be captured by hand using protective gloves;
- as soon as possible, captured microbats will be placed into a cloth bag hung vertically in a quiet, cool, dark place until released;
- all captured microbats will be relocated into adjacent suitable habitat; and
- in the event that a juvenile microbat is displaced and cannot be re-united with its parent, orphaned microbats will be taken to a vet or wildlife carer.

6 Contact details

The closest wildlife carer organisation to the clearing operations or construction activity will be contacted prior to the clearing operations to advise of any potential animals that may come into care and determine their available to assist with caring of injured or orphaned native wildlife if required.

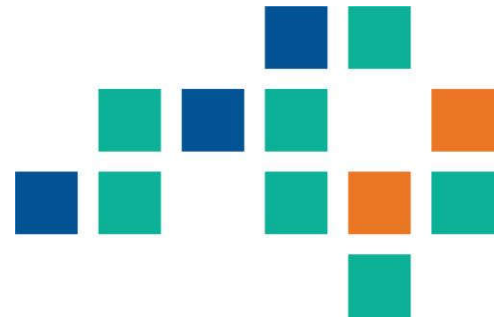
In the event that local wildlife carers are not available, the national WIRES contact number can be used to identify any other local qualified wildlife carers.

Table 6.1 - Contact details

Role	Organisation	Location	State	Contact details
Project Ecologist	ngh	Wagga Wagga	NSW	The contact details for the Project Ecologist will be retained by the project staff and available to personnel upon request.
Wildlife Carers	WIRES	National service utilising local volunteers	NSW	1300 094 734
Veterinary Clinic	Mildura Veterinary Hospital	370 Deakin Ave, Mildura	VIC	(03) 5023 3838
Veterinary Clinic	Wagga Wagga Veterinary Clinic	132 Urana St, Turvey Park NSW	NSW	(02) 6926 0900
Veterinary Clinic	Hay Veterinary Clinic	379 Murray St,	NSW	(02) 6993 1861

Appendix D – Biosecurity Management Plan

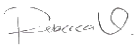
INTERNAL



Biosecurity Management Plan

EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section)

45860-HSE-PL-D-0032

REV	DATE	GENERAL DESCRIPTION	PREPARED	REVIEWED	VERIFIED	VERIFIED	APPROVED
A	23/06/2021	Issued for internal review	L.Coetzee	R.Walker-Edwards	G.Crighton	JL.Barrenechea	D.Whatmough
B	29/06/2021	Issued to Transgrid	L.Coetzee	R.Walker-Edwards	G.Crighton	JL.Barrenechea	D.Whatmough
C	9/09/2021	Issued to Transgrid	L.Coetzee	R.Walker-Edwards	G.Crighton	JL.Barrenechea	D.Whatmough
D	24/11/2021	Issued to Transgrid	 R.Walker-Edwards	 M.Lee	 G.Crighton	 JL.Barrenechea	 D.Whatmough

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Revision History	
Rev.	Detailed Description
A	Issued for review
B	Issued to Transgrid
C	Revised to address Transgrid comments
D	Revised to address Transgrid comments. No comments from agency review.

Key Document Stakeholders
To be communicated with during reviews and revisions of this document

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Abbreviations / Definitions

Acronym	Definition
Amendment Report	<i>EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section) Amendment Report</i>
BC Act	<i>Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016</i>
Biosecurity duty	Biosecurity duty is defined in Part 4, Division 3, Section 30 of the <i>Biosecurity Act 2015</i> (NSW) as: (1) A person who becomes aware of, or suspects, that a prohibited matter event has occurred, is occurring or is about to occur has a biosecurity duty to immediately notify the prohibited matter event in accordance with the requirements specified in the regulations. (2) A biosecurity duty arises under this Division only if the person— (a) is the owner, occupier or person in charge of, or has the care, custody or control of, premises, a carrier or other thing in relation to which the prohibited matter is present or suspected of being present, or (b) becomes aware of, or suspects, the occurrence of the prohibited matter event as a result of any consultation or other work carried out in relation to premises, a carrier or other thing in the person's professional capacity, or (c) is a person of a class prescribed by the regulations.
Biosecurity matter	Biosecurity matter is defined in Section 10 of the <i>Biosecurity Act 2015</i> (NSW) as: a) any living thing, other than human, or b) any part of an animal, plant or living thing, other than a human, or c) a product of a living thing, other than a human, or d) a disease, or e) a prion, or f) a contaminant, or g) a disease agent that can cause disease in a living thing (other than a human) or that can cause disease in a human via transmission from a non-human host to a human, or h) anything declared by the regulations to be biosecurity matter.
Final BDAR	<i>Final Biodiversity Development Assessment Report</i> (August 2021)
CEMP	Construction Environmental Management Plan
DECCW	Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water (now Department of Environment, Energy and Science)
DPIE	Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
DPI	Department of Primary Industries
EIS	<i>EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section) Environmental Impact Statement</i>
EPBC Act	<i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i>
HSSE	Health, Safety, Security and Environment
HSSE Manual	Health, Safety, Security and Environment Management Manual
IMS	Integrated Management System
KTP	Key Threatening Process
LGA	Local Government Area
LLS	Local Land Services
NSW	New South Wales
OEH	Office of Environment and Heritage (now Department of Environment, Energy and Science)
OJD	Ovine Johne's Disease
Prohibited Matter Event	As per Section 31 of the <i>Biosecurity Act 2015</i> (NSW): A prohibited matter event means— (a) the presence of biosecurity matter in a part of the State in which it is prohibited matter, or

Acronym	Definition
	(b) the introduction of biosecurity matter into a part of the State in which it is prohibited matter.
Project, the	EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section)
RMM	Revised mitigation measures
SecureEnergy	Elecnor and Clough Projects Australia Pty Ltd have formed SecureEnergy. SecureEnergy is the contractor who will be carrying out the project on behalf of Transgrid.
Submissions Report	<i>EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section) Submissions Report</i>
WMS	Work Method Statement
WoNS	Weeds of National Significance

1 Introduction

1.1 Context

This Biosecurity Management Plan (or plan) is an Appendix to the Biodiversity Management Plan which forms part of the Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) for EnergyConnect (NSW - Western Section).

This plan has been prepared to address the requirements of the Infrastructure Approval (SSI 10040), the *EnergyConnect (NSW - Western Section) Environmental Impact Statement* (EIS), the *EnergyConnect (NSW - Western Section) Submissions Report* (Submissions Report), *EnergyConnect (NSW - Western Section) Amendment Report* (Amendment Report) and the additional information letter dated 10 August 2021 (Response to DPIE Request for Information).

1.2 Purpose and objective

The key objective of the Biosecurity Management Plan (this plan) is to describe the management measures that will be implemented to ensure that biosecurity impacts are minimised and in accordance with the requirements of:

- the *Biosecurity Act 2015* (NSW); and
- the Infrastructure Approval, EIS, Amendment Report and Response to DPIE Request for Information.

To achieve this the plan describes:

- the existing and potential weeds, pest animals and animal diseases identified within the study area during the preparation of the environmental assessment;
- the implementation of appropriate processes to manage the spread of weeds, pests and diseases; and
- how the implementation of practical measures will be undertaken prior to and during construction to avoid the introduction of new weeds and to minimise the spread of existing weeds.

2 Environmental requirements

2.1 Legislation

Legislation relevant to weed management is detailed within Table 2.1.

Table 2.1 – Relevant legislation and its application

Legislation	Application
<i>Biosecurity Act 2015</i> (NSW) and <i>Biosecurity Regulation 2017</i> (NSW)	The <i>Biosecurity Act 2015</i> (Biosecurity Act) and the <i>Biosecurity Regulation 2017</i> (NSW) provides for risk-based management of biosecurity in NSW. It provides a statutory framework to protect the NSW economy, environment and community from the negative impact of pests, diseases and weeds. The primary object of the Act is to provide a framework for the prevention, elimination and minimisation of biosecurity risks posed by biosecurity matter, dealing with biosecurity matter, carriers and potential carriers, and other activities that involve biosecurity matter. Under the <i>Biosecurity Act 2015</i> there is a general obligation on people to be aware of their surroundings and take action to prevent the introduction and spread of pests, diseases, weeds and contaminants, referred to as the general biosecurity duty under Part 3, section 22 of the Act. The Act also identifies Biosecurity Zones and imposes Biosecurity Control Orders. No weeds listed under the three applicable Biosecurity Zones or one listed under a Biosecurity Control Order were identified during field surveys, however provisions for their identification and management are included in this plan. In addition to the general biosecurity duty, the Biosecurity Act also identifies 'prohibited matter', which includes twenty-seven (27) weeds. It is an offence to deal with prohibited matter under the Act without a prohibited matter permit. As outlined in the Revised BDAR Section 5.3, two exotic flora species were recorded within the proposal study area during field surveys were listed in the <i>Biosecurity Act 2015</i> as priority weeds for the Western Region (Department of Planning, Industry and Environment, 2020). Both the <i>Biosecurity Act 2015</i> (NSW) and the <i>Biosecurity Regulation 2017</i> (NSW) impose notification requirements on the landowner or the occupier to report to the Department of Primary Industries or the local council (Wentworth Shire Council) of biosecurity events, prohibited matters or notifiable weeds, pests and diseases. These are discussed further in Section 5 of this plan. Biosecurity control orders may also be in place as part of the <i>Biosecurity Act 2015</i>. A control order can prohibit or control the doing of anything, subject to certain limitations, to prevent the introduction or eradicate a biosecurity matter that poses a biosecurity risk. Control measures may include requirements to take, or not to take, any action necessary to prevent, eliminate, minimise or manage the biosecurity risk or biosecurity impact.
<i>Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016</i> (NSW) (BC Act)	Key Threatening Processes (KTPs) as outlined under Division 5 of the BC Act are discussed in Section 9.10 of the Revised BDAR. A number of weeds are identified as Key Threatening Processes (KTPs) under Division 5 of the BC Act (list provided in Schedule 4 of the Act). None of those listed in Schedule 4 of the Act, have been identified in the project area.
<i>Pesticides Act 1999</i> (NSW)	It is an offence under this act to wilfully or negligently use pesticides in a manner that may harm humans, animals or property or threaten endangered, vulnerable or protected species outlined under the BC Act.
<i>Pesticides Regulation 2017</i> (NSW)	Specifies that pesticides used in an occupational setting may only be used by qualified persons and that a Pesticide Use Notification Plan must be prepared and implemented when use of pesticides occurs on public lands such as rail corridors. The plan must include public consultation requirements of this regulation.

2.2 Conditions of Approval

The conditions of the Infrastructure Approval relevant to biosecurity management are detailed in Table 2.2 in bold, italicised text.

Table 2.2 – Conditions relevant to biosecurity management

Condition	Requirement	Where addressed
D28	The Biodiversity CEMP Sub-Plan required under condition B2 must include: a) a description of the measures that would be implemented for: • minimising the amount of native vegetation clearing within the approved development footprint; • minimising the loss of key fauna habitat, including tree hollows; • minimising the impacts on fauna on site, including undertaking pre-clearance surveys; • minimising the potential indirect impacts on threatened flora and fauna species, migratory species and 'at risk' species; • rehabilitating and revegetating disturbance areas; • protecting native vegetation and key fauna habitat outside the approved disturbance area; • maximising the salvage of resources within the approved disturbance area – including vegetative and soil resources – for beneficial reuse (such as fauna habitat enhancement) during the rehabilitation and revegetation of the site; • controlling weeds; • controlling erosion; and • bushfire management; b) details of the Proponent's commitment to make a one off \$150,000 funding contribution targeted at further scientific study into the impacts of electric and magnetic fields on birds in Australia; c) preparation and implementation of a two year bird impact monitoring program at the commencement of operations; and d) a detailed program to monitor and report on the effectiveness of these measures.	This document and the Biodiversity Management Plan

2.3 Revised mitigation measures

The revised mitigation measures (RMMs) are defined in Appendix G of the Additional Information (August 2021). The RMMs relevant to biosecurity for the project are presented in Table 2.3 below. The RMMs provided below are extracts from the Additional Information (August 2021). The management measures that will be implemented for the project are provided in Section 4 and Section 5 of this plan.

Table 2.3 – Revised mitigation measures relevant to biosecurity management

Reference	Revised mitigation measures	Where addressed
LP2	The locations of transmission line structures, (other permanent structures and the extents of associated construction areas or compounds) will be located where possible to avoid or minimise impacts, or as agreed with the affected landholder, on: • cropping and irrigated horticultural land • areas used for set up and pack up of agricultural equipment, entry points and turning areas • radiocommunication sensitive areas • drainage catchments for farm dams • locations of high biosecurity risk.	Section 5 Table 5.1
LP7	Biosecurity controls will be implemented during construction to minimise the risk of off-site transport or spread of disease, pests or weeds. Controls will include (but not be limited to): • inspections and cleaning of vehicles, machinery, and personal equipment prior to movement on and off the construction work areas or between properties	Section 5 Table 5.1

Reference	Revised mitigation measures	Where addressed
	- minimising movements across adjoining farmland including trip numbers and locations - additional measures where localised areas of high biosecurity risks have been identified. The specific controls applicable to a property will be identified in consultation with the affected landholder. The effectiveness of these controls will be regularly monitored.	
LP8	Where present, weeds will be managed in consultation with Western Local Land Services (LLS), Wentworth Shire Council and NSW Department of Primary Industries.	Section 5 Table 5.1
LP9	In the event of new infestations of notifiable weeds as a result of construction activities, the relevant control authority will be notified as per <i>Biosecurity Act 2015</i> and <i>Biosecurity Regulation 2017</i> .	Section 5.5 Table 5.1

2.4 Guidelines

The guidelines within Table 2.4 were considered in the development and implementation of this plan.

Table 2.4 – Relevant guidelines

Guideline / Strategy	Application
Western Regional Strategic Weed Management Plan 2017-2022	Regional Strategic Weed Management Plans have been developed for eleven regions of NSW. The Plans provide guidance on the outcomes required to discharge the duty for managing weeds under the Biosecurity Act. The Western Regional Strategic Plan is applicable to the Project area and lists priority weed species as determined by NSW Department of Primary Industries and includes regional management measures for priority weeds. For each priority weed, the management objective and specific requirements for management is included. Outcomes to demonstrate compliance with the General Biosecurity Duty are identified for each regional priority weed species and recommended measures that will assist in the achievement of these outcomes. Weeds listed in the Western Regional Strategic Weed Management Plan that occur or have the potential to occur in the project area are discussed in Section 3 of this plan.
National Weeds Strategy 2017-2027	Identifies thirty-two (32) introduced plants as Weeds of National Significance (WoNS). These weeds are regarded as a current priority and future weed threat to Australia because of their invasiveness, potential for spread, and economic and environmental impacts. Two (2) WoNS were identified in the project area and another fourteen (14) identified as potentially occurring in the vicinity of the project area. The Strategy also identifies twenty-eight (28) introduced plants as National Environmental Alert Weeds. These weeds are in the early stages of establishment and have the potential to become a significant threat to biodiversity if they are not managed. No National Environmental Alert weeds were identified in the project area.
NSW <i>Invasive Species Plan 2018-2021</i> (DPI, 2018a).	The plan adopts four goals for managing invasive species (including weeds): 1. Exclude – prevent the establishment of new invasive species. 2. Eradicate or contain – eliminate or prevent the spread of new invasive species. 3. Effectively manage – reduce the impacts of widespread invasive species. 4. Capacity building – ensure NSW has the ability and commitment to manage invasive species. This plan will aim to align with the relevant first three main goals of preventing the establishment of new invasive species and containing invasive species in areas directly impacted by construction as outlined in Sections 4 and 5 of this plan.
<i>Western Local Land Services Region Priority Weed Identification Guide</i> (May 2020)	The guide has been developed as an easy to use resource to assist land managers and members of the general community to identify high priority weeds. It is not intended to provide detailed information on each species and their control. Notification details are also provided within the guide for the identified priority weeds.

3 Existing environment

The following section summarises existing known weed, pest animal and pathogen species within and adjacent to the project based on the information contained in Chapter 12 and Technical Paper 3 (Agricultural land impact assessment) of the EIS, and the Final BDAR.

3.1 Weeds

The Far West region of NSW has the potential to effectively manage biosecurity risks due to its separation from major populations and intensive agricultural industries, and as its semi-arid climate, which is challenging for exotic animals and plants to survive. The EIS found that the project area has relatively few examples of widespread introduced species of weeds in the areas surveyed for the biodiversity assessment.

The EIS identified 35 species of weeds that are known or likely to be located in the project area, including:

- weeds under the *Biosecurity Act 2015* including:
 - two weeds which are listed as priority weeds for the Western Region and are also listed as Weeds of National Significance;
 - six species of weeds recorded during property inspections undertaken in accordance with the *Biosecurity Act 2015* (DPI, 2020);
- 11 species that are identified as regional priority weeds on the *Western Regional Strategic Weed Management Plan 2017 – 2022* (Western LLS, 2017);
- one state priority weed – Bitou bush (*Chrysanthemoides monilifera*);
- four weeds that were specifically mentioned as problematic weeds by landholders and the Wentworth Shire Council biosecurity officer: Khaki weed, caltrops, thornapple and onionweed; and
- Noogoora burr and Bathurst burr, which can be a problem in irrigation fields and contaminate wool.

3.1.1 Weeds under the *Biosecurity Act 2015*

As identified in Section 5.3 of the Final BDAR, there are two exotic species that were recorded in the project area and are listed as priority weeds and Weeds of National Significance. These species are:

- African boxthorn (*Lycium ferocissimum*); and
- Prickly pear (*Opuntia* spp.).

The EIS Technical Paper 3 (Agricultural land impact assessment), reported weeds recorded by authorised officers during property inspections under the *Biosecurity Act 2015* (DPI, 2020b):

- Horehound (*Marrubium vulgare*);
- Common pear (*Opuntia stricta*);
- Burr ragweed (*Ambrosia confertiflora*);
- Boneseed (*Chrysanthemoides monilifera*);
- Hudson pear (*Cylindropuntia rosea*); and
- African boxthorn (*Lycium ferocissimum*) (also listed as a priority weed above).

3.1.2 Weeds under the former *Noxious Weeds Act 1993*

Under the former *Noxious Weeds Act 1993* the following weeds were declared noxious in the Wentworth Shire local government area (LGA):

Class 4 (Locally controlled weeds)

- Rope pear (*Cylindropuntia imbricata*);
- Hudson pear (*Cylindropuntia rosea*); and
- Prickly pear (*Opuntia* spp.)

Class 5 (Restricted plant)

- Athel pine (*Tamarix* spp.);
- Bridal creeper (*Asparagus asparagoides*); and
- Willows (*Salix* spp.).

3.1.3 State priority weeds

As outlined in EIS Technical Paper 3 (Agricultural land impact assessment), the only state priority weed which may be present in the vicinity of the proposal study area is Bitou bush (*Chrysanthemoides monilifera*) (DPI, 2000c).

3.1.4 Other weeds identified in the EIS

The *Western Regional Strategic Weed Management Plan 2017 – 2022* (LLS, 2017) identifies regional priority weeds, some of which may be present in the vicinity of the proposal study area (DPI, 2000c), as follows:

- Boxing glove/coral cactus (*Cylindropuntia fulgida*);
- Burr ragweed (*Ambrosia confertiflora*);
- Clock weed (*Oenothera curtiflora*);
- Willow rhus (*Searsia lancea*);
- Giant reed (*Arundo donax*);
- Silver-leaf nightshade (*Solanum elaeagnifolium*);
- African boxthorn (*Lycium ferocissimum*);
- Bridal creeper (*Asparagus asparagoides*);
- Rope pear (*Cylindropuntia imbricata*);
- Prickly pear; (*Opuntia* spp. excl *Opuntia ficus-indica*) and
- Spiny burrgrass (*Cenchrus* spp.)

The weeds identified as likely to be present across the study area, and legislation or document under which they were identified are listed in Table 3.1 with images of the weeds included in Appendix B. In addition to priority weeds and Weeds of National Significance the following environmental weeds were also recorded in the ecological surveys to support the EIS:

- *Asphodelus fistulosus* (onion weed);
- *Emex australis* (Spiny Emex);
- *Marrubium vulgare* (Horehound);
- *Nicotiana glauca* (Tree Tobacco);
- *Onopordum acaulon* (Stemless Thistle);
- *Tribulus terrestris* (Cat-head); and
- *Xanthium occidentale* (Noogoora Burr).

Table 3.1 – Weeds, pests and pathogens known or potentially occurring in the study area

Note regarding General Biosecurity Duty and Prohibited matter

Where identified (refer to table below) plants are regulated with a *general biosecurity duty* (GBD) to prevent, eliminate or minimise any biosecurity risk they may pose. Any person who deals with any plant, who knows (or ought to know) of any biosecurity risk, has a duty to ensure the risk is prevented, eliminated or minimised, so far as is reasonably practicable.

Weeds identified as *Prohibited matter* means that the plant (or any parts of the plant) must not be imported into the state, sold, bartered, exchanged or offered for sale.

Species Name Common name	Weeds identified in project area or likely in vicinity				Weed Category		Biosecurity Act 2015 and WRSW MP Requirements			
	Identified during EIS field surveys	DECCW reported weeds in region	Landowners / DPI / LLS / Council weeds in vicinity	Other environmental / agricultural weeds in vicinity	State or Regional Priority Weed	Weed of National Significance	General Biosecurity Duty applies	Prohibited matter	Notification to Local Control Authority required if identified / found	Species Specific biosecurity duty for Priority Weeds in NSW and/or Western LLS Region
<i>Lycium ferocissimum</i> African boxthorn	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		Prohibition on certain dealings Must not be imported into the state, sold, bartered, exchanged or offered for sale. Regional Recommended Measure Land managers mitigate the risk of the plant spreading from their land. Land managers reduce impact of plant on priority assets (riparian areas and floodplains).
<i>Parthenium hysterophorus</i> Parthenium weed Note that there are no occurrences of Parthenium weed in the Western LLS region, however, it has been included to ensure any plant / equipment relevant to Division 8, Clause 35 of the <i>Biosecurity Regulation, 2017</i> is appropriately managed.					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Prohibited Matter A person who deals with prohibited matter or a carrier of prohibited matter is guilty of an offence. A person who becomes aware of or suspects the presence of prohibited matter must immediately notify the Department of Primary Industries Prohibition on certain dealings The following equipment <u>must not be imported into NSW from Queensland</u> : grain harvesters (including the comb or front), comb trailers (including the comb or front), bins used for holding grain during harvest operations, augers or similar for moving grain, vehicles used to transport grain harvesters, support vehicles driven in paddocks during harvest operations, mineral exploration drilling rigs and vehicles used to transport those rigs, unless set out as an exception in Division 5, Part 2 of the <i>Biosecurity Order (Permitted Activities) 2017</i> .

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Species Name Common name	Weeds identified in project area or likely in vicinity				Weed Category		Biosecurity Act 2015 and WRSW MP Requirements			
	Identified during EIS field surveys	DECCW reported weeds in region	Landowners / DPI / LLS / Council weeds in vicinity	Other environmental / agricultural weeds in vicinity	State or Regional Priority Weed	Weed of National Significance	General Biosecurity Duty applies	Prohibited matter	Notification to Local Control Authority required if identified / found	Species Specific biosecurity duty for Priority Weeds in NSW and/or Western LLS Region
										Note from Western Local Land Services Weed Identification Guide Parthenium weed is not currently present in the Western Local Land Services region.
<i>Tamarix spp.</i> Athel pine		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		Prohibition on certain dealings Must not be imported into the state, sold, bartered, exchanged or offered for sale.
<i>Xanthium spinosa</i> Bathurst burr				✓			✓			NA
<i>Alternanthera philoxeroides</i> Alligator weed					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Prohibition on certain dealings Must not be imported into the state, sold, bartered, exchanged or offered for sale. Biosecurity Zone The Alligator Weed Biosecurity Zone is established for all land within the state except land in the following regions: Greater Sydney; Hunter (but only in the local government areas of City of Lake Macquarie, City of Maitland, City of Newcastle or Port Stephens). The local control authority must be notified of any new infestations of this weed within the Biosecurity Zone. Note from Western Local Land Services Region Priority Weed Identification Guide: Alligator weed is not currently present in the Western Local Land Services region; however there are infestations further upstream in the Murray and Murrumbidgee catchments.
<i>Eichhornia crassipes</i> Water hyacinth					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Prohibition on certain dealings Must not be imported into the state, sold, bartered, exchanged or offered for sale. Biosecurity Zone The Water Hyacinth Biosecurity Zone applies to all land within the State, except for the following regions: Greater Sydney or North Coast, North West (but only the local government area of Moree Plains), Hunter (but only in the local government areas of City of Cessnock, City of Lake Macquarie, MidCoast, City of Maitland, City of Newcastle

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Species Name Common name	Weeds identified in project area or likely in vicinity				Weed Category		Biosecurity Act 2015 and WRSW MP Requirements			
	Identified during EIS field surveys	DECCW reported weeds in region	Landowners / DPI / LLS / Council weeds in vicinity	Other environmental / agricultural weeds in vicinity	State or Regional Priority Weed	Weed of National Significance	General Biosecurity Duty applies	Prohibited matter	Notification to Local Control Authority required if identified / found	Species Specific biosecurity duty for Priority Weeds in NSW and/or Western LLS Region
										or Port Stephens), South East (but only in the local government areas of Eurobodalla, Kiama, City of Shellharbour, City of Shoalhaven or City of Wollongong). The local control authority must be notified of any new infestations of this weed within the Biosecurity Zone Regional Recommended Measure Land managers should mitigate the risk of new weeds being introduced to their land. The plant should not be bought, sold, grown, carried or released into the environment. Notify local control authority if found.
<i>Chrysanthemoides monilifera subsp. rotunda</i> Bitou bush				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Prohibition on certain dealings Must not be imported into the state, sold, bartered, exchanged or offered for sale. Biosecurity Zone The Bitou Bush Biosecurity Zone is established for all land within the State except land within 10 kilometres of the mean high water mark of the Pacific Ocean between Cape Byron in the north and Point Perpendicular in the south. The local control authority must be notified of any new infestations of this weed within the Biosecurity Zone
<i>Chrysanthemoides monilifera subsp. monilifera</i> Boneseed		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Prohibition on certain dealings Must not be imported into the state, sold, bartered, exchanged or offered for sale. Control Order - Boneseed Control Zone: Whole of NSW Owners and occupiers of land on which there is boneseed must notify the local control authority of new infestations. A person who deals with a carrier of boneseed must ensure the plant (and any seed and propagules) is not moved from the land; and immediately notify the local control authority of the presence of the plant.
<i>Cylindropuntia fulgida</i> Boxing glove/coral cactus			✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Prohibition on certain dealings Must not be imported into the state, sold, bartered, exchanged or offered for sale. Regional Recommended Measure Land managers should mitigate the risk of new weeds being introduced to their land. The plant should not be

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Species Name Common name	Weeds identified in project area or likely in vicinity				Weed Category		Biosecurity Act 2015 and WRSW MP Requirements			
	Identified during EIS field surveys	DECCW reported weeds in region	Landowners / DPI / LLS / Council weeds in vicinity	Other environmental / agricultural weeds in vicinity	State or Regional Priority Weed	Weed of National Significance	General Biosecurity Duty applies	Prohibited matter	Notification to Local Control Authority required if identified / found	Species Specific biosecurity duty for Priority Weeds in NSW and/or Western LLS Region
										bought, sold, grown, carried or released into the environment. Notify local control authority if found.
<i>Asparagus asparagoides</i> Bridal creeper		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		Prohibition on certain dealings: Must not be imported into the state, sold, bartered, exchanged or offered for sale. *this requirement also applies to the Western Cape form of bridal creeper Regional Recommended Measure: Land managers mitigate the risk of the plant spreading from their land. Land managers reduce impact of plant on priority assets (riparian areas and commercial horticultural areas).
<i>Ambrosia confertiflora</i> Burr ragweed			✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	Regional Recommended Measure Land managers should mitigate the risk of new weeds being introduced to their land. The plant should not be bought, sold, grown, carried or released into the environment. Notify local control authority if found.
<i>Tribulus terrestris</i> Caltrops or Cat-head	✓		✓							NA
<i>Oenothera curtiflora</i> Clock weed			✓		✓				✓	Regional Recommended Measure Land managers should mitigate the risk of new weeds being introduced to their land. The plant should not be bought, sold, grown, carried or released into the environment. Notify local control authority if found. Note from Western LLS Region Priority Weed Guide Land managers should notify their local shire council or Western Local Land Services immediately if they have found or suspect that clockweed is present on their land. Minor use permits currently exist for a small number of herbicides if larger infestations are encountered.
<i>Opuntia spp.</i> Prickly pears	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		Prohibition on certain dealings Must not be imported into the state, sold, bartered, exchanged or offered for sale. For all <i>Opuntia</i> species except for <i>Opuntia ficus-indica</i> (Indian fig).

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Species Name Common name	Weeds identified in project area or likely in vicinity				Weed Category		Biosecurity Act 2015 and WRSW MP Requirements			
	Identified during EIS field surveys	DECCW reported weeds in region	Landowners / DPI / LLS / Council weeds in vicinity	Other environmental / agricultural weeds in vicinity	State or Regional Priority Weed	Weed of National Significance	General Biosecurity Duty applies	Prohibited matter	Notification to Local Control Authority required if identified / found	Species Specific biosecurity duty for Priority Weeds in NSW and/or Western LLS Region
										Regional Recommended Measure Land managers mitigate the risk of the plant spreading from their land. Land managers mitigate the risk of the plant being introduced to their land. The plant or parts of the plant are not traded, carried, grown or released into the environment. This Regional Recommended Measure applies to all species of <i>Opuntia</i> except for <i>Opuntia ficus-indica</i> (Indian fig). <u>Related species:</u> Aaron's beard prickly pear Blind cactus Bunny ears cactus Chicken dance cactus Common pear Smooth tree pear Tiger pear Velvety tree pear Wheel cactus
<i>Opuntia stricta</i> Common pear			✓		✓	✓		✓		Prohibition on certain dealings Must not be imported into the state, sold, bartered, exchanged or offered for sale. Regional Recommended Measure Land managers mitigate the risk of the plant spreading from their land. Land managers mitigate the risk of the plant being introduced to their land. The plant or parts of the plant are not traded, carried, grown or released into the environment. Land managers reduced impact of the plant on priority assets (grazing, conservation and urban areas). Note from Western LLS Region Priority Weed Guide Land managers with infestations can contact Western Local Land Services to organise a release of biocontrol agents, which will kill the plants over time. Isolated plants can be dug up and then buried or burned, or treated with a herbicide registered for that purpose. Land managers should take measures that reduce impact of prickly pear on

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Species Name Common name	Weeds identified in project area or likely in vicinity				Weed Category		Biosecurity Act 2015 and WRSW MP Requirements			
	Identified during EIS field surveys	DECCW reported weeds in region	Landowners / DPI / LLS / Council weeds in vicinity	Other environmental / agricultural weeds in vicinity	State or Regional Priority Weed	Weed of National Significance	General Biosecurity Duty applies	Prohibited matter	Notification to Local Control Authority required if identified / found	Species Specific biosecurity duty for Priority Weeds in NSW and/or Western LLS Region
										grazing lands, conservation areas and urban areas and mitigate the risk of the plant spreading to other properties.
<i>Pennisetum setaceum</i> Fountain grass (also identified as <i>Cenchrus setaceus</i>)		✓					✓			NA
<i>Arundo donax</i> Giant reed					✓		✓			Regional Recommended Measure Exclusion zone: whole region except for the core infestation area of Wentworth Shire Council Wentworth Shire Council Area Land managers within the core infestation area (the Wentworth Shire Council) should take measures that reduce impact of giant reed on riparian areas and mitigate the risk of the plant spreading to other properties. Land managers in all other areas of the region should destroy all plants found and ensure any subsequent generations are also destroyed. Whole region: Land managers should mitigate the risk of the plant being introduced to their land. The plant should not be bought, sold, grown, carried or released into the environment.
<i>Marrubium vulgare</i> Horehound	✓		✓				✓			NA
<i>Cylindropuntia rosea</i> Hudson pear			✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Prohibition on certain dealings Must not be imported into the state, sold, bartered, exchanged or offered for sale. Regional Recommended Measure Land managers should mitigate the risk of new weeds being introduced to their land. The plant should not be bought, sold, grown, carried or released into the environment. Notify local control authority if found.
<i>Cylindropuntia imbricata</i> Rope pear			✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		Prohibition on certain dealings: Must not be imported into the state, sold, bartered, exchanged or offered for sale. All species in the <i>Cylindropuntia</i> genus have this requirement.

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Species Name Common name	Weeds identified in project area or likely in vicinity				Weed Category		Biosecurity Act 2015 and WRSW MP Requirements			
	Identified during EIS field surveys	DECCW reported weeds in region	Landowners / DPI / LLS / Council weeds in vicinity	Other environmental / agricultural weeds in vicinity	State or Regional Priority Weed	Weed of National Significance	General Biosecurity Duty applies	Prohibited matter	Notification to Local Control Authority required if identified / found	Species Specific biosecurity duty for Priority Weeds in NSW and/or Western LLS Region
										Regional Recommended Measure Land managers should mitigate spread from their land. Land managers reduce impact of plant on priority assets (grazing conservation and urban areas). The plant should not be bought, sold, grown, carried or released into the environment.
<i>Alternanthera pungens</i> Khaki weed			✓	✓			✓			NA
<i>Prosopis</i> spp. Mesquite		✓			✓	✓	✓	✓		Prohibition on certain dealings Must not be imported into the state, sold, bartered, exchanged or offered for sale. All species in the genus <i>Prosopis</i> have this requirement Regional Recommended Measure Exclusion zone: whole region except for the core infestation area of Evelyn, Yantara, Mootwingee, Yancowinna, Menindee, Tandora, Livingstone and Windeyer counties Whole region: Land managers should mitigate the risk of the plant being introduced to their land. The plant should not be bought, sold, grown, carried or released into the environment.
<i>Xanthium occidentale</i> Noogoora burr				✓			✓			NA
<i>Asphodelus fistulosus</i> Onion weed	✓		✓				✓			NA
<i>Solanum elaeagnifolium</i> Silver-leaf nightshade		✓			✓	✓	✓	✓		Prohibition on certain dealings Must not be imported into the state, sold, bartered, exchanged or offered for sale. Regional Recommended Measure Land managers mitigate the risk of the plant spreading from their land. Land managers reduce impact of plant on priority assets (dryland farming areas).
<i>Cenchrus</i> spp. Spiny burgrass	✓				✓		✓	✓		Regional Recommended Measure Land managers mitigate the risk of the plant spreading from their land. Land managers reduce impact of plant on

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Species Name Common name	Weeds identified in project area or likely in vicinity				Weed Category		Biosecurity Act 2015 and WRSW MP Requirements			
	Identified during EIS field surveys	DECCW reported weeds in region	Landowners / DPI / LLS / Council weeds in vicinity	Other environmental / agricultural weeds in vicinity	State or Regional Priority Weed	Weed of National Significance	General Biosecurity Duty applies	Prohibited matter	Notification to Local Control Authority required if identified / found	Species Specific biosecurity duty for Priority Weeds in NSW and/or Western LLS Region
Note two species listed as Priority Weeds for Western LLS Region: <i>Cenchrus longissimus</i> and <i>Cenchrus spinifex</i> syn. <i>Cenchrus incertus</i>)										priority assets (commercial horticultural areas, grazing lands and conservation areas). The plant or parts of the plant are not traded, carried, grown or released into the environment.
<i>Datura spp.</i> Thornapple			✓				✓			NA
<i>Searsia lancea</i> Willow rhus					✓		✓		✓	Regional Recommended Measure Land managers should mitigate the risk of new weeds being introduced to their land. The plant should not be bought, sold, grown, carried or released into the environment. Notify local control authority if found.
<i>Salix spp.</i> Willows			✓			✓	✓	✓		Prohibition on certain dealings Must not be imported into the state, sold, bartered, exchanged or offered for sale. All species in the <i>Salix</i> genus have this requirement, except <i>Salix babylonica</i> (weeping willows), <i>Salix x calodendron</i> (pussy willow) and <i>Salix x reichardtii</i> (sterile pussy willow).
<i>Emex australis</i> (now re-named as <i>Rumex hypogaeus</i>) Spiny emex (Also known as: cathead, doublegee, prickly jacks, three-cornered jacks)	✓			✓			✓			NA
<i>Nicotiana glauca</i> Tree Tobacco	✓			✓			✓			NA
<i>Brassica tournefortii</i> Wild / Mediterranean turnip	✓		✓				✓			Noted as Herbicide resistant weed in Additional species of concern Appendix 2 Western Regional Strategic Weed Management Plan 2017 - 2022

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Species Name Common name	Weeds identified in project area or likely in vicinity				Weed Category		Biosecurity Act 2015 and WRSW MP Requirements			
	Identified during EIS field surveys	DECCW reported weeds in region	Landowners / DPI / LLS / Council weeds in vicinity	Other environmental / agricultural weeds in vicinity	State or Regional Priority Weed	Weed of National Significance	General Biosecurity Duty applies	Prohibited matter	Notification to Local Control Authority required if identified / found	Species Specific biosecurity duty for Priority Weeds in NSW and/or Western LLS Region
<i>Carrichtera annua</i> Ward's weed	✓		✓	✓			✓			Noted as 'other' in Additional species of concern Appendix 2 Western Regional Strategic Weed Management Plan 2017 - 2022
<i>Echium plantagineum</i> Paterson's Curse	✓			✓			✓			NA
<i>Onopordum acaulon</i> Stemless thistle	✓						✓			NA
<i>Hordeum glaucum</i> Barley Grass	✓		✓				✓			Noted as Herbicide resistant weed in Additional species of concern Appendix 2 Western Regional Strategic Weed Management Plan 2017 – 2022.
<i>Limonium lobatum</i> Winged sea lavender	✓		✓				✓			Noted as 'other' in Additional species of concern Appendix 2 Western Regional Strategic Weed Management Plan 2017 – 2022.
<i>Sonchus oleraceus</i> Common sow thistle	✓						✓			Noted as Herbicide resistant weed in Additional species of concern Appendix 2 Western Regional Strategic Weed Management Plan 2017 – 2022.
Vertebrate Pests • rabbits; • foxes; • kangaroos; • goats; • wild dogs; • feral pigs; and • feral cats.			✓							NA Where identified property owners will be advised as a courtesy.
Sheep Footrot			✓				✓		✓	The occurrence of sheep footrot in the vicinity of the proposal study area has been low in recent years. DPI (2016) reported no flocks were quarantined for footrot in either March 2014 or December 2015. Duty to Notify There is a duty to notify any awareness or suspicion of notifiable matter or a biosecurity event. The duty to notify is detailed in the Biosecurity Act 2015 (Sections 30 and 38) and the Biosecurity Regulation 2019 (clause 7).

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EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section) Biosecurity Management Plan

Species Name Common name	Weeds identified in project area or likely in vicinity				Weed Category		Biosecurity Act 2015 and WRSW MP Requirements			
	Identified during EIS field surveys	DECCW reported weeds in region	Landowners / DPI / LLS / Council weeds in vicinity	Other environmental / agricultural weeds in vicinity	State or Regional Priority Weed	Weed of National Significance	General Biosecurity Duty applies	Prohibited matter	Notification to Local Control Authority required if identified / found	Species Specific biosecurity duty for Priority Weeds in NSW and/or Western LLS Region
Ovine Johne's disease			✓				✓		✓	The landowners consulted confirmed that footrot and OJD has not been a significant problem in the past and is unlikely to readily spread in the proposal study area. Duty to Notify There is a duty to notify any awareness or suspicion of notifiable matter or a biosecurity event. The duty to notify is detailed in the Biosecurity Act 2015 (Sections 30 and 38) and the <i>Biosecurity Regulation 2019</i> (clause 7).
Potato Biosecurity Zone							✓	✓		The potato biosecurity zone restricts the movement of any potato biosecurity matter into the potato biosecurity zone.
Greater Sunraysia Pest Free Area							✓			There is a ban on bringing fresh fruit and vegetables into the Pest Free Area (including Wentworth LGA) to ensure that the area remains pest free, there is a ban on bringing fresh fruit and vegetables into the area.
Phylloxera Exclusion Zone							✓	✓		The project area is included with the Phylloxera Exclusion Zone and is related to the movement of grapes, grapevine plant material and soil / organic materials from vineyards that are within Infestation and Risk Zones coming into the Exclusion area. The project area is not within any current Infested Zone or Risk Zone. Not generally applicable to project activities, however, Phylloxera can be transported on machinery and vehicles.

The above table has been compiled by cross referencing the following information:

Appendix D Revised Biodiversity Development Assessment Report

EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section) Technical Paper 3: Agricultural land impact assessment

Appendices C-2 and C-3 *EnergyConnect (NSW - Western Section) Technical paper 1 – Biodiversity Development Assessment Report*

<https://weeds.dpi.nsw.gov.au/>

https://www.lls.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0006/722391/Western-RSWMP-web.pdf

<https://weeds.dpi.nsw.gov.au/WeedListPublics/CategoryResults?showImages=True&categoryId=1&pageTitle=Weeds%20of%20National%20Significance>

Western Local Land Services Region Priority Weed Identification Guide (DPI LLS, May 2020)

Western Regional Strategic Weed Management Plan 2017 – 2022 (DPI LLS May 2017)

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3.2 Pest animal species

The EIS advised that during consultation, local landholders and the Western Local Land Services (LLS) biosecurity officer identified the following main vertebrate pest species in the area:

- rabbits;
- foxes;
- kangaroos;
- goats;
- wild dogs;
- feral pigs; and
- feral cats.

Common carp is also present throughout all major river systems in the Western LLS region (Western LLS, 2018). Plague locusts can also cause problems in favourable seasons.

It is important to note that goats and pigs can pose significant biosecurity, economic and social threats to the Western region as they can transmit endemic and exotic disease.

The Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water reported that feral donkeys and deer were increasing in abundance in the Lower Murray Darling region, but numbers were still at low levels.

3.3 Potential animal diseases

The EIS Technical Paper 3 concluded that the occurrence of sheep footrot has been low in recent years with only one flock out of 861 flocks being quarantined in 2015.

The study area is in a “low prevalence area” of Ovine Johne’s disease (OJD) in 2011 with an estimated infected flock proportion of less than 0.8 per cent (DPI, 2011). No known OJD infections were reported during landowner consultations.

Landowners confirmed the above-mentioned diseases have not been an issue in the past and are unlikely to spread, however stock movement due to the drought could increase their incidence.

Horticultural enterprises are particularly susceptible to plant diseases and pests. Parts of the study area are located in plant quarantine zones including the:

- Greater Sunraysia Pest Free Area - aimed at preventing the entry of the Queensland fruit fly by banning certain fruit and vegetables from entering the area;
- Phylloxera Exclusion Zone - bans taking grapevines, cuttings or budwood into this zone;
- Potato Biosecurity Zone - bans the movement of plants belonging to the Solanaceae family and associated matter into this zone.

It is unlikely that the proposed activities will introduce any prohibited matter in relation the above potential animal and pest diseases.

4 Biosecurity risks and impacts

There are risks that animal diseases, plant diseases, feral pests and (especially) weeds could be introduced or spread during the construction of the proposal through vegetation clearing, ground disturbance and vehicle, machinery or construction personnel movements. Soil borne biosecurity hazards could also be spread by soil erosion and water runoff associated with construction works.

These risks are identified within the Environmental Aspect and Impact Register within Appendix A3 of the CEMP.

4.1 Risk of weed spread

The risk of weed spread is generally highest during the earthworks phase of construction, due to the high frequency of vehicle movements and disturbance of ground cover and soil, which could lead to weed growth. Some species of weeds are readily spread by vehicles, machinery and human activity, including cactuses, spiny burrgrass, khaki weed, Noogoora burr and Bathurst burr.

Biosecurity incidents (as defined in Section 5) have the potential to impact surrounding agricultural enterprises due to the costs of monitoring pests, weeds or diseases and implementing control measures as well as the reduced income caused by loss of livestock, crop or pasture production and lower produce quality.

To minimise the risk of biosecurity incidents occurring due to construction, mitigation measures would be implemented to avoid the spread of weeds. In addition, the study area lies within the biosecurity zones for alligator weed, bitou bush and water hyacinth (as per the *Biosecurity Regulation 2017*), which means that the local control authority would need to be notified of a new infestation of the weeds as well as action undertaken by the contractor to eradicate, destroy or suppress the weeds.

4.2 Risk of livestock disease / pathogens

There is the potential for livestock diseases to be spread during construction of the proposal including:

- ovine footrot, which is an important risk despite its low current prevalence due to the relative ease of its spread and economic consequences due to impacts to stock health, productivity and value, as well as disease control costs
- ovine Johne's disease, which can result in significant economic losses due to sheep deaths, lost meat production, fewer lambs and less wool
- sheep lice, which can cause significant losses in sheep enterprises due to treatment costs, reduced wool growth and lower meat production.

Under the *Biosecurity Act 2015* Schedule 1, ovine footrot and Ovine Johne's disease are notifiable diseases.

However, considering the low density livestock and low prevalence of disease in the area, the overall risk of spreading these livestock diseases during construction is low.

4.3 Risk of other pests

The most significant pest animals in the vicinity of the proposal study area are pigs, foxes and rabbits, which may result in economic impacts on livestock and crop enterprises due to lamb predation, fence damage or consumption of pasture and crops. However, construction activities are unlikely to significantly change the number or movement patterns of these pests.

5 Weed pest and pathogen management

The management of weeds is based on managing the risk of introducing new weeds to any project work areas during the construction phase due to project activities.

Safeguards and management measures will be implemented to avoid, minimise or manage impacts from the introduction and spread of weeds. These are summarised in Table 5.1 below.

5.1 Training and awareness

Construction personnel and subcontractors will be inducted in the importance of preventing weeds from entering the project and the measures which must be taken for vehicles, machinery and plant used on the project.

5.2 Vehicle and mobile equipment weed hygiene when arriving on the project

In order to minimise the risk of any new weeds being introduced to the project, vehicles, and mobile plant shall be inspected on arrival at the construction compounds by the SecureEnergy Plant Department (or their delegate). In accordance with project onboarding obligations, vehicle, plant and equipment hygiene inspection forms will be completed by suppliers prior to arrival on the project and presented to the Plant Department (or their delegate). If a Hygiene Inspection Form is not present or completed prior to arrival, one will be completed by the deliverer prior to inspection. If the vehicle, plant or equipment does not present clean, it will either be washed down at a site compound or be removed off the project and cleaned by the supplier at a suitable facility. A Hygiene Inspection Form shall be completed (refer to **Appendix A – Hygiene Inspection Form**). This form is an example form that may be amended during project delivery as required.

Vehicle or plant inspected will be assigned an identification number and this identification number will be used on vehicle washdown log sheets.

A copy of the Hygiene Inspection Form is to be retained on the project files and / or provided to a member of the Environmental Team.

5.3 Management of weeds, pests and or pathogens

Washdown bays will be established at designated points along the project and at compounds. Washdown bays will contain apparatus to clean vehicles, plant, equipment and footwear. The location of washdown bays will be dependent on the biosecurity risks identified in that location and confirmed with the affected landholder in the Property Management Plans referred to in Section 5.4 below. Water from washdown bays will drain to a contained sump/low point and materials (sediments) from washdown bays will be contained and disposed of in accordance with the *Waste Management Plan*.

5.4 Property Management Plans

All properties affected by the project area will have a Property Management Plan and where relevant will contain specific 'on-farm' biosecurity requirements.

Appropriate demarcation or signage (similar to below) will be installed in areas identified as having biosecurity risks or requirements as outlined in the in the Property Management plans. Figure 5.1 shows a sample Farm Biosecurity signage that is installed by property owners to indicate that a property has biosecurity requirements and/or an existing Biosecurity Management Plan. Please note that not all property owners may have this sign installed.



Figure 5.1 – Example signage advising that farm biosecurity measures exist

5.5 Incident notification

A biosecurity incident on the project means the detection of a terrestrial contaminant or terrestrial species on freight, people, plant, or equipment on the project which was not previously identified in the EIS. This would include a situation where there are weed species which were not previously identified in the EIS and are suspected to be spread to new locations as a result of project activities. This would exclude weeds which might be detected on properties or previously known locations (adjacent to or in the study area), that are distant from project activities. In the event of a biosecurity incident which has occurred as a result of construction activities, the process outlined in Section 8.2 of the CEMP will be implemented. Incident management and response will be undertaken in accordance with the incident reporting procedures detailed within the Construction Environmental Management Plan.

There are several instances that require notification in accordance with the *Biosecurity Act 2015* and *Biosecurity Regulation 2017*. These include the requirement to notify a biosecurity event and the requirement to notify a certain pest or disease.

Notification requirements with respect to biosecurity matters are detailed below.

5.5.1 Notifiable biosecurity events and prohibited matter events

In accordance with Section 39 of the *Biosecurity Act 2015* (Act), a biosecurity event is something that has, is having, or could have, a significant biosecurity impact.

In terms of the Act, a biosecurity event does not involve prohibited matter. For example, a biosecurity event could be the sudden death of a flock of birds or a herd of cattle.

Prohibited matter is defined as any species listed in Schedule 2 of the *Biosecurity Act 2015*. Schedule 2 includes pests and diseases of plants and animals, diseases of aquatic animals, pest terrestrial invertebrates, terrestrial and freshwater weeds, and aquatic pests. Examples include the diseases African swine fever, foot and mouth disease, Hendra virus and the pest species Siam weed and rubber vine. If any of these are identified on the project site by project ecologists or informed by Property Owners, during construction delivery of the project, the SecureEnergy Environmental Manager would notify Transgrid and Department of Primary Industries. A person is required to immediately notify of a biosecurity event or prohibited matter event. The SecureEnergy Environmental Manager would notify Transgrid and the Department of Primary Industries (if SecureEnergy is the occupier of the project site at the time).

5.5.2 Notifiable pests or diseases

The *Biosecurity Regulation 2017* (Regulation) includes requirements for the notification of certain pests and diseases that are found in NSW and could have a severe effect on the economy, environment or community if not managed appropriately.

Pests and diseases that require notification are listed in:

- Schedule 2 of the Act; and
- Schedule 1 of the Regulation.

In terms of diseases identified as animal diseases of concern (under the *Biosecurity Act 2015* and *Regulation*), sheep footrot and OJD are notifiable diseases.

The list of notifiable pests and diseases in the Act and Regulation is large and they typically require specialist knowledge to identify. The list is not, therefore, repeated within this plan. No notifiable pests or diseases were identified as occurring or likely to occur in the project area.. Presence of notifiable pests or diseases on the project would be identified in the Property Management Plans in consultation with landholders / property owners or as advised by Department of Primary Industries.

5.5.3 Notifiable weeds

Biosecurity zones cover most of NSW, including the project area and require landowners and occupiers to notify the local control authority in accordance with section 30 and section 38 of the *Biosecurity Act 2015* of a new infestation of the weeds, and eradicate, destroy or suppress the weeds. The Wentworth Shire Council is the local control authority for this project. Refer to table 3.1 for identification of weeds that require notification to the local control authority. Note that should Boneseed be found / identified DPIE should be notified.

The EIS Technical Paper 3 (Agricultural land impact assessment) advises that the project area lies within the biosecurity zones for alligator weed, bitou bush and water hyacinth (listed under Part 5 of the *Biosecurity Regulation 2017*). If these weeds are encountered during construction, the owner or occupier of the project site must:

- (a) if the weed is part of a new infestation of the weed on the land, notify the local control authority for the land as soon as practicable in accordance with Part 6 of the *Biosecurity Regulation 2017*, and
- (b) eradicate the weed or, if that is not practicable, destroy as much of the weed as is practicable and suppress the spread of any remaining weed.

5.5.4 Who is required to notify?

In the case of a pest or disease that is listed as prohibited matter in Schedule 2 of the *Biosecurity Act 2015* or a biosecurity event, the duty to notify applies only if the person has anything to do with the premise in which the pest and disease is identified or suspected. This could include the owner (Transgrid) or occupier of the premise (SecureEnergy).

In the case of a pest or disease that is listed as notifiable in Schedule 1 of the Regulation, the duty to notify applies to any person who is aware of the presence or suspected presence of the pest or disease.

Notification must occur within one working day of first becoming aware.

SecureEnergy will notify Transgrid and the NSW Department of Primary Industries (DPI). DPI indicates that there are several contact points based on what the issue is. As a first point of call it is recommended to contact DPI Biosecurity on 1800 680 244.

Where it is an animal pest, SecureEnergy will advise the relevant property owner (should the property owner wish to be informed).

5.6 Management measures

The management measures outlined in Table 5.1 will be implemented to minimise biosecurity impacts.

Table 5.1 – Biosecurity management measures

ID	Measurement/Requirement	When to implement	Responsibility	Source document
BS1	All construction personnel and subcontractors will attend the project induction which will include awareness of priority weeds, content regarding the importance of preventing weeds from entering the project site and the measures which must be taken for vehicles, machinery and plant used on the project.	Pre-construction Construction	HSSE Manager	Good practice
BS2	Prior to arriving on the project site, the supplier/owner of plant and equipment shall complete a Hygiene Inspection Form. If a Hygiene Inspection Form is not present or completed prior to arrival, one will be completed by the deliverer prior to inspection. All vehicles and mobile plant will be inspected on arrival at the construction compounds. A Hygiene Inspection Form with an assigned inspection number will be issued for vehicle / plant assets inspected as required. If plant or equipment arrives on the project site unclean it will either be washed down at the site compound or be removed from the project site by the supplier/owner and cleaned at an appropriate facility.	Pre-construction Construction	Subcontractor/owner/suppliers Plant Department or delegate	Good practice
BS3	The specific controls applicable to a property will be identified in consultation with the affected landholder, documented in a Property Management Plan as appropriate and implemented during all relevant site activities. The effectiveness of these controls will be regularly monitored.	Pre-construction Construction	Community and Stakeholder Engagement Team, Environmental Manager	RMM LP7
BS4	Where any of the weeds listed in the Biosecurity Plan are identified pre-construction or during construction, consultation (where relevant or required) will occur with Property Owners, Western Local Land Services (LLS), Wentworth Shire Council and/or NSW Department of Primary Industries.	Construction	Environmental Manager	RMM LP8
BS5	Cleaning of vehicles and machinery will occur at designated washdown bays prior to movement onto the construction work areas or between properties (as required by the Property Management Plans).	Construction	All personnel	RMM LP7
BS6	Water from washdown bays will drain to a contained sump/low point and materials (sediments) from washdown bays will be contained and disposed of in accordance with the <i>Waste Management Plan</i> .	Construction	Supervisor, Environmental Manager, Environmental Advisor	Good practice
BS7	Site demarcation or signage will be installed in areas of significant biosecurity risk where access is required.	Construction	Environmental Manager, Environmental Advisor	Good practice
BS8	The locations of permanent structures (and the extents of associated construction areas or compounds) will be located where possible to avoid or minimise impacts, or as agreed with the affected landholder, on locations of high biosecurity risk.	Construction	Engagement Manager, Environmental Advisor	RMM LP2
BS9	Vehicle and equipment movements across adjoining farmland, including trip numbers and locations, will be minimised where possible where localised areas of high biosecurity risks have been identified.	Construction	Supervisor, Environmental Manager, Environmental Advisor	RMM LP7

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ID	Measurement/Requirement	When to implement	Responsibility	Source document
BS10	If during construction, new infestations of notifiable weeds, pests or diseases are identified in project areas that are owned by Transgrid and/or occupied by SecureEnergy, the Environment Manager will notify Transgrid and will report the infestation to the relevant local control authority.	If required during construction only	Environmental Manager	<i>Biosecurity Act 2015</i> <i>Biosecurity Regulation 2017</i> RMM LP9
BS11	Weeds are to be identified as part of pre-clearing inspections by project ecologists.	Pre-Construction	Ecologist	Good practice
BS12	Weeds are to be managed appropriately in accordance with legislative (or local control authority) requirements and may use a range of options including but not limited to: • slashing (timing/species dependent); • onsite burning; • onsite deep burial; or • stockpile spraying.	Construction	Supervisor, Environmental Manager, Environmental Advisor	Good practice

Appendix A – Hygiene inspection form

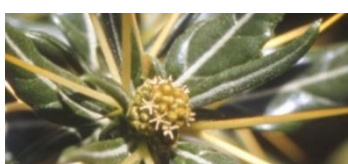
Hygiene inspection form

Part A - Information				
Date:				
Supplier/Owner of vehicle/plant:				
Description of vehicle / plant:				
Make:				
Registration No:				
Name of Operator / Driver:				
Travelling / delivered from:				
Part B – Washdown, brush down or blower log				
Location of washdown, brush down or blowing of soil and Inspection:				
Inspection criteria	Is the item free of soil?		Action required (eg cleaning of area)	
Underside of the vehicle				
Wheel arches	☐ Yes	☐ No	☐ Yes	☐ No
Mud flaps	☐ Yes	☐ No	☐ Yes	☐ No
Tyres and rims	☐ Yes	☐ No	☐ Yes	☐ No
Engine bay				
Radiator	☐ Yes	☐ No	☐ Yes	☐ No
Grill	☐ Yes	☐ No	☐ Yes	☐ No
Top of transmission gearbox	☐ Yes	☐ No	☐ Yes	☐ No
Other areas	☐ Yes	☐ No	☐ Yes	☐ No
Interior of the plant / machinery				
Foot wells	☐ Yes	☐ No	☐ Yes	☐ No
Carpet	☐ Yes	☐ No	☐ Yes	☐ No
Other				
Utes and trucks – inspect tray	☐ Yes	☐ No	☐ Yes	☐ No
Trailers – check inside of the trailer, wheels, guards				
Please provide details of any action taken as required				
Part C - Declaration				
(I, the undersigned declare that the information that I have provided in this declaration is true and correct)				
Name:				
Signature:				
Date:				
Please ensure that a copy of this form is recorded on the project files and / or provided to a member of the Environment Team.				

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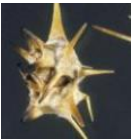
Appendix B – Identification of weeds

Weed identification guide

Common name	Species name	Images
African boxthorn	<i>Lycium ferocissimum</i>	 
Alligator weed	<i>Alternanthera philoxeroides</i>	
Athel pine	<i>Tamarix spp.</i>	 
Barley grass	<i>Hordeum glaucum</i>	
Bathurst burr	<i>Xanthium spinosa</i>	 
Bitou bush	<i>Chrysanthemoides monilifera</i> *State priority	  
Boneseed	<i>Chrysanthemoides monilifera</i>	

Common name	Species name	Images
Boxing glove/coral cactus	<i>Cylindropuntia fulgida</i>	
Bridal creeper	<i>Asparagus asparagoides</i>	
Burr ragweed	<i>Ambrosia confertiflora</i>	
Caltrops or Cat-head	<i>Tribulus terrestris</i>	  
Clock weed	<i>Oenothera curtiflora</i>	 
Common pear	<i>Opuntia stricta</i>	 
Common sow thistle	<i>Sonchus oleraceus</i>	
Fountain grass	<i>Pennisetum setaceum</i>	 

Common name	Species name	Images
Giant reed	<i>Arundo donax</i>	
Horehound	<i>Marrubium vulgare</i>	 
Hudson pear	<i>Cylindropuntia rosea</i>	 
Khaki weed	<i>Alternanthera pungens</i>	
Mediterranean turnip	<i>Brassica tournefortii</i>	
Mesquite	<i>Prosopis spp.</i>	 
Noogoora burr	<i>Xanthium occidentale</i>	 
Onion weed	<i>Asphodelus fistulosus</i>	 

Common name	Species name	Images
Parthenium weed	<i>Parthenium hysterophorus</i>	 
Paterson's curse	<i>Echium plantagineum</i>	
Prickly pear	<i>Opuntia</i> spp.	 
Rope pear	<i>Cylindropuntia imbricata</i>	  
Silver-leaf nightshade	<i>Solanum elaeagnifolium</i>	 
Spiny burrgrass	<i>Cenchrus</i> spp.	  
Spiny emex	<i>Rumex hypogaeus</i>	

Common name	Species name	Images
Stemless thistle	<i>Onopordum acaulon</i>	
Thornapple	<i>Datura spp.</i>	  
Tree tobacco	<i>Nicotiana glauca</i>	
Ward's weed	<i>Carrichtera annua</i>	
Water hyacinth	<i>Eichhornia crassipes</i>	
Willow rhus	<i>Searsia lancea</i>	
Willows	<i>Salix spp.</i>	 

Common name	Species name	Images
Winged sea lavender	<i>Limonium lobatum</i>	

Appendix E – Biodiversity mapping

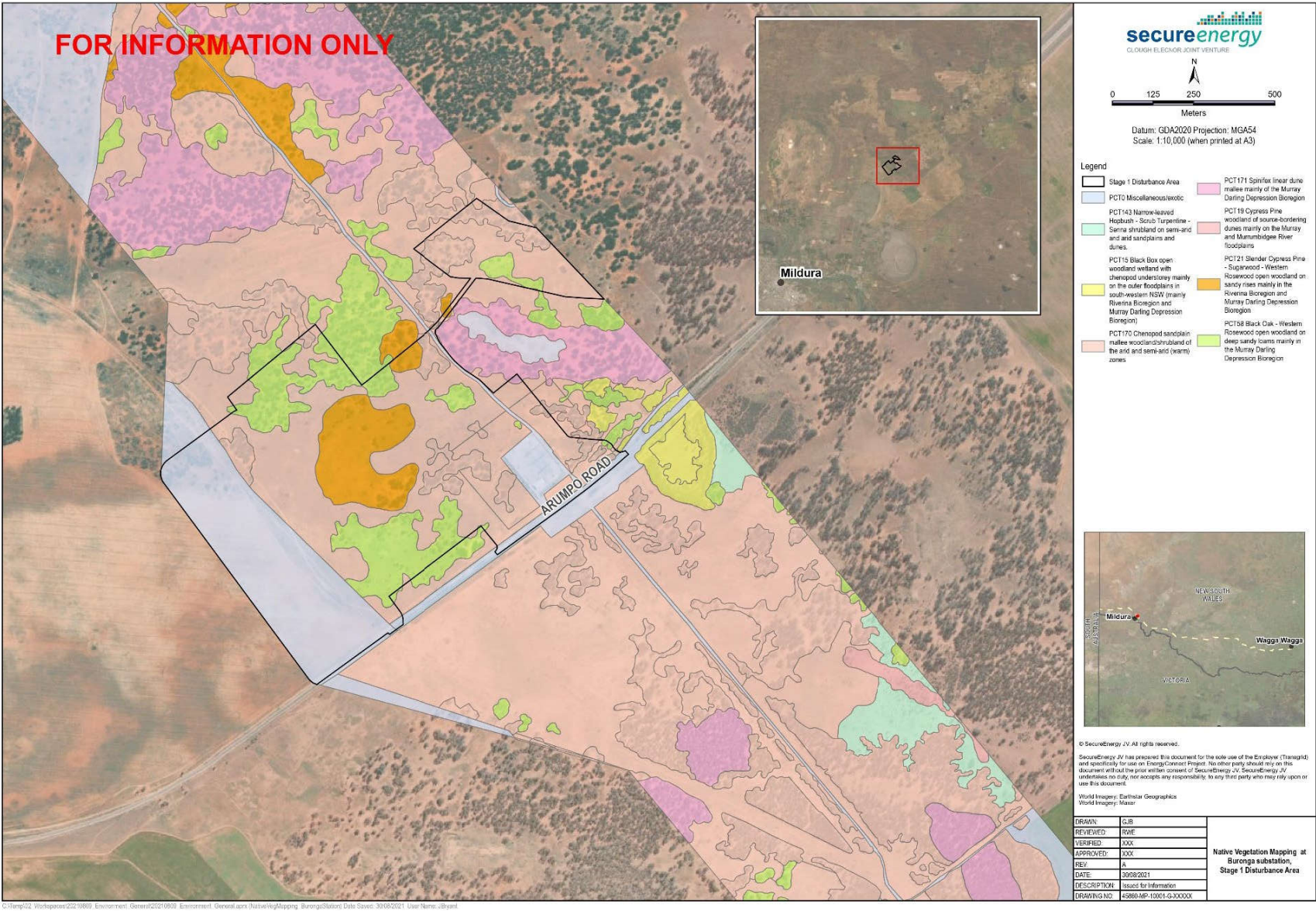


Figure E.1 - Native vegetation mapping and Threatened Ecological Communities

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Appendix F – Relevant legislation

Legislation/ Regulations	Aspect	Reference	Requirement	Applicability	Responsibility
<i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i> (EPBC Act)	Proposed action	Section 28	A person must not take an action that has, will have or is likely to have a significant impact on any of the matters of national environmental significance without approval.	Yes, the <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i> (EPBC Act) aims to protect matters of national environmental significance (MNES) including national heritage places. Following referral of the project to Department of Environment, Agriculture and Water, the project was determined on 25 June 2020 to be a controlled action under section 75 of the EPBC Act, and therefore required further assessment and approval under the <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i>. The referral number is EPBC 2020/8673. The EPBC Act controlling provisions for the proposed actions are: listed threatened species and communities (section 18 and 18A). It should be noted that no MNES were identified in the EIS or Amendment Report for the project.	Transgrid
	Bilateral Agreement	Chapter 3 Clause 45	A bilateral agreement is a written agreement between the Commonwealth and a State with the intention of protecting the environment, promoting the conservation and ecologically sustainable use of natural resources, ensuring an efficient, timely and effective process for environmental assessment and approval of actions and to minimising duplication in the environmental assessment and approval process.	EnergyConnect (NSW - Western Section) will be assessed using the bilateral assessment process in accordance Amending Agreement No. 1.	Transgrid
<i>Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016</i> (BC Act)	Flora and Fauna	All	Legislation responsible for the conservation of biodiversity in NSW through the protection of threatened flora and fauna species, populations and Endangered Ecological Communities (EECs). The Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016, together with the Biodiversity Conservation Regulation 2017, established the Biodiversity Offsets Scheme which is outlined below.	The biodiversity impacts of the project have been assessed in accordance with the BC Act, which includes the Biodiversity Assessment Method (BAM) and documented in a Biodiversity Development Assessment Report (BDAR). A Biodiversity Management Plan has been prepared and will be implemented for the project to manage the conservation and protection of threatened flora and fauna.	Transgrid

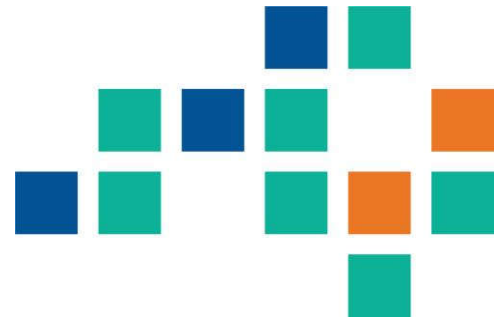
Legislation/ Regulations	Aspect	Reference	Requirement	Applicability	Responsibility
		Part 6 Division 1 Clause 6.2	This Act, and the <i>Biodiversity Conservation Regulation 2017</i> , outlines the framework for addressing impacts on biodiversity from development and clearing. Biodiversity Offsets Scheme is a framework to avoid, minimise and offset impacts on biodiversity from development and clearing, and to ensure land that is used to offset impacts is secured in-perpetuity.	As part of the assessment under the BC Act, the biodiversity offset credits has been estimated for the project and are outlined in the BDAR. Biodiversity Offset Credits is applicable for clearing on the project. Transgrid as the proponent will retire the full biodiversity offset credit liability of the development.	Transgrid
<i>Fisheries Management Act 1994</i>	Taking or possessing fish or marine vegetation	Section 37	Permit to take and possess fish or marine vegetation	A section 37 permit is required for any activity that involves taking or possessing fish or marine vegetation that would otherwise be unlawful under the <i>Fisheries Management Act 1994</i> including any collecting activities. There is currently no intention to take and possess fish or marine vegetation, however in the event that this is required, a permit would be developed.	Transgrid / SecureEnergy
	Mangroves, seagrasses and marine vegetation	Section 205	Do not harm any mangroves, seagrasses or other marine vegetation on public water land protected by the regulations without a permit.	As the project has been declared as Critical State significant infrastructure, in accordance with s.5.23 of EP&A Act, section 205 of the <i>Fisheries Management Act 1994</i> does not apply.	Not applicable
	Fish passage	Section 219	Do not block fish passage without a permit	As the project has been declared as critical State significant infrastructure, in accordance with s.5.23 of EP&A Act, section 219 of the <i>Fisheries Management Act 1994</i> does not apply.	Not applicable
<i>Biosecurity Act 2015</i>	Weeds and Pest Management	Section 22	Under Part 3 of the Biosecurity Act 2015, landowners or land managers have a general biosecurity duty to prevent, eliminate or minimise the biosecurity risk posed or likely to be posed by priority weeds. A biosecurity risk exists where priority weeds have the potential to negatively impact on agriculture, industry, the liveability of our city, human health or the environment. Invasive weeds are known as 'Biosecurity Matter' or 'Priority Weeds'.	Biosecurity matters will be discussed with the affected landholders and addressed in project management plans for each property.	Transgrid / SecureEnergy

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Legislation/ Regulations	Aspect	Reference	Requirement	Applicability	Responsibility
<i>Local Land Services Act 2013</i>	Clearing of native vegetation in regulated rural areas	Part 5A Division 3 Clause 60N and Clause 60O	Clause 60N details the offence to clear native vegetation in a regulated rural area. Clause 60O details the planning approval and authorisation for clearing native vegetation in a regulated rural area.	Yes, as detailed 60O(b) of the Act, approval and authorisation for clearing native vegetation in a regulated rural area is subject to approval of the project under Part 5 of the EP&A Act. The Infrastructure Approval will satisfy this compliance requirement.	Transgrid

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INTERNAL



Construction Environmental Management Plan EnergyConnect (NSW - Western Section) Stage 2 45860-HSE-PL-D-0017

REV	DATE	GENERAL DESCRIPTION	PREPARED	REVIEWED	VERIFIED	VERIFIED	APPROVED
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2	6/07/2022	Issued for DPE	 M.Lee	 R.Walker-Edwards	-	 B.Calligeros B.Calligeros (JUL 7, 2022 11:22 GMT+10)	 S.Basanta S.Basanta (JUL 8, 2022 15:17 GMT+10)

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Revision History	
Rev.	Detailed Description
A	Issued for internal review including aspects from <i>EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section) Submissions Report</i>
B	Issued for Transgrid review
C	Updated following receipt of draft conditions of Approval (v2)
D	Updated following receipt of Transgrid's comments and to address the Infrastructure Approval
E	Updated following receipt of Transgrid's comments
F	Updated following receipt of Environmental Representative's comments
0	Changed revision numbering from Rev F to Rev 0
1	Updated following receipt of the Department's comments.
2	Updated following receipt of the Department's comments received on 5 July 2022.

Key Document Stakeholders
To be communicated with during reviews and revisions of this document

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Abbreviations

Acronym	Definition
Amendment Report	<i>EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section) Amendment Report</i>
AS/NZ	Australian Standard/New Zealand Standard
BC Act	<i>Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016</i>
CCS	Community Communication Strategy
CEMP	Construction Environmental Management Plan
CSSI	Critical State significant infrastructure
DAWE	Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment
DPE or Department	Department of Planning and Environment
DPIE	Department of Planning, Industry and Environment, now known as Department of Planning and Environment
EECs	Endangered ecological communities
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EIS	<i>EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section) Environmental Impact Statement</i>
EMS	Environmental Management System
EP&A Act	<i>Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979</i>
EPA	Environment Protection Authority
EPBC Act	<i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i>
EPL	Environment Protection Licence
ER	Environmental Representative
FMEA	Failure mode and effects analysis
HAZID	Hazard Identification
HAZOP	Hazard and operability
HSSE	Health, Safety, Security and Environment
HSSE Manual	Health, Safety, Security and Environment Management Manual
JHA	Job hazard analysis
LGA	Local Government Area
MNES	Matters of National Environmental Significance
NCR	Non-conformance report
NEM	National Electricity Market
NP&W Act	<i>National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974</i>
NSW	New South Wales
PESCP	Progressive erosion and sediment control plan
POEO Act	<i>Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997</i>
project, the	EnergyConnect (NSW - Western Section)
Response to DPIE Request for Information	The 'additional information letter dated 10 August 2021' in the definition section of the Infrastructure Approval; document is also titled <i>EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section) Response to DPIE Request for Information – 7 May 2021 and subsequent discussions</i>
RMMS	Revised mitigation measures
ROIs	Road occupancy licences
SA	South Australia

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Acronym	Definition
SAPs	Sensitive area plans
SecureEnergy	Elecnor and Clough Projects Australia Pty Ltd have formed the SecureEnergy Joint Venture (SecureEnergy). SecureEnergy is the contractor who will be carrying out the project on behalf of Transgrid.
SSI	State significant infrastructure
Submissions Report	<i>Energy Connect (NSW – Western Section) – Submissions Report</i>
TBD	To be determined
TfNSW	Transport for NSW
Vic	Victoria
WM Act	<i>Water Management Act 2000</i>
WMS	Work method statement

1 Introduction

1.1 Context

Transgrid and ElectraNet will deliver a high voltage electricity interconnector between the power grids of South Australia (SA) and New South Wales (NSW), with an added connection to Victoria, known collectively as EnergyConnect. EnergyConnect will reduce the cost of providing secure and reliable electricity transmission between NSW, SA and north-west Victoria in the near term and facilitate the transition of the energy sector across the National Electricity Market (NEM) to low emission energy sources.

Transgrid is responsible for the portions of EnergyConnect within NSW, which includes the construction of transmission line from the NSW/SA border to Buronga, expansion of the Buronga substation, construction of transmission line from Buronga substation to the NSW/Victoria connect to the existing Red Cliff substation, and construction of transmission line from Buronga to Wagga Wagga.

Elecnor and Clough Projects Australia Pty Ltd have formed SecureEnergy for the purpose of the design and construction of EnergyConnect.

1.2 Background

On 29 August 2019 the NSW Minister for Planning and Public Spaces declared EnergyConnect a critical State significant infrastructure (CSSI) under the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act) on the basis that it is critical to the State for environmental, economic or social reasons. Within NSW, EnergyConnect is therefore subject to assessment under Part 5, Division 5.2 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act).

Transgrid have two environmental planning approval applications for the sections within NSW:

- EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section) – SA/NSW border to Buronga and Buronga to the NSW/Victorian border; and
- EnergyConnect (NSW – Eastern Section) – Buronga to Wagga Wagga.

A referral under the Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) was submitted on 27 May 2020. The Australian Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment (DAWE) determined the project to be a controlled action on 26 June 2020 and thus, it would be assessed using the bilateral assessment process. As such, the project also requires approval from the Australian Minister for the Environment under the EPBC Act.

The *EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section) Environmental Impact Statement* (EIS) was prepared for the project in October 2020 and was placed on public exhibition from 30 October 2020 to 10 December 2020. A total of 20 submissions were received, with 15 from government agencies, three from organisations and two from the public.

The *EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section) Submissions Report* (Submissions Report) was prepared for the project in response to the submissions received during the public exhibition of the EIS. The Submissions Report was finalised on 14 April 2021.

Transgrid also prepared a separate *EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section) Amendment Report* (Amendment Report) to document design changes and additional environmental assessment undertaken since exhibition of the EIS. The Amendment Report was also finalised on 14 April 2021.

On 7 May 2021, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) requested additional information (*EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section)(SSI-10040) Request for Additional Information*) to assist with the assessment of the project. In response Transgrid prepared and provided the *EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section) Response to DPIE Request for Information – 7 May 2021 and subsequent discussions* (Response to DPIE Request for Information) (May 2021). The response provided to DPIE included a *Revised Biodiversity Development Assessment Report*

(Revised BDAR) (August 2021) and the revised mitigation measures (RMMs) which are to be applied. The Response to DPIE Request for Information was dated 10 August 2021.

Approval for the project under the EP&A Act was granted by the NSW Minister for Planning and Public Spaces (Infrastructure Approval SSI 10040). Approval of the project will lapse if the project has not physically commenced the project within five years of the date the approval was granted. Approval for the project under the EPBC Act was granted by the Australian Minister for the Environment.

1.3 Scope

This Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) and the associated Stage 2 sub-plans have been prepared to describe the environmental management practices and procedures to be implemented for the construction of EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section) (the project). Section 2.3 outlines the scope of works included in Stage 2.

Once approved, this CEMP and the relevant Stage 2 CEMP sub-plans will supersede the existing Stage 1 CEMP and Stage 1 sub-plans. Refer to Section 4.3.1 for further details on the sub-plans relevant to Stage 2. This plan does not address the operational phases of the project.

All construction personnel and sub-contractors will be required to undertake works in accordance with this CEMP and the management measures identified in any relevant site-specific documents.

1.4 Purpose

This CEMP has been prepared to address the requirements of condition B1 to B6 of the Infrastructure Approval.

The purpose of this CEMP is to provide a structured approach to the management of environmental issues during construction of the project. This plan defines the environmental management principles, processes, procedures, systems, tools, and templates implemented for use throughout the duration of construction of the project with the aim to prevent and, where prevention is not reasonable and feasible, minimise environmental harm during the construction phase.

In particular, this CEMP:

- describes the project and activities to be undertaken;
- describes the environmental management system and documents that will be implemented;
- states the objectives and targets for the project;
- provides management measures to minimise environmental impacts;
- describes the roles and responsibilities of personnel in relation to environmental management;
- outlines a monitoring regime during construction; and
- supports the project team in completing the requirements of the project.

1.5 Preparation of this plan

In accordance with condition B6 of the Infrastructure Approval, this plan has been prepared by a suitably qualified and experienced person. This plan was prepared by Martin Lee and reviewed by Rebecca Walker-Edwards. This CEMP will be implemented for the duration of construction of Stage 2 of the project.

1.6 Consultation

The Infrastructure Approval requires the CEMP sub-plans to be prepared in consultation with relevant government agencies and stakeholders. The CEMP sub-plans that require consultation with the relevant stakeholders are marked with a letter 'C' as shown in Table 1.1 below.

Table 1.1 - CEMP sub-plans that require consultation

CEMP Sub-plan required under condition B2 of the Infrastructure Approval	Council	DPE Water	BCS	Heritage NSW	Aboriginal stakeholders	TfNSW
Noise and Vibration	C					
Soil and Water	C	C				
Biodiversity	C		C			
Heritage				C	C	
Traffic and Transport	C					C

In accordance with condition B3, the consultation records of the CEMP sub-plans listed under condition B2 will be provided and submitted to DPE with the relevant CEMP sub-plan.

In accordance with condition A7, consultation records of other approval documents that require consultation with an identified party will be submitted to DPE.

1.7 Submission and approval

In accordance with condition B5 of the Infrastructure Approval, the CEMP and CEMP sub-plans listed under condition B2 must be submitted and approved by the Secretary of Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (Planning Secretary) prior to the commencement of construction. The sub-plans may be submitted along with, or subsequent to, the submission of this CEMP.

The Stage 1 CEMP and CEMP sub-plans were submitted to DPE to seek approval for the commencement of Stage 1 works. This CEMP will be submitted for the Stage 2 works.

Stage 2 construction will not commence until the CEMP and CEMP sub-plans required under condition B2, or where staging is proposed the plans required for that stage, have been approved by the Planning Secretary.

Transgrid and/or SecureEnergy will comply with the requirements that arise from DPE's assessment of submitted plans, reports or audits.

Any document prepared in accordance with the Infrastructure Approval that must be prepared within a specified timeframe may be submitted within a later timeframe agreed with the Planning Secretary.

1.8 Distribution

SecureEnergy's Environmental Manager will coordinate the preparation, review and distribution, as appropriate, of the environmental documents. During construction, environmental documents will be stored electronically at the site office and will be available upon request to SecureEnergy's Environmental Manager.

This CEMP and CEMP sub-plans will be available to all personnel and sub-contractors via hard copy (if requested) or through the project document control system. Documents which are required to be made public will also be placed on the project website which is located at <https://www.projectenergyconnect.com.au>.

Registered copies will be distributed to the following:

- Project Director;
- Deputy Project Director;
- Construction Manager;
- Project HSSE Manager;

- Environmental Manager;
- Transgrid's Document Controller;
- Transgrid's Environmental Manager; and
- Environmental Representative.

1.9 Continuous improvement

The Plan-Do-Check-Act model will be applied to the continuous improvement process.

The Plan stage outlines the environmental objectives and the process to achieve the results. This is outlined through the Environmental Management System (EMS) described in Section 4 of this CEMP and supported by the Environmental Aspect and Impact Register provided within Appendix A3.

The Do stage focuses on the implementation of the EMS. Tools such as Work Packs and Work Method Statements described in Section 4.4 will be prepared to facilitate the implementation of the EMS. The Work Packs and Work Method Statements will be supported by drawings, forms and plans. The roles and responsibilities in carrying out the Do stage is provided in Section 4.9, while Section 6 outlines the various communication methods.

The Check stage comprises ongoing monitoring of the environmental management performance against the environmental objectives, for the purpose of identifying opportunities for improvement. This will be undertaken through regular environmental inspections, monitoring and auditing as described in Section 9.

The Act stage include undertaking the required actions in order to achieve the environmental objectives. Corrective and preventive actions are further described in Section 11. In addition to this, for any issues or items within the documents that are either redundant or in need of updating, it is the responsibility of the Environmental Manager to coordinate the preparation of the revised documents, as further described in Section 1.10.

1.10 Updating the CEMP

In accordance with condition E1 of the Infrastructure Approval, SecureEnergy will review and, if necessary, revise the applicable strategies, plans or programs required by the Infrastructure Approval to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary within three months of the following:

- submission of an incident report under condition E6 of the Infrastructure Approval;
- submission of an audit report under condition E11 of the Infrastructure Approval; or
- any modifications to the Infrastructure Approval.

Further to this, a document review process will be implemented to ensure that the environmental management practices and procedures which are to be implemented for construction as required by this CEMP, are updated as appropriate for the specific works that are occurring on-site. The document review process of the CEMP, sub-plans or other approval documents required under the Infrastructure Approval will be undertaken:

- in response to changes in the applicable legislation;
- where requested or required by DPE (condition A3);
- where deficiencies in the CEMP are identified in inspections, monitoring, or complaints;
- in response to project changes as described in Section 1.11; and
- annually where the above circumstances do not arise.

Should the document review process identify any issues or items within the documents that are either redundant or in need of updating, it is the responsibility of the Environmental Manager or their delegate to prepare the revised documents. The revised document will then be issued to the Project Director for internal approval and reviewed by Transgrid prior to re-issue.

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Minor changes to the CEMP, sub-plans or other approved documents required under the Infrastructure Approval may be required during delivery of the project. The Environmental Representative will consider and can approve minor changes to the CEMP, sub-plans or other approved documents. Minor changes involve updating the approved environmental documents that:

- are administrative in nature (e.g. staff and agency/authority name changes);
- do not increase impacts to nearby sensitive receivers;
- are consistent with the terms the Infrastructure Approval and the other documents approved by the Planning Secretary;
- are in response to audit findings relating to procedures and processes of the environmental management system;
- in response to changes in the applicable legislation such that the project complies with the amended legislative requirements; or
- any other changes or updates that considered minor by the Environmental Representative.

SecureEnergy will provide the documentation requested by the ER in order for the ER to perform their function.

Changes to the CEMP, sub-plans or other approved documents required under the Infrastructure Approval that are not defined as minor will be discussed with DPE to confirm the need for further review and approval. If required, the updated CEMP or sub-plans will be to the ER for endorsement prior to being submitted to DPE for review and approval.

As permitted by condition E2, with the agreement of the Planning Secretary, staged or updated strategies, plans or programs may be prepared without undertaking all of the consultation required under the applicable condition in the Infrastructure Approval.

1.11 Changes to the project

The project may only be carried out:

- in compliance with the conditions of the Infrastructure Approval;
- in accordance with all written directions of the Planning Secretary;
- generally in accordance with the EIS; and
- generally in accordance with the Development Layout in Appendix 1 of the Infrastructure Approval.

In the event of an inconsistency, ambiguity or conflict between any of the documents listed in last two dot points above, the Infrastructure Approval and/or directions of the Planning Secretary, or the most recent document between those documents would prevail to the extent of the inconsistency, ambiguity or conflict.

Amendments or changes to the project may result from detailed design refinements or changed methodologies throughout construction.

Design and construction methodology changes will be communicated to SecureEnergy's Environmental Manager. The Environmental Manager will review the proposed change in consultation with the Transgrid Environmental Manager, where required, to determine whether it is consistent with the approved project.

Changes that are not consistent with the approved project will be discussed with DPE to confirm requirements. Transgrid as the Proponent will apply for any required formal modifications to the approved project.

If any changes to the project require changes to the CEMP, the Environmental Manager will identify the required changes and update the CEMP as required by Section 1.10.

2 Project description

2.1 Overview of EnergyConnect

Transgrid and ElectraNet are currently seeking approval for the proposed construction and operation of a new electrical interconnector and network support option between NSW and SA, with an additional connection to Red Cliffs in north-west Victoria. Collectively, the proposed interconnector is known as EnergyConnect.

The interconnector is aimed at reducing the cost of providing secure and reliable electricity transmission between NSW and SA in the near term, while facilitating the transition of the energy sector across the National Electricity Market to low emission energy sources.

The preferred option involves constructing a new high voltage electricity interconnector, approximately 900km long, between the power grids of SA (starting at Robertson) and NSW (finishing in Wagga Wagga). EnergyConnect comprises several sections (as shown on Figure 2.1), being:

- Victorian section, which extends from the NSW/Victoria border to an existing electrical facility at Red Cliffs;
- NSW sections including:
 - Western section (the subject area of this CEMP) which extends from:
 - the SA/NSW border (near Chowilla in SA) to Buronga;
 - Buronga to the NSW/Victoria border at Monak (near Red Cliffs in Victoria);
 - Eastern section, which extends from Buronga to Wagga Wagga; and
- SA section, which extends from Robertson to the SA/NSW border.

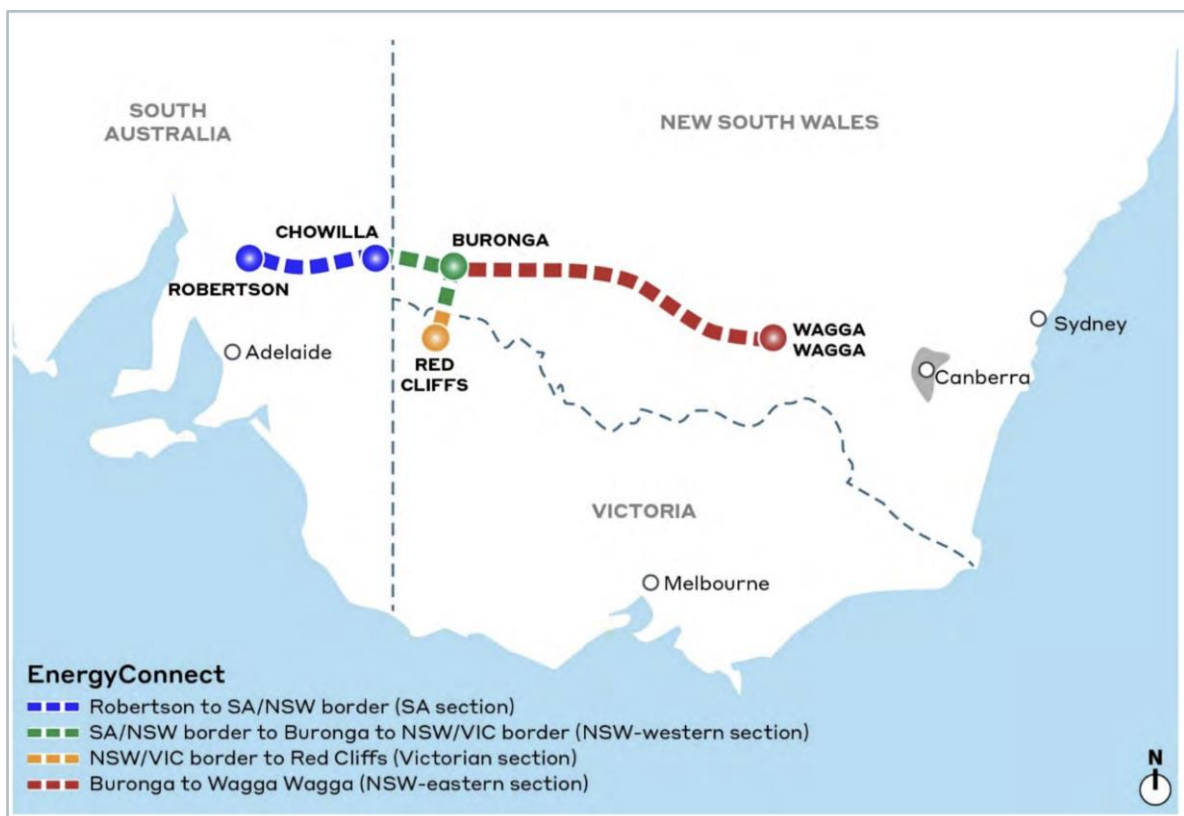


Figure 2.1 - Overview of EnergyConnect (WSP)

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2.2 EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section)

The proposed works for EnergyConnect (NSW - Western Section) will traverse from SA/NSW border (near Chowilla in SA) to Buronga and Buronga to the NSW/Victoria border at Monak (near Red Cliffs in Victoria), a distance of approximately 160 kilometres (Figure 2.2). The NSW western section is situated within the Wentworth Local Government Area (LGA).

The works for EnergyConnect (NSW - Western Section) will be delivered in two stages. Stage 1 involves works at Buronga Substation. Stage 2 involves all remaining works including but not limited to construction of approximately 135km of new 330kV double circuit transmission line, upgrade of existing 24 km long 220kV single circuit transmission line (Line 1 and Line 4) and the upgrade and expansion of the existing Buronga substation to a combined operating voltage of 220kV/330kV.

The relevant background information relating to key environment aspects is provided in Table 2.1.

Table 2.1 – Relevant environmental background

Environmental aspect	Description of key environmental aspects
Aboriginal heritage	The project within the lands of the Barkindji and Maraura people. A search of Aboriginal objects, sites and places registered on the AHIMS register identified 43 sites within the project study area (1km wide corridor). Field survey carried out in the EIS for the project identified 131 previously unrecorded Aboriginal site features, including: • 34 stone artefact scatters; • 30 scarred trees; • 29 isolated finds; • 19 sites with a combination of multiple site types; • 12 hearths; • six shell middens; and • one post contact artefact scatter (glass). Areas where the potential for subsurface archaeological material is considered to be moderate or high are defined as potential archaeological deposits (PADs). The project was also subject to additional survey in accordance with condition D29 c) of the Infrastructure Approval. Further sites were identified and described in the <i>Addendum Aboriginal Archaeological Survey Report</i> (45860-G-70005-REP-U-00010). The Heritage Management Plan also contains detail in relation to the features identified during the additional heritage survey.
Biodiversity	Twenty-three plant community types (PCTs) were identified in the project area. Two of these PCTs (PCT19 and PCT21) meet the criteria of Sandhill Pine Woodland in the Riverina, Murray-Darling Depression and NSW South Western Slopes bioregions (Sandhill Pine Woodland). This community is listed as an endangered ecological community (EEC) under the <i>Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016</i>. Field surveys carried out as part of the EIS identified five threatened flora species and 21 threatened fauna species within the project area.
Traffic and transport	The existing road network within the Wentworth LGA consists of a combination of National, State, Regional and local roads. The traffic volumes recorded outside of the major townships within the project area are typically low, while higher traffic volumes are evident near major townships due to day-to-day activities. The two key highways along the prospective haulage routes, Sturt Highway and Silver City Highway, have a bi-directional traffic volume of over 2,500 vehicles per day. Other key regional roads such as Arumpo Road have a traffic volume of approximately 300 vehicles per day in either direction and Renmark Road with the daily traffic volume recording no more than 50 vehicles per day.
Non-Aboriginal heritage	Three non-aboriginal heritage listed items of local significance were identified with curtilages that are located partially within the project area. The three heritage items are Nulla woolshed, Nulla Nulla homestead and Sturts Billabong.
Soil and water	The topography of the proposal study area is generally flat, with gentle slopes towards major watercourses including the Darling River, Darling Anabranh and the Murray River. The elevation of the proposal study area ranges between 35 and 80m Australian Height Datum (mAHD). The predominant soil types across the project area includes sand and clay or a mixture of the two. Investigations undertaken identify large proportions of very stiff to hard (calcareous) clays and dense to very dense sands.

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Environmental aspect	Description of key environmental aspects
	The majority of the project area is mapped as having low salinity potential. Published acid sulfate soils mapping indicates there is a low risk of these soils occurring across the project area, with the potential exception of areas surrounding watercourses. There are no mapped areas indicating naturally occurring asbestos minerals present. The proposal is located within the Lower Murray-Darling catchment, which is a sub-catchment of the Murray Darling Basin. There are three major watercourses which intersect the project area, these are the Great Darling Anabranch, Darling River, Murray River. There are a number of unnamed creeks occur in the project area. Water quality within the catchment is known to be impacted by existing land uses, particularly agricultural activities. Surface water run-off from agricultural areas is commonly identified as a diffuse source of high levels of nutrients, with this run-off being captured in major watercourses resulting in degradation of water quality.
Noise and vibration	Existing noise levels within and surrounding the proposal study area are influenced by the surrounding agricultural and rural residential land uses as well as local traffic. Unattended noise monitoring was undertaken at 694 Arumpo Road during 26 May and 10 June 2020 during preparation of the EIS. The EIS advises that this noise monitoring location was selected as it was considered to be representative of the existing background noise levels that would be experienced across the project. The noise monitoring reported an ambient noise level ($L_{Aeq}(15min)$) of 45dBA during the day, and 39dBA and 34dBA during the evening and night respectively.

2.3 Staging

Condition E2 allows the preparation of plans on a staged basis with the approval of the Planning Secretary. Where a plan is staged, the scope of works can be carried out without addressing the particular requirements of conditions that are not applicable to the particular stage. This CEMP and associated CEMP sub-plans are staged in accordance with condition E2.

This Construction Environmental Management Plan has been prepared specifically for EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section) Stage 2. Transgrid/SecureEnergy will notify DPE in writing via the Major Projects website portal of the date of commencing Stage 2.

The key project components of Stage 2 of construction include, but are not limited to, the activities provided in Table 2.2.

Table 2.2 - Key project components of Stage 2 of construction

Key activity	Description of key activity
Pre-construction minor works permitted in accordance with the Infrastructure Approval.	Key activities nominated in this stage will have already commenced as part of the pre-construction minor works permitted in accordance with the Infrastructure Approval. The definition of 'construction' within the Infrastructure Approval excludes these activities. They will therefore not be subject to the Stage 2 CEMP and CEMP sub-plans. Irrespective of this, these activities will occur in accordance with the relevant conditions of the Infrastructure Approval. Key activities include: • environmental investigations, including biodiversity and heritage protection, salvage and recordings; • Aboriginal heritage assessment, mitigation (ie exclusions zones) and salvage activities including subsurface testing/test excavation, additional survey, and consultation with RAPs; • other survey work, such as road dilapidation surveys, and surveys of the general alignment and existing utilities; • installing of environmental management measures, fencing, enabling works; and • connections and pre-commissioning of utilities (wastewater treatment plant, electrical power, lighting etc.).

Key activity	Description of key activity
Continuation of any outstanding Stage 1 construction activities	Construction activities undertaken during Stage 1 of the project will continue where required. This includes, but is not limited to continuation of the following activities: - any outstanding construction earthworks activity at the Buronga substation; - operation of the Buronga earthworks material site, including the crushing and screening plant, where required; - operation of the Buronga construction compound including offices and laydown area; and - use of access and egress points.
Establishment of Wentworth accommodation camp	The main activities that would be undertaken at the Wentworth accommodation camp and construction compound and the Anabran South ancillary construction site include: - clearing of vegetation within the disturbance area; - clearing and removal of topsoils. Topsoil would be stockpiled on site for later reuse; - establishing the Wentworth accommodation and associated facilities, site offices, amenities, wastewater treatment plant, power generators, hazardous material and fuel storage area, and internal roads; - establishing and operating Wentworth construction including but not limited to amenities compound site offices, concrete batching plant, internal roads and other ancillary facilities; and - establishing and operating Anabran South ancillary construction site laydown areas, vehicle and equipment storage, maintenance sheds, potential stockpile areas, demountable offices and parking.
Establishment and operation of Wentworth construction compound	
Establishment and operation of Anabran South ancillary construction site	
Buronga substation upgrade and expansion	The existing Buronga 220kV substation would be upgraded and expanded to add a new 330kV substation on the land parcel adjacent to the existing 220kV substation. The upgrade and expansion of the Buronga substation would consist of the following key activities in addition to the works undertaken during Stage 2 of construction: - civil works including: - underground mesh installation (earthing grid); - foundation and footing works for the electrical equipment; and - installation of the synchronous condenser (SynCon) building slab. - mechanical works including: - erection of the SynCon, transformers, shunt reactor and capacitor banks; - installation of oil treatment; - gantry erection; - installation of electrical equipment; - installation of supporting steel structure; - overhead HV cables and cable pulling; - outdoor installation of lighting and lightning systems; - switchyard building installation (including control equipment); and - construction of the SynCon building. - electrical works including: - LV cable pulling, cable dressing and terminations; and - outdoor installation of the lighting system.
Establishment ancillary facilities along the transmission line corridor in areas that do not require additional heritage survey or test excavation.*	A number of minor staging, storage and laydown ancillary areas would be required within the project corridor for temporary storage of materials, plant and equipment required to construct the various elements of the proposal (in particular transmission line structures). Some temporary mobile batching plant locations may also need to be established to enable for easily access to concrete. Upon completion of works, these ancillary sites would be cleared of any temporary infrastructure and equipment, and rehabilitated. These sites would be

Key activity		Description of key activity
		in place for shorter periods at locations suitable to support the construction works as they move along the alignment.
Property adjustment work, including adjustments to property fencing		Installation or adjustment of gates and fences would be required at some locations along the alignment to enable access from the nearest roadway to construction areas. These would be constructed in consultation with the relevant council and/or affected landholder.
Water supply points – establishment and/or use		A series of water supply points have been identified as suitable connection points to existing water supply pipelines. The proposed water supply points which are to be established and / or used include: • Alcheringa Drive, Buronga; • Modica Crescent, Buronga; • Fletchers Lake Drive, Dareton; • Beverley Street, Wentworth; and • 690 Pomona Road, Pomona/Oxley Drive, Pomona.
Construct access points		The establishment of access points would include: • establishing vehicle access and egress points including adjustment of state and regional roads to ensure safe vehicle movements; and • establishing truck wheel wash or rumble grids. The definition of construction within the Infrastructure Approval does not include road upgrades (which includes access points). Road upgrade works are, however, incorporated within the Traffic and Transport Management Plan as required by condition D40 b).
Construct access tracks		Access to each tower would be required during construction. Access tracks would be required to be traversable by a range of vehicles. Access tracks would fall into two broad groups: • un-improved access tracks - using existing roads or tracks, or driving on existing soil or ground surface with minimal or no prior preparation; and • constructed access tracks – around six metres wide and would generally follow the natural contour of the land as far as practicable to minimise the amount of cut and fill and soil disturbance. Access tracks would also include drainage control features such as table drains or cross banks to minimise erosion. Constructed access tracks would be required in areas, outside identified heritage risk zones, where there are no existing roads or tracks, or where terrain conditions prevent continuous access along the line easement between road crossings.
Temporary works		The project will require a significant quantity of temporary works during construction. Temporary works will be undertaken outside identified heritage risk zones. The temporary works will includes, but not limited to, the following: • earthworks, including trenches, excavations, temporary slopes, stockpiles, and embankments; • structures, such as formwork, shoring, edge protection, temporary bridges, solid fencing/guardrails/barriers and signage, temporary scaffold; and • equipment/plant foundations, such as work platforms, crane, and piling platforms.
Transmission line construction	Earthworks and transmission tower footing construction	Excavation works and establishment of construction pads at each tower site would be required for the installation of foundations, levelling around the individual tower foundations, drainage and grading or preparation for construction at the tower site. Excavations would typically be up to five metres in depth. Construction of footings and foundation works for the new transmission line towers includes: • piling. Typical transmission line tower piling depth would be generally up to 6-15 metres below ground level and would depend on ground conditions (e.g. greater piling depths would be required where soft soil types are present). The foundation type would also vary (subject to detailed design) but would consist of either: – bored pile (reinforced concrete);

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Key activity		Description of key activity
		– driven or screw pile (concrete or steel); and – helical screw anchor, or cast in-situ reinforced concrete. • excavation to create bench sites (stepped ground excavation) where required to provide a level platform for equipment setup, the erection of the tower and other construction activities. Benching would be constructed by use of earthing equipment such as graders and excavators; • steel fabrication works; and • concrete pours.
	Assembly and erection of transmission line towers	The transmission line towers would typically be erected by assembling in sections on the ground and hoisting or lifting successive sections into place using cranes. Alternatively, towers may be erected in place on the footings by installing individual members. These towers would include infrastructure such as step bolts, climbing attachment plates, ladders, platforms, climbing barriers, identification plates, warning plates, other fixtures and fittings for the attachment of earthwires and insulators.
	Stringing of transmission lines including conductors and overhead earth wires and optical ground wire	Following erection and securing of the tower, the transmission line would be strung by either a ground pulled draw wire (with brake/winch sites) or a line stringing drone. The area required for the construction of each tower would require access for tower assembly and stringing works. Where a transmission tower is proposed to allow for a direction change of the transmission line, a larger area would be required (to allow for brake and winching sites). At a typical site, this would include a temporary area of up around 60 metres by 80 metres at each transmission line tower location. Stringing of transmission line would also be required across the following three major watercourses: • the Great Darling Anabranh, Wentworth NSW; • Darling River, Ellerslie NSW; and • Murray River, Monak NSW / Red Cliffs Victoria. The general construction methodology is to assemble and erect a transmission line structure on either side of each major river crossing. A drone would then be used to take a lead wire over the river to allow cables to then be pulled and strung tower to tower.
	Installation of earthing conductors	The following key activities will be undertaken: • installation of earthing conductors at each of the transmission tower arms; and • installation of earthing or isolation sections of fences and gates where the transmission line crosses or closely runs parallels to a metallic fence.
Utility adjustments and protection		Utility adjustment works would be required to convert several overhead distribution powerlines up to and including 66kV to underground cables. The existing alignment of the Broken Hill transmission line would require relocation at two locations. This would comprise of: • a permanent relocation of the existing transmission line in the vicinity of the Darling River. This would require the construction of two new monopoles, and the stringing of conductors/earth wires between the existing and new structures. The redundant tower would be decommissioned; and • a temporary relocation of a section of the existing transmission line that currently passes through the existing Buronga substation. This would be temporarily relocated around 200 metres to the east of its current alignment (along the eastern boundary of the existing substation site). Once the construction works to upgrade the substation are completed, the alignment of the 220kV Broken Hill line would be restored in a location generally consistent with the original line location. General utility protection and adjustment works, where required, to allow for the Buronga substation expansion and upgrades works to occur, the establishment and operation of the construction compound and accommodation camps, and where else required.

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Key activity	Description of key activity
Decommissioning of existing infrastructure	Decommissioning and removal of: - the existing 220 kV transmission line between Buronga substation and the NSW/Victoria border; - the temporary bypass transmission line infrastructure installed to allow construction of the new double circuit 220kV line; and - a single tower on the existing 220kV Broken Hill line in the vicinity of the Darling River.
Progressive site rehabilitation and landscaping	Site rehabilitation would be carried out progressively along completed sections of the transmission line as well as the expanded substation site. These activities includes: - removal of redundant environmental controls within the transmission tower footprint; and - removal of temporary equipment and machinery.

Some activities nominated in this stage will have already commenced as part of the pre-construction minor works permitted in accordance with the Infrastructure Approval. Following approval of the CEMP for Stage 2, these works will remain excluded from the definition of 'construction' and therefore which are not subject to the CEMP. Irrespective of this, these activities will occur in accordance with the relevant conditions of the Infrastructure Approval.

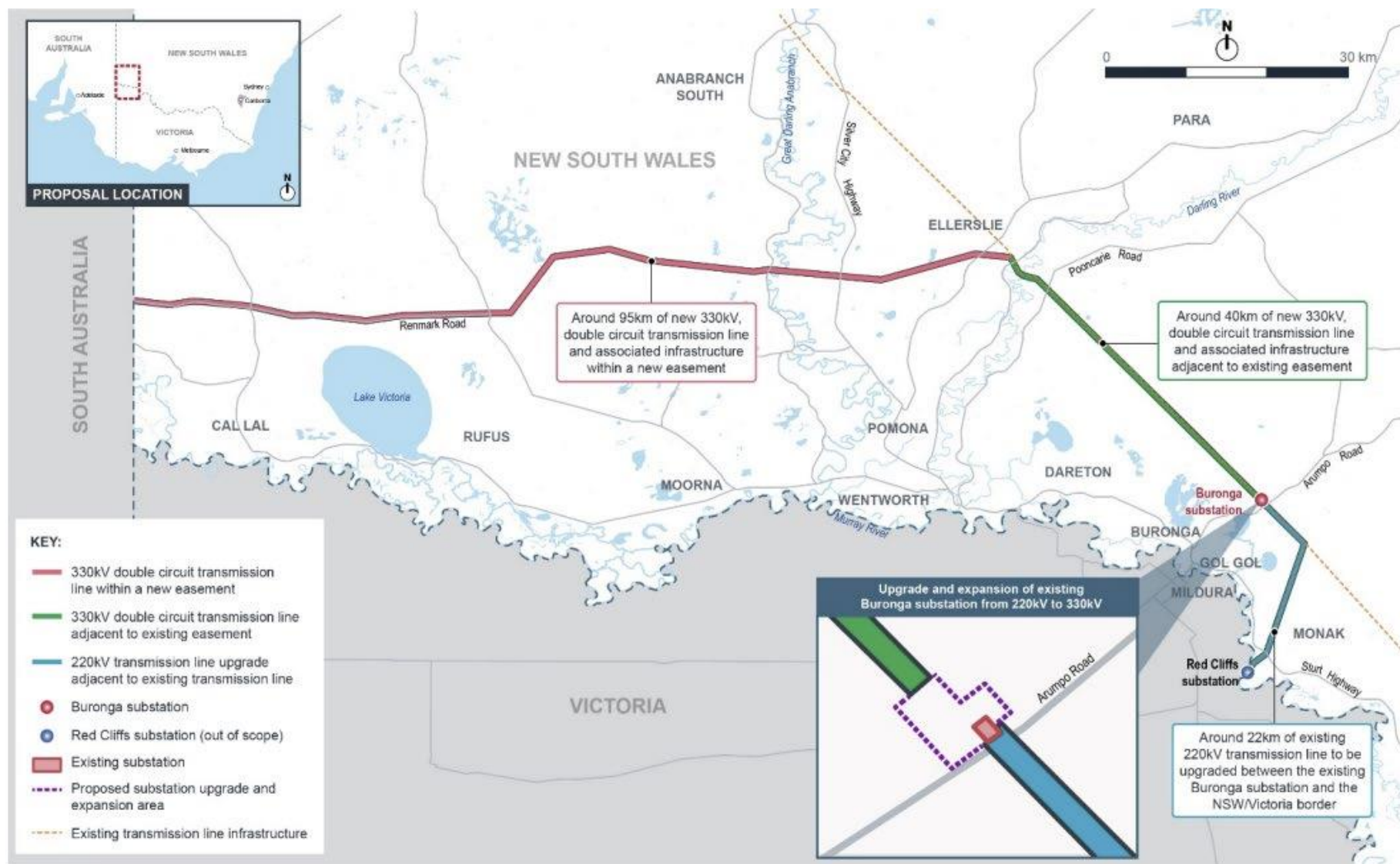


Figure 2.2 - Key features of EnergyConnect (NSW - Western Section) as shown in the EIS

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3 Planning

3.1 Legal and other requirements

A summary of legal requirements is provided within Appendix A1. This register will be maintained by SecureEnergy throughout the project and updated as required.

Legal and other requirements are managed in accordance with the *Global Control of Legal and Other Requirement Procedure* which describes the minimum requirements for the identification and management of Health, Safety, Security and Environmental (HSSE) legislation and other requirements applicable to project activities.

Any legislative updates will be notified to relevant SecureEnergy personnel through the use of LawStream. Changes made to the legal requirements register will be communicated to the wider team where necessary through toolbox talks, specific training or other methods detailed in Section 6.

SecureEnergy will obtain licences, permits and approvals as required for the works and maintain them as required throughout delivery of the project, which may include but not be limited to Environment Protection Licence (EPL) for scheduled activities under the *Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997* (POEO Act) and road occupancy licences (ROLs). Copies of licences, approvals and permits shall be held digitally within the site office with files available for audit and inspection purposes.

Some licences or permits may be held by subcontractors or external parties engaged to SecureEnergy and have not been specifically listed within the summary. Examples include:

- licences for transporting certain waste types;
- an asbestos removal licence (Class A or Class B licence);
- drivers of dangerous goods vehicles to hold a dangerous goods licence; or
- licensed ecologists for threatened species handling.

3.2 Conditions of approval

The conditions of the Infrastructure Approval relevant to the preparation of this CEMP are included within Table 3.1. The conditions of the Infrastructure Approval relevant to each management sub-plan are dealt with within each of those plans.

There are several conditions of the Infrastructure Approval that are unassigned to a specific environmental management sub-plan or other project management plans. The management measures that will be implemented for the project in relation to these conditions are provided in Appendix A5 of this CEMP. A table detailing where each condition of the Infrastructure Approval is addressed is provided in Appendix A6 of this CEMP.

Table 3.1 - Conditions relevant to this CEMP

Condition no.	Requirement	Where addressed
B1	Prior to the commencement of construction, a Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) must be prepared to detail how the performance outcomes, commitments and mitigation measures specified in the EIS will be implemented and achieved during construction to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary.	This plan

Condition no.	Requirement	Where addressed																		
B2	The following CEMP Sub-plans must be prepared in consultation with the relevant government agencies identified for each CEMP Sub-plan in Table 1. Table 1: CEMP Sub-plans <table> <tr> <th></th><th>Required CEMP Sub-plan</th><th>Relevant government agencies and stakeholders to be consulted for each CEMP Sub-plan</th></tr> <tr> <td>(a)</td><td>Noise and Vibration</td><td>Council</td></tr> <tr> <td>(b)</td><td>Soil and Water</td><td>DPIE Water Council</td></tr> <tr> <td>(c)</td><td>Biodiversity</td><td>BCS Council</td></tr> <tr> <td>(d)</td><td>Heritage</td><td>Heritage NSW Aboriginal stakeholders</td></tr> <tr> <td>(e)</td><td>Traffic and Transport</td><td>TfNSW Council</td></tr> </table>		Required CEMP Sub-plan	Relevant government agencies and stakeholders to be consulted for each CEMP Sub-plan	(a)	Noise and Vibration	Council	(b)	Soil and Water	DPIE Water Council	(c)	Biodiversity	BCS Council	(d)	Heritage	Heritage NSW Aboriginal stakeholders	(e)	Traffic and Transport	TfNSW Council	Consultation of the CEMP sub-plans are addressed in Section 1.6.
	Required CEMP Sub-plan	Relevant government agencies and stakeholders to be consulted for each CEMP Sub-plan																		
(a)	Noise and Vibration	Council																		
(b)	Soil and Water	DPIE Water Council																		
(c)	Biodiversity	BCS Council																		
(d)	Heritage	Heritage NSW Aboriginal stakeholders																		
(e)	Traffic and Transport	TfNSW Council																		
B3	Details of all information requested by an agency to be included in a CEMP Sub-plan as a result of consultation must be provided with the relevant CEMP Sub-Plan.	Consultation is addressed in Section 1.6.																		
B4	Any of the CEMP Sub-plans may be submitted along with, or subsequent to, the submission of the CEMP but in any event prior to the commencement of construction.	The timing of submission of the CEMP sub-plans is addressed in Section 1.7.																		
B5	Construction must not commence until the CEMP and all CEMP Sub-plans have been approved by the Planning Secretary. The CEMP and CEMP Sub-plans, as approved by the Planning Secretary, must be implemented for the duration of construction. Where construction of the development is staged, construction of a stage must not commence until the CEMP and sub-plans for that stage have been approved by the Planning Secretary.	Section 1.7 of this CEMP addresses the requirements of this condition.																		
B6	The CEMP and CEMP Sub-plans required under this approval must be prepared by suitably qualified and experienced persons in accordance with relevant guidelines, and include where relevant:	Section 1.5 addresses the preparation of this CEMP and CEMP sub-plans.																		
	a) a summary of relevant background or baseline data;	The relevant background/baseline data is provided in Table 2.1 and Section 3 of each of the CEMP sub-plans.																		
	b) details of:	The relevant statutory requirements are addressed in Section 3 and Appendix A1 of this CEMP, and Section 2 of the CEMP sub-plans.																		
	(i) the relevant statutory requirements (including any relevant approval or licence conditions); (ii) any relevant limits or performance measures and criteria; and (iii) the specific performance indicators that are proposed to be used to judge the performance of, or guide the implementation of, the development or any management measures;	Section 4.2 of this CEMP addresses the performance measures, criteria and performance indicators.																		
	c) any relevant commitments or recommendations identified in the EIS;	The relevant commitments or recommendations identified in the EIS are included within Section 3.3 of this CEMP and Section 2.3 of the relevant CEMP sub-plans.																		

Condition no.	Requirement	Where addressed
	d) a description of the measures to be implemented to comply with the relevant statutory requirements, limits, or performance measures and criteria;	The environmental measures that will be implemented are addressed within Section 3.3 and Appendix A5 of this CEMP, and Section 5 or 6 of the relevant CEMP sub-plan.
	e) a program to monitor and report on the: (i) impacts and environmental performance of the development (including a table summarising all the monitoring and reporting obligations under the conditions of this approval); and	Tables summarising the monitoring and reporting requirements are provided in Section 9.2 and 10 of this CEMP.
	(ii) effectiveness of the management measures set out pursuant to paragraph (d);	Environmental inspections will be used to monitor the effectiveness of management measures. This is addressed in Section 9.1.
	f) a contingency plan to manage any unpredicted impacts and their consequences and to ensure that ongoing impacts reduce to levels below relevant impact assessment criteria as quickly as possible;	Unpredicted impacts are addressed in Section 12. Unexpected finds procedures are also provided in the relevant CEMP sub-plans to address and manage unpredicted impacts.
	g) a program to investigate and implement ways to improve the environmental performance of the development over time;	Continuous improvement is addressed within Section 1.9 of this CEMP.
	h) a protocol for managing and reporting any: (i) incident, non-compliance or exceedance of any impact assessment criterion and performance criterion;	Managing and reporting incidents is addressed in Section 8 of this CEMP. Non-compliances are addressed in Section 10.1 and 11 of this CEMP. Exceedance of any impact assessment criterion is addressed in Section 9.2. Exceedance of any performance criterion is addressed in Section 4.2.
	(ii) complaint; or	Managing and reporting complaints are addressed in Section 7.2 of this CEMP.
	(iii) failure to comply with other statutory requirements; and	Managing and reporting other statutory requirements are addressed in Section 10.1.3 of this CEMP.
	i) set out the procedures that would be implemented to: (i) keep the local community and relevant agencies informed about the construction and environmental performance of the development;	Communication with local community and relevant agencies are addressed in Section 7 of this CEMP.
	(ii) receive, handle, respond to, and record complaints; (iii) resolve any disputes that may arise;	Managing and reporting complaints and disputes are addressed in Section 7.2 of this CEMP.
	(iv) respond to any non-compliance;	Response to any non-compliances is provided within Section 10.1 and 11 of this CEMP.
	(v) respond to emergencies; and	Response to emergencies is provided within Section 8.1 of this CEMP.
	j) a description of the roles and environmental responsibilities, authority and accountability for all relevant employees, as well as training and awareness; and	Roles and responsibilities are detailed within Section 4.9 of this CEMP.

Condition no.	Requirement	Where addressed
	k) a protocol for periodic review of the CEMP and associated subplans and programs.	Periodic review of the CEMP and CEMP sub-plans are addressed in Section 1.10 of this CEMP.
	The Planning Secretary may waive some of these requirements if they are unnecessary or unwarranted for particular management plans.	Noted

3.3 Revised mitigation measures

Environmental safeguards and mitigation measures are included in Section 23.1.4 of the EIS. During the preparation of the Response to DPIE Request for Information, the revised mitigation measures (RMMs) were amended and included in Appendix G.

There were no specific RMMs relevant to the preparation of this CEMP identified in the Response to DPIE Request for Information. RMMs relevant to a specific environmental aspect along with the proposed management measures are dealt with within the specific environmental management sub-plan as described in Section 4.3.1.

There are several RMMs that are unassigned to a specific environmental management sub-plan or other project management plans. However these RMMs are applicable during the construction phase of the project and therefore are required to be included under the environmental management system. These RMMs are provided in Table 3.2 below. The management measures that will be implemented for the project in relation to these RMMs are provided in Appendix A5 of this CEMP. A table detailing where each RMM is addressed is provided in Appendix A6 of this CEMP.

Table 3.2 - RMMs that are unassigned to a specific environmental management sub-plan

Reference	Revised mitigation measure	Applicable locations (from RMMs)	Where addressed	How addressed
RMM LV3	Proposed permanent engineering batters and water management measures will be designed to integrate with the existing landforms and natural features.	Whole of proposal	MM1 of Appendix A5 of this CEMP.	Design reports will consider integration of permanent engineering batters with existing landforms and natural features.
RMM LV4	Lighting at construction compound and accommodation camps will be designed and operated in accordance with AS4282-2019 Control of the obtrusive effects of outdoor lighting.	Construction compound and accommodation camps	MM2 of Appendix A5 of this CEMP.	Lighting at the Buronga construction camp and accommodation camp will be designed generally in accordance with AS4282-2019.
RMM LV5	Transmission line structures, where possible, are designed: - to maximise distance from private residences - to use local vegetation and landform to provide screening from residences or from the road - to be regularly spaced to reduce the potential visual impact where the proposal alignment is visible for a long duration, and in open landscapes - to be positioned alongside existing transmission line	Whole of proposal	MM3 of Appendix A5 of this CEMP.	The listed aspects will be considered in design reports during the detailed design of the transmission line structures, where possible.

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Reference	Revised mitigation measure	Applicable locations (from RMMs)	Where addressed	How addressed
	structures where they are adjacent to existing transmission lines where feasible - to avoid the location of transmission line structures on locally prominent landforms - to minimise clearing along creeklines.			
RMM LV6	Where the transmission line crosses a roadway, transmission line structures will be located to maximise the distance from the roadway where feasible and where it will achieve an improved visual amenity outcome, where feasible and reasonable.	Transmission line	MM4 of Appendix A5 of this CEMP.	Visual impacts from transmission line structures where transmission line crosses a roadway will be considered during detailed design phase.
RMM LV8	Opportunities for screening vegetation to be provided on private property will be investigated where, once at a mature height, will reduce an identified visual impact from a residence. This will be undertaken in negotiation with the affected resident. This will be informed by further assessment to determine the extent of the impact and appropriateness of any screening vegetation. Any such screening vegetation will be planted prior to completion of construction and will be maintained by the landholder.	Transmission line	MM5 of Appendix A5 of this CEMP.	Opportunities for screening vegetation for affected private property landholders will be investigated.
RMM LV9	Lighting at the substation will be designed and operated in accordance with AS/NZS 4282:2019 Control of the obtrusive effects of outdoor lighting.	Buronga substation	Not applicable to Stage 2 works.	Not applicable to Stage 2 works. In the Response to DPIE Request for Information, RMM LV9 is assigned to the operation phase.
RMM HR1	The proposal will be designed and constructed in accordance with the Guidelines for Limiting Exposure to Time-Varying Electric and Magnetic Fields (1 Hz – 100 kHz) (International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection (ICNIRP), 2010) The design will meet the EMF exposure guidelines set out in Table 19-2 of the EIS and worst case scenarios within Transgrid's <i>Transmission Line Design Manual – Major New Build</i>.	All locations	MM6 of Appendix A5 of this CEMP.	The design requirements in relation to electric and magnetic field is outlined in MM3 of Appendix A5 of this CEMP and through design reports.

3.4 Standards and guidelines

The following standards relating to environmental management that apply to the project include:

- *ISO 14001 Environmental Management Systems – Requirements with Guidance for Use*; and
- NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment, 2020, *Independent Audit Post Approval Requirements*.

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Compliance standards, policies and guidelines relevant to specific environmental values are detailed in the respective sub-plans. The requirements of these standards have been taken into account in the preparation of the CEMP and sub-plans and will be considered by SecureEnergy during the preparation of the Work Packs and Work Method Statements.

Any guideline, protocol, Australian Standard or policy reference in the Infrastructure Approval will be taken in the form/version they were in as at the date of the Infrastructure Approval. Updated or revised version of the relevant guideline, protocol, Standard or policy, or a replacement of the document will be considered when the Planning Secretary issues the direction to do so.

4 Environmental management system

The SecureEnergy Management System includes the Environmental Management System. It has been designed to comply with the requirements of *ISO 14001 Environmental Management Systems*.

The Health, Safety, Security and Environment Management Manual (HSSE Manual) describes the Environmental Management System for SecureEnergy. Table 4.1 summarises the Environmental Management System components.

Table 4.1 - Environmental Management System components

Management System Component	Description
HSSE Policy & HSSE Management Expectations	The policy sets the overall guidelines and direction to HSSE and represents the commitment of management to the achievement of its aims. The <i>HSSE Management Expectation</i> clearly defines minimum expectations to ensure that all SecureEnergy personnel and subcontractors understand their obligations and accountabilities to contribute to SecureEnergy HSSE culture.
HSSE Operating Standards	The HSSE Operating Standards set out the minimum mandatory performance requirements. Environmental minimum mandatory performance requirements are set out in the following HSSE related Operating Standards: • Environment Management Operating Standard; and • Major Accident Event Hazard Management Operating Standard.
HSSE Management Manual	Provides a framework for the HSSE component of the BMS, an overview of the key elements and reference documents.
HSSE Procedures, documents and registers (tools)	Procedures or work practices which provide the detailed steps to be taken to identify risks, work safely, protect the environment, investigate incidents and implement continuous improvement.
HSSE Management Plans – this CEMP and relevant sub-plans	Project specific plans prepared to identify and manage project HSSE risks and achieve the Operating Standards performance requirements.
Project/Site Specific Procedures, Work Instructions	Project and activity specific procedures, risk assessments and work methods to mitigate HSSE hazards. These are prepared by project personnel.

The structure of the environmental management system for the project is shown in Figure 4.1.

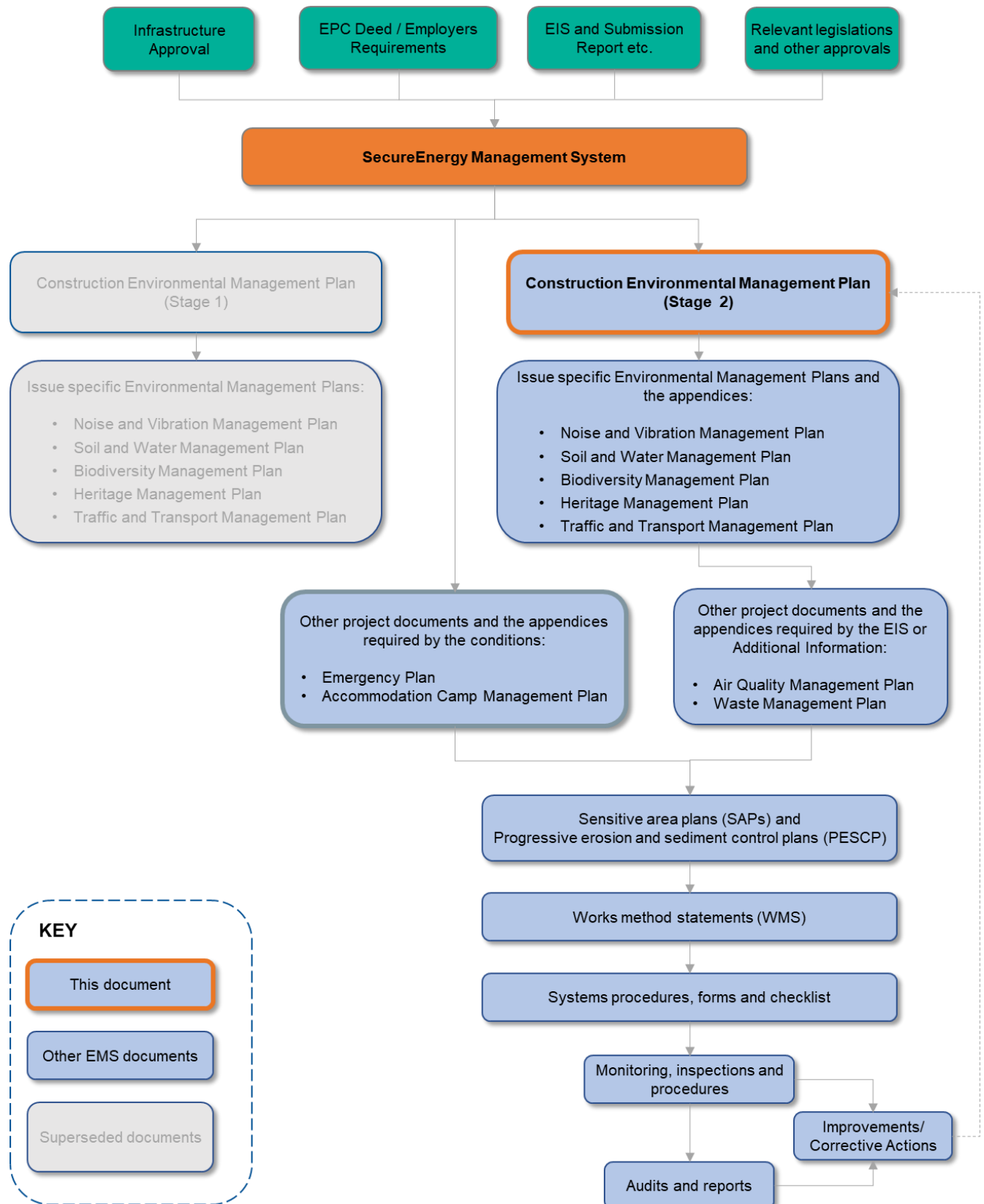


Figure 4.1 - Environmental Management System

4.1 Environment policy

SecureEnergy believes that respect for the project location, its surroundings and the communities in which it operates is essential for project success, as well as compliance with all environmental requirements.

SecureEnergy will adopt and use the existing Clough Management Systems. As a result, SecureEnergy will adopt Clough Policies that inform these systems as amended from time to time. SecureEnergy's Policy Model is provided in Appendix A2 along with Clough's Policy for Environment, Sustainability and Community which will be implemented on EnergyConnect.

Policies will be clearly displayed at SecureEnergy main site office facilities and regularly communicated to staff, employees and subcontractors during inductions and toolbox talks.

4.2 Objectives and targets

As a means of assessing environmental performance, environmental objectives (performance measures), targets (criteria) and performance indicators have been established for the project and are provided in Table 4.2. These objectives and targets have been developed in consideration of requirements in the statutory approvals, contractual requirements, legislative requirements, HSSE performance requirements and significant environmental aspects and impacts.

Exceedances of the proposed targets will be investigated and reported based on the issue. Any exceedances which result in a non-compliance with the Infrastructure Approval will be reported in accordance with Section 10.1.

Table 4.2 - Environmental objectives, targets and performance indicators

Aspects	Objectives (performance measures)	Targets (criteria)	Performance indicators
Compliance	Compliance with Statutory Approvals and Infrastructure Approval	- Full compliance with statutory approvals. - No regulatory infringements (PINs or prosecutions). - No formal regulatory warning.	Number of regulatory infringements (PINs or prosecutions), formal regulatory warning, audits.
	Implement and comply with the CEMP and associated management plans	Zero non-compliances identified during each compliance audit of CEMP and sub-plans.	Number of non-compliance arising from each audit.
	Address all corrective and preventative actions arising from audits	All corrective and preventative actions arising from audits closed out within specific timeframes.	Action close-out timing statistics in corrective and preventative action close-out reports.
Incident management and response	Ensure timely communication of incidents Minimise the risk of an incident by identifying risks and developing actions to minimise those risks	- All incidents reported in accordance with this management plan. - All risks reviewed in accordance with the SecureEnergy management system.	Follow up action of incidents as recorded in incident reports.
Engage with stakeholders and the broader community, minimise complaints and respond to any complaints within a suitable timeframe	Disseminate regular project updates and other information to keep the community informed of the project, particularly out of hours work. Record and respond to complaints, including noise and vibration complaints, within a timely manner.	- All project updates provided within the timeframes specific within the <i>Community Communication Strategy</i>. - All complaints are review within the timeframes specific within the <i>Community Communication Strategy</i>.	Timeliness of project updates per project website; and timeliness of complaints response as recorded on complaints register.

Aspects	Objectives (performance measures)	Targets (criteria)	Performance indicators
Sustainability	Promote sustainable infrastructure.	Achieve an ISCA verified 'Design' and 'As-built' rating of Excellent under v1.2 of the IS rating tool.	ISCA rating
Biodiversity	Minimise and manage the impacts of the project on biodiversity.	- No exceedance to clearing values of known biodiversity including flora and fauna species as specified in condition D25. - Minimise the risk of injury and mortality of fauna.	- Total clearing area as recorded on clearing register. - Number of fauna injured as a result of procedures not being adhered to.
Heritage	Minimise and manage the impacts of the project on Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal heritage items within the approved project corridor.	No harm to known Aboriginal and known non-Aboriginal heritage.	Number of incidents involving harm to known Aboriginal heritage objects or known non-Aboriginal heritage items.
Training and improvement	Provide adequate training to ensure construction activities are undertaken safely and with minimal risk to the environment. Continuously improve environmental performance	- Regular environmental training that focuses on the specific project activities and associated environmental risks. - Regular pre-start meetings and toolbox talks in accordance with Section 6.	Records of induction, toolbox talks with environmental focus, daily pre-start meetings.
Inspections and audits	Completion of weekly inspections and audits	100% completion of scheduled audits and weekly inspections.	Environmental inspections, audits.

4.3 Construction Environmental Management Plan

This CEMP, as shown in Figure 4.1 is the overarching management tool in relation to environmental performance during project delivery. This CEMP describes the construction environmental management framework for the project and the system for minimising and managing environmental risks.

Once approved by the Planning Secretary, this CEMP and the relevant Stage 2 sub-plans will supersede the existing Stage 1 CEMP and sub-plans.

The CEMP details the management plans which have been, or will be, prepared to address specific environmental aspects of the project, and outlines the environmental management practices that are to be followed during construction. It provides the overall framework for the system to ensure environmental impacts are minimised and legislative and other requirements are fulfilled.

4.3.1 Environmental management sub-plans

A number of specific environmental management sub-plans (CEMP sub-plans) have been prepared to support the CEMP, as outlined in Figure 4.2. Table 4.3 list the CEMP sub-plans that are required under condition B2 of the Infrastructure Approval. The sub-plans document the environmental aspects, impacts and management measures for each key environmental value. The CEMP sub-plans are provided in Appendix B.

Following approval of the relevant Stage 2 CEMP and sub-plans, the Stage 2 CEMP sub-plans will supersede the existing Stage 1 CEMP sub-plans.

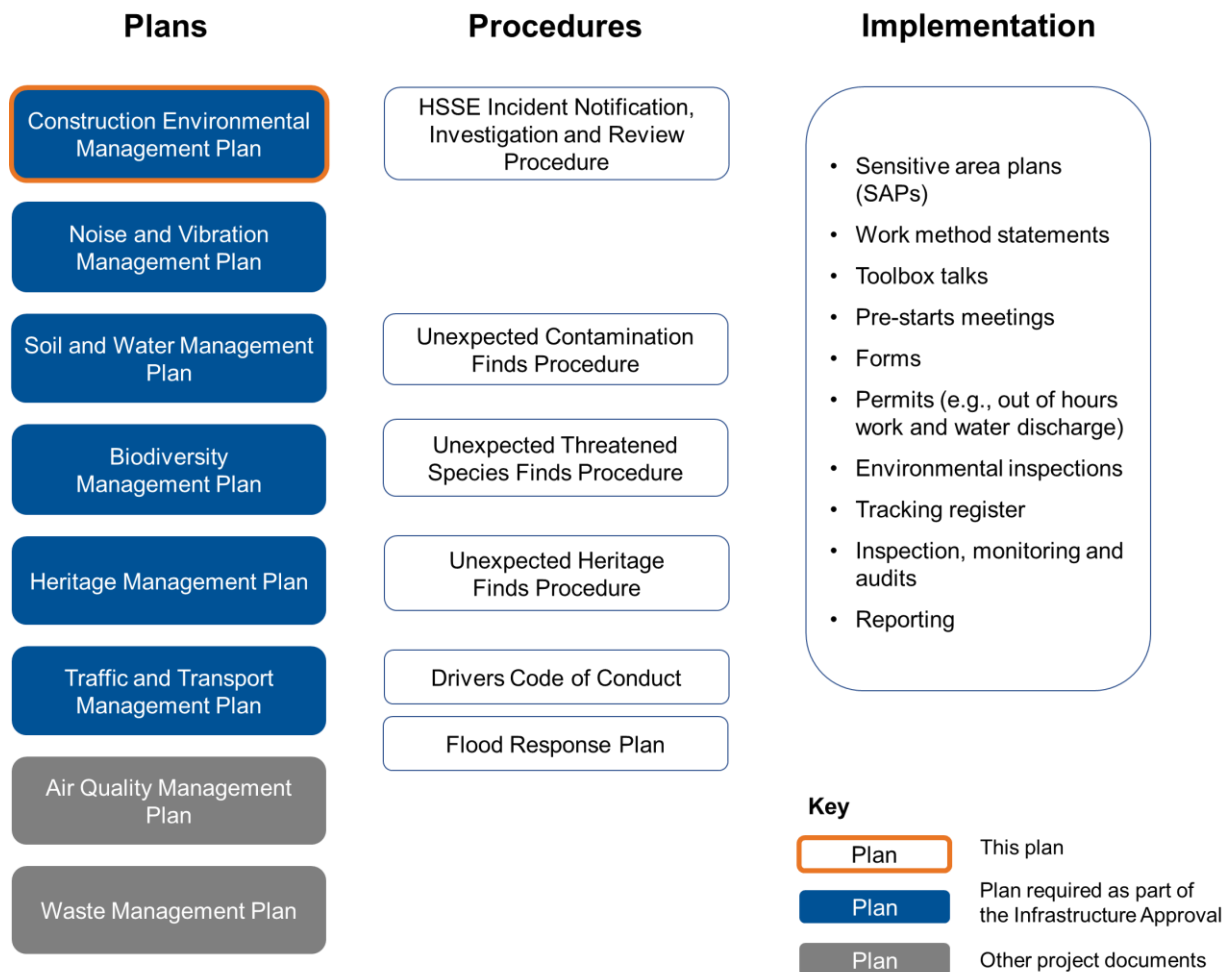


Figure 4.2 - CEMP framework

Table 4.3 - Environmental management plans

Document name	Condition	Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 2 document number	Location
Construction Environmental Management Plan	B1	Superseded by Stage 2 document	Yes	45860-HSE-PL-D-0017	This plan
Traffic and Transport Management Plan (TTMP)	D40	Superseded by Stage 2 document	Yes	45860-HSE-PL-D-0018	Appendix B1 TTMP
Noise and Vibration Management Plan (NVMP)	D13	Superseded by Stage 2 document	Yes	45860-HSE-PL-D-0019	Appendix B2 NVMP
Biodiversity Management Plan (BMP)	D28	Superseded by Stage 2 document	Yes	45860-HSE-PL-D-0029	Appendix B3 BMP
Soil and Water Management Plan (SWMP)	D24	Superseded by Stage 2 document	Yes	45860-HSE-PL-D-0021	Appendix B4 SWMP
Heritage Management Plan (HMP)	D34	Superseded by Stage 2 document	Yes	45860-HSE-PL-D-0022	Appendix B5 HMP

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4.3.2 Other approval documents

A number of other documents that are required by the Infrastructure Approval are provided in Table 4.4.

Table 4.4 - Other approval documents

Document name	Condition	Document Number
Emergency Plan	D47	45860-HSE-PL-D-0025
Accommodation Camp Management Plan	D52	45860-HSE-PL-G-1027
Local Business and Employment Strategy	D53	45860-CM-PL-G-1002

4.4 Work Packs and Work Method Statements

Work Packs describe construction implementation in detail. The preparation of Work Packs involves a comprehensive review of the requirements of many aspects of project delivery, including design, construction, environment and health and safety. Work Packs provide specific instruction on how to construct and undertake certain elements of the project. As required, Work Packs will incorporate procedures relevant to site-specific activities, to reduce risk and ensure ongoing environmental compliance. These measures are based on relevant measures in the CEMP and sub-plans.

Work Method Statements (WMSs) are developed as part of the preparation of every Work Pack. WMSs set out the construction methodology for a particular activity or set of activities, specific to the project and incorporate work-specific environmental hazard assessments. WMSs are the document tools to transform the relevant management measures in the CEMP and sub-plans into actions to be implemented during the undertaking of project activities. The WMSs will ensure that location and activity-specific environmental features and risks (e.g. potential disturbance to threatened species habitat during clearing) are managed.

WMSs are typically prepared and reviewed by the construction team in consultation with the environmental team. The relevant environmental controls and management measures are incorporated into the WMS. The following are examples of high risk activities where a WMS will be prepared:

- Works in or near environmentally sensitive areas (including waterways);
- clearing and grubbing;
- sediment basin construction and management; and
- dewatering activities.

The site personnel and sub-contractors involved in the relevant activities will be briefed on the requirements in the WMS, with a toolbox talk or specific WMS briefing held prior to the commencement of the works (refer to Section 6 for further details). All construction personnel and sub-contractors undertaking tasks governed by the Work Packs and WMSs must acknowledge that they have read and understood their obligations prior to commencing work.

4.5 Sensitive area plans

Sensitive area plans (SAPs) will be prepared to support the identification and appropriate management of key environmental features associated with the project. An initial risk assessment for the site will be undertaken by the Environmental Team. Where the risk is identified as being moderate or above (ie locations where sensitive areas are located adjacent to the work area), a SAP will be developed and reviewed by the environmental team. The SAPs will identify areas/features of environmental and heritage sensitivity and 'no-go' zones, to help identify key risk areas, and promote ongoing communication to construction personnel.

Sensitive area plans include information pertaining, but not limited to:

- flora features, including threatened species and endangered ecological communities;

- Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal heritage sites;
- watercourses;
- known fauna habitat to be protected (i.e. hollow bearing trees);
- areas of vegetation to be retained;
- clearing limit boundary; and
- any designated no-go zones.

4.6 Progressive erosion and sediment control plans

Progressive erosion and sediment control plans (PESCPs) will be developed in accordance with the principles outlined in the erosion and sediment control strategy provided in the *Soil and Water Management Plan* (45860-HSE-PL-D-0021). The PESCPs will show the site layout and approximate location of erosion and sediment control structures on site. PESCPs will be updated as required as sites and associated erosion and sediment control requirements change.

A Certified Professional in Erosion and Sediment Control will prepare an Erosion and Sediment Control Plan for the project. Environmental staff will then typically develop the PESCPs in consultation with Project Engineers, Superintendents and Supervisors. This will ensure that erosion and sediment control management is incorporated into the planning stage of construction activities and is coordinated in its approach.

The Environmental Manager will approve PESCPs in the first instance. Minor changes thereafter will be approved by environment staff in consultation with the Environmental Manager, as required.

PESCPs are designed for use as a practical guide and may be produced in conjunction with the SAP and/or Work Packs/WMSs. For further details regarding soil and water management refer to the *Soil and Water Management Plan* (45860-HSE-PL-D-0021).

4.7 Procedures, forms and other documents

Other documents such as project-specific procedures and strategies have been developed. These are provided in Table 4.5 below.

Table 4.5 - Procedures, forms and other documents

Document name	Document Number	Location
Unexpected Heritage Finds Procedure	45860-HSE-PR-G-1003	Appendix A of the HMP
Unexpected Threatened Species Finds Procedure	45860-HSE-PR-D-0002	Appendix A of the BMP
Pre-clearing and Clearing Procedure	45860-HSE-PR-G-1008	Appendix B of the BMP
Fauna Handling Procedure	45860-HSE-PR-G-1005	Appendix C of the BMP
Biosecurity Management Plan	45860-HSE-PL-D-0032	Appendix D of the BMP
Erosion and Sediment Control Strategy	45860-HSE-DOC-D-0002	Appendix A of the SWMP
Unexpected Contamination Finds Procedure	45860-HSE-PR-D-0003	Appendix B of the SWQMP
Spill Response Procedure	45860-HSE-PR-G-1004	Appendix C of the SWMP
Dewatering Procedure	45860-HSE-PR-G-1006	Appendix D of the SWMP
Out-Of-Hours-Work Protocol	45860-HSE-PR-D-0001	Appendix A of the NVMP
Drivers Code of Conduct	45860-HSE-PR-G-1009	Appendix A of the TTMP
Flood Response Plan	45860-HSE-PL-D-0023	Appendix B of the TTMP

4.8 Document control and records

All project documents are to be numbered, approved, revised, transmitted, and stored in accordance with the *Project Document Control Plan* (45860-IM-PL-G-0003).

Records will be developed and maintained by SecureEnergy including:

- training records;
- incident reports;
- audit and inspection forms;
- monitoring results; and
- waste register including all waste tracking, volume of waste to landfill, waste recycled, waste disposed of offsite and licensed receiver dockets.

4.9 Roles and responsibilities

4.9.1 Organisational structure

For illustrative purposes, Figure 4.3 is provided as a simplified figure to represent SecureEnergy's organisation structure.

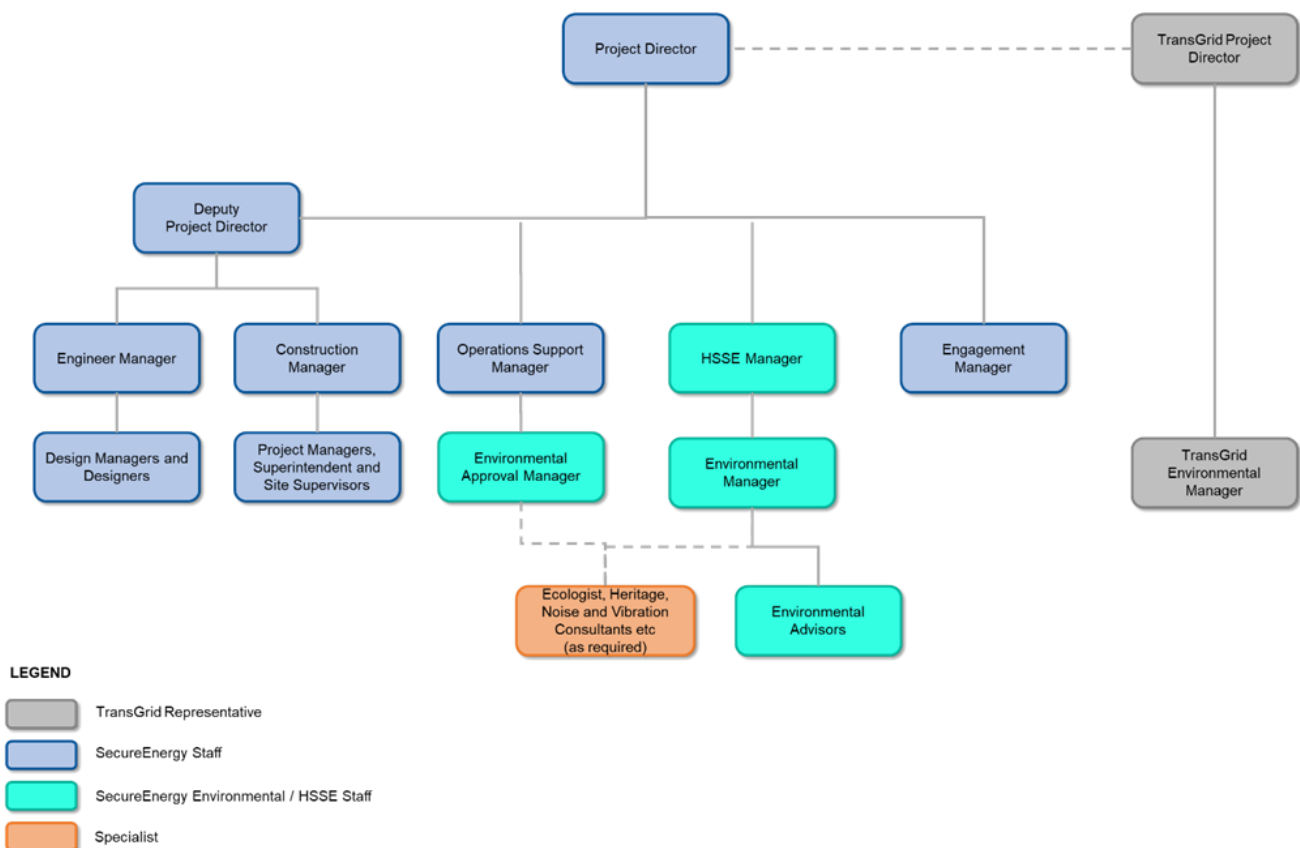


Figure 4.3 - Key roles within the organisation structure

SecureEnergy's Project Director, in consultation with functional managers, will ensure that appropriate resources are available to effectively manage the implementation of the CEMP during delivery of the project.

All SecureEnergy staff, subcontractors and visitors are required to operate in accordance with this CEMP and related environmental management plans during construction.

The project environmental management structure incorporates the following site personnel:

- Environmental Manager responsible for overall management of the CEMP and environmental management plans; and
- Environmental Advisors to assist in implementing and monitoring measures in the CEMP and environmental management plans.

4.9.2 Roles and responsibilities

Further detail regarding the roles and responsibilities is provided within Table 4.6.

Table 4.6 - Environmental roles and responsibilities

Role	Responsibilities
Appointed Roles	
Environmental Representative	The responsibilities of the Environmental Representative (ER) include: • review the documents identified in Infrastructure Approval and any other documents that are identified by the Planning Secretary, to ensure they are consistent with requirements under the Infrastructure Approval; • assist the Department in the resolution of community complaints as requested by the Planning Secretary; and • consider and approve any minor amendments made to the plans that involve updating or are of an administrative nature and do not increase impacts to nearby sensitive receivers, and ensure they are consistent with the terms of this approval and other documents approved by the Planning Secretary. Note the ER will be a suitably qualified and experienced person, approved by the Planning Secretary no later than one week before project commencement. The ER must not have been involved in the preparation of the EIS documents, and is independent from the design and construction of the development.
Transgrid	
Transgrid Project Director	The environmental responsibilities of the Transgrid Project Director include: • monitor the environmental performance of the project in relation to Transgrid requirements; • liaise with relevant stakeholders; and • attend project meetings.
Transgrid Environmental Manager	The responsibilities of the Transgrid Environmental Manager include: • liaise between SecureEnergy and stakeholders (including government agencies) as required; • undertake periodic inspections of the project sites to identify environmental non-compliances; • review changes to the project that are consistent with the project environmental assessment and approval documentation; • provide guidance and where appropriate, monitor compliance with DPE post approval document submission requirements; • review environmental management plans and related documents prepared for the project; and • monitor the environmental performance of the project in relation to Transgrid requirements and DPE post-approval document submission requirements.
SecureEnergy	
Project Director	The environmental responsibilities of the Project Director include: • overall delivery of the project program; • manage all key aspects of project performance, including environmental performance; • undertake actions in accordance with the project's due diligence framework; • define and refine project management philosophies, capabilities, processes and tools; • ensure project practices and on-site activities are conducted in accordance with project policies and procedures; • ensuring personnel delegated responsibility for environmental management are adequately trained and competent to implement the requirements of the CEMP;

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Role	Responsibilities
	• direct activities to ensure resource needs are accurately forecasted and linked to the project, including the identification of skill and behaviour requirements; • ensure personnel delegated responsibility for environmental management are adequately trained and competent to implement the requirements of the CEMP; • ensure resources are available to enable execution of project environmental management activities and project emergency response systems; • drive the creation of systems, practices and behaviours that promote the identification and appropriate management of potential risks and opportunities; • lead negotiations with Transgrid to achieve an agreed resolution of complaints and non-conformance reports (NCR); • approve all management plans prior to their implementation; and • attend and participate in environmental meetings as appropriate.
Deputy Project Director	The environmental responsibilities of the Deputy Project Director include: • support the overall delivery of the project program; • manage key aspects of project performance, including environmental performance; • undertake actions in accordance with the project's due diligence framework; • enforce the project management philosophies, capabilities, processes and tools; • ensure project practices and on-site activities are conducted in accordance with project policies and procedures; • ensure personnel delegated responsibility for environmental management are adequately trained and competent to implement the requirements of the CEMP; • direct activities to ensure resource needs are accurately forecasted and linked to the project, including the identification of skill and behaviour requirements; • ensure resources are available to enable execution of project environmental management activities and project emergency response systems; • ensure resources are available to eliminate or minimise environmental hazards; • participate in incident investigations and review all incident reports as appropriate; • support negotiations with Transgrid to achieve an agreed resolution of complaints and non-conformance reports (NCR); • ensure all management plans are fully developed and implemented; and • attend and participate in environmental meetings as appropriate.
Project Operations Director	The environmental responsibilities of the Construction Manager include: • delivery of the construction aspects of the project; • ensure resources are available to eliminate or minimise environmental hazards; • ensure subcontractors understands their environmental responsibilities as required in the Contract; • participate in incident investigations and review all incident reports; • arrange and participate in HAZID workshops; • participate in workplace inspections; • review the audit findings and close out reports; • review the overall project environmental performance; • attend and participate in environmental meetings as appropriate; • participate in Target Zero commitment workshop; • review work planning requirements; • aware of the relevant environmental laws, permits and standards; • provide construction and field management and supervisors with environmental information current to their requirements; • ensure environmental standards developed for each activity meet with SecureEnergy requirements; • schedule and coordinate site-based environmental activities; • interface with client environmental personnel during their site visits; and • provide project line management with feedback on environmental performance.
Health, Safety, Security &	The responsibilities of the Health, Safety, Security and Environment Manager include:

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Role	Responsibilities
Environment Manager	• deliver the HSSE aspects of the project in accordance with contract and legislative requirements; • communicate the HSSE requirements to the project Management and HSSE Teams; • review HSSE standards and plans developed for each project to ensure that legislative requirements are met; • review overall HSSE performance and report to the project Management and Corporate HSSE Manager; • interface with major subcontractors and Transgrid management, regulatory and with HSSE personnel as required regarding HSSE matters; • coordinate third party certification audits; • specify resources to enable execution of HSSE activities on site; • specify resources to enable execution of emergency response systems on site; • arrange for and participate in HAZID workshops; • provide HSSE Advisors, project line management and subcontractor with feedback on HSSE performance; • participate in the Target Zero commitment workshop; • implement and coordinate Target Zero activities and strategies; • receive and circulate relevant HSSE information; • coordinate and participate in scheduled HSSE audits and reviews; • statistical analysis and incident trend reviews; • develop training and induction schedules and content; • deliver the training and induction material such as site induction, toolbox talks and pre-start meetings; • attend and participate in HSSE meetings as required; • coordinate and participate in workplace inspections; and • record, monitor and follow up close out of action items in InControl.
Environmental Approvals Manager	The responsibilities of the Environmental Approvals Manager include: • communicate the environmental approval requirements to the Project Management and Environmental Teams; • communicate and liaise with Transgrid in relation to approval documents and matters; • develop and review the CEMP and SecureEnergy management plans; • review, and where required, revise environmental management documents; • review proposed project changes and where required, prepare consistency assessments. Where consistency assessments are required Transgrid's Environmental Manager will be informed; • develop training and induction content, where required; • organise and participate in meetings as required; and • specify the resources required to develop environmental approval documents. The role of the Environmental Approvals Manager will be phased out depending on SecureEnergy's requirements and the stage of the project.
Environmental Manager	The responsibilities of the Environmental Manager include: • implement and deliver the environmental requirements of the project; • communicate the environmental requirements to the Project Management and Environmental Teams; • communicate and liaise with Transgrid in relation to approved documents, environmental performance and compliance matters; • implement the CEMP and SecureEnergy management plans; • monitor and report compliance of the works in relation to the approved documents including the environmental objectives set in Table 4.2; • review, and where required, revise environmental management documents; • review proposed changes to design and construction methodologies and where required, communicate them to the Environmental Approvals Manager to determine if consistency assessments are required; • specify the resources required to enable execution of environmental activities on site;

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Role	Responsibilities
	• specify resources required to enable execution of emergency response systems on site; • arrange for and participate in HAZID workshops; • provide Environmental Advisors, project line management, and SecureEnergy with feedback on environmental performance; • participate in the Target Zero commitment workshop; • receive and circulate the relevant environmental information; • coordinate and participate in scheduled environmental audits and reviews; • undertake statistical analysis and environmental incident trend reviews; • develop training and induction content; • deliver the environmental component of training and induction such as site induction, toolbox talks and pre-start meetings; • promote environmental management improvements initiatives; • organise and participate in environmental meetings as required; • coordinate and participate in workplace inspections; • record, monitor and follow up close out of action items in InControl; • responsible for the overall environmental performance of the site; • provide leadership in the implementation of all environmental initiatives; and • specify the resources required to enable execution of environmental activities.
Environmental Advisors	The responsibilities of the Environmental Advisor include: • communicate the environmental requirements to project personnel including Superintendents and Supervisors; • being accountable for ongoing development and implementation of project environmental activities and practices; • record, monitor and follow up close out of action items; • develop and update environmental management documents; • ensure corrective actions are implemented; • participate in Target Zero workshops; • comply with statutory requirements, including duty of care; • liaise with supervisors on relevant environmental issues; • organise and participate in environmental meetings; • report and investigate all environment incidents in the area of control; • review and close out environmental incident reports; • deliver the environmental component of training and induction such as site induction, toolbox talks and pre-start meetings; • provide support and direction to all supervisors through positive discussions on environmental initiatives; • conduct weekly workplace inspections; • monitor high environmental risk activities and the commencement of activities in new areas or areas with significant environmental sensitivities; • support employees to perform their work in an environmentally conscious manner; • report all incidents and hazards to management; • monitor the use and maintenance of spill kits at all work sites; and • ensure work group employees participate in relevant environmental activities.
Supervisors	The environmental responsibilities of the Supervisors include: • plan for, and incorporating environmental management into all work plans and activities; • ensure that instructions are issued and adequate information provided to field-based employees which relate to environmental risks on site; • participate in HAZID workshops and audits; • motivate employees to report all environmental incidents; • participate in Target Zero workshops; • conduct inspections of their work area per the Audit and Inspection Schedule; • plan for and incorporate environmental management into all work plans and activities;

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Role	Responsibilities
	• open and maintain external communication during emergencies; • maintain a log of communications sent and received during an emergency; • report all incidents and hazards to management; • comply with statutory requirements, including duty of care; • report hazardous conditions; • participate in any relevant environmental training; • deliver the environmental component of training and induction such as toolbox talks and pre-start meetings; • provide suggestions to improve environmental management on the project; • report any near miss or environmental incidents; and • participate in site environmental meetings as required.
All personnel, including subcontractors	The environmental responsibilities of all personnel include: • undertake works in accordance with the Clough's Management System and management plans; • follow directions from senior staff and project environmental personnel in relation to environmental matters; • follow the instructions in the WMS in relation to environmental matters; • participate in any relevant environmental training; • report any near miss or environmental incidents to their Supervisors; and • provide suggestions to improve environmental management on the project.

4.9.3 Other environmental resources

Specialist consultants and subcontractors will be engaged for environmental support roles, as required, such as:

- ecologists for pre-clearing survey and assessment including tree hollows, identification of exclusion zones for retained threatened flora populations. Ecologist or fauna spotter for on-site fauna rescue and translocation during clearing activities;
- noise and vibration specialists for noise modelling, establishment and maintenance of monitoring equipment, and ongoing advice throughout construction;
- heritage consultants for review of the Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal heritage management sub-plans and archaeological survey, test excavations, salvage and reporting where required; and
- other resources as required during the course of the project.

4.9.4 Subcontractors and suppliers

All subcontractors will work in accordance with this CEMP, sub-plans and relevant procedures. Subcontractors are required to carry out their work in accordance with contract instructions and in an environmentally sound manner.

Subcontractors will not normally be required to prepare and implement a separate Environmental Management Plan in addition to this CEMP, except where the risk of environmental harm from the subcontractor's activities is assessed as significant or the subcontractor has control of a specific project area. SecureEnergy will ensure that any separate Environmental Management Plans are consistent with this CEMP, the relevant conditions of approval and legislative requirements.

All subcontractor personnel are required to attend a project induction, which includes an environment and sustainability component and task-specific training (if relevant) before they commence any work on site. The Environmental Manager, or delegate, will confirm and implement requirements for effective subcontractor control based on known project risks and demonstrated subcontractor performance.

All suppliers will be required to comply with any relevant requirements of this CEMP and associated sub-plans, including sustainability requirements.

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The Environmental Manager will confirm and implement actions to ensure suppliers and subcontractors are aware of the requirements within the CEMP that are relevant. This will occur during the procurement phase including final subcontractor and supplier assessment and selection and then carried through into the construction phase.

5 Environmental risk management

5.1 Risk and hazard management

Hazard and risk management approach will be used to determine the potential severity and likelihood of an activity's impact on the environment and to prioritise its significance.

Risk identification, assessment and management is part of the Clough Management System and will be undertaken in accordance with procedure *CORP-HSE-PR-G-0072 HSSE, Risk Management Procedure*. The procedure is consistent with *AS/NZS ISO 31000:2009 Australian Standard Risk Management*.

Over the life of the project, risks will be identified, assessed and controlled through the use of a number of different risk management tools, primarily risk assessments.

The objectives of undertaking risk assessments are to:

- identify activities, events or outcomes that have the potential to adversely affect the local environment and/or human health/property;
- assess hazards and risks and prioritised them using a consistent process aligned to Clough risk management principles;
- determine appropriate control measures;
- assess whether risk issues can be managed by the implementation of environmental management measures; and
- qualitatively evaluate residual risk with implementation of the protection measures.

Following identification and assessment the resultant control measures will be communicated, implemented and monitored to confirm their effectiveness. WMSs and Work Packs will be updated to provide specific instructions on how to conduct components of the construction. These will include the relevant environmental controls to be implemented which are identified through the risk assessment process.

Sensitive area plans will be used in conjunction with WMSs or Work Packs to help identify key risk areas and to promote ongoing communication to construction personnel during the project.

A summary of the Clough risk management processes, their purpose, the methodologies used and the stage in the project lifecycle to which they apply is provided in Table 5.1 and diagrammatically in Figure 5.1.

Table 5.1 - Project HSSE Risk Assessment Processes

Risk Assessment Process	Description	Methodology	Application						Reference Procedures	
			Corporate	Business Division	New Opportunity	Project Planning	Project Execution	Project Close-out		
Technical HSSE Assessments										
Design risks	Identify, assess and document inherent design risks	HAZID, HAZOP, FMEA			✓	✓		✓	Safety in Design Procedure	CORP-ENG-PR-G-0016
Design reviews - construction, operation, maintenance	Identify, assess and mitigation of HSSE hazards introduced by the design when facility being	HAZID, HAZOP			✓	✓			Safety in Design Procedure	CORP-ENG-PR-G-0016

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Risk Assessment Process	Description	Methodology	Application						Reference Procedures	
			Corporate	Business Division	New Opportunity	Project Planning	Project Execution	Project Close-out		
	constructed, operated or maintained									
Fire & Explosion analysis	Identify, assess and control potential sources of fire & explosion, and consequence mitigation through design	Fire and Explosion Study			✓	✓			Safety in Design Procedure	CORP-ENG-PR-G-0016
Threat Specific HSSE Hazard Assessment (where applicable to project)										
Environmental/Social Impact Assessment	Identify, assess and mitigate environmental and community impacts	EIA, HAZID, Social Impact Study	✓	✓		✓			HSSE Risk Management Procedure	CORP-HSE-PR-G-0072
Natural Disasters Assessment (Emergency Events)	Identify, assess and mitigate potential natural disaster events which may affect the site (e.g. cyclone, wild fire, tsunami)	HAZID	✓	✓		✓			HSSE Risk Management Procedure	CORP-HSE-PR-G-0072
Task Based HSSE Hazard Assessment										
Project HSSE Assessment	Identify, assess and control potential HSSE impacts specific to the project & Site	HAZID				✓		✓	HSSE Risk Management Procedure	CORP-HSE-PR-G-0072
Construction Package HSSE Assessment	Identify, assess and control potential HSSE impacts specific to the Construction package	HAZID				✓	✓	✓	HSSE Risk Management Procedure	CORP-HSE-PR-G-0072
Subcontractor HSSE Assessment	Assess the HSSE capability of subcontractors to inform management strategy Identify, assess and control potential HSSE impacts of contract scope	PRE-QUAL/HAZID				✓	✓	✓	HSSE Risk Management Procedure	CORP-HSE-PR-G-0072
Work Team Task Assessment	Work teams identify, assess and control HSSE hazards of planned work	JHA					✓	✓	HSSE Risk Management Procedure	CORP-HSE-PR-G-0072
Personal Task Assessment	Individuals identify, assess and control HSSE hazards of planned task	TAKE 5					✓	✓	HSSE Risk Management Procedure	CORP-HSE-PR-G-0072

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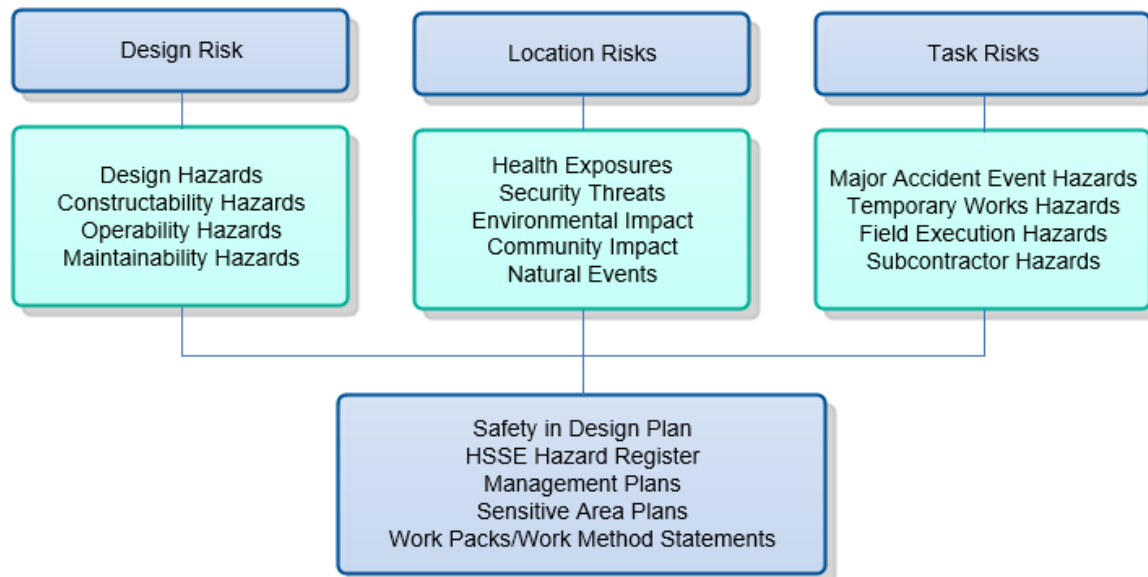


Figure 5.1 - HSSE Risk Management Framework

5.2 Environmental aspect and impact register

The environmental aspects of key construction activities and associated potential impacts will be continually identified, assessed and controlled throughout the project and included within the environmental risk register. The environmental aspect and impact register, provided in Appendix A3, will form a part of the consolidated risk register managed and reported in accordance with the *Risk Management Plan* (45860-QM-PL-G-1002).

The ongoing determination of environmental aspects and impacts will be achieved through the risk management processes outlined above, which results in the maintenance of a list of environmental risks (aspects and impacts), corresponding risk mitigation strategy and risk ranking for each risk. Each environmental risk is categorised, based on the following:

- the environmental aspect;
- type of potential impact (or consequence); and
- likelihood of occurrence.

Risk management measures are identified to reduce the environmental impacts of each activities to as low as reasonably practicable. These management measures are included in the Environmental Aspect and Impact Register. Risk management measures have been included in the relevant CEMP sub-plans, and will be addressed in relevant WMSs and communicated to the workforce as described in Section 4.4.

SecureEnergy will maintain the project risk register throughout the construction phase of the project. Risks will be required to be reviewed on a quarterly basis and will also be reviewed in response to incidents, changes in legal requirements, change in project scope, findings of inspections and audits and management reviews.

6 Training and awareness

Environmental training is an important means to raise environmental awareness and positively influence the attitude of workers engaged in the project whilst ensuring they are aware of their obligation and the requirements of this CEMP. Internal and on-the-job training will be provided by SecureEnergy on a regular basis for all employees and subcontractors.

Training will be delivered in accordance with the *HSSE Training Management Plan* (45860-HSE-PL-G-1011) with training and awareness delivered through:

- Target Zero leadership and behaviour programs;
- site inductions;
- toolbox talks;
- daily pre-start meetings; and
- WMS briefings and/or targeted environmental briefing e.g. erosion and sediment control, heritage and spill response.

Where required, the Environmental Manager (or delegate) will prepare and deliver the environmental components of the training material to highlight specific environmental and heritage sensitivities, risks and requirements related to the project or upcoming construction activities. Refer to the sections below for further detail.

6.1 Site induction

All personnel (including sub-contractors) will be required to attend a compulsory site induction that includes an environmental component prior to commencement on-site. This is done to ensure all personnel involved in the project are aware of the requirements of the CEMP and to ensure the implementation of environmental management measures. The Environmental Manager (or delegate) will prepare and deliver the environmental component of the site induction.

The environmental component will include an overview of the following elements:

- relevant details of the CEMP;
- relevant conditions of the Infrastructure Approval, environmental licences, permits and approvals;
- the location of key features of environmental and heritage sensitivity (i.e. heritage sites, threatened species and ecological communities, residences) and where this information can be found;
- relevant environmental management requirements and responsibilities;
- key management measures for the control of environmental issues;
- notification and response requirements in the event of unexpected finds (i.e. for heritage, contaminated land or threatened species);
- regulatory penalties and consequences of non-compliance;
- incident response and reporting; and
- emergency response and evacuation (fire and flooding).

6.2 Toolbox talks

Toolbox talks will be delivered by various SecureEnergy personnel such as the Construction Managers, Supervisors, Safety personnel and Environmental Manager (or delegate), depending on the primary focus and content of the toolbox talk. Toolbox talks are necessary to raise the workforce's level of project and environmental awareness. Toolbox talks will generally occur monthly.

Toolbox talks will be tailored to specific environmental issues relevant to upcoming works and current environmental performance matters and will include general and specific discussion of the key environmental aspects of the project. Examples of relevant environmental topics to be discussed during toolbox talks include:

- Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal heritage;
- biodiversity including biodiversity exclusion zones and clearing requirements;
- emergency and spill response;
- noise and vibration management levels;
- erosion and sedimentation control; and
- working hours and the out-of-hours work process.

6.3 Daily pre-start meetings

Daily pre-starts meetings will be conducted by the Supervisors prior to the start of work each day to inform workers of key safety, environmental and heritage sensitivity, activity coordination considerations and other information that may be relevant in the performance of the day's work.

6.4 WMS briefing and/or targeted environmental briefing

As outlined in Section 4.4, WMSs are developed as part of the preparation of every Work Pack. WMSs set out the construction methodology for a particular activity or set of activities, specific to the project and incorporate work-specific environmental risk assessments. WMS briefing will be delivered by the Construction Managers, Supervisors, the Safety Manager or the Environmental Manager (or their delegates) to communicate key requirements, actions, processes and controls to construction personnel.

Targeted environmental briefings will be provided to individuals or groups of workers with a specific authority or responsibility for environmental management or those undertaking an activity with a high risk of environmental impact. The targeted environmental briefing will communicate the potential environmental risks/impacts of the activity and the mitigation measures to reduce the environmental risk. Targeted environmental briefings where appropriate will also include any environmental requirements as outlined in the relevant WMS. Targeted environmental briefing will be delivered by Construction Managers, Supervisors, the Safety Manager or the Environmental Manager (or their delegates).

7 Communication and complaints management

7.1 Communication

SecureEnergy and Transgrid are committed to ensuring effective communication is undertaken on a regular basis at all levels of the project. A high level of communication is an important factor in the successful and correct delivery of environmental outcomes on the project and it will ensure environmental performance is continually communicated, understood and improved.

7.1.1 Internal communication

The methods of internal (on-site) communication will include:

- inductions;
- toolbox talks;
- pre-start meetings;
- alerts, bulletins and / or initiatives; and
- Work Packs.

SecureEnergy will discuss environmental issues as a regular component of their toolbox and site meeting agenda.

SecureEnergy will present environmental communications to its workforce on a minimum weekly basis. This will include information on the management of environmental risks or key site environmental issues as required. Records of the topics, attendance and presenter's name will be maintained.

7.1.2 External communication

A *Community Communication Strategy* (CCS) (45860-CM-PL-G-1001) has been prepared for the project. The CCS provides a framework in the management of community and stakeholder communication and engagement. The CCS identifies the community engagement objectives, the people and organisations that will be consulted with, the delivery framework and potential issues the project needs to manage during project delivery.

The CCS also provides information on the communication tools and protocols which will support implementation, and descriptions of how community stakeholders will be kept informed of, and consulted about, the project throughout the delivery phase.

In particular, the CCS details the following elements:

- identification of community and key external stakeholders;
- procedures and mechanisms for providing information to the community and key stakeholders;
- opportunities and provision for the community to attend the construction site for visits, taking into consideration health and safety requirements;
- the formation of issue or location-based community forums;
- procedures and mechanisms for how the project will receive and respond to community feedback, enquiries and complaints; and
- procedures that explains how disputes will be resolved.

The community and stakeholders will be kept informed through the below framework:

- inform – to provide balanced and objective information to assist in understanding a problem/options;
- consult – to obtain feedback on options and /or decisions;

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- involve - work with stakeholders to ensure concerns and aspirations are understood and considered; and
- collaborate – form a partnership with stakeholders in each aspect of the decision.

The communication approach to local communities and agencies is predominately aligned within the Inform and Consult stages with the focus on early consultation and providing up-to-date project information. There will however be opportunities in the Involve and Collaborate stage particularly through local employment, local supply chains and Aboriginal participation programs.

Communication tools which will be used by the project to inform stakeholders and the community will include:

- notifications of construction activities;
- notification of out of hours works (as required);
- written correspondence (letters/emails);
- advertisements (as required);
- newsletters;
- meetings;
- the project website which is located at <https://www.projectenergyconnect.com.au>; and
- enquiries and complaints line (24 hour) on 1800 560 577.

7.2 Complaints management

The protocol for managing and reporting any complaints is described in the *Enquiries, Complaint and Dispute Resolution Management Procedure* (45860-CON-PR-G-1001) provided in the CCS. The procedure includes a complaints management process which outlines how SecureEnergy will respond to complaints related to the project.

The complaints management process will use the Consultation Manager database to record information on all complaints received about the project during construction.

The key principles of the complaint management process is provided in Table 7.1 below. Refer to the CCS for further details.

Table 7.1 - Key principles for effective complaint and dispute resolution

Action	Description
Acknowledge	SecureEnergy staff should respect the communities' right to voice their concerns. All complaints received should be acknowledged to the complainant either by telephone or in writing.
Resolve	SecureEnergy staff should aim at first contact resolution for all community concerns. SecureEnergy staff should investigate community concerns in detail before negotiating a resolution. All SecureEnergy staff should use their relevant discretions to achieve a mutually acceptable resolution to complaints.
Escalate	All SecureEnergy staff should aim to escalate the complaint if the community member remains dissatisfied with the investigation and/or resolution offered by their first point of contact at SecureEnergy. All complaints where community request to speak to a higher-level representative, should also be escalated.
Record	SecureEnergy staff should aim through the Engagement Team at recording all relevant information, on the community account in Consultation Manager System, regarding customer concerns along with details of all discussions had with the community member in the process of investigating and/resolving the complaint. Detailed information on the resolutions offered to address community concerns should also be clearly recorded.
Communicate	SecureEnergy staff should remain in constant touch with the community member while their concerns are being investigated. The community member should be informed of all steps of the investigation and the resulting outcome at appropriate times.

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Action	Description
Report	SecureEnergy should report on all complaints received to the SecureEnergy Management Team and Transgrid. The reporting should include information on the number as well as type of complaints being received, the status of these complaints from time to time and the resulting outcomes or resolutions offered to close them.
Feedback	The SecureEnergy Engagement Team should aim at regular and intensive reviews to identify possible trends in the complaints being received. These reviews should be aimed at highlighting improvements required to avoid complaints being repeated.
Action	SecureEnergy should aim at effective implementation of improvements suggested directly by the community or highlighted by complaint trends.

The complaints management system will include a process to manage complaints including receiving, recording, tracking and responding to complaints within a defined timeframe. If a complaint cannot be responded to immediately, a follow up phone call or verbal response will be made to the complainant in accordance with the timeframes detailed below.

The key processes involved in recording complaints and enquiries are as follows:

- all enquiries / complaints will be recorded in a complaint register;
- complaints received for the duration of the project will be acknowledged verbally within 2 hours from the time of complaint unless the complainant agrees otherwise. Any complaints received out of hours will be responded to on the next working day;
- complaints received via email will be acknowledged within 24 hours;
- complaints received via letters will be acknowledged within 5 business days of receipt. Where a phone number or email address is supplied, a response will be provided within 24 hours.

The project will aim to resolve complaints within an agreed timeframe (agreed to between the complainant and community engagement staff). The target would be for resolution to occur within 5 business days, however it is recognised that some complaints can be complex and further time may be required.

The community and stakeholder engagement staff will attend to enquiries and complaints received through the enquiries and complaints 1800 information line, project email address, from letters mailed to the project team, during community meetings or through construction / site staff.

The project enquiries and complaints 1800 number (1800 490 666) will be included on project communications, including notifications, advertisements, and on the SecureEnergy website.

All complaints will be investigated and dealt with impartially. All correspondence, agreements, resolutions and other relevant information will be recorded in Consultation Manager. If a complainant is not satisfied with the resolution provided, the complaint can be escalated, and alternative offers of resolution can be discussed. All complaints will be provided to the ER and a summary of complaints received, such as a complaints register, will be updated monthly on the project website.

7.2.1 Dispute resolution

Wherever possible, complaints will be resolved directly between SecureEnergy and the stakeholder.

If a complaints management process has been followed and the issue cannot be resolved, the *Enquiries, Complaint and Dispute Resolution Management Procedure* (45860-CON-PR-G-1001) provides a flowchart that outlines the process to manage and escalate complaints. As part of this procedure, a Community Complaints Mediator will be engaged to address any complaint where a member of the public is not satisfied by SecureEnergy's response. The escalated review process will include an assessment of the details of the complaint received, any findings of the investigation undertaken in response to the complaint, and any further matters raised by the complainant.

If a complaint requires referral to senior management and Transgrid, the complainant will be informed of this and the outcome of the review process. DPE may request the Environmental Representative (ER) to assist in dispute resolution of community complaints.

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8 Incidents and emergencies

8.1 Emergency preparedness and emergency response

Emergency management and planning including environmental emergencies will be undertaken in accordance with the Clough management system and relevant procedures. In line with Clough management system, a three-tiered approach will be adopted for major incidents:

- Level 1 – on site emergencies will be in accordance with the project specific *Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan* (45860-HSE-PL-G-1015);
- Level 2 – emergency situations where response exceeds the capacity of site resources incidents will be coordinated by the Incident Coordination Team in accordance with *Major Incident Coordination Plan* (CORP-HSE-PL-G-0002); and
- Level 3 – an emergency situation where the incident has the potential to, or has impacted, the business in terms of, reputation, and commercial liability. Incidents will be supported by the Major Incident Management Team in accordance with *Major Incident Management Plan* (CORP-HSE-PL-G- 0001).

An *Emergency Plan* (45860-HSE-PL-D-0012) have been prepared for the project in accordance with condition D45 of the Infrastructure Approval. The plan focuses on bushfire emergency management and planning which includes identifying fire risk and hazards as well as management measures that will be implemented to prevent, mitigate or respond to risk of bushfires. The Emergency Plan will include a procedure that would be implemented if there is a fire on-site or in the vicinity of the site.

8.2 Environmental incidents

In the event of an environmental incident, the Incident, Notification and Investigation Procedure Flowchart provided Appendix A4 will be implemented. The flowchart applies to

- incidents causing harm to the environment (in excess of predicted impacts described and assessed in the EIS, Submissions Report, Amendment Report);
- incidents resulting in non-compliance with approvals, licences, permits, consents and other legislative requirements; and
- near misses including high potential incidents and/or hazards.

Environmental incidents may include the following events caused by the works:

- chemical spills and leaks (including hydrocarbons);
- accidental spills or other incidents associated with the wastewater treatment plants;
- unauthorised discharge of contaminated waters to the environment;
- unauthorised/unapproved impact to heritage items, artefacts or sites;
- clearing or damage to vegetation outside of the designated clearing areas;
- unauthorised/unapproved damage or interference to threatened species, endangered ecological communities or critical habitat;
- unauthorised death or injury of native fauna;
- any non-compliance with legislation; and
- inappropriate waste disposal.

All efforts will be undertaken to avoid and reduce impacts of incidents. All site personnel are authorised to suspend a work activity that is likely to cause or actually causing or contributing to an incident. A supervisor/manager may request additional staff be deployed to the site to provide additional capacity or capability to manage the incident.

8.3 Incident notification and reporting

All environmental incidents that occur on the project, regardless of how minor, must be reported to a supervisor by personnel involved or witnesses to the incident immediately after the incident occurs. The Environmental Manager will be notified immediately of any environmental incident. The Environmental Manager will confirm whether the incident has caused or threatens material environmental harm under the POEO Act.

Transgrid will be notified of incidents and near misses immediately. Formal, documented reporting of incidents will be completed using InControl, and will be submitted to Transgrid in accordance with requirements under the Contract. The Environmental Representative will be included on all incident notifications.

If required, all external communication and reporting to the community and stakeholders will be in accordance with the CCS.

8.3.1 Incident reporting in accordance with the Infrastructure Approval

An incident is defined in the Infrastructure Approval as ‘An occurrence or set of circumstances that causes or threatens to cause material harm and which may or may not be or cause a non-compliance’. In addition, material harm is defined in the Infrastructure Approval as the following:

[Material harm] is harm that:

- a) *involves actual or potential harm to the health or safety of human beings or to the environment that is not trivial, or*
- b) *results in actual or potential loss or property damage of an amount, or amounts in aggregate, exceeding \$10,000, (such loss includes the reasonable costs and expenses that would be incurred in taking all reasonable and practicable measures to prevent, mitigate or make good harm to the environment).*

This definition excludes “harm” that is authorised under either this approval or any other statutory approval.

The protocol for managing and reporting incidents will be in accordance with condition E6 and Appendix 3 of the Infrastructure Approval. As such, Transgrid will notify DPE via the Major Projects website immediately after becoming aware that an incident has occurred. A written notification will then be provided to DPE via the Major Projects website within seven days after becoming aware of the incident. SecureEnergy will provide the appropriate details to assist Transgrid. The written notification will include the following details:

- identify the development and application number;
- provide details of the incident (date, time, location, a brief description of what occurred and why it is classified as an incident);
- identify how the incident was detected;
- identify when the Proponent became aware of the incident;
- identify any actual or potential non-compliance with conditions of consent;
- describe what immediate steps were taken in relation to the incident;
- identify further action(s) that will be taken in relation to the incident; and
- identify a development contact for further communication regarding the incident.

Within 30 days of the date on which the incident occurred, or as otherwise agreed by the Planning Secretary, Transgrid will provide DPE and any relevant public authorities with a detailed report on the incident addressing the following requirements, and any further reports that may be requested.

- a summary of the incident;

- outcomes of an incident investigation, including identification of the cause of the incident;
- details of the corrective and preventative actions that have been, or will be, implemented to address the incident and prevent recurrence; and
- details of any communication with other stakeholders regarding the incident.

Corrective and preventative actions will be identified from the incident reports and if required, this CEMP and CEMP-sub-plans will be updated in accordance with Section 1.10.

8.3.2 Incident reporting in accordance with the EPBC Act

SecureEnergy will notify Transgrid of any event that impacts or has the potential to impact upon protected matters, as defined under the EPBC Act, immediately on becoming aware of the occurrence. Appropriate details will be provided to assist Transgrid in notifying DAWE in accordance with the requirement of the EPBC Act.

8.3.3 Incident reporting in accordance with the POEO Act

SecureEnergy will notify Transgrid immediately after becoming aware of pollution incidents that causes or threatens material environmental harm to the environment.

Following initial verbal notification to Transgrid, SecureEnergy will notify the following

- appropriate regulatory authority;
- the EPA (if they are not the appropriate regulatory authority);
- the local authority (if the EPA is the appropriate regulatory authority);
- Ministry of Health;
- SafeWork NSW; and
- Fire and Rescue NSW.

The circumstances where this will take place include:

- if the actual or potential harm to the health or safety of human beings or ecosystems is not trivial; and
- if actual or potential loss or property damage (including clean-up costs) associated with an environmental incident exceeds \$10,000.

Any incidents that present an immediate threat to human health or property are to be reported immediately to 000.

8.3.4 InControl Data Entry

All incident notifications and investigations shall be entered into the incident management system (InControl). This system shall also act as the Incident Register and allows the project to monitor and analyse incident trends. <http://inx.australia.corp.clough.com/InControl/Default.aspx>

9 Inspections, monitoring and auditing

9.1 Environmental inspections

Implementation of a regular program of inspections is an essential part of the success of work activities. The current proposed inspection schedule is provided in Table 9.1.

The implementation and effectiveness of environmental protection measures described in this CEMP and sub-plans will be inspected and assessed on a weekly basis. A weekly checklist for environmental inspections will be developed, with the purpose of the checklist to:

- provide a surveillance tool to ensure that safeguards are being implemented;
- assess and document the effectiveness of implemented environmental management measures;
- identify where problems might be occurring;
- identify where sound environmental practices are not being implemented; and
- facilitate the identification and early resolution of problems.

Deficiencies and required actions will be analysed and prioritised at the completion of the inspection and timeframes for implementation of corrective actions agreed. Any non-conformances identified through the checklist process will be highlighted and an environmental inspection report (minor issues) or an environmental incident report completed.

SecureEnergy environmental staff and Transgrid environment staff might jointly undertake regular inspections of works sites, and in particular critical activities throughout construction of the project. The frequency of these inspections would vary depending on the complexity and anticipated risks associated with the stage of construction.

Table 9.1 - Inspection schedule

Activity	Frequency	Location	Responsibility	Record
Daily work site inspections	Daily	Immediate work area and equipment in work area	Supervisors	HSSE inspection entry Pre-start sign on
Pre-start equipment inspections	Daily	The equipment/ machinery being used	Equipment/machinery operators	Pre-start checklist
Environmental site inspection	Weekly	Site wide	SecureEnergy Environmental Manager, Supervisors or nominated representative	Site inspection checklist
High risk works inspections	Prior to undertaking of high risk activities	In areas of high environmental sensitivity	SecureEnergy Environmental Manager or nominated representative	Pre-start checklist
Joint environmental site inspection	As required	Site wide	Transgrid, SecureEnergy Environmental Manager or nominated representative	Transgrid inspection report

9.2 Monitoring

Monitoring will be undertaken to validate the impacts predicted for the project, to measure the effectiveness of environmental controls, and to address any relevant approval requirements.

The activity, description, timing, frequency of proposed monitoring and the relevant CEMP sub-plans in which specific details will be included is summarised in Table 9.2. The monitoring programs range from those involving formal sample collection, analysis and measurement, to those involving a more

qualitative assessment. Refer to the relevant CEMP sub-plans for details on the respective monitoring and inspection requirements.

Table 9.2 - Environmental monitoring summary

Condition / RMM	Activity	Management Plan	Description	Frequency and timing
Condition D25 RMM B15	Clearing supervision	Biodiversity Management Plan	Ecological supervision of clearing operations during removal of habitat trees	In accordance with BMP
RMM LP7	Biosecurity	Biodiversity Management Plan	Visual inspection of the work site and implemented management measures to minimise the risk of off-site transportation of weeds	In accordance with BMP
RMM HF3	Water quality monitoring program	Soil and Water Management Plan	Monitor the water quality conditions in the Darling River, Darling Anabranch and Murray River.	In accordance with SWMP
Condition D19	Dewatering	Soil and Water Management Plan	Monitoring requirements associated with dewatering activities.	In accordance with SWMP, Dewatering procedure and permit to dewater
Condition D14 RMM NV5 RMM NV8	Noise and vibration monitoring	Noise and Vibration Management Plan	Noise and vibration monitoring program to compare the actual noise and vibration performance during construction against predicted performance.	In accordance with NVMP
Condition D32	Monitoring of the management measures in place to protect heritage features	Heritage Management Plan	Visual inspection of work site, including any fencing along the disturbance boundaries	In accordance with HMP
Condition D38	Traffic and transport monitoring	Traffic and Transport Management Plan	Monitoring of access track conditions, traffic signage and congestion impacts to level of service, and driver code of conduct.	In accordance with TTMP

Irrespective of the type of monitoring conducted, the results will be used to identify potential or actual problems arising from construction processes. Where monitoring results are outside of the expected range, the following process will be implemented. Refer to the specific CEMP sub-plan for further details:

- the results will be analysed by the SecureEnergy Environmental Manager or Environmental Advisor with the view of determining possible causes for the exceedance including a review of the potential construction activities impacting that site of the exceedance;
- a site inspection will be undertaken (where appropriate to assess potential cause);
- where the exceedance relates to construction impacts, the mitigation measures will be reviewed; and
- where required, the appropriate corrective and preventative action will be identified and implemented.

9.3 Auditing

The purpose of auditing is to assess compliance with the CEMP, the Infrastructure Approval and any relevant legal and other requirements (e.g. licences, permits, regulations, contract documentation) and to form a part of continuous improvement described in Section 1.9.

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In accordance with condition E11 of the Infrastructure Approval, independent audits will be undertaken in accordance with the *Independent Audit Post Approval Requirements* (2020). Independent audit will be undertaken within 12 weeks from the commencement of construction, follow by six-monthly interval for each subsequent audit until the completion of the construction phase of the project.

The independent audits will be undertaken in accordance with the requirements set out in Section 3 of the *Independent Audit Post Approval Requirements* (2020). At the end of each audit, the auditor is to prepare an independent audit report. The report includes details such as the audit methodology, audit findings and recommendations and opportunities for improvement. SecureEnergy will review the draft report and provide a response of the audit findings. If the audit findings identifies any non-compliance, the nominated action and completion timing of the action will be provided as part of the response to each non-compliance.

The submission of the independent audit report and SecureEnergy's response to the audit findings will be submitted to the Department no later than two months from the date of the independent audit site inspection.

Corrective and preventative actions will be identified from the audit findings, and the implementation of those actions managed and monitored as per the process outline in Section 11.

10 Reporting

10.1 Reporting non-compliances

10.1.1 Reporting non-compliances in accordance with the Infrastructure Approval

Non-compliance is defined in Infrastructure Approval as *‘an occurrence, set of circumstances or development that is a breach of this approval’*. The procedure to respond to any non-compliance will be in accordance with condition E7 of the Infrastructure Approval. As such, the Planning Secretary will be notified in writing via the Major Projects website within seven days after Transgrid becomes aware of any non-compliance. SecureEnergy will provide the appropriate details to assist Transgrid. The written notification will include details such as:

- the non-compliance;
- the reasons for the non-compliance (if known); and
- what actions have been taken, or will be taken, to address the non-compliance.

A non-compliance which has been notified as an incident does not need to also be notified as a non-compliance.

10.1.2 Reporting non-compliances in accordance with the EPBC Act

SecureEnergy will notify Transgrid of any event that impacts or has the potential to impact upon protected matters, as defined under the EPBC Act, immediately on becoming aware of the occurrence. Appropriate details will be provided to assist Transgrid in notifying DAWE in accordance with the requirement of the EPBC Act. Transgrid will notify DAWE in writing of any non-compliance with the conditions or commitments made in plans as defined under the EPBC Act Approval.

10.1.3 Other reporting and notification requirements

SecureEnergy is required to prepare and submit various reports to Transgrid and/or the Department and to undertake reporting required under the Infrastructure Approval. A summary of these reports is provided in Table 10.1.

Table 10.1 - Other reporting requirements

No	Report	Requirement	Timing	Responsibility	Recipient
1	Monthly environmental report	For incorporation in project Monthly Reports.	Monthly	SecureEnergy Environmental Manager	Transgrid
2	Incident Report	Provide written notification within seven days of becoming aware of the incident. Provide a report on the incident within 30 days of the date on which the incident occurred or as otherwise agreed to by the Planning Secretary.	Incident notification within seven days of becoming aware of the incident. Incident report within 30 days after the incident has occurred	SecureEnergy / Transgrid	DPE
3	Non-compliance notification	Planning Secretary must be notified within 7 days after identifying the non-compliance.	As required	SecureEnergy / Transgrid	DPE
4	Independent audit report	As per the reporting requirements in the <i>Independent Audit Post Approval Requirements</i> (2020).	Within 12 months of the commencement of construction and at six-monthly intervals for subsequent reports	SecureEnergy / Transgrid	DPE

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No	Report	Requirement	Timing	Responsibility	Recipient
5	Pre-construction dilapidation report	As per condition D37 of the Infrastructure Approval.	Prior to the commencement of construction	SecureEnergy	DPE
6	Post-construction dilapidation report	As per condition D37 of the Infrastructure Approval.	Within one month of completion of construction or on an annual basis	SecureEnergy	DPE

11 Non-conformance, corrective and preventative action

A non-compliance is the failure to comply with the requirements of this CEMP, sub-plans and associated documents such as Infrastructure Approval and relative legislations.

A non-conformance is the failure to meet the procedural requirements and processes developed for the project such as work packs and WMS, or internal permits that forms part of the environmental management system.

Where a non-conformance and/or non-compliance has been identified, corrective actions will be developed as required and implemented to address the non-conformance that occurred. While preventative actions will be developed as required and implemented to minimise the potential for recurrence. In the event of a non-conformance the following will occur:

- the nature of the event will be investigated by the Environmental Manager;
- the effectiveness or need for new/additional controls will be reviewed;
- appropriate preventative and corrective actions will be developed and implemented; and
- the relevant environmental management practices and procedures implemented for the construction will be reviewed and revised.

Corrective and preventative actions may be generated from a number of sources, including but not limited to incidents, audits and management reviews. The actions will be systematically managed in accordance with the Clough management system to ensure that the required actions are tracked and closed out in a timely manner.

The completion of the required actions will be recorded. The action records will include details on the source of the action (e.g. audit, inspection or other), the action required, target close out date, actual close out date and the person responsible for the action item.

If the actions require changes to the CEMP and sub-plans, the update will occur as described in Section 1.10.

12 Contingency plan

Although the project has been assessed through the environmental impact assessment process and potential impacts identified, unpredicted impacts may occur as the project progresses. In the event that unexpected impacts are identified, the action or cause will be categorised and as required will be managed as:

- an emergency or environmental incident in accordance with Section 8; and/or
- a non-compliance or non-conformance in accordance with Section 11.

Reporting of the unpredicted impacts would be in line with the processes as described in Section 10.

Through the identification of corrective and/or preventative actions through the processes as described in Section 11, the following steps will be considered as relevant:

- a) determine the relevant impact assessment criterion/criteria, below which the impact should be reduced, consistent with the requirements of this CEMP and CEMP sub-plans;
- b) identify options to reduce the unexpected impacts to below the relevant criterion/criteria and appropriate timeframe for implementation;
- c) implement the selected measure(s) to reduce the unexpected impacts; and
- d) identify and implement an appropriate monitoring program to determine the effectiveness of the selected measure(s) to reduce the unexpected impact.

If the above monitoring program identifies that the unexpected impacts have not been reduced to below the nominated criterion/criteria, items b) to d) of the contingency process will be repeated.

This section does not apply to unexpected heritage, biodiversity or contamination finds. These will be managed in accordance with their respective Unexpected Finds Procedure.

13 Documentation

13.1 Records

The Environmental Manager is responsible for maintaining all environmental management documents. Further to Section 4.8, the following records are those that will be generated through delivery of the project:

- monitoring and inspection records;
- correspondence with public authorities;
- induction and training records;
- site specific records such as those prepared for dewatering and water management, out of hours works, clearing records, unexpected finds etc;
- waste classification records, waste disposal and recycling records for transporting and disposing of waste;
- plans, strategies and reports, and revisions thereof, to ensure compliance with the Infrastructure Approval;
- reports on environmental incidents, environmental non-conformances, and corrective actions;
- monthly reports and annual reports; and
- audit reports.

All environmental management documents are subject to ongoing review and continual improvement.

13.2 Document and data control

The Environmental Manager will coordinate the preparation, review and distribution, as appropriate, of the environmental documents listed above. During construction, environmental documents will be stored at the main site office and can be accessed on request to the SecureEnergy Environmental Manager.

The *Project Document Control Plan* (45860-IM-PL-G-0003) will be used to control the flow of documents and data within the SecureEnergy teams and between the SecureEnergy and Transgrid, stakeholders and sub-contractors.

Documents and data that are to be issued and liable to change will be controlled to ensure that they are approved before issue and that the current issue or revision is known to and available to those requiring them. Controlled documents and data will be uniquely identified and will bear a defined revision number recorded on each page of the document.

After a number of changes have been made to a document it will be withdrawn and reissued as a new revision. Data will be issued on a revision basis only. Obsolete documents and data may be kept for contractual or other reasons but will be clearly marked 'superseded'.

Appendix A1 – Legal and other requirements

Legislation

Legislation/Regulations	Aspect	Reference	Requirement	Applicability	Responsibility
Commonwealth Legislation					
<i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i> (EPBC Act)	Proposed action	Section 28	A person must not take an action that has, will have or is likely to have a significant impact on any of the matters of national environmental significance without approval.	Yes, the <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i> (EPBC Act) aims to protect matters of national environmental significance (MNES) including national heritage places. Following referral of the project to Department of Environment, Agriculture and Water, the project was determined on 25 June 2020 to be a controlled action under section 75 of the EPBC Act, and therefore required further assessment and approval under the <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i>. The referral number is EPBC 2020/8673. The EPBC Act controlling provisions for the proposed actions are: listed threatened species and communities (section 18 and 18A). It should be noted that no MNES were identified in the EIS or Amendment Report for the project.	Transgrid
	Bilateral Agreement	Chapter 3 Clause 45	A bilateral agreement is a written agreement between the Commonwealth and a State with the intention of protecting the environment, promoting the conservation and ecologically sustainable use of natural resources, ensuring an efficient, timely and effective process for environmental assessment and approval of actions and to minimising duplication in the environmental assessment and approval process.	EnergyConnect (NSW - Western Section) will be assessed using the bilateral assessment process in accordance Amending Agreement No. 1.	Transgrid
<i>Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Heritage Protection Act 1984</i>	Protection of areas and objects	Section 10	Comply with any declarations relating to the project area	No declarations have been made relating to the project area. In the event that declarations are made, this HMP will be updated if required.	Transgrid SecureEnergy
		Section 20	Report any discovery of Aboriginal remains to the Federal Minister for the Environment and Heritage.	Yes, notification requirements are detailed in the Heritage Management Plan.	SecureEnergy

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Legislation/Regulations	Aspect	Reference	Requirement	Applicability	Responsibility
		Section 22	Comply with the provisions of any declaration in relation to a significant Aboriginal area or object.	Yes, a Heritage Management Plan has been prepared and will be implemented for the project to outline the compliance requirements for the declared Aboriginal areas or objects within the project footprint.	Transgrid SecureEnergy
<i>Native Title Act 1993</i>	Native Title Land	All	Native Title claims, registers and Indigenous Land Use Agreements are administered under the Act.	The project area intersects with the Barkandji Traditional Owners #8 (Part A) native title area (determined). Barkandji Traditional Owners will be included in consultation and archaeological survey for the project.	Transgrid SecureEnergy
New South Wales Legislation					
<i>State Environmental Planning Policy (State and Regional Development) 2011</i>	All	Part 3 Clause 13	Declaration of critical State Significant Infrastructure	On 29 August 2019 the NSW Minister for Planning and Public Spaces declared EnergyConnect critical State significant infrastructure (CSSI) under the <i>State Environmental Planning Policy (State and Regional Development) 2011</i> on the basis that it is critical to the State for environmental, economic or social reasons. The project may be carried out without development consent under Part 4 of the EP&A Act, however application for approval of the CSSI is required.	Transgrid
<i>Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 (EP&A Act)</i>	All	Section 5.5	A determining authority has the duty to fully consider the environmental impact (including Aboriginal or non-Aboriginal heritage) of an activity and is required to 'take into account the fullest extent possible all matters affecting, or likely to affect the environment arising from the proposal.	The EnergyConnect (NSW - Western Section) - Environmental Impact Statement was submitted to Department of Planning, Industry and Environment in October 2020 and publicly exhibited between 26 September 2019 and 10 December 2020. On 14 April 2021, the response to submissions was finalised in the EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section) – Submissions Report. A separate EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section) – Amendment Report, to document design changes and additional environmental assessment undertaken, was also finalised on 14 April 2021. Transgrid prepared and provided a memorandum titled EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section) Response to DPIE Request for Information – 7 May 2021 and subsequent discussions to DPIE on the 10 August 2021 in response to DPIE requested additional information (EnergyConnect (NSW –	Transgrid

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Legislation/Regulations	Aspect	Reference	Requirement	Applicability	Responsibility
				Western Section)(SSI-10040) Request for Additional Information).	
		Section 5.19	Approval of the Minister required to carry out critical State significant infrastructure (CSSI). Comply with the conditions of the Infrastructure Approval and the revised management measures from the Submissions Report.	The project requires approval from the NSW Minister for Planning and Public Spaces under Division 5.2, Part 5 of the EP&A Act. The project was assessed as above. Approval for EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section) was granted by the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces.	Transgrid
<i>Roads Act 1993</i>	Road usage	Section 138	Road occupancy licences (ROLs) required for any activity likely to impact on traffic flow. ROL may be required from TfNSW or Wentworth Shire Council based on road owner.	A Road Occupancy Licence (ROL) will be obtained for all activity likely to impact the operational efficiency of the road network, as required by the relevant road authority. The licence applies to the occupation of the road corridor only and does not grant approval for the works being undertaken.	SecureEnergy
<i>Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016</i> (BC Act)	Flora and Fauna	All	Legislation responsible for the conservation of biodiversity in NSW through the protection of threatened flora and fauna species, populations and Endangered Ecological Communities (EECs). The <i>Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016</i> , together with the <i>Biodiversity Conservation Regulation 2017</i> , established the Biodiversity Offsets Scheme which is outlined below.	The biodiversity impacts of the project have been assessed in accordance with the BC Act, which includes the Biodiversity Assessment Method (BAM) and documented in a Biodiversity Development Assessment Report (BDAR). A Biodiversity Management Plan has been prepared and will be implemented for the project to manage the conservation and protection of threatened flora and fauna.	Transgrid
		Part 6 Division 1 Clause 6.2	This Act, and the <i>Biodiversity Conservation Regulation 2017</i> , outlines the framework for addressing impacts on biodiversity from development and clearing. Biodiversity Offsets Scheme is a framework to avoid, minimise and offset impacts on biodiversity from development and clearing, and to ensure land that is used to offset impacts is secured in-perpetuity. Biodiversity Offsets Credits.	As part of the assessment under the BC Act, the biodiversity offset credits has been estimated for the project and are outlined in the BDAR. Biodiversity Offset Credits is applicable for clearing on the project. Transgrid as the proponent will retire the full biodiversity offset credit liability of the development.	Transgrid
<i>Fisheries Management Act 1994</i>	Taking or possessing fish or marine vegetation	Section 37	Permit to take and possess fish or marine vegetation	A section 37 permit is required for any activity that involves taking or possessing fish or marine vegetation that would otherwise be unlawful under the <i>Fisheries Management Act 1994</i> including any collecting activities.	Transgrid SecureEnergy

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Legislation/Regulations	Aspect	Reference	Requirement	Applicability	Responsibility
				There is currently no intention to take and possess fish or marine vegetation, however in the event that this is required, a permit would be developed.	
	Mangroves, seagrasses and marine vegetation	Section 205	Do not harm any mangroves, seagrasses or other marine vegetation on public water land protected by the regulations without a permit.	As the project has been declared as Critical State significant infrastructure, in accordance with s.5.23 of EP&A Act, section 205 of the <i>Fisheries Management Act 1994</i> does not apply.	Not applicable
	Fish passage	Section 219	Do not block fish passage without a permit	As the project has been declared as critical State significant infrastructure, in accordance with s.5.23 of EP&A Act, section 219 of the <i>Fisheries Management Act 1994</i> does not apply.	Not applicable
<i>Biosecurity Act 2015</i>	Weeds and Pest Management	Section 22	Under Part 3 of the Biosecurity Act 2015, landowners or land managers have a general biosecurity duty to prevent, eliminate or minimise the biosecurity risk posed or likely to be posed by priority weeds. A biosecurity risk exists where priority weeds have the potential to negatively impact on agriculture, industry, the liveability of our city, human health or the environment. Invasive weeds are known as 'Biosecurity Matter' or 'Priority Weeds'.	Biosecurity matters will be discussed with the affected landholders and addressed in project management plans for each property	Transgrid
<i>Local Land Services Act 2013</i>	Clearing of native vegetation in regulated rural areas	Part 5A Division 3 Clause 60N and Clause 60O	Clause 60N details the offence to clear native vegetation in a regulated rural area. Clause 60O details the planning approval and authorisation for clearing native vegetation in a regulated rural area.	Yes, as detailed 60O (b) of the Act, approval and authorisation for clearing native vegetation in a regulated rural area is subject to approval of the project under Part 5 of the EP&A Act. Infrastructure Approval will satisfy this compliance requirement.	Transgrid
<i>National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 (NP&W Act)</i>	Aboriginal places and objects	Part 6 Division 2 Clause 90	This Act provides protection for Aboriginal cultural heritage in NSW, including Aboriginal objects and declared Aboriginal places. Section 86 creates the offence and section 90 creates the requirement to obtain a permit to impact an Aboriginal object, place, land, activity or person.	As the project has been declared as critical State significant infrastructure, in accordance with s.5.23 of EP&A Act, section 90 of the <i>National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974</i> , which outlines the requirements for Aboriginal heritage impact permits, does not apply.	Not applicable
		Part 6 Division 1 Clause 89A	Notify the NPWS within reasonable time of becoming aware of the location or discovery of certain Aboriginal objects.	Yes, notification requirements are detailed in the Heritage Management Plan.	SecureEnergy

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Legislation/Regulations	Aspect	Reference	Requirement	Applicability	Responsibility
<i>Native Title Act 1994</i>	Native Title Land	All	Native Title claims, registers and Indigenous Land Use Agreements are administered under the Act.	The project area intersects with the Barkandji Traditional Owners #8 (Part A) native title area (determined). Barkandji Traditional Owners will be included in consultation and archaeological survey for the project.	Transgrid SecureEnergy
<i>Rural Fires Act 1997</i>	Bushfire prone land	Section 100B	Bush fire safety authorities	As the project has been declared as critical State significant infrastructure, in accordance with s.5.23 of EP&A Act, approval under Section 100B of <i>Rural Fires Act 1997</i> does not apply.	Not applicable
<i>Heritage Act 1977</i>	Heritage	Section 57	Do not undertake an activity that will affect a place, building, work, relic, moveable object or precinct which is subject to an Interim Heritage Order or is listed on the State Heritage Register without approval from the Heritage Council.	As the project has been declared as critical State significant infrastructure, in accordance with s.5.23 of EP&A Act, approval under Section 57 (1) of <i>Heritage Act 1977</i> does not apply.	Not applicable
		Section 139	An excavation permit is required under certain circumstances. A person must not disturb or excavate land with knowledge or reasonable cause to suspect that the disturbance or excavation will or is likely to result in a relic being discovered, exposed, moved, damaged or destroyed; or a person must not disturb or excavate land on where a relic has been discovered or exposed.	As the project has been declared as critical State significant infrastructure, in accordance with s.5.23 of EP&A Act, approval under Section 139 of <i>Heritage Act 1977</i> does not apply.	Not applicable
		Section 146	A person who is aware or believes that he or she has discovered or located a relic must within a reasonable time notify the Heritage Council of the location of the relic, unless he or she believes on reasonable grounds that the Heritage Council is aware of the location of the relic, and within the period required by the Heritage Council, furnish the Heritage Council with such information concerning the relic as the Heritage Council may reasonably require.	Yes, notification requirements are detailed in the Heritage Management Plan.	SecureEnergy
<i>Water Management Act 2000 (WM Act)</i>	Water access licence	Section 60A	Do not take water from a water source (a lake, river or estuary or place where water occurs naturally on or below the surface of the ground and includes coastal waters) without an access licence.	Yes, the WM Act applies to areas of New South Wales that have a water sharing plan. The project area is subject to the following water sharing plans: NSW Murray Darling Basin Fractured Rock Groundwater Sources 2011, Lachlan Fold Belt Murray Darling Basin Groundwater Source; and	SecureEnergy

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Legislation/Regulations	Aspect	Reference	Requirement	Applicability	Responsibility
				- Darling Alluvial Groundwater Sources – including unconfined aquifers with high connectivity to the Darling River - NSW Murray Darling Porous Rock Groundwater Sources – including remaining unconfined, semiconfined and confined aquifers. Section 60A of the WM Act requires that a water access licence (WAL) be obtained to extract water from a water source. Section 21 and Schedule 4 of the <i>Water Management (General) Regulation 2018</i> does however provide exemptions for the requirement to obtain water access licences. Relevant exemptions from Part 1 of Schedule 4 are detailed below: - clause 7 provides an exemption for water taken in the course of certain aquifer interference activities carried out in connection with an authorised project - in relation to taking up to 3 ML of groundwater from a groundwater source; and - clause 17A provides exemption for the taking of groundwater for excavation works where they are a holder of a water supply work authority in relation to taking of more than 3 ML of groundwater. Any other water required for construction purposes would however require a water access licence. This includes extraction for: - interception activities (i.e. intercepted groundwater during piling); - potable uses for human consumption associated with the accommodation camp.	
	Impacts to water supply work and water use Activity approvals	Section 89 Section 90 Section 91	Under Section 89, a water use approval confers a right on its holder to use water for a particular purpose at a particular location. Under Section 90, approval is required for the authorisation to construct and use a specified water supply work such as pumps, bores, spear points or wells at a specified location, drainage work or flood work.	Section 5.23 of the EP&A Act provides that water use approval under section 89, a water management work approval under section 90 or an activity approval (other than an aquifer interference approval) under section 91 of the Water Management Act do not apply to state significant infrastructure. An activity approval is therefore not required, however an aquifer interference licence is required when an activity involves any of the following: the penetration of an aquifer,	SecureEnergy

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Legislation/Regulations	Aspect	Reference	Requirement	Applicability	Responsibility
			Under Section 91, there are two kinds of activity approvals, controlled activity approvals and aquifer interference approvals. A controlled activity approval is required for carrying out a specified controlled activity at a specified location in, on or under waterfront land. An aquifer interference approval is required for carrying out one or more specified aquifer interference activities at a specified location, or in a specified area.	b) the interference with water in an aquifer, c) the obstruction of the flow of water in an aquifer, d) the taking of water from an aquifer in the course of carrying out mining, or any other activity prescribed by the regulations, e) the disposal of water taken from an aquifer as referred to in paragraph (d). However, an aquifer interference licence is not required if an activity ensures that no more than minimal harm will be done. Stated under Section 3.3 of the <i>NSW Aquifer Interference Policy</i>, there are a number of activities that are considered as having a minimal impact on water dependent assets which includes monitoring bores and wells that are required by a development consent under Part 4 or an approval under Part 5.1, of the EP&A Act, or required or undertaken as a result of an environmental assessment under Part 5 of EP&A Act. Since the environmental assessment for the project requires the confirmation of groundwater level. An aquifer interference licence is not required	
<i>Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997 (POEO Act)</i>	Scheduled activity	Section 47 Section 48	Do not carry out or allow an activity listed in Schedule 1, or carry out work to enable such an activity, unless the premises are licensed by the EPA.	An Environment Protection Licence (EPL) is required for the carrying out of scheduled activities as listed under Schedule 1 of the Act. An EPL is likely to be required for the following scheduled activities: 16 Crushing, grinding or separating An EPL is required if there is a capacity to process more than 150 tonnes of material per day or 30,000 tonnes per year. The need for a crushing or screening plant will not be known until further geotechnical investigation works have occurred. Should a crushing or screening plant be required and the capacity needed is more than 150 tonnes per day or 30,000 tonnes per year, then an EPL will be obtained.	SecureEnergy
	Harming the environment	Section 115 Section 116 Section 117	Do not risk harming the environment by wilfully or negligently: - disposing of waste unlawfully. - causing any substance to leak, spill or otherwise escape (whether or not from a container); or	Yes, the relevant management measures are included within the Soil and Water Management Plan, Waste Management Plan and Air Quality Management Plan.	SecureEnergy

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Legislation/Regulations	Aspect	Reference	Requirement	Applicability	Responsibility
			causing any controlled substance to be emitted into the atmosphere.		
	Water pollution	Section 120 Section 122	Do not cause water pollution (other than to a sewer), except in accordance with the conditions of any EPA licence.	Yes, the relevant management measures have been incorporated within the Soil and Water Management Plan.	SecureEnergy
	Land pollution	Section 142	Do not cause or permit land pollution other than under authority of a licence or regulation (however it is not a land pollution offence to place virgin excavated natural material or lawful pesticides and fertilisers on land, or by placing matter on land that has been notified to the EPA as an unlicensed landfill and which is operated in accordance with the regulations	Yes, the relevant management measures have been incorporated within the Soil and Water Management Plan.	SecureEnergy
	Notification of pollution incidents	Section 148	Notify the EPA immediately of pollution incidents where material harm to the environment is caused or threatened.	Yes, notification requirements are detailed in Section 8 of this CEMP.	SecureEnergy
	Prepare PIRMP if EPL required	Section 153A-F	Requires the holder of an EPL to prepare a pollution incident response management plan (PIRMP)	A PIRMP will be prepared as part of the EPL, if an EPL is required.	SecureEnergy
	Plant maintenance and operation	Section 139	Do not operate plant if it emits noise caused by failure to maintain or operate the plan in a proper and efficient manner.	Yes, the relevant management measures have been incorporated within the Noise and Vibration Management Plan	SecureEnergy
	Control equipment	Section 167	Properly and efficiently maintain and operate any installed pollution control equipment (including monitoring devices).	Yes, the relevant management measures have been incorporated within the Soil and Water Management Plan.	SecureEnergy
	Littering	Part 5.6A	Do not litter in a public place or an open private place. Do not litter from a vehicle. Only deposit advertising material in receptacles provided for mail or newspapers or under the door of the premises. Do not deposit advertising material on or in vehicles.	Yes, the relevant management measures have been incorporated within the Waste Management Plan	SecureEnergy
	Waste and transportation	Section 143	Only transport waste to a facility that can lawfully accept the waste.	Section 143 Notices are to be obtained for waste that is sent to a facility/premise in accordance with the Waste Management Plan.	SecureEnergy

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Legislation/Regulations	Aspect	Reference	Requirement	Applicability	Responsibility
<i>Contaminated Land Management Act 1997</i>	Reporting contamination	Section 60	Duty to report contamination.	Yes, if project activities have caused land contamination, or a landowner becomes aware of land that is contaminated, there is a legal duty under section 60 of the <i>Contaminated Land Management Act 1997</i> to notify the EPA.	SecureEnergy
<i>Work, Health and Safety Act 2011</i> Work Health and Safety and Regulation 2011	Health and safety of workers and workplaces	All	This Act provides work health and safety regulations for the management of contaminated waste such as asbestos as well as consideration of health and safety hazards to on-site workers associated with normal construction operations.	Yes, management of contaminated waste including hazardous waste such as asbestos are detailed in the Waste Management Plan. The health and safety of on-site workers' wellbeing are detailed in the Health and Safety Management Plan (45860-HSE-PL-D-1004).	SecureEnergy
<i>Protection of the Environment Operations (Waste) Regulation 2005</i>	Waste and transportation	Part 4	Comply with record keeping requirements in relation to the transport of certain types of waste.	Yes, the relevant management measures have been incorporated within the Waste Management Plan.	SecureEnergy
<i>Dangerous Goods (Road and Rail Transport) Act 2008</i>	Hazards and risks	Section 9	Ensure that dangerous goods are transported in a safe manner.	Dangerous goods are required to be transported in a safe manner. Vehicles that transport dangerous goods are required to be licensed. Drivers transporting dangerous goods are required to be licensed. Licences to transport dangerous goods will be obtained if required.	SecureEnergy and SecureEnergy's Subcontractors
<i>Road Transport Act 2013</i>	Provisions concerning road users, road transport and the improvement of road safety	All	To consolidate most of the existing statutory provisions concerning road users, road transport and the improvement of road safety in this jurisdiction To provide the Agreed Reforms within the meaning of the Inter-Governmental Agreement for Regulatory and Operational Reform in Road, Rail and Intermodal Transport entered into by the Commonwealth, the States and the Territories. To facilitate recovery of expenses incurred in the administration of this Act and the collection of fees and charges payable.	All drivers are required to have a valid driver's licence. All vehicles must be registered with the applicable vehicle registration system.	SecureEnergy and SecureEnergy's Subcontractors

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Legislation/Regulations	Aspect	Reference	Requirement	Applicability	Responsibility
			To provide for additional matters concerning the regulation of road users and road transport and the improvement of road safety in this jurisdiction.		
<i>NSW Road Rules 2014</i>	Safe and efficient movement of traffic	All	To consolidate in a single instrument the road rules that are applicable in New South Wales. To provide for road rules that are based on the Australian Road Rules so as to ensure that the road rules applicable in this State are substantially uniform with road rules applicable elsewhere in Australia, To provide for other road rules to be observed in this State in relation to matters that are not otherwise dealt with in the Australian Road Rules	Support the objectives of the legislation by ensuring mitigation recommendations are aligned with the Road Rules.	SecureEnergy

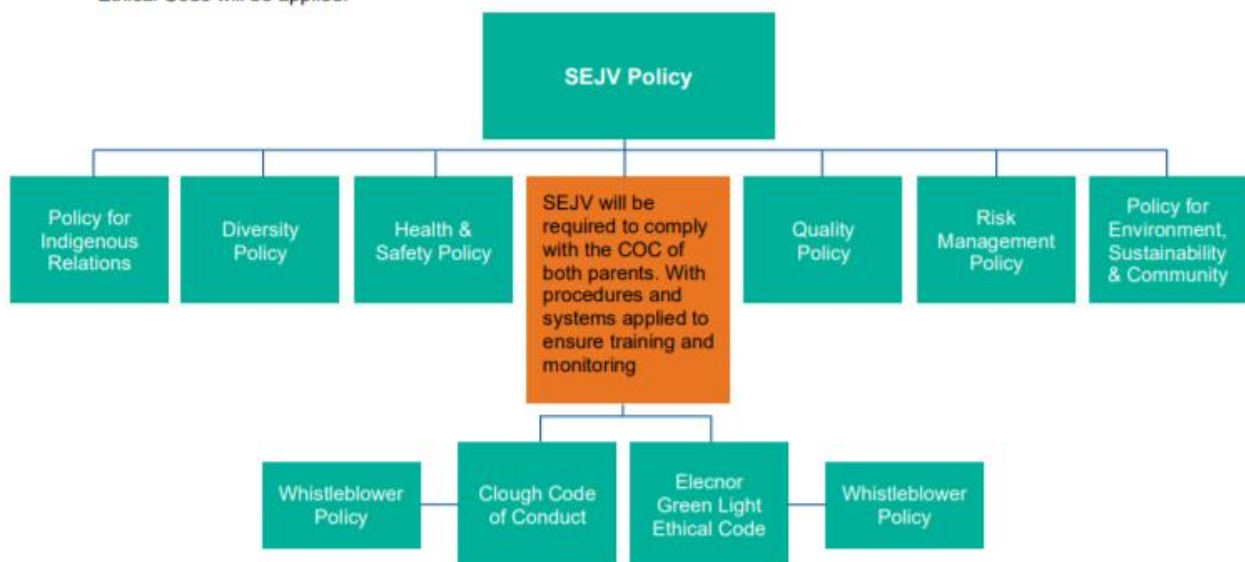
Appendix A2 – Policy for Environment, Sustainability and Community



SecureEnergy Policy Model

SecureEnergy JV (ABN 56 282 382 697), is a joint Venture between Clough Projects Australia Pty Ltd (ABN 26 109 444 215) and Green Light Contractors Pty Ltd (ACN 168 435 658) commonly referred to as "SEJV". SEJV has been initially formed to deliver the Project Energy Connect (PEC) with a view that SEJV will become a viable delivery vehicle that will service substation and transmission network sector projects over the coming years.

It is agreed within the Joint Venture Deed that SEJV will adopt and use Clough's Management Systems (CMS). As a result, SEJV will adopt the Clough Policies that inform these systems as amended from time to time. The exception to this is Clough's Code of Conduct policy. In this instance it is proposed that both Clough's Code of Conduct and Elecnor's Ethical Code will be applied.




John Galvin
 SteerCo Member - Clough
 SecureEnergy JV
 Date 10/02/2021


Paul Farris
 SteerCo Member - Clough
 SecureEnergy JV
 Date Feb 15, 2021


Carlos Fernandez
 SteerCo Member - Elecnor
 SecureEnergy JV
 Date Feb 25, 2021


Samuel Basanta
 SteerCo Member - Elecnor
 SecureEnergy JV
 Date Feb 16, 2021

All personal information obtained by SecureEnergy Joint Venture during the implementation of this policy will be controlled in accordance with the Clough Policy for Privacy and the Privacy Amendment (Private Sector) Act 2000.

Document No.

Rev No.


secureenergy
 CLOUGH ELECNOR JOINT VENTURE

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Policy for Environment, Sustainability & Community

Clough strives to deliver environmentally sustainable outcomes for energy, materials and water, during all stages of its operations. Clough values sustainable development and believes respect for the environment and the community in which it operates is fundamental to business success.

Clough ensures human, financial and technological resources are provided for the active management and maintenance of the Clough Management System, aligned with the requirements of AS/NZS ISO 14001 to drive continual improvement.

At Clough employees and contractors show their commitment to minimising environment and social impacts and promoting sustainable development by:

- Sharing a belief in a culture of zero harm where harm to people or the environment is unacceptable;
- Stopping work where an activity could harm the environment or community;
- Planning and performing activities to achieve zero harm outcomes; and
- Understanding their roles, responsibilities and behaviours expected of them.

Clough engages with clients, partners, stakeholders and communities to understand key environmental aspects, potential impacts and support the development of sustainable solutions.

PRINCIPLES:

Wherever Clough operates the following principles apply to promote sustainable development, in all its operating environments:

- Making it personal – Individuals take personal responsibility to comply with relevant laws and regulations and apply responsible standards as detailed in the Clough Management System where laws do not exist.
- Make a positive impact – we enrich the lives of those in the communities in which we work and live by respecting the traditional rights of indigenous peoples and cultural heritage values.
- Accountability – Clough holds all levels in our organisation accountable for compliance with regular monitoring, reviewing and reporting on our progress against our targets that promote efficient use of resources.
- Risk Management – Clough identifies, assesses and manages risks to the environment and our host communities.
- Learning Culture – Clough maintains regular, transparent and effective communication and consultation with all employees, stakeholders and communities affected by its activities and improves the livelihoods of the communities in which we operate through local employment and training opportunities.
- We work sustainably - Design and construct to efficiently use energy and raw materials, minimise waste, reduce and prevent pollution.

The Chief Executive Officer of Clough Limited is accountable to the Board of Directors for ensuring that this Policy is implemented throughout Clough's operation

Clough undertakes to communicate this policy to all persons working for or on its behalf and to the public as required. The policy will be reviewed every three years to maintain relevance to Clough business activities.



Peter Bennett
Chief Executive Officer & Managing Director
Clough Limited
November 2021

All personal information obtained by Clough during the implementation of this policy will be controlled in accordance with the Clough Policy for Privacy and the Privacy Amendment (Private Sector) Act 2000.

CORP-GOV-POL-G-0014

Rev No. 2



Appendix A3 – Environmental Aspect and Impact Register

No.	Activity	Environmental category	Aspect/Cause	Impact/Risk	Possible Outcome	Consequence	Likelihood	Initial Risk Rating	Risk Management Measures (DRAFT)	Consequence	Likelihood	Residual Risk Rating	Risk Owner
1	Earthworks Vegetation clearing	Heritage	Clearing outside the project footprint, plant operation and excavation outside project footprint, vibrations from plant operation and transport impacts exceed those assessed and cause structural damage to sensitive items.	Damage to heritage items, including culturally significant sites, artefacts and heritage values	- Unapproved impacts to heritage items - Loss of items of cultural significance - Impacts to relationships with traditional owners - Potential regulatory action from agencies - Project delays - Financial penalties - Reputational impacts	Major	Almost certain	23 - Very High	- Sensitive Area Plans (SAPs) to include heritage items - Noise and Vibration Management Plan - Unexpected heritage find procedure - Physical demarcation of identified heritage locations - Identification of additional heritage risk areas - Additional heritage survey and heritage salvage activities.	Moderate	Possible	13 – Moderate	SecureEnergy
2	Vegetation clearing	Biodiversity	Removal of occupied habitat, including hollow bearing trees, shrubs, nests, ground cover, rocks.	Injury/mortality of fauna	- Impacts to fauna - Reputational impacts - Potential regulatory action from agencies	Moderate	Likely	17 - High	- Biodiversity Management Plan - Pre-clearing procedure - Unexpected biodiversity find procedure - Fauna handling procedure - Use of fauna spotters/handlers	Moderate	Possible	13 – Moderate	Transgrid and SecureEnergy
3	Vegetation clearing	Bushfire	Sparks from machinery ignites combustible vegetation and fire gets out of control.	Ignition of bushfire	- Significant impact to local environment through bushfire - Potential destruction of project infrastructure and equipment - Potential for fatality/injury to personnel and members of the public - Damage to public property and adjacent properties - Loss of biodiversity - Project delays - Significant reputational impact - Potential regulatory actions from agencies - Financial penalties	Catastrophic	Likely	24 – Very High	- Emergency Plan - FRACM - Hot works permits	Catastrophic	Rare	15 – Moderate	SecureEnergy
4	Earthworks Vegetation clearing	Biosecurity	Vehicular movements from disturbed and contaminated areas into undisturbed areas within the project area.	Introduction and spread of weeds, pests and pathogens causing native/threatened species population declines.	- Impact to biodiversity in exceedance of the approved project - Spread of weeds/impacts to native vegetation - Long term maintenance requirements	Major	Possible	19 – High	- Biodiversity Management Plan - Weed and seed inspections - Hygiene inspections of vehicle prior to accessing site - Washdown bays	Moderate	Possible	13 – Moderate	Transgrid and SecureEnergy
5	Earthworks Vegetation clearing	Biodiversity	Vegetation clearing outside of project boundary, over clearing of vegetation, clearing of species unapproved for clearing.	Removal of vegetation/habitat not permitted to be impacted by the project approval	- Unapproved impact to flora - Potential regulatory actions from agencies - Project delays - Financial penalties - Reputational impacts	Major	Almost certain	23 - Very High	- Biodiversity Management Plan - Set-up exclusion zones and defined clearing limits and no-go zones - Sensitive area plans (SAPs) - Unexpected biodiversity find procedure - Clearing and land disturbance permits - Clearing register	Moderate	Possible	13 – Moderate	Transgrid and SecureEnergy
6	Earthworks Vegetation clearing	Surface water	Newly exposed sediment and top soil carried into catchments and watercourses during rainfall events.	Contamination of surface water. Reduction in water quality. Dispersion of contaminants	- Water pollution - Loss of topsoil - Impacts to aquatic habitat and fauna - Potential regulatory action from agencies - Financial penalties - Reputational impacts	Major	Possible	19 – High	- Soil and Water Management Plan - Surface Water Monitoring Program - Erosion and Sediment Control Strategy and PESCPs - Clean water diversions - Process and intercepted water management - Discharge permit - Sediment basins and water treatment	Major	Unlikely	14 – Moderate	SecureEnergy

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No.	Activity	Environmental category	Aspect/Cause	Impact/Risk	Possible Outcome	Consequence	Likelihood	Initial Risk Rating	Risk Management Measures (DRAFT)	Consequence	Likelihood	Residual Risk Rating	Risk Owner
7	Earthworks Vegetation clearing	Biodiversity	Construction activities in fauna habitats causes fauna to relocate away from area.	Fauna disturbance/relocation	- Reduction in localised population of fauna including threatened species - Adverse fauna monitoring impacts	Minor	Likely	11 - Moderate	- Biodiversity Management Plan - Sensitive area plans (SAPs) to included fauna habitats of significance - Unexpected biodiversity find procedure	Minor	Possible	10 - Moderate	Transgrid and SecureEnergy
8	Earthworks Vegetation clearing	Noise and vibration	Noise and vibration levels from construction activities and transport of materials, equipment and personnel exceeds the levels assessed in the project approval. The project site is remote from sensitive receivers, noise and vibration impacts are more likely an issue along the access route through local towns.	Increased noise and vibration levels at sensitive receivers	- Sleep disturbance at sensitive receiver locations - Potential regulatory action from agencies - Loss of support from local community - Reputational impacts	Moderate	Almost certain	18 – High	- Noise and Vibration Management Plan - Traffic and Transport Management Plan - Out of Hours Work Procedure - Out of Hours Work Permit - Noise monitoring record - Vibration monitoring record	Moderate	Possible	13 – Moderate	SecureEnergy
9	Earthworks Vegetation clearing	Air Quality	Exposed sediment and stockpiled of fine material become airborne in strong winds and carried to other areas. Generation of dust during construction activities	Visible dust plumes and deposition of dust on surfaces, impacts to amenity, dust generation from exposing of topsoil and sub soil through vegetation removal.	- Excessive dust emission/deposition in surrounding environment - Air quality impacts exceed the approved project levels	Moderate	Almost certain	18 – High	- Air Quality Management Plan - Implement dust-suppression through use of water cart - Rehabilitation/stabilisation of cleared areas where possible	Moderate	Possible	13 – Moderate	SecureEnergy
10	Earthworks Vegetation clearing	Air quality / greenhouse gas emissions	Unnecessary operation/idling of vehicles, machinery and plant.	Excess use of natural resources and energy leading to production of greenhouse gases.	- Excessive consumption of diesel and other resources - Unnecessary production of greenhouse gases	Minor	Possible	10 - Moderate	Training/instruction to on-site staff, machinery and plant operators to shut down vehicles and equipment when not in use	Minor	Rare	5 – Low	SecureEnergy
11	Vegetation clearing	Waste	Mismanagement of waste vegetation	Vegetation disposed of unlawfully	Potential regulatory action from agencies	Moderate	Possible	13 - Moderate	Waste Management Plan	Minor	Unlikely	6 – Low	SecureEnergy
12	Earthworks	Biodiversity	Improper stockpiling of excavated material and engineered fill.	Impacts on vegetation/habitat beyond the project boundary.	- Unapproved impacts beyond project boundary - Potential regulatory action from agencies - Project delays - Financial penalties - Reputational impacts	Major	Possible	19 – High	- Biodiversity Management Plan - Utilisation of allocated stockpile areas - Stockpiling procedure - Training for all contractors	Moderate	Rare	7 - Low	Transgrid and SecureEnergy

No.	Activity	Environmental category	Aspect/Cause	Impact/Risk	Possible Outcome	Consequence	Likelihood	Initial Risk Rating	Risk Management Measures (DRAFT)	Consequence	Likelihood	Residual Risk Rating	Risk Owner
13	Earthworks	Landform	Exposed sediment carried into catchments and watercourses during rainfall events due to lack of controls or inadequately installed controls.	Loss and/or degradation of topsoils and subsoils.	- Adverse water quality impacts - Loss of amenity - Potential regulatory action from agencies - Reputational impacts	Moderate	Likely	17 – High	- Soil and Water Management Plan - Water Quality Monitoring Program - Erosion and Sediment Control Strategy and PESCPs - Clean water diversions - Process and intercepted water management - Sediment basins and water treatment (as required)	Moderate	Possible	13 – Moderate	SecureEnergy
14	Transport of materials, equipment and personnel	Biodiversity	Driving vehicles on access roads during times of high fauna activity. Excessive speed on access roads. Inattention of drivers on potential for fauna impacts.	Frequent injury/mortality of protected fauna	- Trigger EPBC Act thresholds for impacts on commonwealth listed species, - Potential regulatory action from agencies - Financial penalties - Reputational impacts - Personal injury due to collision with larger fauna including kangaroos and horses.	Major	Possible	19 – High	- Biodiversity Management Plan - Traffic and Transport Management Plan	Moderate	Possible	13 – Moderate	Transgrid and SecureEnergy
15	Transport of materials, equipment and personnel	Biosecurity	Vehicular movements from disturbed and contaminated areas into undisturbed areas within the project area.	Introduction and spread of weeds, pests and pathogens causing native/threatened species population declines.	- Impact to biodiversity in exceedance of the approved project - Spread of weeds/impacts to native vegetation - Long term maintenance requirements - Potential regulatory action from agencies	Major	Possible	19 – High	- Biodiversity Management Plan - Site inductions - Weed and seed inspections - Hygiene inspections of vehicle prior to accessing site	Major	Unlikely	14 – Moderate	Transgrid and SecureEnergy
16	Transport of materials, equipment and personnel	Surface water	Vehicular spills along access road or within Project compounds.	Contamination of surface water. Reduction in water quality. Dispersion of contaminants.	- Hydrocarbon pollution - Potential regulatory action from agencies - Financial penalties - Reputational impacts	Major	Possible	19 – High	- Soil and Water Management Plan - Spill Response Procedure	Moderate	Unlikely	12 – Moderate	SecureEnergy
17	Transport of materials, equipment and personnel	Air Quality	Transportation vehicles movements cause dust particle to become airborne and carried in wind to other areas.	Visible dust plumes and deposition of dust on surfaces.	- Excessive dust emission/deposition in surrounding environment - Air quality impacts exceed the approved project levels - Adverse biodiversity impacts - Reputational impacts	Moderate	Possible	13 - Moderate	- Air Quality Management Plan - Implement dust-suppression through use of water cart - Cover all loads during transportation	Moderate	Unlikely	12 – Moderate	SecureEnergy
18	Transport of materials, equipment and personnel	Waste	Materials shipped from distant locations, excessive personal vehicle usage, repeated movements back and forth from site.	Excess use of natural resources and energy.	- Unnecessary production of greenhouse gases - Impacts of the project exceed those assessed in the EIS	Moderate	Likely	17 – High	Traffic and Transport Management Plan	Moderate	Unlikely	12 – Moderate	SecureEnergy
19	Transport of materials, equipment and personnel	Traffic and Transport	Increased traffic volumes and congestion, increased road noise, degradation of roadways, traffic delays. Heavy and light vehicles moving in convoys through local towns to the project site.	Roadworks on local roads blocking or excessively delaying traffic movements and thoroughfare.	- Traffic delays on local and regional roads - Increased road safety hazard - Adverse reputational impacts - Increased noise and air quality impacts	Moderate	Likely	17 – High	- Traffic and Transport Management Plan - Traffic Control Plans - Engagement with community to manage expectations - Community Communication Strategy - Manage timing of oversize/overmass (OSOM) movements in accordance with TfNSW requirements	Minor	Unlikely	6 – Low	SecureEnergy

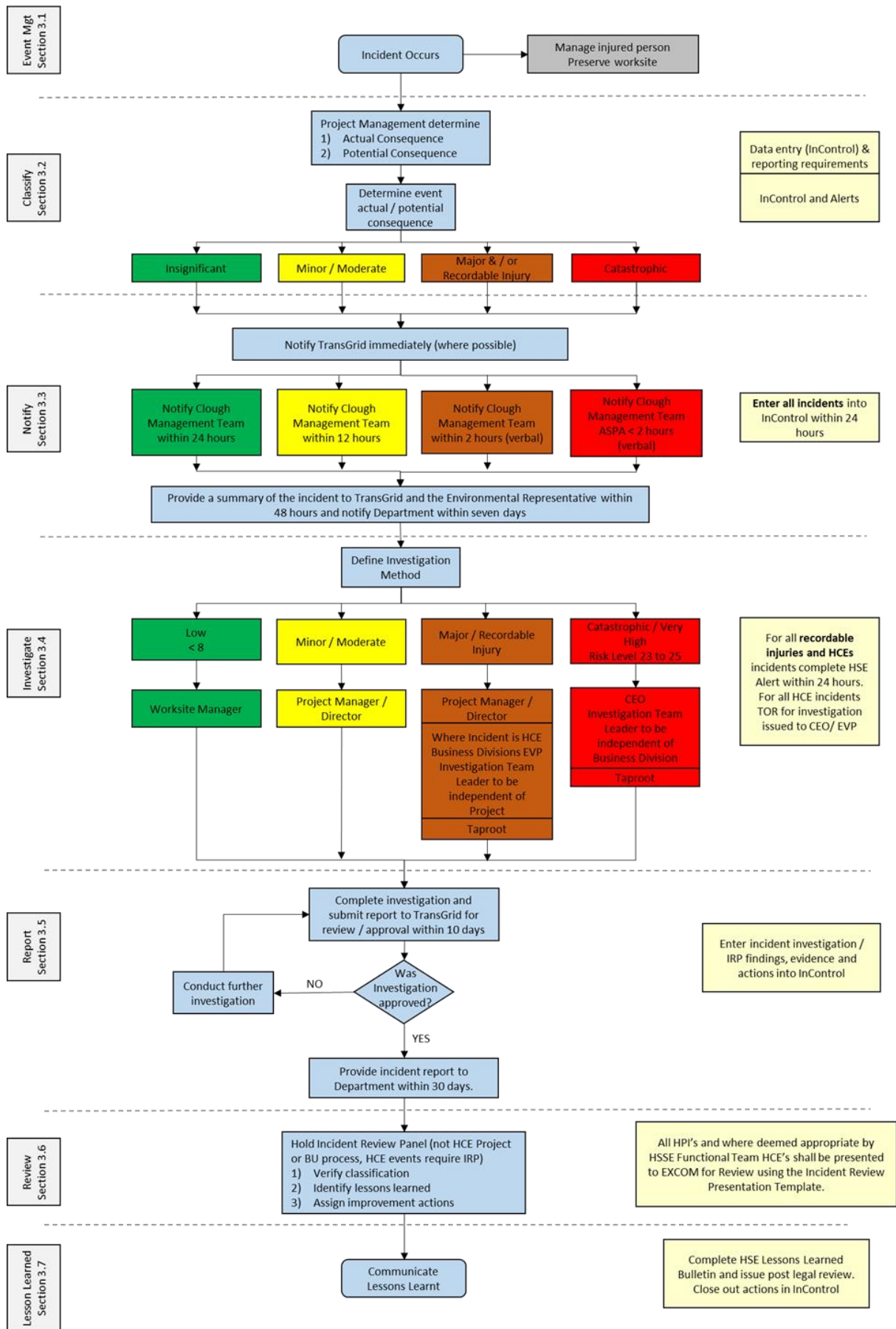
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No.	Activity	Environmental category	Aspect/Cause	Impact/Risk	Possible Outcome	Consequence	Likelihood	Initial Risk Rating	Risk Management Measures (DRAFT)	Consequence	Likelihood	Residual Risk Rating	Risk Owner
20	Stockpile/spoil emplacement	Biodiversity	Disturbance of natural areas and storage of spoil provides opportunity for weeds to establish and spread beyond the project area.	Introduction and spread of weeds, pests and pathogens causing native/threatened species population declines.	- Impact to biodiversity in exceedance of the approved project - Spread of weeds/impacts to native vegetation - Long term maintenance requirements	Major	Possible	19 – High	- Biodiversity Management Plan - Training for all contractors	Major	Unlikely	14 – Moderate	Transgrid and SecureEnergy
21	Stockpile/spoil emplacement	Surface Water	Runoff from spoil stockpiles causes contaminated/polluted stormwater discharge into watercourses due to lack of controls or inadequately installed controls.	Erosion and sedimentation. Contamination of surface water. Reduction in water quality. Dispersion of contaminants.	- Adverse water quality impacts - Loss of amenity - Potential regulatory action from agencies - Reputational impacts	Major	Possible	19 – High	- Soil and Water Management Plan - Erosion and Sediment Control Strategy and PESCPs	Major	Unlikely	14 – Moderate	SecureEnergy
22	Storage of hazardous materials	Surface water	Spill of stored hazardous material escaping containment into waterways.	Contamination of surface water. Reduction in water quality. Dispersion of contaminants.	- Hydrocarbon pollution - Potential regulatory action from agencies - Financial penalties - Reputational impacts	Major	Possible	19 – High	- Soil and Water Management Plan - Bunded areas for storage of fuels and oils	Major	Unlikely	14 – Moderate	SecureEnergy
23	Storage of hazardous materials	Groundwater	Spill or leaks of stored hazardous material dispersing into ground water.	Contamination of groundwater.	- Potential for irreparable damage to groundwater quality - Long term impacts to groundwater dependent species or ecosystems	Major	Unlikely	14 – Moderate	- Soil and Water Management Plan - Bunded areas for storage of fuels and oils	Moderate	Rare	7 - Low	SecureEnergy
24	Rock crushing/screening	Noise and vibration	Rock crushing and screening activities situated too close to sensitive receivers.	Increased noise and vibration levels at sensitive receivers.	- Sleep disturbance at sensitive receiver locations - Loss of support from local community	Moderate	Unlikely	12 – Moderate	- Noise and Vibration Management Plan - Management of operational hours and intensity level	Moderate	Rare	7 - Low	SecureEnergy
25	Rock crushing/screening	Air Quality	Rock crushing and screening activities not implementing adequate dust suppression mitigation.	Increased dust emissions.	Excessive dust emission/deposition in surrounding environment air quality impacts exceed the approved project levels adverse biodiversity impacts	Major	Possible	19 – High	- Air Quality Management Plan - Weather monitoring prior to operation - Use of covers and water spray	Minor	Unlikely	6 – Low	SecureEnergy
26	Construction of transmission line tower/poles	Noise vibration and	Increase use of heavy plant and equipment	Increased noise and vibration levels at sensitive receivers.	- Potential regulatory actions from agencies - Reputational impacts - Loss of support from local community	Moderate	Likely	17 - High	- Noise and Vibration Management Plan - Management of operational hours and intensity level - Community Communication Strategy - Engagement with community to manage expectations - Complaints Management System	Moderate	Possible	13 – Moderate	SecureEnergy
27	Construction of transmission line tower/poles foundation	Water	Unapproved extraction of water quantity, water use or from unapproved water supply points	Impacts to the existing groundwater quantity for nearby local and downstream users, impacts to nearby groundwater dependent ecosystems.	- Unlawful extraction of water - Potential regulatory actions from agencies - Reputational impacts - Loss of support from local community	Moderate	Likely	17 – High	- Soil and Water Management Plans - Water extraction logs - Water meter	Moderate	Possible	13 – Moderate	SecureEnergy
28	Assembly of transmission line towers/poles	Noise vibration and	Increase use of heavy plant and equipment	Increased noise and vibration levels at sensitive receivers.	- Reputational impacts - Loss of support from local community	Moderate	Likely	17 – High	- Noise and Vibration Management Plan - Engagement with community to manage expectations	Moderate	Possible	13 – Moderate	SecureEnergy

No.	Activity	Environmental category	Aspect/Cause	Impact/Risk	Possible Outcome	Consequence	Likelihood	Initial Risk Rating	Risk Management Measures (DRAFT)	Consequence	Likelihood	Residual Risk Rating	Risk Owner
29	Assembly of transmission line towers/poles	Socio economic	Visual deterioration of the skyline reducing its aesthetic appeal	Disturbance in the landscape	- Reputational impacts - Loss of support from local community	Moderate	Likely	17 – High	- Community Communication Strategy - Engagement with community to manage expectations - Complaints management system	Moderate	Possible	13 – Moderate	SecureEnergy
30	Decommissioning of existing transmission line tower/poles	Noise vibration and	Increase use of heavy plant and equipment	Increased noise and vibration levels at sensitive receivers.	- Potential regulatory actions from agencies - Reputational impacts - Loss of support from local community	Moderate	Likely	17 – High	- Noise and Vibration Management Plan - Management of operational hours and intensity level - Community Communication Strategy - Engagement with community to manage expectations - Complaints Management System	Moderate	Possible	13 – Moderate	SecureEnergy
31	Decommissioning of existing transmission line tower/poles	Contamination	Decommissioning of existing transmission tower with asbestos containing paint	Human health risk and reduction of local air quality	- Potential for fatality/injury to personnel and members of the public - Potential regulatory actions from agencies - Environmental contamination	Major	Likely	19 – High	- Safe Work Method Statement - Use of hygienist where require	Moderate	Unlikely	12 - Moderate	SecureEnergy
32	Storage/ disposal of hazardous materials	Waste	Inadequate storage of hazardous materials, inadequate spill management practices, improper disposal practices.	Contamination of soil and water, unlawful disposal of waste.	- Contamination of soil and water in sensitive environment - Potential regulatory action from agencies - Financial penalties - Loss of community support - Reputational impacts	Major	Possible	19 – High	- Waste Management Plan - Use of licensed disposal contractors - Appropriate bunded storage of hazardous materials	Major	Unlikely	14 – Moderate	SecureEnergy
33	Operation of construction compound	Water and electricity	Inefficient use of resources within the accommodation camp.	Excess use of natural resources and energy.	Excessive use of resources such as water and electricity	Minor	Likely	11 - Moderate	Energy efficient design of site facilities	Minor	Unlikely	6 – Low	SecureEnergy
34	Operation of construction compound	Waste	Inadequate management of camp waste including sewerage and mixed waste.	Odour impacts, contamination of soil and water in sensitive environment, excess waste sent to landfill.	- Unlawful disposal of waste - excess waste generation - Contamination of waste streams - Contamination of soil and water - Potential regulatory action from agencies	Moderate	Possible	13 - Moderate	- Waste Management Plan - Use of licensed waste disposal contractors - Waste tracking and register of waste disposal	Major	Unlikely	14 – Moderate	SecureEnergy
35	Operation of construction compound	Surface water	Leak from the wastewater treatment plant into the receiving environment	Contamination of surface water. Reduction in water quality. Dispersion of contaminants.	- Environmental contamination - Potential regulatory action from agencies - Financial penalties - Reputational impacts	Moderate	Likely	17 – High	- Soil and Water Management Plan - Wastewater treatment plant to be self-bunded	Minor	Unlikely	6 – Low	SecureEnergy
36	Use of treated wastewater	Contamination	Use of treated wastewater that does not meet the applicable water quality requirements.	Contamination of soil and water. Human and environmental health risk	- Environmental contamination - Potential regulatory action from agencies - Financial penalties - Reputational impacts	Major	Likely	19 – High	- Accommodation Camp Management Plan - Wastewater treatment plant maintenance manual - Verification monitoring program	Moderate	Possible	13 – Moderate	SecureEnergy

No.	Activity	Environmental category	Aspect/Cause	Impact/Risk	Possible Outcome	Consequence	Likelihood	Initial Risk Rating	Risk Management Measures (DRAFT)	Consequence	Likelihood	Residual Risk Rating	Risk Owner
37	Hot works and plant operations	Bushfire	Sparks from machinery or hot work activities ignites combustible vegetation and fire gets out of control.	Ignition of bushfire.	- Significant impact to local environment through bushfire - Potential destruction of project infrastructure and equipment - Potential for fatality/injury to personnel and members of the public - Damage to public property and adjacent properties - Loss of biodiversity - Project delays - Significant reputational impact - Potential regulatory actions from agencies - Financial penalties	Catastrophic	Likely	24 – Very High	- Emergency Plan - FRACM - Hot works permits	Catastrophic	Rare	15 – Moderate	SecureEnergy
38	Inflow of workforce to local area	Socio economic	Workforce size relocating to local area.	Business impacts, increased housing demand.	- Housing rental/purchase prices increase due to increased demand - Local services struggle to meet demands - Loss of community support for the project	Minor	Possible	10 - Moderate	- Establishment of construction camps to provide accommodation for workforce - Encourage personnel to purchase local produce and use local business to stimulate positive economic growth in the locality	Minor	Unlikely	6 – Low	SecureEnergy
39	Working in bushfire prone areas	Bushfire	Siting of temporary infrastructure and personnel in bushfire prone areas without appropriate bushfire mitigation in place.	Ignition of bushfire.	- Damage to construction site, works and accommodation camps - Project delays - Safety impacts	Moderate	Possible	13 - Moderate	- Preposition firefighting equipment - Safety and emergency systems and procedures - Implement preparatory actions of Emergency plan	Minor	Unlikely	6 – Low	SecureEnergy
40	Working in UXO prone areas	Socio economic	Unidentified/buried unexploded ordnance	Working in unexploded ordnance prone area	- Project delays - Safety impacts	Catastrophic	Likely	24 – Very High	- Physical demarcation of identified UXO prone areas - Unexpected Contamination Find Procedure	Catastrophic	Rare	15 – Moderate	SecureEnergy

Appendix A4 – Incident, Notification and Investigation Procedure Flowchart



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Appendix A5 – Management measures for unassigned conditions of the Infrastructure Approval and RMMs

ID	Management measures	When to implement	Responsibility	Reference
Miscellaneous				
MM1	Permanent engineering batters and water management measures will be designed to integrate with the existing landforms and natural features. Design reports will consider integration of the permanent engineering batters and water management measures (ie drainage) with the existing landforms and natural features.	Detailed design	Design Manager	RMM LV3
MM2	Lighting at construction compound and accommodation camps will be designed: - to minimise off-site lighting impacts to sensitive receivers; - include the use of low intensity lighting where practicable, except where required for safety or emergency purposes; - generally does not emit light above the horizon, except where required for safety or emergency purposes; and - generally in accordance with <i>AS4282-2019 Control of the obtrusive effects of outdoor lighting</i>.	Detailed design	Supervisor	RMM LV4 Condition D41
MM3	The following aspects will be considered in design reports during the detailed design of the transmission line structures, where possible: - distance from private residences; - use of local vegetation and landform as screening to residences or from the road; - reduce the potential visual impact where the proposal alignment is visible for a long duration, and in open landscapes; - to be positioned alongside existing transmission line structures where feasible; - the location of transmission line structures in relation to locally prominent landforms; and - clearing requirements along creek lines.	Detailed design	Design Manager	RMM LV5
MM4	Visual impacts from transmission line structures, where transmission line crosses a roadway, will be considered during detailed design phase where feasible and reasonable.	Detailed design	Design Manager	RMM LV6
MM5	Opportunities for screening vegetation for affected private property landholders will be investigated to determine the extent of the impact and appropriateness of the screening vegetation to reduce the visual impact from the residence. This will be undertaken in negotiation with the affected resident. Where required, screening vegetation will be planted prior to completion of construction and will be maintained by the landholder.	Construction	Design Manager and Transgrid	RMM LV8
MM6	The project will be designed in accordance with <i>Guidelines for Limiting Exposure to Time-Varying Electric and Magnetic Fields (1 Hz – 100 kHz)</i> (International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection and the EMF guidelines of set out in Table 19-2 of the EIS where practicable and feasible, otherwise in line with Transgrid's Transmission Line Design Manual – Major New Build.	Detailed design	Design Manager	RMM HR1 Condition D45
MM7	The storage, handling, and transport of dangerous goods will be undertaken in accordance with: - the relevant Australian Standards and guidelines, particularly: - AS1940 <i>The storage and handling of flammable and combustible liquids</i>;	Construction	Supervisor, Environmental Manager, HSSE	Condition D44

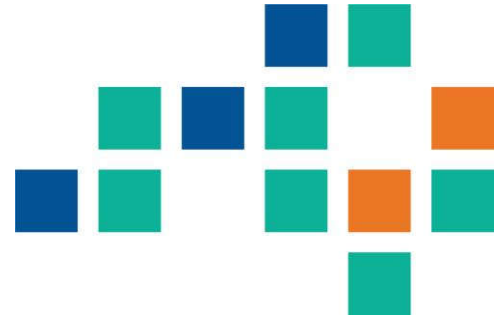
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ID	Management measures	When to implement	Responsibility	Reference
	– AS/NZS 1596:2014 <i>The storage and handling of LP Gas, the Dangerous Goods Code</i>; and – the EPA's <i>Storing and Handling of Liquids: Environmental Protection – Participants Manual</i>.			
MM8	Works to public infrastructure will be undertaken, in consultation with the applicable public authority or service provider, in the following events: • where any public infrastructure that is damaged by the project; and • where any public infrastructure needs to be relocated as a result of the project. Public infrastructure works does not include any damage to roads caused from general road usage.	Construction	Supervisor	Condition A8
MM9	The Proponent will ensure that all new buildings and structures, and any alterations or additions to existing buildings and structures, are constructed in accordance with the relevant requirements of the BCA; and where the BCA is not applicable, to the relevant Australian Standard.	Construction	Supervisor	Condition A10
MM10	Advertisement signs, logos and other off-site visual materials related to the project will be avoided or minimised to reduce visual impacts, where reasonable and practicable, except where required for site identification, or traffic and haulage purposes, or safety purposes.	Construction	Supervisor, Environmental Manager	Condition D42

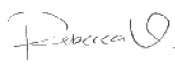
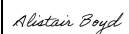
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Appendix B – Environmental Management Sub-Plans

INTERNAL



Biodiversity Management Plan EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section) Stage 2 45860-HSE-PL-D-0029

REV	DATE	GENERAL DESCRIPTION	PREPARED	REVIEWED	VERIFIED	VERIFIED	APPROVED
A	1/07/2021	Initial draft	L.Coetzee	R.Walker-Edwards	G.Crighton	JL.Barrenechea	D.Whatmough
B	21/12/2021	Issued for TransGrid review	R.Walker-Edwards	M. Lee	G.Crighton	JL.Barrenechea	D.Whatmough
C	21/01/2022	Issued for agency review	R.Walker-Edwards	M. Lee	G.Crighton	JL.Barrenechea	D.Whatmough
D	7/04/2022	Updated following agency review	R.Walker-Edwards	M. Lee	G.Crighton	JL.Barrenechea	D.Whatmough
E	4/05/2022	Updated following ER review	R.Walker-Edwards	M. Lee	G.Crighton	JL.Barrenechea	D.Whatmough
F	10/06/2022	Updated following DPE review	 R.Walker-Edwards	 M. Lee	 A.Boyd	 JL.Barrenechea	 D.Whatmough

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Revision History	
Rev.	Detailed Description
A	Issued for internal review including aspects from <i>EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section) Submission Report</i>
B	Issued for TransGrid review
C	Issued for agency consultation
D	Updated following agency review
E	Updated following ER review
F	Updated following DPE review

Key Document Stakeholders
To be communicated with during reviews and revisions of this document

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Abbreviations

Acronym	Definition
Amendment Report	<i>EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section) Amendment Report</i>
DAM	<i>Biodiversity Assessment Method 2017</i>
BC Act	<i>Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016</i>
BCD	Biodiversity and Conservation Division
BCS	Biodiversity, Conservation and Science Directorate, now known as the Biodiversity and Conservation Division
BMP	Biodiversity Management Plan
BOS	Biodiversity Offset Strategy
CCS	Community Communication Strategy
CEMP	Construction Environmental Management Plan
CSSI	Critical State significant infrastructure
Cth	Commonwealth
DAWE	Department of Agriculture, Water and Environment
DPE or Department	NSW Department of Planning and Environment
DPIE	NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment now known as NSW Department of Planning and Environment
EEC	Endangered Ecological Communities
EIS	<i>EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section) Environmental Impact Statement</i>
EMF	Electromagnetic field
EP&A Act	<i>Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979</i>
EPBC Act	<i>Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i>
ER	Environmental Representative
Final BDAR	<i>Revised Biodiversity Development Assessment Report</i> (August, 2021)
FM Act	<i>Fisheries Management Act 1994</i>
GDE	Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem
GIS	Geographical Information System
IBRA	Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation for Australia
LGA	Local government area
LLS	Local Land Services
MNES	Matters of national environmental significance under the EPBC Act
NSW	New South Wales
PCT	Plant community type
PESCP	Progressive Erosion and Sediment Control Plan
Planning Secretary	Planning Secretary under the EP&A Act, or nominee
Project, the	EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section)
Project study area	The study area for the EIS, which comprises a one kilometre wide corridor between the SA/NSW border near Chowilla and Buronga and a 200m wide corridor between Buronga and the NSW/Victoria border at Monak, near Red Cliffs.
Response to DPIE Request for Information	The 'additional information letter dated 10 August 2021' in the definition section of the Infrastructure Approval; document is also titled <i>EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section) Response to DPIE Request for Information – 7 May 2021 and subsequent discussions</i>

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Acronym	Definition
RMM	Revised mitigation measures
SA	South Australia
SAP	Sensitive area plan
SecureEnergy	Elecnor and Clough Projects Australia Pty Ltd have formed the SecureEnergy Joint Venture (SecureEnergy). SecureEnergy is the contractor who will be carrying out the project on behalf of TransGrid.
Submissions Report	<i>EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section) Submissions Report</i>
TEC	Threatened ecological community
WMS	Work method statement
WONS	Weeds of National Significance

1 Introduction

1.1 Context

This Biodiversity Management Plan (BMP or this plan) forms part of the Construction Environment Management Plan (CEMP) for Stage 2 of EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section).

This document has been prepared for construction activities undertaken during Stage 2 of the project, and supersedes the existing Stage 1 Biodiversity Management Plan. It does not address the operational phase of the project.

This plan has been prepared to address the relevant requirements of the Infrastructure Approval (SSI 10040), the *EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section) Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)*, *EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section) Submissions Report (Submissions Report)*, *EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section) Amendment Report (Amendment Report)* and the additional information letter dated 10 August 2021 (Response to DPIE Request for Information).

1.2 Background

On 29 August 2019, the NSW Minister for Planning and Public Spaces declared EnergyConnect to be critical State significant infrastructure (CSSI) under the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 (EP&A Act)* on the basis that it is critical to the State for environmental, economic or social reasons. EnergyConnect is therefore subject to assessment under Part 5, Division 5.2 of the EP&A Act.

TransGrid have two environmental planning approval applications for the sections within NSW:

- EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section) – SA/NSW border to Buronga and Buronga to the NSW/Victorian border (the project); and
- EnergyConnect (NSW – Eastern Section) – Buronga to Wagga Wagga.

A referral under the Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act)* was submitted on 27 May 2020. The Australian Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment (DAWE) determined the project to be a controlled action on 26 June 2020 and thus, it would be assessed using the bilateral assessment process. As such, the project also requires approval from the Australian Minister for the Environment under the EPBC Act.

The EIS was prepared for the project in October 2020 and was placed on public exhibition from 30 October 2020 to 10 December 2020. A total of 20 submissions were received, with 15 from government agencies, three from organisations and two from the public.

The Submissions Report was prepared for the project in response to the submissions and was finalised on 14 April 2021.

TransGrid also prepared a separate Amendment Report to document design changes and additional environmental assessment undertaken since exhibition of the EIS. The Amendment Report describes the updated project for which approval has been sought and was also finalised on 14 April 2021.

On 7 May 2021, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPE or Department) requested additional information (*EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section)(SSI-10040) Request for Additional Information*) to assist with the assessment of the project. In response TransGrid prepared and provided the Response to DPIE Request for Information and a *Revised Biodiversity Development Assessment Report (Final BDAR)*(August 2021), which included revised mitigation measures (RMMs) which are to be applied. The Response to DPIE Request for Information was dated 10 August 2021.

Approval for the project under the EP&A Act was granted by the NSW Minister for Planning and Public Spaces (Infrastructure Approval SSI 10040). Approval for the project under the EPBC Act was granted by the Australian Minister for the Environment.

TransGrid have engaged SecureEnergy, a joint venture between Elecnor and Clough Projects Australia Pty Ltd to design and construct their portion of the EnergyConnect project.

1.3 Staging

Condition E2 allows preparation of plans on a staged basis, with the approval of the Planning Secretary. Where a plan is staged, the scope of works can be carried out without addressing particular requirements of conditions of approval that are not applicable to the particular stage. This BMP is staged in accordance with Condition E2.

The conditions of the Infrastructure Approval, and the RMMs identified in the Appendix G of the Response to DPIE Request for Information, that are relevant to biodiversity, are included in Table 2.1 and Table 2.2 respectively. The applicability of each requirement to this BMP is also addressed in the identified tables.

This BMP has been prepared specifically for EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section) Stage 2 and will be implemented for the duration of Stage 2 of construction. The key project components of Stage 2 of construction include, but are not limited to, the activities provided in Table 1.1.

Table 1.1 - Key project components of Stage 2 of construction

Key activity	Description of key activity
Pre-construction minor works permitted in accordance with the Infrastructure Approval.	Key activities nominated in this stage will have already commenced as part of the pre-construction minor works permitted in accordance with the Infrastructure Approval. The definition of 'construction' within the Infrastructure Approval excludes these activities. They will therefore not be subject to the Stage 2 CEMP and CEMP sub-plans. Irrespective of this, these activities will occur in accordance with the relevant conditions of the Infrastructure Approval. Key activities include: • environmental investigations, including biodiversity and heritage protection, salvage and recordings; • Aboriginal heritage assessment, mitigation (ie exclusion zones) and salvage activities including subsurface testing/test excavation, additional survey, and consultation with RAPs; • other survey work, such as road dilapidation surveys, and surveys of the general alignment and existing utilities; • installation of environmental management measures, fencing, enabling works; and • connections and pre-commissioning of on-site utilities (wastewater treatment plant, electrical power, lighting and etc.) for the construction facilities.
Continuation of any outstanding Stage 1 construction activities	Construction activities undertaken during Stage 1 of the project will continue where required. This includes, but is not limited to continuation of the following activities: • any outstanding construction earthworks activity at the Buronga substation; • operation of the Buronga earthworks material site, including the crushing and screening plant, where required; • operation of the Buronga construction compound including offices and laydown area; and • use of access and egress points.
Establishment of Wentworth accommodation camp	The main activities that would be undertaken at the Wentworth accommodation camp and construction compound and the Anabran South ancillary construction site include: • clearing of vegetation within the disturbance area;

Key activity	Description of key activity
Establishment and operation of Wentworth construction compound	- clearing and removal of topsoils. Topsoil would be stockpiled on site for later reuse; - establishing the Wentworth accommodation and associated facilities, site offices, amenities, wastewater treatment plant, power generators, hazardous material and fuel storage area, and internal roads; - establishing and operating Wentworth construction including but not limited to amenities compound site offices, concrete batching plant, internal roads and other ancillary facilities; and - establishing and operating Anabran South ancillary construction site laydown areas, vehicle and equipment storage, maintenance sheds, potential stockpile areas, demountable offices and parking.
Establishment and operation of Anabran South ancillary construction site	
Buronga substation upgrade and expansion	The existing Buronga 220kV substation would be upgraded and expanded to add a new 330kV substation on the land parcel adjacent to the existing 220kV substation. The upgrade and expansion of the Buronga substation would consist of the following key activities in addition to the works undertaken during Stage 2 of construction: - civil works including: - underground mesh installation (earthing grid); - foundation and footing works for the electrical equipment; and - installation of the synchronous condenser (SynCon) building slab; - mechanical works including: - erection of the SynCon, transformers, shunt reactor and capacitor banks; - installation of oil treatment; - gantry erection; - installation of electrical equipment; - installation of supporting steel structure; - overhead HV cables and cable pulling; - switchyard building installation (including control equipment); and - construction of the SynCon building; - electrical works including: - LV cable pulling, cable dressing and terminations; and - outdoor installation of the lighting system.
Establishment of ancillary facilities along the transmission line corridor	A number of minor staging, storage and laydown ancillary areas would be required within the project corridor for temporary storage of materials, plant and equipment required to construct the various elements of the proposal (in particular transmission line structures). Some temporary mobile batching plant locations may also need to be established to enable for easy access to concrete. Upon completion of works, these ancillary sites would be cleared of any temporary infrastructure and equipment, and rehabilitated. These sites would be in place for shorter periods at locations suitable to support the construction works as they move along the alignment.
Property adjustment work, including adjustments to property fencing	Installation or adjustment of gates and fences would be required at some locations along the alignment to enable access from the nearest roadway to construction areas. These would be constructed in consultation with the relevant council and/or affected landholder.
Water supply points – establishment and/or use	A series of water supply points have been identified as suitable connection points to existing water supply pipelines. The proposed water supply points which are to be established and / or used include: - Alcheringa Drive, Buronga; - Modica Crescent, Buronga; - Fletchers Lake Drive, Dareton; - Beverley Street, Wentworth; and 690 Pomona Road, Pomona/Oxley Drive, Pomona.

Key activity		Description of key activity
Construct access points		The establishment of access points would include: - establishing vehicle access and egress points including adjustment of state and regional roads to ensure safe vehicle movements; and - establishing truck wheel wash or rumble grids. The definition of construction within the Infrastructure Approval does not include road upgrades (which includes access points). Road upgrade works are, however, incorporated within the Traffic and Transport Management Plan as required by condition D40 b).
Construct access tracks		Access to each tower would be required during construction. Access tracks would be required to be traversable by a range of vehicles. Access tracks would fall into two broad groups: - un-improved access tracks - using existing roads or tracks, or driving on existing soil or ground surface with minimal or no prior preparation; and - constructed access tracks – around six metres wide and would generally follow the natural contour of the land as far as practicable to minimise the amount of cut and fill and soil disturbance. Access tracks would also include drainage control features such as table drains or cross banks to minimise erosion. Constructed access tracks would be required in areas, outside identified heritage risk zones, where there are no existing roads or tracks, or where terrain conditions prevent continuous access along the line easement between road crossings.
Temporary works		The project will require a significant quantity of temporary works during construction. Temporary works will be undertaken outside identified heritage risk zones. The temporary works will include, but not be limited to, the following: - earthworks, including trenches, excavations, temporary slopes, stockpiles, and embankments; - structures, such as formwork, shoring, edge protection, temporary bridges, solid fencing/guardrails/barriers and signage, temporary scaffold; and - equipment/plant foundations, such as work platforms, crane, and piling platforms.
Transmission line construction	Earthworks and transmission tower footing construction	Excavation works and establishment of construction pads at each tower site would be required for the installation of foundations, levelling around the individual tower foundations, drainage and grading or preparation for construction at the tower site. Excavations would typically be up to five metres in depth. Construction of footings and foundation works for the new transmission line towers includes: - piling. Typical transmission line tower piling depth would be generally up to 6-15 metres below ground level and would depend on ground conditions (e.g. greater piling depths would be required where soft soil types are present). The foundation type would also vary (subject to detailed design) but would consist of either: - bored pile (reinforced concrete); - driven or screw pile (concrete or steel); and - helical screw anchor, or cast in-situ reinforced concrete; - excavation to create bench sites (stepped ground excavation) where required to provide a level platform for equipment setup, the erection of the tower and other construction activities. Benching would be constructed by use of earthing equipment such as graders and excavators; - steel fabrication works; and - concrete pours.
	Assembly and erection of transmission line towers	The transmission line towers would typically be erected by assembling in sections on the ground and hoisting or lifting successive sections into place using cranes. Alternatively, towers may be erected in place on the footings by installing individual members. These towers would include infrastructure such as step bolts, climbing attachment plates, ladders, platforms, climbing barriers, identification plates, warning plates, other fixtures and fittings for the attachment of earthwires and insulators.

Key activity		Description of key activity
	Stringing of transmission lines including conductors and overhead earth wires and optical ground wire	Following erection and securing of the tower, the transmission line would be strung by either a ground pulled draw wire (with brake/winch sites) or a line stringing drone. The area required for the construction of each tower would require access for tower assembly and stringing works. Where a transmission tower is proposed to allow for a direction change of the transmission line, a larger area would be required (to allow for brake and winching sites). At a typical site, this would include a temporary area of up around 60 metres by 80 metres at each transmission line tower location. Stringing of transmission line would also be required across the following three major watercourses: - the Great Darling Anabranch, Wentworth NSW; - Darling River, Ellerslie NSW; and - Murray River, Monak NSW / Red Cliffs Victoria. The general construction methodology is to assemble and erect a transmission line structure on either side of each major river crossing. A drone would then be used to take a lead wire over the river to allow cables to then be pulled and strung tower to tower.
	Installation of earthing conductors	The following key activities will be undertaken: - installation of earthing conductors at each of the transmission tower arms; and - installation of earthing or isolation sections of fences and gates where the transmission line crosses or closely runs parallels to a metallic fence.
Utility works, adjustments and protection		Utility adjustment works would be required to convert several overhead distribution powerlines up to and including 66kV to underground cables. The existing alignment of the Broken Hill transmission line would require relocation at two locations. This would comprise of: - a permanent relocation of the existing transmission line in the vicinity of the Darling River. This would require the construction of two new monopoles, and the stringing of conductors/earth wires between the existing and new structures. The redundant tower would be decommissioned; and - a temporary relocation of a section of the existing transmission line that currently passes through the existing Buronga substation. This would be temporarily relocated around 200 metres to the east of its current alignment (along the eastern boundary of the existing substation site). Once the construction works to upgrade the substation are completed, the alignment of the 220kV Broken Hill line would be restored in a location generally consistent with the original line location. General utility works, adjustment and protection including internal and external drainage, to allow for the Buronga substation expansion and upgrades works to occur and the establishment and operation of the construction compound.
Decommissioning of existing infrastructure		Decommissioning and removal of: - the existing 220 kV transmission line between Buronga substation and the NSW / Victoria border; - the temporary bypass transmission line infrastructure installed to allow construction of the new double circuit 220kV line; and - a single tower on the existing 220kV Broken Hill line in the vicinity of the Darling River.
Progressive site rehabilitation and landscaping		Site rehabilitation would be carried out progressively along completed sections of the transmission line as well as the expanded substation site. These activities include: - removal of redundant environmental controls within the transmission tower easement; and - removal of temporary equipment and machinery.

Some activities nominated in this stage will have already commenced as part of the pre-construction minor works permitted in accordance with the Infrastructure Approval. These works will remain

excluded from the definition of ‘construction’ and will therefore not be subject to the Stage 2 CEMP and this BMP.

Some of the activities nominated in this stage will include works not yet completed in Stage 1. These activities will be completed in accordance with the approved CEMP for Stage 2.

1.4 Environmental management system

The overall environmental management system for the project is described in Section 4 of the CEMP.

This BMP is a sub-plan that forms part of the CEMP and is also part of the environmental management framework for the project, as described in the CEMP. Figure 1.1 shows the CEMP framework for the project.

Management measures identified in this plan will be incorporated into relevant site-based documents including, but not limited to, site or activity specific relevant work pack or work method statements (WMSs), the geographical information system (GIS) / sensitive area plans (SAPs), or training and awareness material.

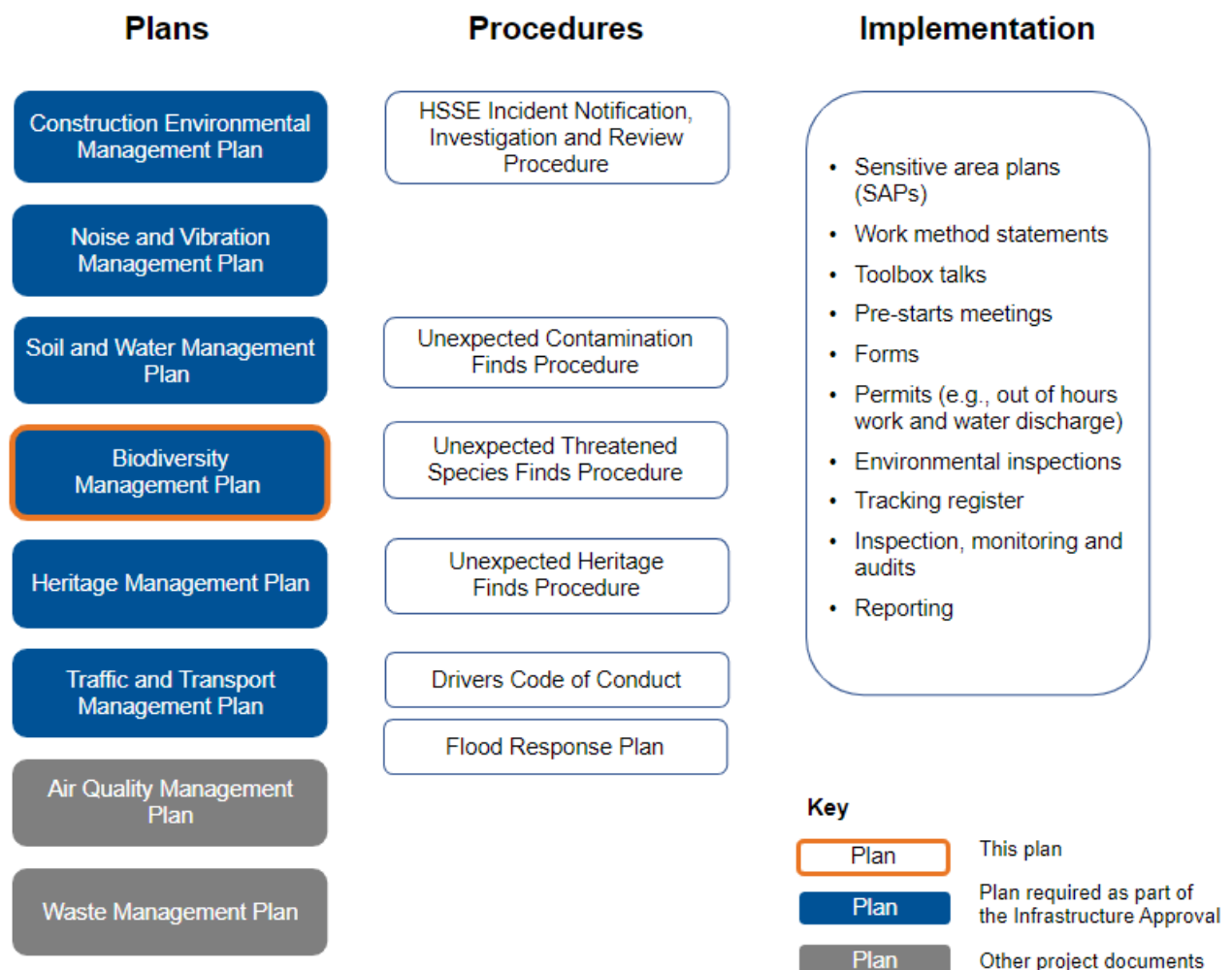


Figure 1.1 - CEMP framework

1.5 Purpose and objective

The purpose of this BMP is to describe the approach that will be adopted during construction of the project to manage biodiversity impacts.

The key objective of this plan is to detail management measures and inform site procedures for implementation so that biodiversity impacts are minimised. To achieve this, the following will be undertaken:

- implement appropriate measures to address the requirements outlined in the Infrastructure Approval, EIS, Amendment Report, Response to DPIE Request for Information and Final BDAR;
- implement appropriate measures during construction to minimise biodiversity impacts; and
- implement appropriate measures to comply with all relevant legislative requirements as described in Section 2.1 of this plan.

As a means of assessing environmental performance, environmental objectives (performance measures), targets (criteria) and performance indicators have been established for the project and are provided within Table 4.2 of the CEMP. The performance measures and indicators relevant to biodiversity management are detailed within Table 1.2.

Table 1.2 - Environmental objectives, targets and performance indicators relevant to biodiversity

Aspects	Objectives (performance measures)	Targets (criteria)	Performance indicators
Biodiversity	Minimise and manage the impacts of the project on biodiversity.	• No exceedance to clearing values of known biodiversity including flora and fauna species as specified in condition D25. • Minimise the risk of injury and mortality of fauna.	• Total clearing area as recorded on clearing register. • Number of fauna injured as a result of procedures not being adhered to.

1.6 Preparation of this plan

In accordance with condition B6 of the Infrastructure Approval, this plan has been prepared by suitably qualified and experienced personnel. This plan was prepared by:

- Rebecca Walker-Edwards; and
- Laurenne Coetzee.

The plan has been reviewed by a representative from the project's ecological team, Michelle Patrick. Michelle is a senior ecologist and an accredited NSW BAM assessors (BAAS19078).

1.7 Consultation

1.7.1 Development of this plan

In accordance with condition B2(c) of the Infrastructure Approval, this plan has been prepared in consultation with:

- Biodiversity and Conservation Division (BCD); and
- Wentworth Shire Council (council).

The plan was issued to relevant stakeholders for review and comment. Comments from the consultation process have been incorporated into this plan where appropriate. Details of all consultation with BCD and Wentworth Shire Council will be submitted to DPE along with the submission of this management plan.

1.7.2 Ongoing communication and consultation

SecureEnergy will use a range of tools in accordance with the *Community Communication Strategy* (CCS) (45860-CM-PL-G-1001) to facilitate ongoing consultation and communication with the community and stakeholders regarding the project. Communication tools include, but are not limited to, stakeholder briefings, project website, community drop-in sessions via the project's mobile van,

door knocks and project factsheets. Notifications will be issued for, but not limited to following, commencement of construction, significant milestones and changes to the scope of work. Refer to the CCS for further information.

In accordance with condition E12 a) of the Infrastructure Approval, project documents including the EIS, approved strategies, plans or programs required under the conditions of approval and independent reports will be publicly available on the project website. The project website is <https://www.projectenergyconnect.com.au>. A 24-hour toll-free telephone number (1800 560 577) is also available for any project enquiries.

1.7.3 Complaints

Complaints will be managed by the Community and Stakeholder Engagement Team with the use of Consultation Manager database. Complaints will be received via phone calls, emails and letters. Any complaint received is regarded as a high priority and will be recorded, tracked and responded to in accordance with the CCS. Complaints will be investigated and dealt with impartially. The key principles of the complaint management process include:

- acknowledge - SecureEnergy staff should respect the communities' right to voice their concerns. All complaints received should be acknowledged to the complainant either by telephone or in writing;
- resolve - SecureEnergy staff should aim at first contact, resolution for all community concerns. SecureEnergy staff should investigate community concerns in detail before negotiating a resolution. All SecureEnergy staff should use their relevant discretions to achieve a mutually acceptable resolution to complaints;
- escalate - all SecureEnergy staff should aim to escalate the complaint if the community member remains dissatisfied with the investigation and/or resolution offered by their first point of contact at SecureEnergy. All complaints where community request to speak to a higher-level representative, should also be escalated;
- record – SecureEnergy staff should aim through the Engagement Team at recording all relevant information, on the community account in Consultation Manager System, regarding customer concerns along with details of all discussions had with the community member in the process of investigating and/resolving the complaint. Detailed information on the resolutions offered to address community concerns should also be clearly recorded;
- communicate – SecureEnergy staff should remain in constant touch with the community member while their concerns are being investigated. The community member should be informed of all steps of the investigation and the resulting outcome at appropriate times;
- report – SecureEnergy should report on all complaints received to the SecureEnergy Management Team and Transgrid. The reporting should include information on the number as well as type of complaints being received, the status of these complaints from time to time and the resulting outcomes or resolutions offered to close them;
- feedback – the SecureEnergy Engagement Team should aim at regular and intensive reviews to identify possible trends in the complaints being received. These reviews should be aimed at highlighting improvements required to avoid complaints being repeated;
- action - SecureEnergy should aim at effective implementation of improvements suggested directly by the community or highlighted by complaint trends.

Wherever possible, complaints will be resolved directly between SecureEnergy and the stakeholder. If a complaints management process has been followed and the issue cannot be resolved, dispute resolution will be undertaken in accordance with the CCS. DPE may request the Environmental Representative (ER) to assist in dispute resolution of community complaints.

All complaints will be provided to the ER and a summary of complaints received, such as a complaints register, will be updated monthly on the project website.

1.8 Submission and approval

Prior to submission to DPE, the BMP will be reviewed by the ER to ensure that the plan is consistent with the requirements of the Infrastructure Approval. A written statement to this effect will be prepared and submitted to DPE. This review will be undertaken in accordance with condition A19 of the Infrastructure Approval.

The BMP will be submitted to DPE for review and approval by the Planning Secretary prior to the commencement of Stage 2 of construction.

Stage 2 of construction will not commence until the CEMP and all sub-plans required under condition B2, or where staging is proposed the plans required for that stage, have been approved by the Planning Secretary. The approved BMP will then be implemented for the duration of the Stage 2 construction activities.

1.9 Periodic review

This BMP will be reviewed at least annually and updated, if required, in accordance with Section 1.10 of the CEMP – Updating the CEMP. Any updates to the BMP will be approved as described in Section 1.10 of the CEMP.

2 Environmental requirements

2.1 Legislation

Legislation relevant to the management of biodiversity includes:

- *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act);
- *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016* (BC Act);
- *Biosecurity Act 2015*;
- *Fisheries Management Act 1994*; and
- *Local Land Services Act 2013*.

Relevant provisions of the above legislation are detailed within the register of legal and other requirements included in Appendix A1 of the CEMP. The legislation relevant to biodiversity is replicated in Appendix F of this BMP.

2.2 Conditions of Approval

The conditions of the Infrastructure Approval relevant to biodiversity for Stage 2 are presented in Table 2.1. A cross reference is also included to indicate where the condition is addressed within this plan or other project management documents.

Table 2.1 - Conditions of Approval relevant to biodiversity

Condition no.	Requirement	Where addressed	How addressed						
B1	Prior to commencing construction, a Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) must be prepared to detail how the performance outcomes, commitments and mitigation measures specified in the EIS will be implemented and achieved during construction to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary.	Section 2.3 Section 5 The CEMP	The CEMP has been prepared and will be implemented during construction. The CEMP incorporates and responds to all relevant conditions of the Infrastructure Approval and RMMs identified in the EIS, Submissions Report, Amendment Report and Response to DPIE Request for Information. Section 2.3 and Section 5 of this BMP describe how the commitments of the EIS relevant to biodiversity will be implemented.						
B2	The following CEMP Sub-plans must be prepared in consultation with the relevant government agencies identified for each CEMP Sub-plan in Table 1. Table 1: CEMP Sub-plans <table><tr><th></th><th>Required CEMP Sub-plan</th><th>Relevant government agencies and stakeholders to be consulted for each CEMP Sub-plan</th></tr><tr><td>(c)</td><td>Biodiversity</td><td>BCS Council</td></tr></table>		Required CEMP Sub-plan	Relevant government agencies and stakeholders to be consulted for each CEMP Sub-plan	(c)	Biodiversity	BCS Council	Section 1.7	This BMP was provided to BCD (previously known as the Biodiversity and Conservation Scientific Division or BCS) and Wentworth Shire Council for consultation. The outcomes of consultation have been incorporated throughout the BMP.
	Required CEMP Sub-plan	Relevant government agencies and stakeholders to be consulted for each CEMP Sub-plan							
(c)	Biodiversity	BCS Council							

Condition no.	Requirement	Where addressed	How addressed
B3	Details of all information requested by an agency to be included in a CEMP Sub-plan as a result of consultation must be provided with the relevant CEMP Sub-Plan.	Section 1.7	This BMP has been developed in consultation with BCD and Wentworth Shire Council. Details of all consultation with BCD and Wentworth Shire Council will be submitted to DPE along with the submission of this BMP.
B4	Any of the CEMP Sub-plans may be submitted along with, or subsequent to, the submission of the CEMP but in any event prior to commencing construction.	Section 1.7.2	This BMP will be submitted as a CEMP Sub-Plan to DPE for review and approval by the Planning Secretary prior to commencing Stage 2 of construction.
B5	Construction must not commence until the CEMP and all CEMP Sub-plans have been approved by the Planning Secretary. The CEMP and CEMP Sub-plans, as approved by the Planning Secretary, must be implemented for the duration of construction. Where construction of the development is staged, construction of a stage must not commence until the CEMP and sub-plans for that stage have been approved by the Planning Secretary.	Section 1.7.2	Stage 2 of construction will not commence until the CEMP and all CEMP Sub-plans (including this BMP), or where staging is proposed and the plans required for that stage, have been approved by the Planning Secretary. The CEMP and CEMP Sub-plans (including this BMP) will be implemented for the duration of construction for Stage 2.
B6	The CEMP and CEMP Sub-plans required under this approval must be prepared by suitably qualified and experienced persons in accordance with relevant guidelines, and include where relevant:	Title page Section 1.6	This BMP has been jointly prepared by suitably qualified and experienced people and in accordance with relevant guidelines.
	a) a summary of relevant background or baseline data;	Section 3	The biodiversity values of the Stage 2 disturbance area are outlined in Section 3.
	b) details of:		
	(i) the relevant statutory requirements (including any relevant approval or licence conditions);	Section 2 Appendix F	The relevant legislation, conditions, RMMs and guidelines applicable to biodiversity are outlined in Section 2. Appendix F provides further detail on the relevant legislation applicable to biodiversity.

Condition no.	Requirement	Where addressed	How addressed
	(ii) any relevant limits or performance measures and criteria; and	Section 1.5 Section 4.2 of the CEMP – Objectives and targets	The objectives (performance measures) and targets (criteria) relevant to biodiversity management are outlined in Section 1.5. The CEMP also provides project-wide environmental objectives (performance measures) and targets (criteria).
	(iii) the specific performance indicators that are proposed to be used to judge the performance of, or guide the implementation of, the development or any management measures;	Section 1.5 Section 4.2 of the CEMP – Objectives and targets	The performance indicators relevant to biodiversity management are outlined in Section 1.5 of this BMP. The CEMP also provides project-wide performance indicators.
	c) any relevant commitments or recommendations identified in the EIS;	Section 2.3	Relevant biodiversity commitments and recommendations identified in the EIS, known as RMMs, have been outlined in Section 2.3.
	d) a description of the measures to be implemented to comply with the relevant statutory requirements, limits, or performance measures and criteria;	Section 5	Specific biodiversity related safeguards and management measures to address potential impacts associated with Stage 2 of construction and comply with the relevant statutory requirements, limits and performance measures are outlined in Section 5, and Appendix A to Appendix D.
	e) a program to monitor and report on the:		
	(i) impacts and environmental performance of the development (including a table summarising all the monitoring and reporting obligations under the conditions of this approval); and	Section 6 including: Section 6.3 Section 6.4 Section 6.5 Section 6.6 Table 6.1 and Table 6.2	Monitoring, inspections, auditing and reporting is outlined in Section 6.3 to 6.6 of this BMP.
	(ii) effectiveness of the management measures set out pursuant to paragraph d);	Section 6.3	Monitoring of the effectiveness of the management measures is outlined in Section 6.

Condition no.	Requirement	Where addressed	How addressed
	f) a contingency plan to manage any unpredicted impacts and their consequences and to ensure that ongoing impacts reduce to levels below relevant impact assessment criteria as quickly as possible;	Section 6.8 Appendix B Section 8 of the CEMP – Incidents and emergencies Section 10 of the CEMP - Reporting Section 11 of the CEMP – Non-conformances, corrective and preventative action	Section 6.8 outlines a contingency plan in the event that unpredicted impacts are identified. In the event of the discovery of any unexpected threatened species find, the Unexpected Threatened Species Finds Procedure (Appendix B) will be followed. The CEMP also provides additional detail regarding incidents and emergencies, reporting, non-compliance, non-conformance, corrective and preventative actions.
	g) a program to investigate and implement ways to improve the environmental performance of the development over time;	Section 6 Section 1.9 Section 1.9 of the CEMP – Continuous improvement	Section 6 of this BMP outlines procedures for compliance management, including details for monitoring, inspections, auditing and reporting. This BMP will be reviewed at least annually as described in Section 1.9 of this BMP and Section 1.10 of the CEMP. The Plan-Do-Check-Act model will be applied to the continuous improvement process, also outlined in Section 1.9 of the CEMP.
	h) a protocol for managing and reporting any: (i) incident, non-compliance or exceedance of any impact assessment criterion and performance criterion;	Section 6.7 Section 6.8 Section 8 of the CEMP – Incidents and emergencies Section 10 of the CEMP – Reporting Section 11 of the CEMP – Non-compliance, non-conformance, corrective and preventative action	Section 6.7 and 6.8 describe the procedures for emergencies, incidents and non-compliances, including those related to biodiversity. Additional detail for managing incidents and emergencies, non-compliances and non-conformances is included in the CEMP. The protocol for reporting of any incidents, non-compliances or non-conformances is included in Section 10 of the CEMP.

Condition no.	Requirement	Where addressed	How addressed
	(ii) complaint; or	Section 1.7.3 Community Communication Strategy Section 7.2 of the CEMP – Complaints management	A summary of the complaints management procedure and reporting of complaints is included in Section 1.7.3 of this BMP. The procedure for managing and reporting any complaints is described in the <i>Enquiries, Complaint and Dispute Resolution Management Procedure</i> provided in the CCS. The procedure includes a complaints management process which outlines how SecureEnergy will respond to complaints related to the project.
	(iii) failure to comply with other statutory requirements;	Section 6.7 Section 8 of the CEMP – Incidents and emergencies Section 10 of the CEMP – Reporting Section 11 of the CEMP – Non-compliance, non-conformance, corrective and preventative action	In the event of failure to comply with statutory requirements, the procedures summarised in Section 6.7 of this BMP and described in more detail in the CEMP would be followed.
	i) set out the procedures that would be implemented to: (i) keep the local community and relevant agencies informed about the construction and environmental performance of the development;	Section 1.7 Community Communication Strategy	The local community and relevant agencies will be kept informed of construction progress and environmental performance through communication tools such as notifications, and the project website as summarised in Section 1.7 of this BMP. Detailed information regarding project communication is found in the CCS.

Condition no.	Requirement	Where addressed	How addressed
	(ii) receive, handle, respond to, and record complaints;	Section 1.7.3 Community Communication Strategy	Section 1.7.3 of this BMP summarises the complaints management system, which includes a process to manage complaints including receiving, recording, tracking and responding to complaints within a defined timeframe. The complaints management system is described in detail in the CCS.
	(iii) resolve any disputes that may arise;	Community Communication Strategy Section 7.2 of the CEMP – Complaints management	Section 1.7.3 of this BMP describes dispute resolution, which is described in detail in the CCS. Wherever possible, complaints will be resolved directly between SecureEnergy and the stakeholder.
	(iv) respond to any non-compliance;	Section 6.7 Section 10.1 of the CEMP – Reporting non-compliances Section 11 of the CEMP – Non-compliance, non-conformance, corrective and preventative action	Section 6.7 of this BMP outlines that where a non-compliance has been identified, corrective actions will be developed as required and implemented to address the non-conformance that occurred (as described in more detail in the CEMP). Reporting of non-compliances will be undertaken as described in the CEMP.
	(v) respond to emergencies; and	Section 6.7 Section 8.1 of the CEMP – Emergency preparedness and emergency response	Emergency management and planning including environmental emergencies related to biodiversity will be undertaken in accordance with the Clough management system and relevant procedures as described in Section 6.7 of this BMP. Additional detail regarding emergency management is described in the CEMP.

Condition no.	Requirement	Where addressed	How addressed
	j) a description of the roles and environmental responsibilities, authority and accountability for all relevant employees, as well as training and awareness; and	Table 5.3 Section 6.1 Section 6.2 Section 4.9 of the CEMP – Roles and responsibilities	Section 6.2 identifies that SecureEnergy's organisational structure and overall roles and responsibilities are outlined in the CEMP. Specific responsibilities for the implementation of mitigation measures are detailed in Table 5.3 of this BMP. Training and awareness for all site personnel is outlined in Section 6.1.
	k) a protocol for periodic review of the CEMP and associated subplans and programs.	Section 1.9 Section 1.10 of the CEMP – Updating the CEMP	This BMP will be reviewed at least annually in accordance with the CEMP.
	<i>The Planning Secretary may waive some of these requirements if they are unnecessary or unwarranted for particular management plans.</i>	Noted	Noted
Restrictions on clearing and habitat			
D25	Unless otherwise agreed with the Planning Secretary, the Proponent must: a) ensure that no more than: 19.6 hectares (ha) of BC Act listed Sandhill Pine Woodland in the Riverina, Murray-Darling Depression and NSW Southwestern Slopes bioregions; 0.04 ha of habitat for BC Act listed flora species <i>Acacia acanthoclada</i> (Harrow Wattle); 0.32 ha of habitat for BC Act and EPBC Act listed flora species <i>Atriplex frequens</i> (A saltbush); 1.51 ha of habitat for BC Act listed flora species <i>Austrostipa nullanulla</i> (A spear-grass); 14 individuals of BC Act listed <i>Santalum murrayanum</i> (Bitter Quandong); and 6.91 ha of habitat for BC Act and EPBC Act listed fauna species <i>Polytelis anthopeplus monarchoides</i> (Regent Parrot) (eastern subspecies). is cleared for the development; and b) minimise: - the impacts of the development on hollow-bearing trees; - the impacts of the development on threatened bird and bat populations; and - the clearing of native vegetation and key habitat.	Table 5.3 – BD3 and BD4 Section 5.3 Section 6.3 Section 6.4 Appendix A - Pre-clearing and Clearing Procedure	The mitigation measures identified within Section 5 will be implemented to ensure that clearing for the development minimises impacts to hollow-bearing trees, threatened bird and bat populations, the clearing of native vegetation and key habitat. Clearing will be managed in accordance with the <i>Pre-clearing and Clearing Procedure</i> located within Appendix A. Progressive monitoring of the clearing quantities will occur to ensure that harm will not exceed the limits prescribed in D25a). Monitoring, inspections and auditing described in Section 6 of this BMP will check the implementation and effectiveness of the management measures identified in Section 5.

Condition no.	Requirement	Where addressed	How addressed
Biodiversity Offset Package			
D26	Prior to carrying out any development that would impact on biodiversity values, the Proponent must prepare a Biodiversity Offset Package (Package) that is consistent with the EIS, in consultation with BCS and to the satisfaction of the Secretary in writing. The Package must include, but not necessarily be limited to:	Section 5.4 Biodiversity Offset Package	Transgrid has prepared a Biodiversity Offset Package in consultation with BCD and to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary. Information relating to the offset package is provided in Section 5.4.
	a) details of the specific biodiversity offset measures to be implemented and delivered in accordance with the EIS;	Section 5.4 Biodiversity Offset Package	The Biodiversity Offset Package includes specific offset measures which are to be implemented.
	b) the cost for each specific biodiversity offset measure, which would be required to be paid into the Biodiversity Conservation Fund if the relevant measure is not implemented and delivered (as calculated in accordance with Division 6 of the Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 (NSW) and the offsets payment calculator that was established as at 29 July 2021);	Section 5.4 Biodiversity Offset Package	The Biodiversity Offset Package (Package) includes the cost for each specific measure which will be required to be paid if the measure is not implemented.
	c) the timing and responsibilities for the implementation and delivery of the measures required in the Package; and	Section 5.4 Biodiversity Offset Package	The timing and responsibilities for implementation of the measures have been included in the Package.
	d) confirmation that the biodiversity offset measures will have been implemented and delivered no later than 31 December 2023.	Section 5.4 Biodiversity Offset Package	The Package confirms the measures that have been implemented and those that will be delivered by 31 December 2023.
	Following approval, the Proponent must implement and deliver the Biodiversity Offset Package.	Section 5.4 Biodiversity Offset Package	The Package will be implemented.
D27	Prior to carrying out any development that could impact the biodiversity values requiring offset, the Proponent must establish an escrow account and pay into that account \$48 million, in accordance with the Deed of Agreement with the Planning Secretary executed on 13 September 2021. The Proponent must comply with the terms of the Deed. <i>Note: this condition provides security to the Minister for the performance of the Proponent's obligations under this approval in relation to biodiversity offsets and release funds for payment into the Biodiversity Conservation Trust in the event that the biodiversity offsets (either in whole or part) are not delivered in accordance with the Package by the Proponent.</i>	N/A	Transgrid has already provided security to the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces (in the form of an escrow account – refer to condition D27) for a Biodiversity Conservation Fund payment to cover any outstanding offset credit liability if the package is not implemented.

Condition no.	Requirement	Where addressed	How addressed
Biodiversity CEMP Sub-Plan			
D28	The Biodiversity CEMP Sub-Plan required under condition B2 must include: a) a description of the measures that would be implemented for: minimising the amount of native vegetation clearing within the approved development footprint;	Table 5.3 – BD4, BD5, BD6, BD7 Appendix A - Pre-clearing and Clearing Procedure	The BMP includes measures that would be implemented within Section 5, Section 6 and the Appendices. Vegetation clearing will be minimised through ongoing review of detailed design, construction methodologies and construction impacts to determine opportunities to minimise clearing.
	minimising the loss of key fauna habitat, including tree hollows;	Section 5.2 Table 5.3 – BD4, BD6 Appendix A - Pre-clearing and Clearing Procedure	Impacts to key fauna habitat and tree hollows will be minimised where possible through review of detailed design and temporary design (ie access tracks and laydown locations).
	minimising the impacts on fauna on site, including undertaking pre-clearance surveys;	Section 5.1 Table 5.3 – BD6, BD7 Appendix A - Pre-clearing and Clearing Procedure Appendix C – Fauna Handling Procedure	Pre-clearing surveys will include inspections for fauna prior to clearing. Identified fauna will be relocated into adjacent suitable habitat. This process is identified within the <i>Pre-clearing and Clearing Procedure</i> in Appendix A and the <i>Fauna Handling Procedure</i> in Appendix C.
	minimising the potential indirect impacts on threatened flora and fauna species, migratory species and 'at risk' species;	Table 5.3 – BD4, BD5, BD6, BD10, BD12, BD14	Indirect impacts to threatened fauna and flora species, migratory species and 'at risk' species may include for example, soil and water runoff impacting the adjoining threatened ecological communities. Measures have been incorporated within Table 5.3 in relation to erosion and sedimentation management.
	rehabilitating and revegetating disturbance areas;	Section 5.9 Soil and Water Management Plan	Rehabilitation of the ancillary facilities, accommodation camps and earthwork material sites would be carried out in accordance with progressive erosion and sediment control plans (to provide safe, stable and non-polluting areas).

Condition no.	Requirement	Where addressed	How addressed
	protecting native vegetation and key fauna habitat outside the approved disturbance area;	Section 5.1 Section 5.1.1 Table 5.3 – BD3, BD7 Appendix A - Pre-clearing and Clearing Procedure	Vegetation and key fauna habitat located outside of the disturbance area will be identified in accordance with the Pre-clearing and Clearing Procedure within Appendix A and the measures within Section 5.1, 5.3 and Table 5.3.
	maximising the salvage of resources within the approved disturbance area – including vegetative and soil resources – for beneficial reuse (such as fauna habitat enhancement) during the rehabilitation and revegetation of the site;	Table 5.3 – BD18 Section 5.9 Appendix A - Pre-clearing and Clearing Procedure Soil and Water Management Plan	The salvage of resources is included within Table 5.2 and Section 5.9 Rehabilitation.
	collecting and propagating seed (where relevant);	Table 5.3 – BD19 Appendix A - Pre-clearing and Clearing Procedure	In consultation with the ecologist, collection of seed will occur to assist with stabilisation of disturbed areas. This requirement is incorporated within Table 5.3 and Appendix A – Pre-clearing and Clearing Procedure.
	controlling weed;	Appendix D – Biosecurity Management Plan	The Biosecurity Management Plan is included within Appendix D. This includes measures to control the spread of weeds.
	controlling erosion; and	Table 5.3 – BD23, BD24, BD25, BD27 Soil and Water Management Plan	Table 5.3 includes measures for controlling erosion. The Soil and Water Management Plan has also been prepared for Stage 2 to minimise erosion and sedimentation impacts.
	bushfire management;	Table 5.3 – BD29, BD30, BD31 Emergency Plan	Table 5.3 includes measures for bushfire management. The Emergency Plan has also been prepared to prevent and mitigate the potential for fires, including bushfire.
	b) details of the Proponent's commitment to make a one off \$150,000 funding contribution targeted at further scientific study into the impacts of electric and magnetic fields on birds in Australia;	N/A	Transgrid will make a one off \$150,000 funding contribution targeted at further scientific study into the impact of electric and magnetic fields on birds in Australia at the commencement of operations.

Condition no.	Requirement	Where addressed	How addressed								
	c) preparation and implementation of a two year bird impact monitoring program at the commencement of operations; and	N/A	Transgrid will prepare and implement a two year bird monitoring program at the commencement of operations								
	d) a detailed program to monitor and report on the effectiveness of these measures.	Section 6.3 Section 6.4 Section 6.5 Section 6.7 Section 6.8	Monitoring and reporting on the effectiveness of these measures will be undertaken in accordance with Section 6.3 to Section 6.6, and Section 6.8. This will include pre-clearing inspections, clearing inspections, weekly inspections, auditing and reporting. Inspections will assess the effectiveness of the measures being implemented to meet the requirements of the BMP. Monitoring and reporting will focus on clearing monitoring and reporting to track the spatial extent of clearing and inform any final biodiversity offset requirements.								
Rehabilitation											
D54	Within 6 months of the completion of construction, upgrading or decommissioning, unless the Planning Secretary agrees otherwise, the Proponent must rehabilitate the areas where ancillary facilities, accommodation camps and earthwork material sites are located, to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary. This rehabilitation must comply with the objectives in Table 3. Table 3: Rehabilitation objectives <table><tr><th>Feature</th><th>Objective</th></tr><tr><td>Ancillary facilities, accommodation camps, earthwork material sites, the existing 220 kV transmission line between Buronga substation and the NSW / Victoria border (Line 0X1), and the temporary bypass transmission line between Tower 1 and Tower 19 of existing transmission line 0X1.</td><td> - Safe, stable and non-polluting - Progressively rehabilitate the site as soon as possible following disturbance - To be decommissioned and removed, unless the Planning Secretary agrees otherwise </td></tr><tr><td>Land use</td><td> - Restore land capability to pre-existing use </td></tr><tr><td>Community</td><td> - Ensure public safety at all times </td></tr></table>	Feature	Objective	Ancillary facilities, accommodation camps, earthwork material sites, the existing 220 kV transmission line between Buronga substation and the NSW / Victoria border (Line 0X1), and the temporary bypass transmission line between Tower 1 and Tower 19 of existing transmission line 0X1.	- Safe, stable and non-polluting - Progressively rehabilitate the site as soon as possible following disturbance - To be decommissioned and removed, unless the Planning Secretary agrees otherwise	Land use	Restore land capability to pre-existing use	Community	Ensure public safety at all times	Section 5.9	Rehabilitation of the ancillary facilities, accommodation camps and earthwork material sites would be carried out in accordance with progressive erosion and sediment control plans (to provide safe, stable and non-polluting areas).
Feature	Objective										
Ancillary facilities, accommodation camps, earthwork material sites, the existing 220 kV transmission line between Buronga substation and the NSW / Victoria border (Line 0X1), and the temporary bypass transmission line between Tower 1 and Tower 19 of existing transmission line 0X1.	- Safe, stable and non-polluting - Progressively rehabilitate the site as soon as possible following disturbance - To be decommissioned and removed, unless the Planning Secretary agrees otherwise										
Land use	Restore land capability to pre-existing use										
Community	Ensure public safety at all times										

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2.3 Revised mitigation measures

The revised mitigation measures (RMMs) are defined in Appendix G of the Response to DPIE Request for Information. The RMMs relevant to biodiversity management are detailed in Table 2.2 below.

A cross reference is also included to indicate where the measure is addressed within this plan or other project management documents. The management measures that will be implemented for the project are provided in Section 5 of this plan.

Table 2.2 - Revised environmental mitigation measures relevant to biodiversity

Reference	Revised mitigation measures	Application location(s)	Where addressed	How addressed
B1	Impacts to matters of biodiversity conservation significance will be avoided to the greatest extent practicable during finalisation of the detailed design and construction methodology for the project. Micro-siting of the transmission line infrastructure and associated construction working areas and other areas of disturbance will occur to avoid impacts wherever practicable. Site features with the highest biodiversity conservation significance, in particular, threatened species recorded and their habitat, including <i>Acacia acanthoclada</i> , <i>Atriplex infrequens</i> , <i>Austrostipa nullanulla</i> , <i>Dodonaea stenozyga</i> and <i>Santalum murrayanum</i> , will be given the highest priority.	All locations	Table 5.3 – BD2, BD4, BD5, BD6, BD7, BD8, BD10 Appendix A - Pre-clearing and Clearing Procedure Appendix C – Fauna Handling Procedure Appendix E – Biodiversity mapping	During detailed design and review of temporary design, opportunities to site items in locations where impacts to matters of biodiversity conservation significance are reduced, will occur.
B2	Where vegetation disturbance activities are required in areas that have not previously been subject to biodiversity survey, additional survey will be carried out prior to works occurring to inform detailed design and construction methodology. These surveys will be carried out by a suitably qualified ecologist.	All locations	Table 5.3 – BD3	Any works required to occur outside of previously surveyed areas will be surveyed.
B3	Opportunities to locate site offices, compounds and ancillary facilities in areas of limited biodiversity value (e.g. cleared land or areas of native vegetation with vegetation integrity scores of less than 17 (in accordance with the NSW Government Biodiversity Assessment Method Operational Manual) will be prioritised.	All locations	Table 5.3 – BD2	The earthworks material site will be required to impact threatened ecological community to enable earthworks material to be won or obtained for the substation foundation. This impact is approved as part of the Infrastructure Approval and the loss of biodiversity values will be offset. The site office and construction compound at both Buronga and Wentworth are located in an area of limited biodiversity value. Opportunities for any other ancillary facilities (such as laydown areas) will be reviewed.

Reference	Revised mitigation measures	Application location(s)	Where addressed	How addressed
B4	Existing tracks and clearings will be used, where possible, to avoid the construction of new tracks. Where this is not possible, the design will seek to minimise impacts to native vegetation as a priority.	Transmission line corridor	Table 5.3 – BD8	Existing tracks are proposed for use where possible to minimise impacts along the transmission line corridor.
B5	Transmission line structures will be located and constructed to minimise impact to vegetated riparian corridors, wherever practicable.	Transmission line corridor within the riparian zone as defined by “Guidelines for riparian corridors on waterfront land” (DPI – Office of Water, July 2012) of Great Darling Anabranch, Darling River and/or Murray River	Table 5.3 – BD27	Activities within the riparian zones will be managed to minimise impacts to aquatic environments wherever practicable.
B6	Conductor line-marking techniques will be implemented during detailed design to minimise bird strike. Use of bird diverters, most likely consisting of the “flapper” variety, will be implemented. Positioning and exact diverter model will be finalised during detailed design but at minimum these will be used within one kilometre of wetland / riverine habitats to reduce impacts on aerial fauna species from collision and allow safer passage within these areas.	Transmission line corridor – within one kilometre of wetland / riverine habitats (i.e. Great Darling Anabranch, Darling River and Murray River)	Table 5.3 – BD15	Detailed design will incorporate conductor line-marking techniques to minimise bird strike. The positioning and diverter model will be finalised during detailed design but at minimum these will be used within one kilometre of wetland / riverine habitats to reduce impacts on aerial fauna species from collision and allow safer passage within these areas.
B7	TransGrid will establish a series of 20-metre-wide connectivity corridors near tower locations that occur in woodland vegetation. These would occur at strategic locations that would be developed as part of a Connectivity Strategy under the Biodiversity Management Plan. These connectivity corridors will involve native vegetation retention up to the 10-metre-wide temporary construction centreline clearing zone to better facilitate woodland connectivity.	All locations	Section 5.7	Connectivity corridors will be provided adjacent to towers at select locations along the easement.
B8	A two year monitoring program following the completion of construction will be implemented to better understand interactions of bird species with the transmission lines and towers. Problematic interactions identified during the program would be considered and options for addressing them implemented as practicable. Options that would be	Transmission line – within one kilometre of wetland / riverine habitats (i.e. Great Darling Anabranch, Darling River	N/A	Not applicable to Stage 2 works. This is applicable to the operation phase only.

Reference	Revised mitigation measures	Application location(s)	Where addressed	How addressed
	considered include nesting deterrents in high risk areas, installation of alternative nest habitat, relocation of nests or their deconstruction in certain circumstances.	and Murray River)		
B9	TransGrid will make a one off funding contribution targeted at further scientific study into the impacts of electric and magnetic fields on birds in Australia.	Not applicable	N/A	This RMM is applicable 'Prior to the completion of construction'.
B10	Nest boxes will be provided to offset the loss of tree hollow fauna habitat in accordance with a Supplementary Hollow and Nest Strategy. The strategy will include the following requirements: - survey of tree hollows and nests within the proposed clearing extents - the size, type, number and location of nest boxes required will be based on the results of the ecological surveys - appropriately sized nest boxes will be installed within the vicinity of hollow-bearing trees (subject to landholder agreement and suitable existing trees being present) no more than two weeks prior to clearing of the tree - all nest boxes in a particular location will be installed within 6 months after clearing "nest boxes" will include consideration of natural tree hollow re-use and new tree hollow creation - measures to address and manage nests (such as raptor nests) pre-clearing will be included.	All locations where hollow bearing trees are being removed	Section 5.1 Table 5.3 – BD16, BD17	The presence of tree hollow habitat within the Stage 2 disturbance area will be confirmed during pre-clearing surveys (Section 5.1 and Appendix A). A <i>Supplementary Hollow and Nest Strategy</i> will be prepared and will include the requirements of RMM B10. Detail relating to the <i>Supplementary Hollow and Nest Strategy</i> is included in Section 5.2. Any nest boxes required for Stage 2 will be installed within the vicinity of hollow-bearing trees no more than two weeks prior to clearing of the tree and within 6 months after clearing in a particular location.
B11	Pre-clearing surveys will be completed prior to clearing at each location by a suitability qualified ecologist. The proposed clearing extents will be marked out on site prior to the pre-clearing surveys. During the surveys, the ecologist will: - survey the proposed clearing extent - identify any fauna that will require relocation prior to clearing - confirm the location and mark out the extents of any biodiversity exclusion zones - confirm that hollow-bearing trees within and adjacent to the	All locations	Section 5.1 Table 5.3 – BD9 Appendix A - Pre-clearing and Clearing Procedure	Pre-clearing surveys will be undertaken in accordance with the <i>Pre-clearing and Clearing Procedure</i> located within Appendix A and the requirements listed within Section 5.1. Pre-clearing surveys will be undertaken by the project ecologist in accordance with the requirement of RMM B11. These requirements are listed within Appendix A.

Reference	Revised mitigation measures	Application location(s)	Where addressed	How addressed
	clearing extents are prominently marked/tagged confirm that nest boxes are in place (where required) in suitable locations adjacent to areas to be cleared, or suitable locations for installation have been identified.			
B12	The results of the pre-clearing surveys will be used to update and confirm the accuracy of sensitive area maps.	All locations	Section 5.1 Table 5.3 – BD7 Appendix A - Pre-clearing and Clearing Procedure	The <i>Pre-clearing and Clearing Procedure</i> includes the requirement to update the Geographical Information System (GIS) or sensitive area plans (as required based on findings).
B13	Biodiversity exclusion zones for retained vegetation, including identified threatened flora populations will be clearly identified by a suitably qualified ecologist prior to the commencement of clearing or any site activity that could damage the vegetation within the exclusion zone. Biodiversity exclusion zones will be physically marked and demarcated, and included on sensitive area maps, prior to clearing.	All locations	Section 5.1 Section 5.1.1 Table 5.3 – BD10 Appendix A - Pre-clearing and Clearing Procedure	The <i>Pre-clearing and Clearing Procedure</i> includes the requirement for the ecologist to identify biodiversity exclusion zones. The ecologists' tasks and responsibilities are also identified within Table 5.3.
B14	Training on biodiversity management practices and the requirements for the project will be provided to all relevant project personnel, including relevant subcontractors, through inductions, toolbox talks and targeted training. Construction workforce will be supplied with sensitive area maps (showing clearing boundaries and exclusion zones), including updates as required.	All locations	Table 5.3 – BD1, BD7 Section 6.1 Section 4.5 of the CEMP Appendix A - Pre-clearing and Clearing Procedure	Training will be carried out by the site inductions, toolbox trainings and targeted training. Table 5.1 and Section 6.1 provides information in relation to the training and awareness that will be provided to all site personnel. Sensitive areas for the relevant works locations will be covered in the training, with GIS or sensitive area plans provided to relevant personnel within the construction workforce (Section 5.1).
B15	Clearing of native vegetation will be monitored to confirm actual impacts to biodiversity values to inform any final biodiversity offset requirements within the biodiversity offset package. The final offset requirements will be informed by a BAMC calculation on the recorded clearing. Any additional credit liability identified by this calculation will be met.	All locations	Section 5.1.1 Table 5.3 – BD32 Section 6.3 Section 6.6	Monitoring of native vegetation which is cleared will occur in accordance with the requirements detailed within Section 6.3 and the reporting requirements included within Section 6.6. This will include the reporting of information relating to the type of clearing (eg Disturbance Area A) and the spatial extent of each PCT, TEC and threatened flora.

Reference	Revised mitigation measures	Application location(s)	Where addressed	How addressed
B16	Shrub or ground stratum native vegetation within vegetated riparian zones (within the definition of <i>Water Management Act 2000</i>) of the Great Darling Anabranh, Darling River and/or Murray River (and other defined riparian areas) will be protected to the greatest extent practicable, with vegetation clearing ideally limited to the tree stratum only, with trunk bases being retained in-situ.	Transmission line within the riparian zone as defined by "Guidelines for riparian corridors on waterfront land" (DPI – Office of Water, July 2012) of Great Darling Anabranh, Darling River and/or Murray River	Table 5.3 – BD27	Activities within the riparian zones will be managed to minimise impacts to aquatic environments wherever practicable.
B17	Activities within vegetated riparian zones will be managed to minimise impacts to aquatic environments. Riparian areas subject to disturbance will be progressively stabilised and rehabilitated.	Transmission line within the riparian zone as defined by "Guidelines for riparian corridors on waterfront land" (DPI – Office of Water, July 2012) of Great Darling Anabranh, Darling River and/or Murray River	Table 5.3 – BD27	Activities within the riparian zones will be managed to minimise impacts to aquatic environments wherever practicable.
B18	A species unexpected finds protocol will be implemented if threatened ecological communities, flora and fauna species, not assessed in the biodiversity assessment, are identified in the disturbance area.	All locations	Appendix B – Unexpected Threatened Species Finds Procedure Table 5.3 – BD14	If an unexpected threatened species is discovered, the <i>Unexpected Threatened Species Finds Procedure</i> will be followed.
B19	TransGrid will maintain vegetation for the project in accordance with commitments in the EIS, as amended in the Amendment Report. Vegetation maintenance protocols will be developed accordingly prior to the commencement of any vegetation maintenance activities within the easement and implemented during the operational phase of the project. The vegetation maintenance protocols will identify and address the biodiversity exclusion zones identified in the construction phase and the areas within the maintenance zone where the vegetation is not of a height/growth form that will ever require management. Relevant TransGrid operational personnel and associated vegetation maintenance contractors will receive	All locations	N/A	Not applicable to Stage 2 works. This is applicable to the operation phase only.

Reference	Revised mitigation measures	Application location(s)	Where addressed	How addressed
	in training in the vegetation maintenance protocols prior to the commencement of any vegetation maintenance.			
B20	TransGrid will retire the total quantum of the project's biodiversity offset credit liability confirmed in accordance with the Biodiversity Assessment Method. TransGrid will develop a Biodiversity Offset Package that identifies measures to address the project's offset obligations and the timing and responsibility for implementation. Before commencing any project activities that impact biodiversity values, TransGrid will: - confirm the Biodiversity Offset Package with the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment, and - provide security to the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces for a Biodiversity Conservation Fund payment to cover any outstanding offset credit liability if the package is not implemented.	All locations	Transgrid	A Biodiversity Offset Package has been prepared by Transgrid. The Biodiversity Offset Package has been prepared in consultation with BCD and to the satisfaction of the Secretary, with approval received on 16 March 2022. Transgrid has already provided security to the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces (in the form of an escrow account – refer to condition D27) for a Biodiversity Conservation Fund payment to cover any outstanding offset credit liability if the package is not implemented.
Land use and property				
LP5	Disturbed areas will be stabilised and appropriately rehabilitated as soon as feasible and reasonable following the completion of construction. This will be carried out in consultation with the relevant landholder.	All locations	Section 5.9 Table 5.3 – BD28	Disturbed areas will be stabilised in consultation with the landholders. This measure is included within Table 5.3, with further detail included in Section 5.9.
LP7	Biosecurity controls will be implemented during construction to minimise the risk of off-site transport or spread of disease, pests or weeds. Controls will include (but not limited to): - inspections and cleaning of vehicles, machinery, and personnel equipment prior to movement on and off the construction work areas or between properties - minimising movements across adjoining farmland including trip numbers and locations - additional measures where localised areas of high biosecurity risks have been identified. The specific controls applicable to a property will be identified in consultation with the affected landholder. The effectiveness of these controls will be regularly monitored.	All locations	Table 5.3 – BD20 Appendix D - Biosecurity Management Plan	Appendix D provides a Biosecurity Management Plan which will be implemented to minimise the risk of off-site transport or spread of disease, pests or weeds. The Biosecurity Management Plan includes an inspection checklist for vehicles and equipment. Information from Property Management Plans and consultation with landowners will be used to identify specific controls applicable to a property.

Reference	Revised mitigation measures	Application location(s)	Where addressed	How addressed
LP8	Where present, weeds will be managed in consultation with Western Local Land Services (LLS), Wentworth Shire Council and NSW Department of Primary Industries.	All locations	Table 5.3 – BD16 Appendix D - Biosecurity Management Plan	Consultation with Western LLS, Wentworth Shire Council and Department of Primary Industries will occur where weeds are present. Wentworth Shire Council will review the Biosecurity Management Plan as part of this BMP review.
LP9	In the event of new infestations of notifiable weeds as a result of construction activities, the relevant control authority will be notified as per <i>Biosecurity Act 2015</i> and <i>Biosecurity Regulation 2017</i> .	All locations	Table 5.3 – BD20 Appendix D - Biosecurity Management Plan	Notification processes are included within the Biosecurity Management Plan.
Landscape and visual amenity				
LV1	Opportunities for the retention and protection of existing trees within the disturbance area will be identified during detailed construction planning. Trees that do not pose any risk to the safe operation of the transmission infrastructure will be retained where practicable.	Whole of proposal	Table 5.3 – BD6	Opportunities for retention of vegetation will occur through detailed design review and construction planning.
LV2	Temporary and permanent access will be designed to minimise vegetation removal, changes to landform, and visual impacts.	Whole of proposal	Table 5.3 – BD8	Existing access tracks will be used where possible to minimise vegetation clearing required.
LV7	The Tree Protection Zone (as defined in AS4970-2009 Protection of Trees on Development Sites) of retained trees within or immediately adjacent to the disturbance area will be protected through the restriction of construction activities (refer Section 4.2 of AS4970-2009), to minimise the impact of the works on the long term health of these trees.	Whole of proposal	Table 5.3 – BD13	Where tree protection zones can be protected on the boundary of Disturbance Area A, they will be. This measure is included within Table 5.3.

2.4 Permits and licences

Due to the potential for impacts on Matters of National Environmental Significance (MNES), a referral (EPBC 2020/8673) was prepared and lodged with the Commonwealth Department of Agriculture, Water and Environment under the EPBC Act. The Commonwealth Minister's delegate determined on 25 June 2020 that the proposed action is a "controlled action" under the EPBC Act.

A Scientific Licence under Part 2 of the BC Act (including Animal Ethics Approval under the *Animal Research Act 1985*) is required for fauna handling/rescue and survey work. Where rescued fauna requires rehabilitation and care, only wildlife rehabilitation organisations authorised under Part 2 of the BC Act may be used.

As this project has been designated CSSI and assessed under Part 5 of the EP&A Act, permits relating to fish passage are not required.

2.5 Guidelines

The main guidelines, specifications, and policy documents relevant to this plan include:

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- NSW *Biodiversity Assessment Method 2017* (BAM) (Office of Environment and Heritage);
- Natural Resources Access Regulator (NRAR) *Guideline for controlled activities on waterfront land* (2018); and
- *Restoration of degraded grazing country in the semi-arid areas of NSW* (2006) (NSW Department of Primary Industries).

Transgrid has assessed the project's potential impacts to biodiversity values in accordance with the Biodiversity Assessment Method. The final biodiversity credit liability will be confirmed in accordance with the Biodiversity Assessment Method.

The documents identified above are considered by the project as described and referenced throughout this BMP.

3 Existing environment

This section summarises the existing biodiversity within and adjacent to the project. The key reference documents include:

- Section 9.3 of the EIS; and
- the Final BDAR.

3.1 Vegetation communities

Native vegetation recorded within the indicative disturbance area was assigned to seven vegetation formations that occur within five Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation of Australia (IBRA) subregions. The IBRA regions and subregions and vegetation formations are outlined in Table 3.1.

Table 3.1 - IBRA Regions and Subregions within the project area

IBRA Region	IBRA Subregion	Vegetation formations
Murray Darling Depression	Murray Scroll Belt	Arid Shrublands (Acacia sub-formation)
Darling Riverine Plains	South Olary Plain Great Darling Anabranh Pooncarie-Darling	Arid Shrublands (Chenopod sub-formation) Forested Wetlands Freshwater Wetlands
Riverine	Robinvale Plain	Saline Wetlands Semi-arid Woodlands (Grassy sub-formation) Semi-arid Woodlands (Shrubby sub-formation)

The seven recorded native vegetation formations have been assigned to 23 plant community types (PCTs) and 30 vegetation zones.

An overview of the plant community types is provided within Table 3.2 and Figure 3.1.

Table 3.2 - Plant community types

Plant Community Type	IBRA Subregions				
	South Olary Plain	Great Darling Anabranh	Pooncarrie Darling	Murray Scroll Belt	Robinvale Plain
PCT11 – River Red Gum – Lignum very tall open forest or woodland wetland on floodplains of semi-arid (warm) climate zone (mainly Riverina Bioregion and Murray Darling Depression Bioregion)			X		X
PCT13 – Black Box – Lignum woodland wetland of the inner floodplains in the semi-arid (warm) climate zone (mainly Riverina Bioregion and Murray Darling Depression Bioregion)					X
PCT 15 – Black Box open woodland wetland with chenopod understorey mainly on the outer floodplains in south-western NSW (mainly Riverina Bioregion and Murray Darling Depression Bioregion)	X	X	X		X
PCT17 – Lignum shrubland wetland of the semi-arid (warm) plains (mainly Riverina Bioregion and Murray Darling Depression Bioregion)					X
PCT19 – Cypress Pine woodland of source-bordering dunes mainly on the Murray and Murrumbidgee River floodplains	X	X			X
PCT 21 – Slender Cypress Pine – Sugarwood – Western Rosewood open woodland on sandy rises mainly in the Riverina Bioregion and Murray Darling Depression Bioregion	X		X		

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Plant Community Type	IBRA Subregions				
	South Olary Plain	Great Darling Anabran	Pooncarrie Darling	Murray Scroll Belt	Robinvale Plain
PCT 58 – Black Oak – Western Rosewood open woodland on deep sandy loams mainly in the Murray Darling Depression Bioregion	X	X			
PCT 63 – Spiny Lignum – Slender Glasswort open forbland saline wetland on lake edges in the semi-arid and arid climate zones			X		
PCT 139 – Prickly Wattle tall open shrubland of dunes and sandplains of semi-arid and arid regions			X		
PCT 143 – Narrow-leaved Hopbush – Scrub Turpentine – Senna shrubland on semi-arid and arid sandplains and dunes	X				
PCT 153 – Black Bluebush low open shrubland of the alluvial plains and sandplains of the arid and semi-arid zones	X		X	X	
PCT 154 – Pearl Bluebush low open shrubland of the arid and semiarid plains	X		X		
PCT 157 – Bladder Saltbush shrubland on alluvial plains in the semi-arid (warm) zone including Riverina Bioregion				X	
PCT 159 – Old Man Saltbush shrubland mainly of the semi-arid (warm) climate zone (south western NSW)	X			X	
PCT 163 – Dillon Bush (Nitre Bush) shrubland of the semi-arid and arid zones	X			X	
PCT 166 – Disturbed annual saltbush forbland on clay plains and inundation zones mainly of south-western NSW		X	X	X	
PCT 170 – Chenopod sandplain mallee woodland/shrubland of the arid and semi-arid (warm) zones	X				
PCT 171 – Spinifex linear dune mallee mainly of the Murray Darling Depression Bioregion	X				
PCT 172 – Deep sand mallee of irregular dunefields of the semi-arid (warm) zone	X				
PCT 221 – Black Oak – Pearl Bluebush open woodland of the sandplains of the semi-arid warm and arid climate zones	X				
PCT 252 – Sugarwood open woodland of the inland plains mainly Murray Darling Depression Bioregion	X				
PCT 253 – Gypseous shrubland on rises in the semi-arid and arid plains	X				

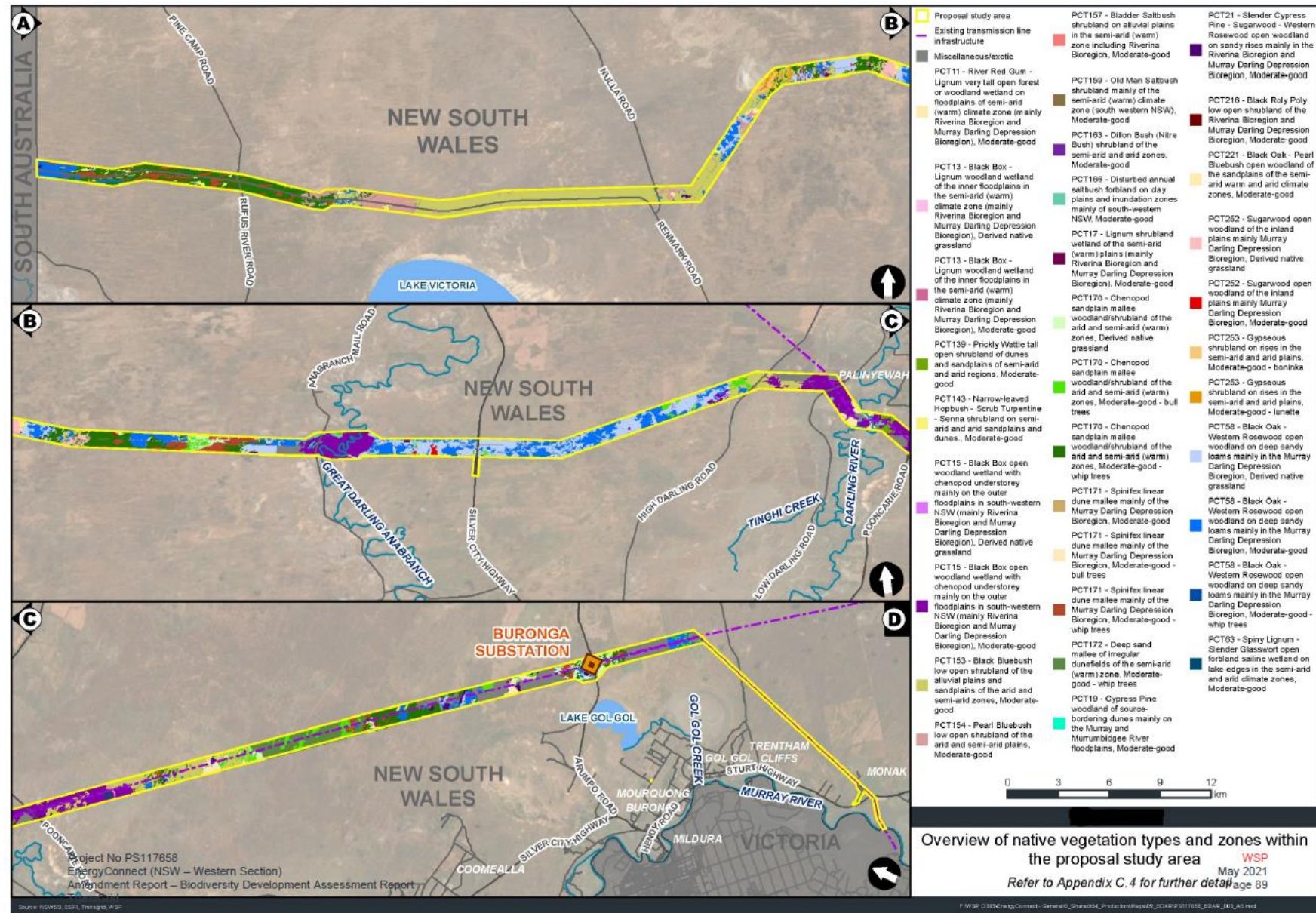


Figure 3.1 - Overview of vegetation types within the project area

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3.2 Threatened ecological communities

A total of four candidate threatened ecological communities (TECs) listed under the BC Act were considered to have the potential to occur within the project study area of EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section).

Of these four candidate communities, only Sandhill Pine Woodland in the Riverina, Murray Darling Depression and NSW South Western Slopes bioregions (Sandhill Pine Woodland) was recorded. This community is listed as endangered under the BC Act. Sandhill Pine Woodland is not listed under the EPBC Act.

Two PCTs confirmed within the project study area are considered likely to be associated with this threatened ecological community. These are:

- PCT 19 – Cypress Pine Woodland of source-bordering dunes mainly on the Murray and Murrumbidgee River floodplains; and
- PCT 21 – Slender Cypress Pine – Sugarwood – Western Rosewood open woodland on sandy rises mainly in the Riverina Bioregion and Murray Darling Depression Bioregion.

PCT 19 was found to be located near Buronga substation, the western side of the Great Darling Anabranch and on the southern side of the Sturt Highway, heading towards the Murray River.

PCT 21 was found in discrete communities along the project easement. PCT 21 is also located at the Buronga substation earthworks area. The location of the threatened ecological communities are provided in Appendix E.

Two threatened ecological communities listed under the EPBC Act were considered likely to occur in the project area:

- Buloke Woodlands of the Riverina and Murray-Darling Depression Bioregions; and
- Coolibah – Black Box Woodlands of the Darling Riverine Plains and the Brigalow Belt of South Bioregion.

Neither of these, or any other threatened ecological communities listed under the EPBC Act, were recorded during the detailed native vegetation survey.

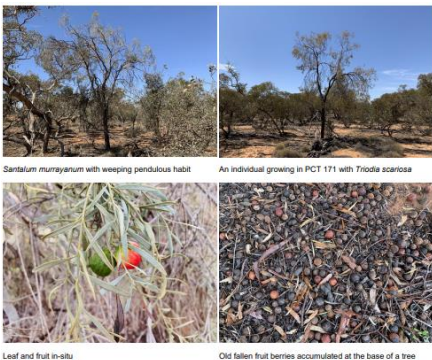
3.3 Threatened flora species

A total of 20 candidate threatened flora species were considered to have potential associated habitat within the broader project area and were therefore subject to targeted surveys. Of these, the following five threatened flora species were recorded in the broader project area:

- *Acacia acanthoclada* (Harrow Wattle);
- *Atriplex infrequens* (A saltbush);
- *Austrostipa nullanulla* (A spear-grass);
- *Dodonaea stenozyga* (Desert Hopbush); and
- *Santalum murrayanum* (Bitter Quandong).

Refer to Table 3.3 for images of the threatened flora species and Appendix E for the location of the threatened flora species.

Table 3.3 - Potential threatened flora species

Species name	Common name	BC Act ¹	EPBC Act ²	Images (Source: WSP)	Associated PCT
<i>Acacia acanthoclada</i>	Harrow Wattle	E	-	 Acacia acanthoclada with stock proof fencing under PVP No. 17PVP00009 Acacia acanthoclada on edge of track on the northern side of Renmark Road. Acacia acanthoclada flowers globular and golden Acacia acanthoclada with branchlets rigid and spinescent	PCT 171
<i>Atriplex infrequens</i>	A saltbush	V	V		PCT 17 PCT 153 PCT 166 PCT 170 PCT 216
<i>Austrostipa nullanulla</i>	A spear-grass	E	-		PCT 19 PCT 170
<i>Dodonaea stenozyga</i>	Desert Hopbush	CE	-	 Large mature <i>Dodonaea stenozyga</i> individuals with woody stems <i>Dodonaea stenozyga</i> rounded shrub habit growing on red sand in PCT 171 (inset) <i>Dodonaea stenozyga</i> with angular branchlets and four winged fruits <i>Dodonaea stenozyga</i> pinnate leaves and four-winged fruit	PCT 170 PCT 171 PCT 172
<i>Santalum murrayanum</i>	Bitter Quandong	E	-	 <i>Santalum murrayanum</i> with weeping pendulous habit An individual growing in PCT 171 with <i>Tridias scariosa</i> Leaf and fruit in-situ Old fallen fruit berries accumulated at the base of a tree	PCT 170 PCT 171 PCT 172

(1) V = vulnerable, E = endangered, CE = critically endangered under the BC Act

(2) V = vulnerable under the EPBC Act.

3.4 Threatened fauna species

A total of 18 candidate threatened fauna species were considered to have potential associated habitat within the indicative disturbance area and were the subject of targeted surveys.

Fauna habitat assessments were undertaken to assess the likelihood of threatened fauna species occurring within the project study area. Opportunistic sightings of animals were recorded during field surveys. Evidence of animal activity was also noted.

A number of threatened fauna species were observed directly or captured during surveys across the project study area or in adjacent lands. All except the Regent Parrot are ecosystem credit species and did not require individual assessment. The Regent Parrot is listed as Endangered under the BC Act and Vulnerable under the EPBC Act. Regent Parrots were only observed once during the survey period. A single pair were observed flying through Black Box woodland in floodplain topography near the Murray River.

The threatened fauna identified during surveys are listed within Table 3.4 with the recorded location shown in Figure 3.2.

Table 3.4 - Recorded threatened fauna species in the vicinity of project area

Species name	Common name	BC Act ¹	EPBC Act ²	Images (WSP)
<i>Hamirostra melanosternon</i>	Black-breasted Buzzard	V	-	
<i>Pseudomys bolami</i>	Bolam's Mouse	E	-	 Source: OEH website (Y Mooney)
<i>Cinclosoma castanotum</i>	Chestnut Quail Thrush	V	-	
<i>Nyctophilus corbeni</i> (syn. <i>N. timoriensis</i>)	South-eastern Long-eared Bat	V	V	
<i>Artamus cyanopterus</i>	Dusky Woodswallow	V	-	 Source: ebird
<i>Charadrius leschenaultii</i>	Greater Sand Plover	V	V	
<i>Pomatostomus temporalis</i>	Grey-crowned Babbler	V	-	

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Species name	Common name	BC Act ¹	EPBC Act ²	Images (WSP)
				Source: ebird
<i>Melanodryas cucullata</i>	Hooded Robin	V	-	
<i>Vespadelus baverstocki</i>	Inland Forest Bat	V	-	
<i>Hieraaetus morphnoides</i>	Little Eagle	V	-	
<i>Chalinolobus picatus</i>	Little Pied Bat	V	-	
<i>Lophochroa leadbeateri</i>	Major Mitchells Cockatoo	V	-	
<i>Leipoa ocellata</i>	Malleefowl	E	V	 Source: Bush heritage
<i>Pyrholaemus brunneus</i>	Redthroat	V	-	
<i>Polytelis anthopeplus monarchoides</i>	Regent Parrot	E	V	 Source: ebird
<i>Ningaui yvonneae</i>	Southern Ningau	V	-	
<i>Cyclodomorphus melanops</i>	Spinifex Slender Blue Tongue	E	-	 Source: OEH
<i>Lophoictinia isura</i>	Square-tailed Kite	V	-	

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Species name	Common name	BC Act ¹	EPBC Act ²	Images (WSP)
<i>Polytelis swainsonii</i>	Superb Parrot	V	V	 Source: Yass Tribune (Geoffrey Dabb)
<i>Haliaeetus leucogaster</i>	White-bellied Sea Eagle	V	-	
<i>Epthianura albifrons</i>	White-fronted Chat	V	-	

(1) V = vulnerable, E = endangered, CE = critically endangered under the BC Act

(2) V = vulnerable, E = endangered under the EPBC Act

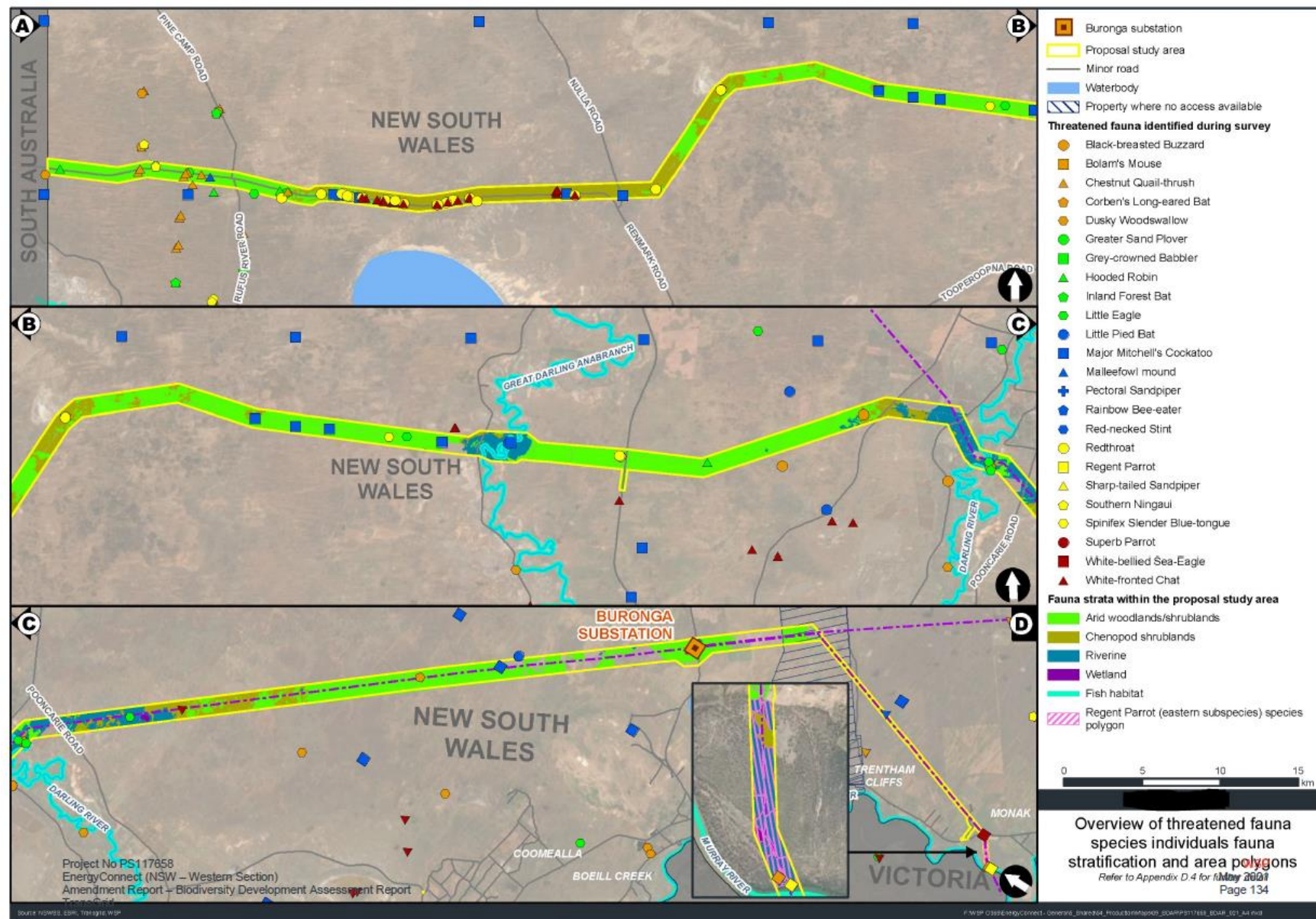


Figure 3.2 - Overview of threatened fauna species identified during survey

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3.5 Threatened aquatic species

The Final BDAR identified that threatened aquatic habitat occurs in the fresh and saline wetlands, rivers and creeks, and other open water bodies such as agricultural dams, irrigation canals, road table drains and low depressions.

The areas of mapped key fish habitat were considered to provide a moderate likelihood of occurrence for the following threatened species:

- Darling River Snail (*Notopala sublineata*) listed as critically endangered under the *Fisheries Management Act 1994* (FM Act);
- Eel-tailed Catfish (*Tandanus tandanus*) listed as endangered under the FM Act;
- Hanley's River Snail (*Notopala hanleyi*) listed as critically endangered under the FM Act;
- Murray Crayfish (*Euastacus armatus*) listed as vulnerable under the FM Act;
- Murray Hardyhead (*Craterocephalus fluviatilis*) listed as critically endangered under the FM Act and vulnerable under the EPBC Act; and
- Silver Perch (*Bidyanus bidyanus*) listed as vulnerable under the FM Act, and critically endangered under the EPBC Act.

3.6 Threatened aquatic endangered ecological communities

Two endangered ecological communities listed under the FM Act were considered to have the potential to occur within the project study area:

- Aquatic Ecological Community in the Natural Drainage System of the Lowland Catchment of the Darling River Lowland; and
- Aquatic Ecological Community in the Natural Drainage System of the Lowland Catchment of the Murray River Lowland.

Both of these endangered ecological communities are considered to be affected by the project based on the clearing of riparian vegetation.

3.7 Groundwater dependent ecosystems

No high priority groundwater dependent ecosystems (GDEs) were identified within the water sharing plans for the *NSW Murray Darling Basin Porous Rock Groundwater Sources 2011* and for the *Lower Murray Darling Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2011*.

GDE information obtained through the National Groundwater Information System (BOM, 2020) identified six GDEs with high potential for groundwater interaction within the project study area (Table 3.5).

Table 3.5 - GDE with high potential for groundwater interaction within the project area

GDE Type	Name	Associated PCT
Terrestrial (aquatic)	Darling River	N/A
Terrestrial (aquatic)	Murray River	N/A
Subterranean (vegetation)	<i>Eucalyptus camaldulensis</i>	PCT 11
Subterranean (vegetation)	<i>Eucalyptus largiforens</i>	PCT 13 and 15
Subterranean (vegetation)	Grassy Riverine Forest	
Subterranean (vegetation)	Mallee	PCT 170,171 and 172

Generally, all identified high potential GDEs are in proximity to the Darling River, Great Darling-Anabranch and Murray River, with larger GDE communities adjacent to the Darling River and Murray River.

The following high potential GDEs were also identified through the National Groundwater Information System:

- two non-connected populations of Mallee (vegetation) that occur northeast of Lake Victoria; one at the edge of the project study area and the other within the project study area and extending approximately five kilometres to the northwest; and
- an additional grouping of Mallee and *Eucalyptus largiflorens* which are proximal to the townships of Buronga and Wentworth, approximately one kilometre from the project study area.

One RAMSAR wetland, known as Riverland, is located within South Australia, about three and a half kilometres southwest of the project area.

3.8 Migratory species

The Final BDAR identified that twenty-six EPBC Act listed migratory species are moderately likely to occur within or adjacent to the project study area. An additional nine EPBC Act listed marine bird species may occur on occasion.

Of these species, three were recorded within the project study area:

- White-bellied Sea-Eagle;
- Rainbow Bee-eater; and
- Great Egret.

An additional seven migratory species were recorded outside the project study area in local or regional wetlands and therefore could move through the project site:

- Sharp-tailed Sandpiper (Chowilla regional reserve in SA);
- Pectoral Sandpiper (Chowilla regional reserve in SA);
- Red-necked Stint (Chowilla regional reserve in SA);
- Greater Sand Plover (Chowilla regional reserve in SA);
- Black-winged Stilt (Chowilla regional reserve in SA);
- Caspian Tern (Recorded in local riparian and wetland habitats); and
- Red-necked Avocet (Chowilla regional reserve in SA).

3.9 Wetlands of national and international importance

Seven nationally important wetlands are located within 25km of the project study area, however none of these nationally important wetlands occur within NSW.

Three RAMSAR wetlands or Wetlands of International importance were identified:

- Riverland Ramsar wetland complex – in Chowchilla Game Reserve in SA and is located three kilometres to the south-west of the SA/NSW border at its most western extent of the project;
- Banrock station wetland complex – located 40 to 50km downstream of the project in SA; and
- The Coorong, and Lakes Alexandra and Albert Wetland - located 150 to 200km downstream of the project.

The Riverland site would be the only wetland of international importance of concern to the project, however it will not be directly impacted.

3.10 Pests

During consultation of the EIS, local landholders and the Western Local Land Services (LLS) biosecurity officers identified rabbits, foxes, kangaroos, goats, wild dogs and pigs as the main vertebrate pests in the vicinity of the project study area. Common carp is also present throughout all

major river systems in the Western LLS region (Western LLS, 2018). Plague locusts can also cause problems in favourable seasons. No specific pest species have been identified in the vicinity of the project.

3.11 Weeds

The weeds identified across the project area and legislation or document under which they were identified are included within the *Biosecurity Management Plan* (45860-HSE-PLN-D-0032) (Appendix D).

There are several species of weeds identified in the EIS that are likely to be located in the vicinity of the project study area including:

- six species of weeds recorded during property inspections under the *Biosecurity Act 2015* (DPI, 2020);
- a likely occurrence of six noxious weeds, declared under the former *Noxious Weeds Act 1993*;
- 11 species that are identified as regional priority weeds on the *Western Regional Strategic Weed Management Plan 2017 – 2022* (Western LLS, 2017);
- one state priority weed – Bitou bush (*Chrysanthemoides monilifera*);
- four weeds that were specifically mentioned as problematic weeds by landholders and the Wentworth Shire Council biosecurity officer: Khaki weed, caltrops, thornapple and onionweed;
- Noogoora burr and Bathurst burr, which can be a problem in irrigation fields and contaminate wool.

Note that the reporting above is in line with what was reported in the EIS, however the *Biosecurity Act 2015* repeals and replaces the *Noxious Weeds Act 1993*. The term “priority weed” replaces the term “noxious weed” for the purposes of the Act (s 32).

3.11.1 Weeds under the Biosecurity Act 2015

Technical Paper 3 (Agricultural land impact assessment) reported that weeds recorded by authorised officers during property inspections under *Biosecurity Act 2015* (DPI, 2020b) are as follows:

- Horehound (*Marrubium vulgare*);
- Common pear (*Opuntia stricta*);
- Burr ragweed (*Ambrosia confertiflora*);
- Boneseed (*Chrysanthemoides monilifera*);
- Hudson pear (*Cylindropuntia rosea*); and
- African boxthorn (*Lycium ferocissimum*).

3.11.2 Weeds under the former Noxious Weeds Act 1993

Under the former *Noxious Weeds Act 1993* the following weeds were declared noxious in the Wentworth Shire local government area (LGA):

Class 4 (Locally controlled weeds)

- Rope pear (*Cylindropuntia imbricata*);
- Hudson pear (*Cylindropuntia rosea*); and
- Prickly pear (*Opuntia spp.*).

Class 5 (Restricted plant)

- Athel pine (*Tamarix spp.*);

- Bridal creeper (*Asparagus asparagoides*); and
- Willows (*Salix spp.*).

4 Environmental aspects and impacts

4.1 Construction activities

An environmental aspect is an element of an organisation's activities, products, or services that has or may have an impact on the environment (ISO 14001 Environmental Management Systems). The relationship of aspects and impacts is one of cause and effect.

Key construction activities of Stage 2 and the associated environmental aspects that could result in adverse impacts to biodiversity include:

- removal of vegetation as a result of clearing activities reducing available habitat and local biodiversity;
- stripping of topsoils as part of the initial earthwork's activities removing or harming any existing seed bank present and limiting natural regeneration potential;
- dust generation due to earthworks and vehicle movements affecting adjacent habitat;
- construction activities generally affecting the amenity and breeding cycles of any nearby fauna;
- introduction or spread of weeds and pathogens due to vehicle and machinery movements;
- surface grading and earthworks affecting root stock and soil structure, limiting natural regeneration potential;
- compaction of soils due to earthworks and vehicle movements increasing runoff and soil erosion risk and reducing future revegetation potential; and
- construction plant and equipment and site activities resulting in ignition of vegetation.

4.2 Impacts

The potential for impacts on biodiversity will depend on a number of factors. Primarily impacts will be dependent on the nature, extent and magnitude of construction activities and their interaction with the natural environment. Potential impacts attributable to construction are discussed below.

The environmental management measures described in Section 5 and Table 5.1 have been developed to minimise and mitigate the impacts to biodiversity.

4.2.1 Impacts on native vegetation

It should be noted that detailed design for the project has not been completed and as a result the disturbance area is indicative only.

The Final BDAR reported that direct impacts on native vegetation would include:

- **direct impacts on up to 642.85 hectares** of native vegetation. This impact on native vegetation comprises the following disturbance area impacts:
 - full disturbance in indicative **Disturbance Area A** is 399.98 hectares;
 - partial disturbance in indicative **Disturbance Area B** is 242.87 hectares.

Indicative Disturbance Area B has been assessed as two management subsets being:

- **Disturbance Area B4** – 187.72 hectares (where vegetation management is restricted to vegetation with growth height above 4 metres in height); and
- **Disturbance Area B10** – 55.15 hectares (where vegetation management is restricted to vegetation with growth height above 10 metres in height).

Total direct impact on native vegetation for each IBRA region is outlined in Table 4.1 below (Final BDAR Table 9.7). Note that this is subject to further detailed design.

Table 4.1 - Total direct impact on native vegetation

Native vegetation	IBRA Subregions					Direct impact (Ha)
	Murray Scroll Belt	South Olary Plain	Great Darling Anabranch	Pooncarrie Darling	Robinvale Plain	
Total direct impact on native vegetation for each IBRA subregion	7.81	524.03	24.95	77.50	8.56	642.85
Total direct impact on native vegetation						642.85

4.2.2 Impacts on threatened ecological communities

A total of 19.02 hectares of threatened ecological community will be impacted in the form of Sandhill Pine Woodland in the Riverina, Murray-Darling Depression and NSW Southwestern Slopes bioregions which is listed as endangered under the BC Act. The direct impacts on threatened ecological communities are detailed in Table 4.1 (Final BDAR Table 9.8).

Table 4.2 - Direct impact on threatened ecological communities

Native vegetation	BC Act ¹	IBRA Subregions					Direct impact (Ha)
		Murray Scroll Belt	South Olary Plain	Great Darling Anabranch	Pooncarrie Darling	Robinvale Plain	
Sandhill Pine Woodland in the Riverina, Murray-Darling Depression and NSW Southwestern Slopes bioregions	E	0	15.38	1.98	1.38	0.28	19.02
Total direct impact on threatened ecological communities							19.02

¹ E = endangered under the BC Act

4.2.3 Impacts on threatened flora species

Four threatened flora species (species credit species) will be impacted by the project. These include impacts to:

- 0.04 hectares of habitat for *Acacia acanthoclada* (Harrow Wattle) which is listed as endangered under the BC Act;
- 0.32 hectares of habitat for *Atriplex infrequens* (A saltbush) which is listed as vulnerable under the BC Act and the EPBC Act;
- 1.51 hectares of habitat for *Austrostipa nullanulla* (A spear-grass) which is listed as endangered under the BC Act; and
- 14 individuals of *Santalum murrayanum* (Bitter Quandong) which is listed as endangered under the BC Act.

4.2.4 Impacts on threatened fauna species

The Final BDAR reported that a total of 18 threatened fauna species (species credit species) were considered to have potential habitat within the indicative disturbance area.

Of these, the project will directly affect one, *Polytelis anthopeplus monarchoides* (Regent Parrot (eastern subspecies)) which is listed as endangered under the BC Act and vulnerable under the EPBC Act. The project will involve the clearing of 6.91 hectares of habitat for the Regent Parrot.

4.2.5 Impacts on threatened aquatic species and habitats

4.2.5.1 Impacts on threatened aquatic species

The Final BDAR reported six threatened aquatic species with a moderate likelihood to occur in key fish habitat traversed by the project. Refer to Section 3.5.

Impacts on mapped key fish habitats (Strahler 4/5th order streams) were considered likely to be negligible.

As the impacts would be minor, and water quality impacts during construction would be managed, the project was not considered likely to significantly impact any listed threatened fish species.

4.2.5.2 Impacts on threatened aquatic habitats

The project will span the Great Darling Anabranch and Darling River and therefore would not lead to direct impacts on the native fish and aquatic invertebrates that are listed to form part of the two endangered ecological communities (refer Section 3.6).

The Final BDAR included an assessment of significance which determined that the project is unlikely to lead to a significant impact due to the predicted negligible aquatic impact.

4.2.6 Impacts on groundwater dependent ecosystems

No impacts direct or indirect were predicted as a result of the project. Subsurface interaction or modification of groundwater interaction with the GDEs and RAMSAR wetlands was reported to be nil to negligible.

4.2.7 Impacts on migratory species

Impacts on migratory species are not expected as:

- there are no important habitats for the Fork-tailed Swift or the White-throated Needletail as outlined in the *Draft Referral guideline for 14 birds listed as migratory species under the EPBC Act* (Department of the Environment, 2015b);
- construction of the project would not seriously disrupt the lifecycle of an ecologically significant proportion of a population of migratory birds; and
- the project will not substantially modify, destroy or isolate an area of important habitat for any EPBC Act listed migratory species.

4.2.8 Impacts on wetlands of national and international importance

The Riverland RAMSAR wetland complex in the Chowchilla Game Reserve is located around three kilometres to the south-west of the SA/NSW state border. The Banrock station wetland complex is located 40 to 50 kilometres downstream of the project study area. These wetlands would not be directly or indirectly impacted by the project.

The BDAR reported that the project would not impact on any wetlands of national or international importance.

4.2.9 Impacts on biosecurity

There are risks that animal diseases, plant diseases and especially weeds could be introduced or spread during construction.

Potential carriers of weed seeds, plant material and diseases include vehicles (especially tyres), machinery and personnel (clothing and footwear). Biosecurity matters could also be spread by soil and water movements associated with construction. The biosecurity risks are generally highest during the construction phase due to earthworks, and the frequency of vehicle and personnel movements.

Potential impacts of a biosecurity incident on agricultural businesses include increased costs associated with monitoring pests, weeds or diseases, and reduced income caused by reduced livestock, crop or pasture production.

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5 Management measures

A range of environmental requirements and mitigation measures are identified in the EIS, the Amendment Report, the Response to DPIE Request for Information and the Final BDAR.

Specific safeguards and management measures to address impacts to biodiversity are identified within Section 5.1 to Section 5.9 and in Table 5.3.

5.1 Pre-clearing surveys

The pre-clearing survey will be undertaken by the project ecologist. The pre-clearing surveys of the clearing extent will be undertaken prior to clearing and will include:

- confirmation of the location and extents of any biodiversity exclusion zones;
- identification and demarcation of all hollow bearing trees. Identification and demarcation may also occur during earlier surveys. If this is the case, the ecologist will confirm that hollow bearing trees are prominently marked / tagged;
- identification of fauna that require relocation;
- the identification of nearby habitats for suitable release of fauna; and
- identification of suitable resources for salvage and beneficial reuse within the approved disturbance area. This may include, for example, logs or tree hollows.

The pre-clearing survey and delineation of clearing extents will be undertaken in accordance with the *Pre-clearing and Clearing Procedure* (45860-HSE-PR-D-0002) included within Appendix A.

The results of the pre-clearing surveys will be used to update and confirm the accuracy of the GIS or sensitive area plans and these will be communicated and distributed to the construction team.

5.1.1 Management of nests

Should any nests be identified during pre-clearing or clearing surveys, the following will occur:

- check nest to identify if active (i.e. 10-15 minute watch to see if being attended/there is movement);
- stop work in the surrounding area (20m minimum buffer);
- where the nest is active and is located at height:
 - if there is an elevated work platform (EWP) or tree climber present, use this approach to retrieve the nest along with any eggs/hatchlings;
 - if an EWP or tree climber is not present, the tree will not be removed until the nest can be safely relocated;
- fauna spotter catcher/ecologist to oversee process and advise if feasible to attempt relocation within the local area; and
- if not feasible to relocate, fauna spotter catcher/ecologist to secure within a dark, cool area until eggs/fledglings can be transported to a licensed wildlife carer.

5.2 Supplementary Hollow and Nest Strategy

During pre-clearing surveys, the project ecologists will survey and document tree hollows and nests within the proposed clearing extent as outlined in the *Pre-clearing and Clearing Procedure* (45860-HSE-PR-D-0002). If the surveys identify tree hollow habitat within the disturbance area, a *Supplementary Hollow and Nest Strategy* will be prepared to inform the types of nest boxes that would be required.

The *Supplementary Hollow and Nest Strategy* will include the following:

- the size, type, number and location of nest boxes required based on the results of the ecological surveys;
- appropriately sized nest boxes will be installed within the vicinity of hollow-bearing trees (subject to landholder agreement and suitable existing trees being present) no more than two weeks prior to clearing of the tree;
- all nest boxes in a particular location will be installed within six months after clearing;
- “nest boxes” will include consideration of natural tree hollow re-use and new tree hollow creation where reasonable and feasible; and
- measures to address and manage nests (such as raptor nests) pre-clearing will be included.

The *Supplementary Hollow and Nest Strategy* will be implemented.

5.2.1 Nest box locations

The location of the nest boxes will be determined by the project ecologist following identification of the hollow bearing trees and available nearby habitat. Should there be no suitable areas and trees adjacent to this site, the boxes will be installed at the nearest suitable area. Suitability will be determined by installation guidelines. Spacing of the boxes in relation to the species natural home range is important to consider as overcrowding can be counterproductive and has potential to deter animals from using it.

The project ecologist will also determine the potential for relocation of natural tree hollows for re-use, either by attachment within adjacent vegetation, or by placement on the ground to create habitat for ground-dwelling fauna.

An ecologist will provide advice on recommended installation e.g. tree attachment, suitable height, density, location, aspect and timing of nest boxes and outlined in the *Supplementary Hollow and Nest Strategy*.

Considerations for the location and position of nest boxes will include:

- installing nest boxes as close as possible to the location of the original hollow-bearing tree;
- placing in areas of native vegetation ideally connected to other areas of native vegetation;
- placing nest boxes at varying heights according to the heights recommended height for the target species (refer also to Table 5.1);
- positioning the nest box on the tree in a location which will consider the hot afternoon sun and the predominant aspects of severe storms; and
- recipient tree should be robust and in good health.

5.2.2 Number of boxes required

The number and type of nest boxes to be installed will be determined based on the results of the surveys undertaken by WSP (as part of the Final BDAR) and any further surveys which are determined to be required by the project ecologist.

Hollow data will be collected during pre-clearing surveys and will include:

- location of the hollows;
- number of each hollow class (small <5cm, medium 5-15cm, large 15-25cm and extra-large >25cm);
- approximate depth (cm) of the hollow;
- approximate height (m) of the hollow from the ground; and
- suitability/evidence of fauna.

This data will be compared to species specific nest box dimensions to help determine an estimated quantity of nest boxes and specific types.

5.2.3 Nest box construction

Nest box dimensions will be detailed within the *Supplementary Hollow and Nest Strategy*, with Franks and Franks (Nest boxes for wildlife) used as a guide in determining nest box size. Table 5.1 provides an overview of some proposed nest box sizes based on *Nest boxes for wildlife*. Please note that it's recognised that there were no possums identified during field surveys, however this information is included as a general reference as the distribution of the Common Brushtail Possum does extend to the project area.

Table 5.1 - Nest box dimensions (based on *Nest boxes for wildlife* 2011)

Species	Inside measurement (mm)	Entrance diameter (mm)	Depth of chamber (mm) (from bottom of entrance hole)	Height above ground (m)	Comments
Small birds	150 x 150	50	30	3-6	Horizontal spout entrance
Parrots	150 x 200	30-50	400	2-4	Front entrance
Cockatoo	300 x 400	200	1200	8-10	Very heavy chewer; angled spout entrance
Possums (large)	250 x 250	100	300	2-4	Will use several den sites
Microbat	n/a	Various slot sizes	400 or 600	1.8-5	Bottom opening

Nest boxes will likely be constructed in plywood or timber.

The lid should overhang the front and sides of the nest box by at least 25 mm to prevent water damage. A hinged lid is recommended for monitoring and maintenance purposes.

To assist with drainage, small holes should be drilled into the base of the nest box. Either rough-sawn timber or grooves cut into the face of the box will allow animals to grip to the box. Grip should also be considered inside the box, either with mesh or grooves cut into the walls to allow young to climb out of the box.

A nest box identification number will be placed on the nest box (stamped on the side or bottom of the nest box).

5.2.4 Nest box installation

The installation of nest boxes in suitable habitat outside of the clearing extent is proposed to compensate for the loss of hollow-bearing trees which will be removed for the project.

The preferred method of attaching nest boxes to trees is the Habisure system, which involves:

- a length of plastic-coated soft fencing wire will be passed through the nest box and around the tree trunk;
- where the wire is in contact with the tree trunk or branch it will be threaded through a length of garden hose to protect the tree;
- details of each nest box will be recorded and include:
 - the GPS location;
 - date of installation;

- identification number; and
- nest box type.

Nest boxes will be installed during the following period:

- no more than two weeks prior to clearing of the tree; and
- all nest boxes in a particular location will be installed within six months after clearing.

5.2.5 Nest box monitoring and maintenance

Monitoring and maintenance of nest boxes will be detailed within the *Supplementary Hollow and Nest Strategy*.

Monitoring during construction will determine the use of nest boxes during the construction phase and will occur on an annual basis. Any requirement to maintain or replace nest boxes due to deterioration or invasion by pest species, will also be assessed based on the viability of the nest box to continue to be used by the target species. Where longer term use is considered unviable, consideration and assessment will be made to determine if nest box replacement is required.

Any longer-term maintenance and monitoring (post-construction) would be detailed within the Operational Environmental Management Plan.

5.3 Vegetation clearing

All vegetation clearing will be undertaken in accordance with the *Pre-clearing and Clearing Procedure* (45860-HSE-PR-D-0002) included within Appendix A.

5.3.1 Staged or non-staged clearing

All areas that need to be cleared will be subject to staged or non-staged clearing. Staged clearing occurs in locations where the ecologist identifies habitat and is typically referred to as 'two-stage clearing'. Habitat vegetation will be identified with unique identifier numbers (identified by use of spray paint). Flagging will also be placed around the trunk of the vegetation.

Areas where two-stage clearing is required will clear non-habitat vegetation first, with habitat vegetation removed approximately 24 hours following this. Habitat vegetation will be removed following an inspection by the ecologists / fauna handlers. Relocation of fauna will occur.

Areas where no staging is required may be removed in one step. No habitat has been identified in these locations.

Both two-staged and non-staged areas are also subject to the requirements of the disturbance areas.

5.3.2 Disturbance areas

The method of clearing required changes based on the disturbance area. The key disturbance areas are as follows:

1. Disturbance Area A;
2. Disturbance Area A centreline clearing;
3. Disturbance Area B; and
4. Other areas (hazard / high risk trees and fauna corridors).

Figure 5.1 indicates the various disturbance areas.

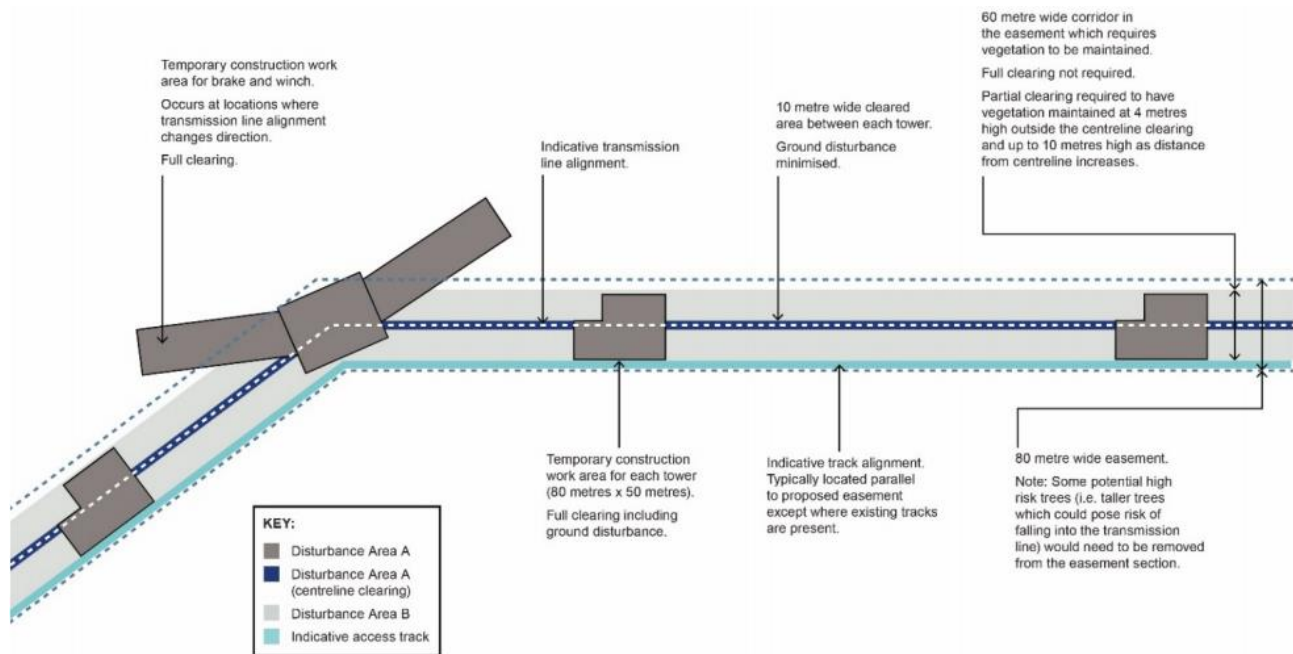


Figure 5.1 - Disturbance area types along the easement

Further detail in relation to the various disturbance areas and the clearing approach which will be undertaken within these locations is provided within the *Pre-Clearing and Clearing Procedure* in Appendix A. Any clearing will be subject to the management measures within Table 5.3 and the *Pre-Clearing and Clearing Procedure*.

Disturbance Area A

Disturbance Area A includes the tower pads, access tracks, laydowns, parking areas, accommodation camps, construction compounds, asset protection zones and the substation.

Vegetation is permitted to be removed to ground within Disturbance Area A. Where possible opportunities to retain vegetation will occur through review of temporary design and construction methodologies.

Disturbance Area A – centreline clearing

Disturbance Area A centreline clearing is the area required for line stringing activities. Disturbance Area A centreline clearing is 10 metres in width. Vegetation in this area will be removed, however topsoil and ground material would be retained (where possible). Tree stumps will be removed.

Disturbance Area B

Disturbance Area B is the area within the easement between the transmission towers. Disturbance Area B consists of:

- Disturbance Area B4; and
- Disturbance Area B10.

Disturbance Area B4 is an area where partial vegetation clearing occurs. Clearing is to occur to trees that are above 4 metres or have the potential to grow above 4 metres in height.

Disturbance Area B10 is an area where partial vegetation clearing occurs. Clearing is to occur to trees that are above 10 metres or have the potential to grow above 10 metres in height.

5.4 Biodiversity Offset Package

The extent of clearing of native vegetation will be recorded to confirm actual impacts to biodiversity values to inform any final biodiversity offset requirements within the biodiversity offset package. Actual clearing extents will be provided to Transgrid, who will calculate the final biodiversity offset requirements in accordance with the requirements of the BC Act, the RMMs and applicable conditions of approval. The following information will be recorded and provided to Transgrid in GIS format:

- the clearing extent; and
- the type of clearing at each clearing location as per the clearing approach identified and assessed in the EIS and BDAR (i.e., Disturbance Area A, Disturbance Area B4, Disturbance Area B10 etc).

5.5 Fauna handling

A *Fauna Handling Procedure* (45860-HSE-PRG-1005) has been developed for the project and is included within Appendix C. The procedure will be implemented.

5.6 Unexpected threatened species finds

If any threatened species or threatened ecological community are unexpectedly encountered, the *Unexpected Threatened Species Finds Procedure* (45860-HSE-PR-D-0002) will be implemented. Refer to Appendix B.

5.7 Connectivity Strategy

A wildlife corridor or connectivity corridor is an area of habitat connecting wildlife populations separated by human activities or structures (such as roads or easements). Wildlife corridors are a link of wildlife habitat, generally native vegetation, that connect two or more larger areas of similar habitat. Wildlife corridors can range in size from small, local corridors, to large corridors that stretch across various landscapes.

Connectivity of habitat is essential for the long-term survival of many species because it facilitates fauna movement on a local scale, for foraging and sheltering, as well as on a regional scale as a wildlife corridor for dispersal and migration.

The Final BDAR reported that remnants with habitat linkages are more likely to maintain their biodiversity in the long-term because wildlife corridors:

- provide increased foraging area for wide-ranging species;
- provide cover for movement between habitat patches, particularly for cover-dependent species and species with poor dispersal ability and enhance the movement of animals through sub-optimal habitats;
- reduce genetic isolation;
- facilitate access to a mix of habitats and successional stages to those species which require them for different activities (for example for foraging and breeding);
- provide refuge from disturbances such as fire;
- provide habitat in itself; and
- link wildlife populations and maintain immigration and re-colonisation between otherwise isolated patches. This in turn may help reduce the risk of population extinction (Wilson and Lindenmayer 1995).

Connectivity corridors are proposed for EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section) at the following locations:

- in key riparian areas:

- the Darling River;
- the Greater Darling Anabranch; and
- the Murray River;
- areas of the alignment that join with proposed Biodiversity Stewardship Agreement sites and or conservation reserve estate; and
- areas of existing dense mallee / belah vegetation.

The connectivity corridors will be 20m wide and will typically be located adjacent to towers where the height of the transmission line is greater and an increased vegetation height can be accommodated (Figure 5.1).

Centreline clearing will occur in the connectivity corridor, however clearing on either side of the centreline will only occur to trees that are above 10m in height or have the potential to grow above 10m in height. The last 10m of the easement (the hazard tree location) will have no clearing at all. Where new or existing access tracks intersect with the connectivity corridor, these access tracks will be used during the construction period (to limit the need for additional clearing which would otherwise be required outside of, or around, the connectivity corridor).

The approach to vegetation clearing in the connectivity corridors is discussed in the *Pre-clearing and Clearing Procedure* (45860-HSE-PR-D-1004).

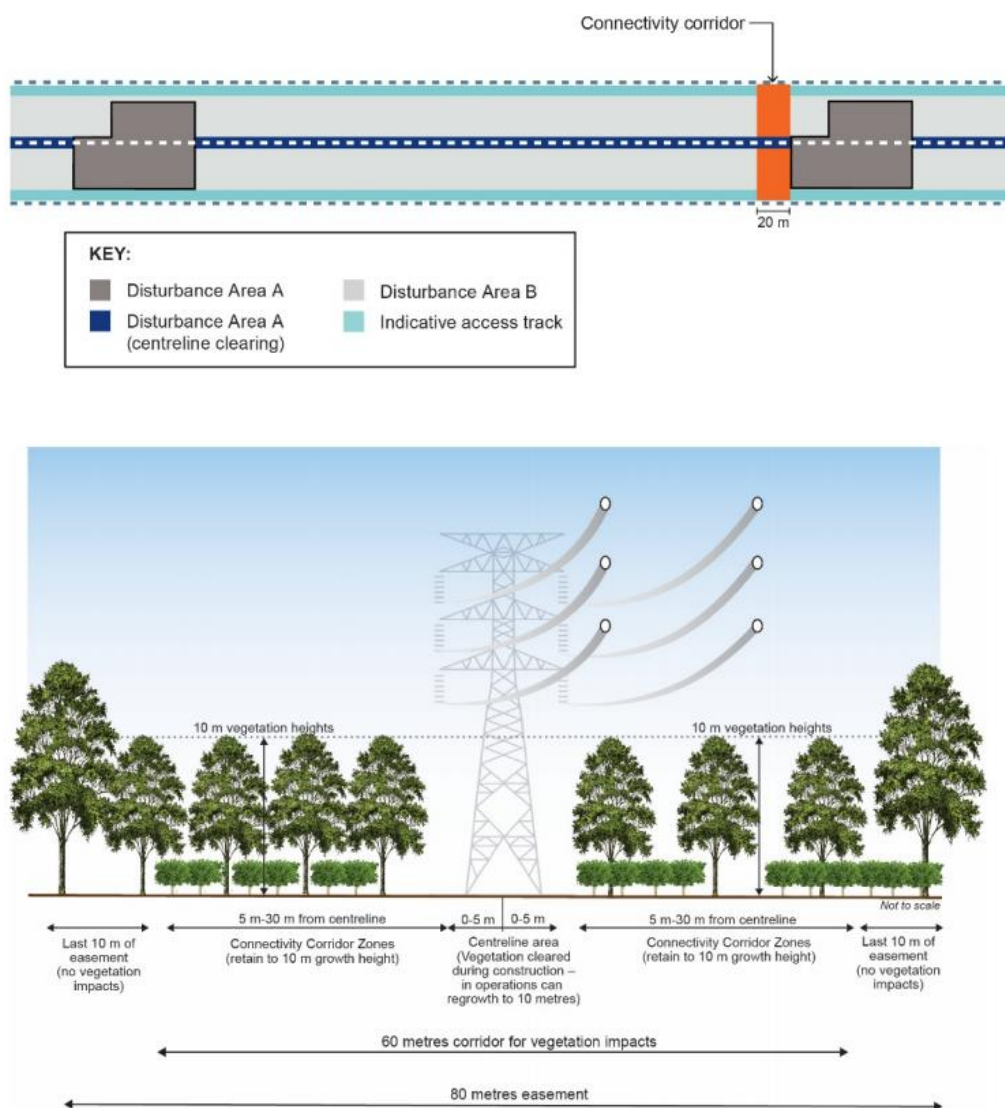


Figure 5.1 - Fauna connectivity corridors

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5.8 Aquatic species, habitats and riparian zones

Activities within vegetated riparian zones will be managed to minimise impacts to aquatic environments.

All vegetation clearing of riparian zones will be undertaken in accordance with the *Pre-clearing and Clearing Procedure* (45860-HSE-PR-D-0002) included within Appendix A.

Shrub or ground stratum native vegetation within vegetated riparian zones (within the definition of *Water Management Act 2000*) of the Great Darling Anabranch, Darling River and/or Murray River (and other defined riparian areas) will be protected to the greatest extent practicable.

All activities on waterfront land will be constructed in accordance with the *Guidelines for Controlled Activities on Waterfront Land* (2012), unless DPE Water agrees otherwise.

Vegetation clearing will be limited to the tree stratum only, with trunk bases retained in-situ (vegetation to remain at four metres and 10 metres based on the disturbance area). Should the riparian zone be subject to a connectivity corridor, then vegetation within this connectivity corridor will be cleared at 10 metres in height, as detailed within the *Pre-clearing and Clearing Procedure* (45860-HSE-PR-D-0002).

5.9 Rehabilitation

The rehabilitation objectives for the project are detailed within condition D54 of the Infrastructure Approval. Condition D54 states that the rehabilitation objectives for the ancillary facilities, accommodation camps, and the earthworks material site are:

- safe, stable and non-polluting;
- progressively rehabilitate the site as soon as possible following disturbance;
- to be decommissioned and removed, unless the Planning Secretary agrees otherwise;
- restore land capability to pre-existing use; and
- ensure public safety at all times.

The rehabilitation objectives as presented in the Infrastructure Approval are provided within Table 5.2.

Table 5.2 - Rehabilitation objectives

Feature	Objective
Ancillary facilities, accommodation camps, earthwork material sites, the existing 220 kV transmission line between Buronga substation and the NSW / Victoria border (Line OX1), and the temporary bypass transmission line between Tower 1 and Tower 19 of existing transmission line OX1.	• Safe, stable and non-polluting • Progressively rehabilitate the site as soon as possible following disturbance • To be decommissioned and removed, unless the Planning Secretary agrees otherwise
Land use	• Restore land capability to pre-existing use
Community	• Ensure public safety at all times

Within the easement, the rehabilitation objectives also apply to the existing 220kV transmission line (Line OX1) located between Buronga substation and the NSW / Victoria border, and the temporary bypass line if required (Table 5.2). For any locations within the easement which are outside of these (ie not the 220kV and not the bypass line), disturbed areas will be stabilised in consultation with the relevant landowner as requirement by RMM LP5.

The framework for addressing the objectives at the ancillary facilities, accommodation camps, the earthworks material site, the decommissioned Line OX1 and the decommissioned temporary bypass line are provided within Section 5.9.1 to Section 5.9.5. Reference is also made to the NSW DPI guideline *Restoration of degraded grazing country in the semi-arid areas of NSW* (2006) (NSW DPI guideline).

5.9.1 Safe, stable and non-polluting

An *Erosion and Sediment Control Strategy* (ESCS) (45860-HSE-DOC-D-0002) has been prepared and is included within Appendix A of the *Soil and Water Management Plan* (45860-HSE-PL-D-0008). The ESCS has been developed in line with the principles and requirements in:

- *Managing Urban Stormwater – Soils and Construction*, Volume 1 (Landcom 2004), commonly referred to as the 'Blue Book';
- *Managing Urban Stormwater – Soils and Construction*, Volumes 2A and 2C (NSW Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water 2008);
- *Best Practice Erosion and Sediment Control* (IESCA – 2008);
- Transgrid's HSE Guideline; and
- *Guidelines for Controlled Activities on Waterfront Land* (NRA 2018).

The ESCS will be implemented to guide the development of the Progressive Erosion and Sediment Control Plan (PESCPs).

The Progressive Erosion and Sediment Control Plans (PESCPs) will be prepared and implemented for locations where soil disturbance will occur. The PESCPs will outline controls to be implemented to manage and minimise soil erosion, and movement of sediment and other pollutants to land and/or waters.

The PESCPs will be progressively updated throughout the project to reflect the current construction activities occurring on site and to allow the removal of any measures that are ineffective or no longer needed.

As construction finalises, areas will become progressively available for stabilisation. Unless otherwise requested by the landowner, areas will be stabilised through the application of retained topsoil and natural regeneration. Application of cover crop (seed) may also occur, however consideration will need to be made of the available water supply and effectiveness of such an approach. The PESCPs will provide detail in relation to the measures which will be applied specific to each site. As required, advice will also be sought from the soil conservationist in relation to these measures.

5.9.2 Progressively rehabilitate

Areas such as the Buronga accommodation camp and construction compound and the Wentworth accommodation camp and construction compound will be used during construction of the project, with rehabilitation of these sites occurring following decommissioning and removal of the temporary infrastructure. Areas such as the earthworks material site will be rehabilitated once use of the site is complete.

As recommended by the NSW DPI guideline, harnessing natural processes or natural regeneration should be considered as a first option for re-establishing native vegetation. Natural regeneration involves the germination of seedlings from seedfall or existing nearby vegetation and is an effective method of establishing a large number of plants, particularly where establishment is required at a large scale. Natural regeneration is also a form of rehabilitation.

Natural regeneration provides the following advantages:

- genetics are appropriate and relevant to the location of the site;
- it ensures that indigenous species are established rather than non-indigenous species;
- it ensures that regeneration is reflective of the vegetation present within the adjacent plant community types;
- heavy machinery or vehicles won't necessarily be required to traverse the existing site following placement of topsoil. This is of particular benefit given the number of Aboriginal heritage sites on the project;

- it establishes vegetation with random spacing, reflective of natural processes which would occur with the surrounding plant community types; and
- it provides a greater chance of long-term success.

Seed production areas or seed banks will supply seed, which is dispersed by a combination of wind, water and animals is the preferred rehabilitation method. The seed source for natural regeneration can be from parent trees, residual native plant seed within the soil, wind-blown seed and fauna that transfer and deposit seeds in an area. Water and nutrients are captured in fertile patches of natural vegetation, where plants can germinate and grow. To create a fertile patch, branches can be laid across a slope or the soil can be physically manipulated using mechanical intervention to create divets or depressions where water and nutrients can be retained.

In consultation with the project ecologist, collection of seed will occur. Seed collection will be undertaken in consideration of the NSW DPI guideline. Where seed is collected onsite, records will be retained and will include the species type, quantities, and location of collection. Natural regeneration by existing seed production areas or seed banks is the preferred method of rehabilitation as recommended in the NSW DPI guideline. Dispersal of seed will be undertaken in the seed production areas or seed banks to supplement the existing area where required.

The DPI guideline reports that on degraded country much of the water, seed and nutrients are lost through the action of wind and water. The placement of vegetation, or use of divets and depressions, can assist in enabling seed, fine sediment and organic matter to accumulate.

Where remnant vegetation remains, it will be the starting point to encourage natural regeneration. Remnant vegetation will remain in various locations adjoining areas of temporary clearing including, for example, vegetation adjoining the access tracks and vegetation adjacent to the laydown areas (temporary disturbance areas). In undertaking rehabilitation, the following will occur:

- material resources from the area will be salvaged and stockpiled for beneficial reuse in future where possible. This could include soil and vegetative resources such as hollows and mulch;
- topsoil will be removed and stockpiled for future reuse;
- decommissioning or rehabilitation of the accommodation camp and construction compound will be carried out in accordance with information detailed within the progressive erosion and sediment control plan and/or in consultation with the landowners, where relevant;
- stabilisation of any areas available within the earthworks material site will occur in accordance with the progressive erosion and sediment control plans. Stabilisation would occur progressively, as any of the sections of the earthworks material site are no longer required and/or in consultation with the landowners, where relevant;
- on completion of the work in the temporary construction areas, topsoil shall be re-spread over the disturbed surface in order to promote natural revegetation from the seed and nutrient contained within the topsoil; and
- mulch and woody debris will be a by-product of vegetation clearing activities. Where practicable, this material will be reused in the progressive rehabilitation works following placement of topsoil.

During the construction period, monitoring of the rehabilitation of these areas will occur during the environmental inspections detailed within Section 9.1 of the CEMP.

5.9.3 Decommission and remove

At the end of the construction phase of the project, temporary infrastructure will be decommissioned and removed. In general, decommissioning activities will involve the following:

- disconnecting redundant services including power;
- removal of accommodation facilities;
- removal of other temporary buildings; and

- removal of temporary construction fencing.

5.9.4 Restore land capability to pre-existing use

The pre-existing use of the ancillary facilities, accommodation camps, and the earthworks material site is agricultural land. Consultation with the landholders will occur in stabilising the disturbed areas as required by RMM LP5.

5.9.5 Ensure public safety

Project works, including any decommissioning activities required as part of the rehabilitation works will be undertaken in accordance SecureEnergy's *Health and Safety Plan* (45860-HSE-PL-G-1004). The *Health and Safety Management Plan* details the safety management system and processes which will be implemented during delivery of the project.

Table 5.3 - Biodiversity management measures

ID	Measurement / Requirement	When to implement	Responsibility	Source document
General				
BD1	Training will be provided to all project personnel, including relevant sub-contractors on biodiversity management practices and the requirements from this plan through inductions, toolbox talks and activity specific training.	Pre-construction	HSSE Manager	RMM B14
BD2	Any site offices or crib sheds which may be required will be located in an area of limited biodiversity value (e.g. cleared land or areas of native vegetation with vegetation integrity scores of less than 17 (in accordance with the NSW Government Biodiversity Assessment Method Operational Manual) will be prioritised).	Detailed design	Design Manager, Construction Manager, Environmental Manager	RMM B3
BD3	Where vegetation disturbance activities are required in areas that have not previously been subject to biodiversity survey, additional survey will be carried out prior to works occurring to inform detailed design and construction methodology. These surveys will be carried out by a suitably qualified ecologist.	Pre-construction and construction	Environmental Manager	RMM B2
BD4	Clearing of native vegetation and key habitat will be minimised where possible. This will include minimising impacts on the clearing of hollow-bearing trees and threatened species. Opportunities to minimise clearing will occur through review of temporary design and construction methodologies for the Stage 2 disturbance area.	Pre-construction and construction	Environmental Manager, Supervisor, Engineer	Condition D25 Condition D28
BD5	Clearing is not to exceed the follow limits: 19.6 hectares (ha) of BC Act listed Sandhill Pine Woodland in the Riverina, Murray-Darling Depression and NSW Southwestern Slopes bioregions; 0.04 ha of habitat for BC Act listed flora species <i>Acacia acanthoclada</i> (Harrow Wattle); 0.32 ha of habitat for BC Act and EPBC Act listed flora species <i>Atriplex frequens</i> (A saltbush); 1.51 ha of habitat for BC Act listed flora species <i>Austrostipa nullanulla</i> (A spear-grass); 14 individuals of BC Act listed <i>Santalum murrayanum</i> (Bitter Quandong); and 6.91 ha of habitat for BC Act and EPBC Act listed fauna species <i>Polytelis anthopeplus monarchoides</i> (Regent Parrot) (eastern subspecies). Spatial data and threatened species locations will be provided to the detailed design team for consideration in detailed construction planning.	Pre-construction and construction	Design Manager, Construction Manager, Environmental Manager, Supervisor	Condition D25
BD6	Detailed design and construction methodologies will avoid impact to matters of biodiversity conservation significance to the greatest extent practicable. Micro-siting of the transmission line infrastructure and associated construction working areas and other areas of disturbance will occur to avoid impacts wherever practicable.	Detailed design and construction	Design Manager Environmental Advisor Environmental Manager	Condition D28 RMM B1 RMM LV1

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ID	Measurement / Requirement	When to implement	Responsibility	Source document
	Opportunities for the retention and protection of existing trees within the disturbance area will be identified during construction planning. Trees that do not pose any risk to the safe operation of the transmission infrastructure will be retained where practicable. Threatened species recorded and their habitat, will be given the highest priority in terms of impact minimisation. This includes: • Harrow wattle (<i>Acacia acanthoclada</i>); • A saltbush (<i>Atriplex frequens</i>); • A spear-grass (<i>Austrostipa nullanulla</i>); • Desert Hopbush (<i>Dodonaea stenozyga</i>); and • Bitter Quandong (<i>Santalum murrayanum</i>). Threatened species and their habitats will be identified through the GIS or sensitive area plans (SAPs).		Construction Manager	
BD7	The geographical information system (GIS) or sensitive area plans will be prepared and will include: • the location of clearing boundaries; • the location of exclusion zones; and • the location of threatened flora or vegetation which is to be retained. Access to the GIS or sensitive area plans will be issued to relevant site personnel with updates issued as required. The GIS or relevant sensitive area plans will be updated based on the results of the pre-clearing surveys.	Construction	Environmental Advisor, Environmental Manager	RMM B12 RMM B14
BD8	Existing tracks and clearings will be used, where possible, to avoid the construction of new tracks. Where this is not possible, the design will seek to minimise impacts to native vegetation as a priority.	Detailed design and construction	Design Manager, Environmental Manager	RMM B4 RMM LV2
Pre-clearing and clearing				
BD9	Pre-clearing surveys will be completed prior to construction by a suitably qualified ecologist in accordance with the <i>Pre-clearing and Clearing Procedure</i> (45860-HSE-PR-G-1008) located in Appendix A.	Pre-construction	Environmental Advisor, Environmental Manager, Ecologist	Condition D28 RMM B11
BD10	Prior to clearing, biodiversity exclusion zones for retained vegetation, including identified threatened flora populations that have a high susceptibility to trampling and compaction, will be: • clearly identified by a suitably qualified ecologist prior to the commencement of clearing or any site activity that could damage the vegetation within the exclusion zone; • physically marked and demarcated; and • included on sensitive area plans.	Pre-construction	Environmental Advisor, Environmental Manager and Ecologist	RMM B13

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ID	Measurement / Requirement	When to implement	Responsibility	Source document
BD11	Clearing will be carried out in accordance with the <i>Pre-clearing and Clearing Procedure</i> (45860-HSE-PR-G-1008) located in Appendix A.	Pre-construction and construction	Environmental Manager, Supervisor, Construction Manager	Condition D28 RMM B11
BD12	Threatened species and their habitats will be identified through the GIS or sensitive area plans (SAPs). Impacts to threatened species will be avoided as far as practicable during detailed design and when determining construction methodologies. In the event that unexpected threatened species are identified, the Unexpected Threatened Species Finds Procedure will be implemented.	Detailed design and construction	Design Manager, Environmental Advisor, Environmental Manager, Supervisors	Condition D28 RMM B1
BD13	The Tree Protection Zone (as defined in <i>AS4970-2009 Protection of Trees on Development Sites</i>) of retained trees within or immediately adjacent to the disturbance area will be protected where possible, through the restriction of construction activities (refer Section 4.2 of AS4970- 2009), to minimise the impact of the works on the long-term health of these trees.	Pre-construction	Environmental Advisor, Environmental Manager, Supervisors	RMM LV7
Threatened species management				
BD14	The <i>Unexpected Threatened Species Finds Procedure</i> (45860-HSE-PR-D-0002) located in Appendix B of this plan will be implemented if threatened ecological communities and threatened flora and fauna species, not assessed in the biodiversity assessment, are identified in the disturbance area.	Pre-construction and construction	All personnel	RMM B18
BD15	Detailed design will incorporate conductor line-marking techniques to minimise bird strike. Use of bird diverters, most likely of the “flapper” variety, will be implemented. Positioning and diverter model will be finalised during detailed design but at minimum these will be used within one kilometre of wetland / riverine habitats to reduce impacts on aerial fauna species from collision and allow safer passage within these areas.	Detailed design and construction	Design Manager Environmental Manager	RMM B6
Habitat retention and rehabilitation				
BD16	Nest boxes will be provided to offset the loss of tree hollow fauna habitat in accordance with a Supplementary Hollow and Nest Strategy. The strategy will include: - a survey of tree hollows and nests within the proposed clearing extents; - the size, type, number and location of nest boxes based on the results of the ecological surveys; - appropriately sized nest boxes will be installed within the vicinity of hollow-bearing trees (subject to landholder agreement and suitable existing trees being present) no more than two weeks prior to clearing of the tree; - all nest boxes in a particular location will be installed within 6 months after clearing; - nest boxes will include consideration of natural tree hollow re-use and new tree hollow creation; and - measures to address and manage nests (such as raptor nests) pre-clearing will be included.	Pre-construction and construction	Environmental Manager	RMM B10

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ID	Measurement / Requirement	When to implement	Responsibility	Source document
BD17	TransGrid will establish a series of 20-metre-wide connectivity corridors near tower locations that occur in woodland vegetation. The connectivity corridors will involve native vegetation retention up to the 10-metre-wide temporary construction centreline clearing zone to better facilitate woodland connectivity.	Detailed design and construction	TransGrid Environmental Manager	RMM B7
BD18	Resources such as topsoil and mulch within the approved disturbance area will be reused where possible for rehabilitation of the site.	Pre-construction	Environmental Manager, Supervisor	Condition D28
BD19	In consultation with the ecologist, seed will be collected or obtained to assist with stabilisation of disturbed areas.	Construction	Environmental Manager, Ecologist	Condition D28
Biosecurity				
BD20	The biosecurity controls outlined in the <i>Biosecurity Management Plan</i> (45860-HSE-PLN-D-0032) in Appendix D will be implemented during construction to minimise the risk of off-site transport or spread of disease, pests or weeds. Controls will include (but not limited to): - inspections and cleaning of vehicles, machinery, and personnel equipment prior to movement on and off the construction work areas; and - minimising movements across adjoining farmland including trip numbers and locations where possible. Additional measures where localised areas of high biosecurity risks have been identified will be implemented. The effectiveness of these controls will be regularly monitored.	Construction	Environmental Manager, Environmental Advisor, Supervisor	RMM LP7 RMM LP8
BD21	Where weeds are present within the disturbance area, weeds will be managed in consultation with Western LLS, Wentworth Shire Council and NSW Department of Primary Industries.	Construction	Environmental Manager and Environmental Advisor	RMM LP8
BD22	In the event of new infestations of notifiable weeds as a result of construction activities, the relevant control authority will be notified as per <i>Biosecurity Act 2015</i> and <i>Biosecurity Regulation 2017</i> .	Construction	Environmental Manager	RMM LP9
Soil and water quality				
BD23	Soil and water quality management measures will be implemented in accordance with the <i>Soil and Water Management Plan</i> (45860-HSE-PL-D-0008) to minimise erosion during clearing.	Pre-construction and construction	Environmental Manager, Supervisor, Engineer	Condition D28
BD24	An <i>Erosion and Sediment Control Strategy</i> (ESCS) (45860-HSE-DOC-D-0002) has been provided in Appendix A of the Soil and Water Management Plan. It has been prepared in line with the principles and requirements in: <i>Managing Urban Stormwater – Soils and Construction</i>, Volume 1 (Landcom 2004), commonly referred to as the 'Blue Book'; <i>Managing Urban Stormwater – Soils and Construction</i>, Volumes 2A and 2C (NSW Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water 2008);	Construction	Environmental Manager	Condition D16 b) RMM HF5 RMM SCG9

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ID	Measurement / Requirement	When to implement	Responsibility	Source document
	• <i>Best Practice Erosion and Sediment Control</i> (IESCA – 2008); • Transgrid's HSE Guideline; and • <i>Guidelines for Controlled Activities on Waterfront Land</i> (NRA 2018). The ESCS will be implemented to guide the development of the Progressive Erosion and Sediment Control Plan (PESCPs) for the project.			
BD25	Progressive Erosion and Sediment Control Plan (PESCPs) will be prepared and implemented for locations where soil disturbance will occur. The PESCPs will outline controls to be implemented to manage and aim to minimise soil erosion and movement of sediment and other pollutants to land and/or waters. The PESCPs will be progressively updated throughout the project to reflect the current construction activities occurring on site and to allow the removal of any measures that are ineffective or no longer needed.	Construction	Environmental Manager	Condition D16 a) RMM HF5
BD26	Transmission line structures will be located and constructed to minimise impact to vegetated riparian corridors, wherever practicable.	Detailed design and construction	Design Manager, Environmental Manager	RMM B5
BD27	Activities within the riparian zone as defined by the <i>Guidelines for Controlled Activities on Waterfront Land</i> (2012) will: • will be managed to minimise impacts to aquatic environments wherever practicable; • shrub or ground stratum native vegetation within vegetated riparian zones (within the definition of <i>Water Management Act 2000</i>) of the Great Darling Anabranch, Darling River and/or Murray River (and other defined riparian areas) will be protected to the greatest extent practicable, with vegetation clearing ideally limited to the tree stratum only, with trunk bases being retained in-situ; • riparian areas subject to disturbance will be progressively stabilised and rehabilitated.	Construction	Environmental Manager, Environmental Advisor and Supervisor	Condition D20 RMM B16 RMM B17
BD28	Disturbed areas will be stabilised to minimise soil and water impacts. This will be carried out in consultation with the relevant landholder.	Construction	Environmental Manager, Supervisor, Engineer	Condition D28 RMM LP5
Bushfire management				
BD29	Construction activities will be managed in accordance with the <i>Emergency Plan</i> (45860-HSE-PL-D-0025). The Emergency Plan includes measures to minimise the potential for bushfire risk and will be prepared in consultation with Rural Fire Service. It will be made publicly available upon approval.	Construction	Environmental Advisor, Environmental Manager	Condition D28
BD30	The following resources will be available at the work front/work locations to respond to localised fires: • fire-fighting appliances such as a 'slip-on' fire-fighting unit, tanker trailers or water cart should be positioned nearby where possible; • water filled knapsacks;	Construction	Supervisor	Condition D47 e)

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ID	Measurement / Requirement	When to implement	Responsibility	Source document
	- shovels; and - fire extinguisher located within vehicles.			
BD31	The following will be implemented during all outdoor hot works, grinding activities and vegetation slashing within and adjacent to the construction compound: - shielding will be used; - a water supply will be present (nine kilogram water fire extinguisher); and - a trained operator will be present.	Construction	Supervisor, Project Manager, HSSE team	RMM HR7
Monitoring				
BD32	Clearing of native vegetation will be monitored to confirm actual impacts to biodiversity values to inform any final biodiversity offset requirements. The clearing report will be provided within two months of completion of clearing.	Pre-construction and construction	Design Manager, Environmental Manager	RMM B15
BD33	Monitor weather forecasts from Mildura Airport AWS to determine when adverse bushfire weather conditions are predicted.	Construction	Supervisor, Environmental Manager, HSSE team	Good practice
BD34	Monitor the Fire Danger Ratings of Wentworth Shire Council on NSW RFS website.	Construction	HSSE team	Good practice

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6 Compliance management

6.1 Training and awareness

All site personnel will undergo the SecureEnergy site induction. The induction training addresses elements related to biodiversity management including, but not limited to:

- relevant legislation;
- the environmental management system, including the CEMP;
- biodiversity values;
- land disturbance and clearing;
- biosecurity and weeds; and
- GIS / sensitive area plans.

Targeted training in the form of toolbox talks or specific training will also be delivered to personnel with a key role in biodiversity management. Examples of training topics include:

- clearing procedures;
- no-go zones;
- threatened species within the project area;
- unexpected finds procedure for threatened species; and
- biosecurity procedures.

Further details regarding the staff induction and training are in Section 6 of the CEMP.

6.2 Roles and responsibilities

SecureEnergy's organisational structure and overall roles and responsibilities are outlined in Section 4 of the CEMP. Specific responsibilities for the implementation of mitigation measures are detailed in Section 5 of this BMP.

6.3 Monitoring

The proposed monitoring program relevant to biodiversity is provided within Table 6.1.

Table 6.1 - Monitoring program

Item	Scope	Frequency	Responsibility	Records/ reporting
Weekly inspections	Inspection of the performance and effectiveness of exclusion zones when works are being undertaken in the Stage 2 areas.	Weekly	Environmental Advisor Supervisors	Weekly Environmental Inspection Checklist
Pre-clearing inspection	Inspecting work areas before clearing in accordance with the <i>Pre-clearing and Clearing Procedure</i> (45860-HSE-PR-G-1008).	24 hours prior to clearing	Ecologist Environmental Advisor	Clearing and Land Disturbance Permit
During clearing supervision	Ecological supervision of clearing operations and removal of habitat trees during two-stage clearing approach in accordance with the <i>Pre-clearing and Clearing Procedure</i> (45860-HSE-PR-G-1008).	During second stage of two-stage clearing	Ecologist / Fauna handler Environmental Advisor	Clearing report

Item	Scope	Frequency	Responsibility	Records/ reporting
Monitoring vegetation clearing	Clearing of native vegetation will be monitored to confirm actual impacts to biodiversity values to inform any final biodiversity offset requirements within the biodiversity offset package.	Prior to and during clearing	Environmental Manager Transgrid (offsets) Ecologist	Clearing Register
Nest box monitoring	Monitoring and inspection of nest boxes that have been installed for the project, as per the vegetation clearing offset requirements. Monitoring and associated data to involve: - confirmed presence or absence of fauna activity and/or habituation including occupation by pest insects e.g. termite/European bees; - nest box maintenance requirements and/ or replacement of the asset where necessary; - verification of nest box identification i.e asset number.	Annually	Ecologist / Environmental Manager	Annual report
Fauna handling and rescue	Handling and rescue of fauna in accordance with the <i>Fauna Handling Procedure</i> (45860-HSE-PRG-1005).	As discovered	Supervisor Environmental Advisor	Fauna Handling Record Sheet

6.4 Inspections

Weekly inspections will be performed by Environmental Advisor and documented in the Weekly Environmental Checklist. The inspections will check the implementation and effectiveness of the management measures identified in Section 5 and the environmental performance of the project relevant to biodiversity. Visual monitoring of delineated/fenced disturbance boundaries will be undertaken.

6.5 Auditing

Audits will be undertaken to assess the effectiveness of the management measures and overall compliance with this plan, and other relevant approvals, licences and guidelines. Audit requirements are detailed in Section 9.3 of the CEMP.

6.6 Reporting

Reporting which will be undertaken in accordance with the BMP is summarised within Table 6.2.

Table 6.2 - Reporting program

Item	Scope	Frequency	Responsibility	Recipient
Clearing report	Following completion of clearing a clearing report will be prepared summarising clearing details. The clearing report will be provided within two months of completion of clearing.	Following clearing	Environmental Manager	Transgrid
Monitoring reporting	Reporting of biodiversity matters on the project website in accordance with condition E12.	As required	Environmental Manager	Transgrid

Item	Scope	Frequency	Responsibility	Recipient
Audit reports	Independent audits undertaken in accordance with the Infrastructure Approval will include audits of biodiversity measures (based on the Independent Auditor's program). Audit reports will be prepared. Further detail in relation to auditing is provided within Section 9.3 of the CEMP.	At intervals, no greater than 26 weeks from the date of the initial Independent Audit or as otherwise agreed by the Secretary.	Environmental Manager / Independent Auditor	Transgrid DPE

The clearing reports will include:

- information on clearing operations, dates, procedures and areas;
- the type of clearing (i.e. Disturbance Area A);
- the spatial extent and type of clearing of each Plant Community Type;
- the spatial extent and type of clearing of threatened ecological communities and threatened flora;
- the number of individuals and type of clearing for *Santalum murrayanum* (Bitter Quandong);
- the spatial extent and type of clearing of habitat for *Polytelis anthopeplus monarchoides* (Regent Parrot) (eastern subspecies);
- live animal sightings, captures, any releases or injured/shocked wildlife;
- fauna that may have died as a result of clearing; and
- photographs of any rescued fauna (where obtained).

The spatial extent of clearing will be recorded in GIS file format.

Clearing of native vegetation will be monitored and recorded to inform any final biodiversity offset requirements within the biodiversity offset package. This information will be tracked in the *Clearing and Land Disturbance Register* (45860-HSE-REG-1008).

6.7 Emergencies, incidents and non-compliances

Emergency management and planning including emergencies related to biodiversity matters will be undertaken in accordance with the Clough management system and relevant procedures. Emergencies will be managed in accordance with the relevant Health, Safety, Security and Environment (HSSE) Plan as identified in Section 8.1 of the CEMP – Emergency preparedness and emergency response.

Environmental incidents, including incidents related to biodiversity matters (e.g. unauthorised/unapproved impact to threatened ecological communities) will be managed as described in Section 8.2 of the CEMP – Environmental incidents and the Incident, Notification and Investigation Procedure Flowchart provided in Appendix A4 of the CEMP.

Incident reporting is described in Section 8.3 of the CEMP – Incident notification and reporting.

Where a non-compliance has been identified, including those relevant to biodiversity matters (e.g. not installing nest boxes within the required timeframe), corrective actions will be developed as required and implemented to address the non-conformance that occurred as described in Section 11 of the CEMP – Non-compliance, non-conformance, corrective and preventative action. Reporting of non-compliances will be undertaken as described in Section 10.1 of the CEMP – Reporting non-compliances.

6.8 Contingency plan

Although the project has been assessed through the environmental impact assessment process and potential impacts identified, unpredicted impacts may occur as the project progresses. In the event

that unexpected impacts are identified, the action or cause will be categorised and as required will be managed as:

- an emergency or environmental incident in accordance with Section 8 of the CEMP – Incidents and emergencies; and/or
- a non-compliance or non-conformance in accordance with Section 11 of the CEMP – Non-compliance, non-conformance, corrective and preventative action.

Reporting of the unpredicted impacts would be in line with the above processes and as described in Section 10 of the CEMP – Reporting.

Through the identification of corrective and/or preventative actions through the above processes, the following steps will be considered as relevant:

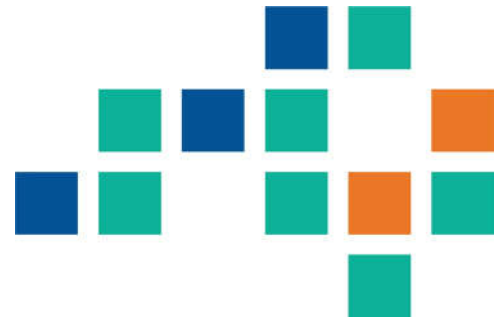
- a) determine the relevant impact assessment criterion/criteria, below which the impact should be reduced, consistent with the requirements of this BMP;
- b) identify options to reduce the unexpected impacts to below the relevant criterion/criteria and appropriate timeframe for implementation;
- c) implement the selected measure(s) to reduce the unexpected impacts; and
- d) identify and implement an appropriate monitoring program to determine the effectiveness of the selected measure(s) to reduce the unexpected impact.

If the above monitoring program identifies that the unexpected impacts have not been reduced to below the nominated criterion/criteria, items b) to d) of the contingency process will be repeated.

This section does not apply to unexpected threatened species finds. These will be managed in accordance with the Unexpected Threatened Species Finds Procedure included in Appendix B of this BMP.

Appendix A – Pre-clearing and Clearing Procedure

INTERNAL



Pre-clearing and Clearing Procedure EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section) Stage 2 45860-HSE-PR-D-0004

REV	DATE	GENERAL DESCRIPTION	PREPARED	REVIEWED	VERIFIED	VERIFIED	APPROVED
A	31/05/2021	Issued for internal review	L.Coetzee	R.Walker-Edwards	G.Crighton	JL.Barrenechea	D.Whatmough
B	22/12/2021	Issued for Transgrid review	R.Walker-Edwards	M.Lee	G.Crighton	JL.Barrenechea	D.Whatmough
C	21/01/2022	Issued for agency review	R.Walker-Edwards	M.Lee	G.Crighton	JL.Barrenechea	D.Whatmough
D	7/04/2022	Updated following agency review	R.Walker-Edwards	M.Lee	G.Crighton	JL.Barrenechea	D.Whatmough
E	11/05/2022	Updated following agency review	 R.Walker-Edwards	 M.Lee	 G.Crighton	 JL.Barrenechea	 D.Whatmough

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Revision History	
Rev.	Detailed Description
A	Issued for internal review
B	Issued for Transgrid review
C	Issued for agency review
D	Updated following agency review
E	Updated following agency review

Key Document Stakeholders
To be communicated with during reviews and revisions of this document

1 Introduction

This Pre-clearing and Clearing Procedure is an appendix to *the Biodiversity Management Plan* (45860-HSE-PL-D-0029) and forms part of overall environmental management framework for the project.

1.1 Purpose

The purpose of this Pre-clearing and Clearing Procedure is to describe how SecureEnergy proposes to manage clearing during construction of the Stage 2 works to minimise impacts on biodiversity.

2 Induction/Training

Personnel taking part in construction activities shall be informed of this Pre-clearing and Clearing Procedure through the site-specific induction, daily prestart briefings or other targeted training as required.

Personnel involved in clearing activities will be subject to toolbox training and daily prestart briefings which will discuss items such as:

- the proposed clearing for the day;
- the limits of clearing;
- whether the clearing is staged (or not);
- the type of clearing (for Disturbance Area A, Disturbance Area A – centreline clearing or Disturbance Area B);
- known or potentially occurring threatened species; and
- sensitive areas.

3 Scope

This procedure is applicable for the pre-clearing and clearing activities conducted by site personnel (including sub-contractors) for Stage 2 of the project.

This includes, but is not limited to, clearing and grubbing at the following locations:

- on access tracks;
- along the transmission line easement;
- at the tower pads (and associated ancillary sites such as laydown and parking areas);
- at Wentworth compound; and
- operation of the laydown at Anabran South.

4 Pre-clearing

The following tasks are required to occur prior to clearing:

- a suitably qualified and experienced ecologist will be engaged for the project (the project ecologist);
- a clearing and grubbing work pack or Environmental Work Method Statement will be developed for construction teams;
- opportunities to retain and protect existing vegetation within the disturbance area will be identified during construction planning through review of temporary design and construction methodologies for the Stage 2 disturbance area;
- the predicted extent clearing of native vegetation will be monitored against:
 - the extent of clearing permitted by condition D25 of the Infrastructure Approval. All reasonable and feasible measures will be implemented to ensure that clearing to no more than the values detailed within condition D25; and
 - the Plant Community Types as detailed within the *Revised Biodiversity Development Assessment Report* (Final BDAR)(August 2021).

The predicted extent of clearing will also consider the type of clearing (i.e. Disturbance Area A);

- the extent of clearing required for construction and permanent infrastructure will be marked on site;
- the project ecologist is to confirm the location and mark out the extent of the biodiversity exclusion zones;
- the Supervisor will ensure the clearing limit is delineated. The clearing limits will be delineated using regularly placed pegs or identification markers in areas which are not adjacent to sensitive areas (such as threatened ecological communities); or highly visible barrier or star pickets with tape such as colour-coded UV-stabilised rope, bunting, nightline or other similarly robust and durable material in locations adjacent to sensitive areas or where pegs and identification markers will not be suitably visible (for example of obscured by existing vegetation). Two key exclusion zones are:
 - **heritage exclusion zones** - for heritage sites (including Potential Archaeological Deposits, scarred trees and artefact sites). These will be clearly identified in accordance with the *Heritage Management Plan* (45860-HSE-PL-D-0022)prior to the commencement of construction at each location. The clearing permitted in these locations will change during project delivery based on the recommendations of the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Strategy and Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report;
 - **biodiversity exclusion zones** - for identified threatened flora populations that have a high susceptibility to trampling and compaction. These will be clearly identified by a suitably qualified ecologist prior to the commencement of clearing or any site activity that could damage the vegetation within the exclusion zone;
- threatened flora populations that will be retained will be clearly identified by a suitably qualified ecologist prior to any site activity that could damage the vegetation within the exclusion zone;
- the Environment team will ensure delineation is installed and maintained consistently through Stage 2 to mark boundaries and sensitive areas and to reduce the risk of error or misinterpretation of boundaries;
- prior to clearing commencing, the project ecologist will:
 - identify and demarcate hollow bearing trees that are suspected to accommodate fauna;
 - record GPS coordinates for all identified hollow bearing trees during the pre-clearing survey;

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- record the total number of hollows which will be incorporated into the *Supplementary Hollow and Nest Strategy* (45860-HSE-DOC-D-0004);
 - confirm nearby habitat suitable for the release of any fauna that may be encountered during clearing works;
 - check for the presence of threatened flora and fauna species by visual inspection of potential habitat features. If found, the *Unexpected Threatened Species Finds Procedure* (45860-HSE-PR-D-0002) will be followed;
 - identify and confirm the location of any weeds present within and immediately adjacent to the clearing extents;
 - check for any signs or observations of domestic fauna such as stray sheep and cattle. Ecologists to notify the Environment team who will contact the Land and Property Access Manager. The Land and Property Access Manager will contact the owner to collect and / or manage their animals if required;
 - the project ecologist will capture and/or remove fauna that have the potential to be disturbed as a result of clearing activities and relocate any captured fauna into pre-determined habitat identified for fauna release;
- any relevant findings from the pre-clearing inspections will be used to update and confirm the accuracy of sensitive area plans;
 - the construction workforce will be supplied with sensitive area maps (showing clearing boundaries, exclusion zones and the location of threatened flora or vegetation which is to be retained) through the relevant Work Packs;
 - resources within the approved disturbance area (i.e. topsoil) will be reused where possible for rehabilitation of the site;
 - Environment team to check clearing limits and other delineation requirements are installed prior to clearing as per *Clearing and Land Disturbance Permit* (45860-HSE-FO-G-1004);
 - the Supervisor, clearing operators and Environment team to discuss any findings from the pre-clearing walk during the daily pre-start meetings including changes to sequence of clearing, sensitive areas, avoidance areas, or habitat features; and
 - the *Clearing and Land Disturbance Permit* (45860-HSE-FO-G-1004) will be approved by the Environment Manager or delegate prior to clearing activity commencing.

4.1 Heritage sites or items

Prior to clearing on the project, areas need to be reviewed for identified heritage items/and or features as outlined in the *Heritage Management Plan* (HMP) (45860-HSE-PL-D-0022).

There is to be no clearing of potential archaeological deposit (PAD) sites or heritage sites without ensuring that the relevant requirements of the *Heritage Management Plan* (45860-HSE-PL-D-0022) have been implemented. To ensure this occurs, the *Clearing and Land Disturbance Permit* (45860-HSE-FO-G-1004) is to be completed and as required, a Heritage Clearance Certificate is to be in place for the site.

In some instances, clearing is required to enable heritage management including excavations or salvage. These would be recorded in the *Clearing and Land Disturbance Permit* (45860-HSE-FO-G-1004) and will be approved by the Environmental Manager or delegate prior to clearing commencing.

Mitigation measures for each of the recorded items/and or features is identified in Appendix B of the HMP and would need to be implemented prior to any clearing/land disturbance. Additional measures including any further heritage surveys for areas previously not inspected may need to be undertaken in accordance with the project archaeologist.

If scarred trees are identified in an area requiring clearing, these will be managed in accordance with the HMP. There are strict requirements in relation to scarred trees and any requirements of the HMP must be met prior to any impact to the trees.

5 Vegetation clearing

There are two important methods of clearing which must be considered for each clearing location:

1. whether **staged clearing** is required (due to presence of habitat features (or not));
2. the **Disturbance Area** type.

5.1 Staged or non-staged clearing

All areas that need to be cleared will be subject to staged or non-staged clearing. Staged clearing occurs in locations where the ecologist identifies habitat and is typically referred to as 'two-stage clearing'.

Areas where two-stage clearing is required will clear non-habitat vegetation first, with habitat vegetation removed approximately 24 hours following this. Habitat vegetation will be removed following an inspection by the ecologists / fauna handlers. Relocation of fauna will occur.

Areas where no staging is required may be removed in one step. No habitat has been identified in these locations.

Both two-staged and non-staged areas are also subject to the requirements of the disturbance areas.

5.1.1 Clearing where there are no habitat features (One-stage clearing)

If no habitat features have been identified in the pre-clearing surveys, then a two-stage clearing process is not required and clearing can be undertaken in a single-step without the ecologist present. An example is crop land/agricultural pasture area.

All other demarcation and flagging is to occur as required by the *Clearing and Land Disturbance Permit* (45860-HSE-FO-G-1004).

5.1.2 Clearing where there is habitat features (Two-stage clearing)

Where habitat features have been identified during the pre-clearing surveys, two-stage clearing is required. Habitat vegetation will be identified with unique identifier numbers (identified by use of spray paint). Flagging will also be placed around the trunk of the vegetation. For these locations, the clearing area will be surveyed by the project ecologist within 24 hours or immediately prior to clearing, to:

- obtain updated information on fauna and flora habitat that is present, including:
 - inspection of identified habitat features for evidence of fauna habitation;
 - demarcate any newly identified habitat;
 - capture and relocate non-mobile fauna, such as reptiles and frogs; and
- collect data on any newly identified threatened species in the area.

5.1.2.1 Initial clearing – removal of non-habitat vegetation

In this first stage, only non-habitat vegetation will be removed. All marked habitat features will be retained until the final stage of clearing. This allows respite between the initial disturbance and the final removal of habitat. The changed environment and the disturbance from clearing should encourage residing fauna to individually relocate voluntarily without human handling.

A respite period of approximately 24 hours after removal of non-habitat vegetation is intended to allow resident fauna the opportunity to vacate remaining habitat before final clearing commences.

5.1.2.2 Final clearing

A suitably qualified and experienced fauna handler will be onsite to:

- thoroughly inspect all hollows that are accessible from the ground immediately prior to clearing;
- carefully supervise removal of habitat features and hollows when trees are dropped to the ground;
- ensure detected fauna will be encouraged to self-relocate or will be captured and released in the identified release areas;
- to capture and relocate any encountered fauna to pre-identified release sites;
- ensure that any injured wildlife is transported to veterinarian or wildlife carer; and
- where breeding fauna or dependent young are detected during the clearing works, consult with a licensed carer to determine whether the animal/s require ongoing care or can be safely relocated to adjacent habitat.

Locations of fauna release (including GPS coordinates) will be recorded in a post-clearing report.

Once all fauna habitat inspection and any required fauna removal is complete, the remaining vegetation clearing will commence.

5.2 Disturbance Areas

5.2.1 Clearing methodology

The method of clearing required across the project changes based on the disturbance area. The key disturbance areas are as follows:

1. Disturbance Area A;
2. Disturbance Area A centreline clearing;
3. Disturbance Area B; and
4. Other areas (hazard / high risk trees and fauna corridors).

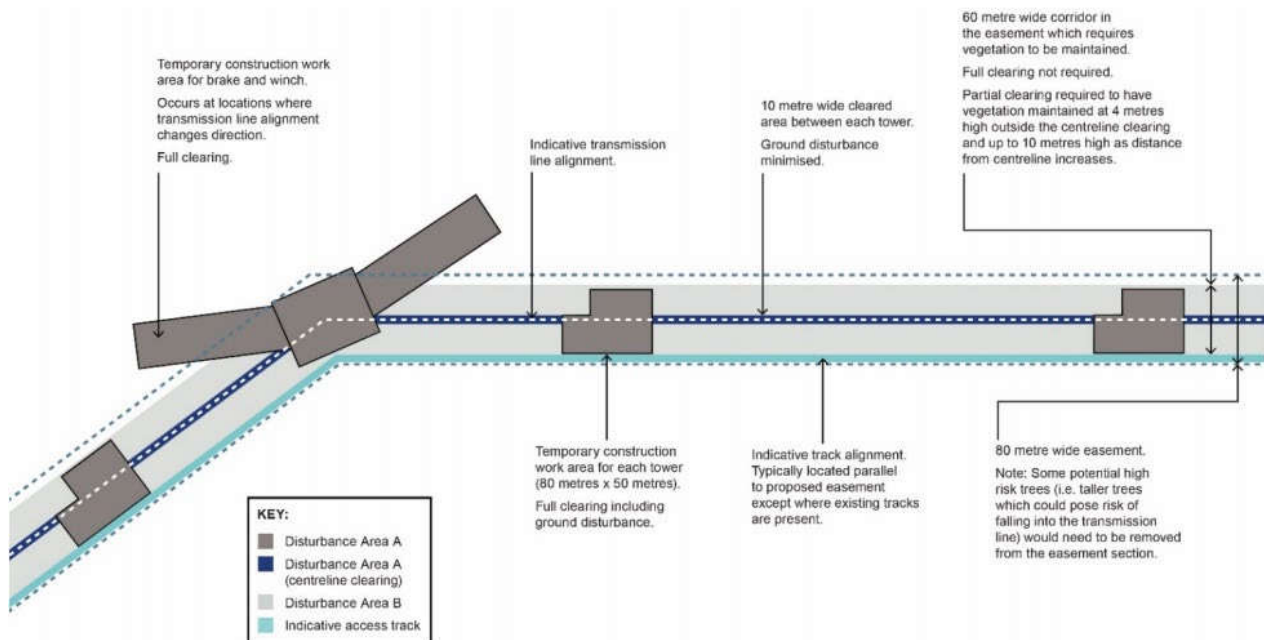


Figure 5.1 – Disturbance areas

5.3 Disturbance Area A

Disturbance Area A includes the tower pads, access tracks, laydowns, parking areas, accommodation camps, construction compounds, asset protection zones and the substation.

Vegetation is permitted to be removed to ground within Disturbance Area A. Where possible opportunities to retain vegetation will occur through review of temporary design and construction methodologies. Trees, vegetation and stumps in Disturbance Area A can be removed.

Disturbance Area A is the **dark grey** and **aqua blue** areas indicated in Figure 5.1.

5.4 Disturbance Area A - centreline clearing

Disturbance Area A centreline clearing is the area required for line stringing activities. Disturbance Area A centreline clearing is **10 metres in width**. Vegetation in this area will be removed, however topsoil and ground material would be retained (where possible). Tree stumps will be removed.

Disturbance Area A centreline clearing is the **dark blue** area indicated in Figure 5.1 and Figure 5.2.

5.5 Disturbance Area B

Disturbance Area B is the area within the easement between the transmission towers. Disturbance Area B consists of:

- Disturbance Area B4;
- Disturbance Area B10.

Disturbance Area B4 is an area where partial vegetation clearing occurs. Clearing is to occur to trees that are above 4 metres or have the potential to grow above 4 metres in height.

Disturbance Area B10 is an area where partial vegetation clearing occurs. Clearing is to occur to trees that are above 10 metres or have the potential to grow above 10 metres in height.

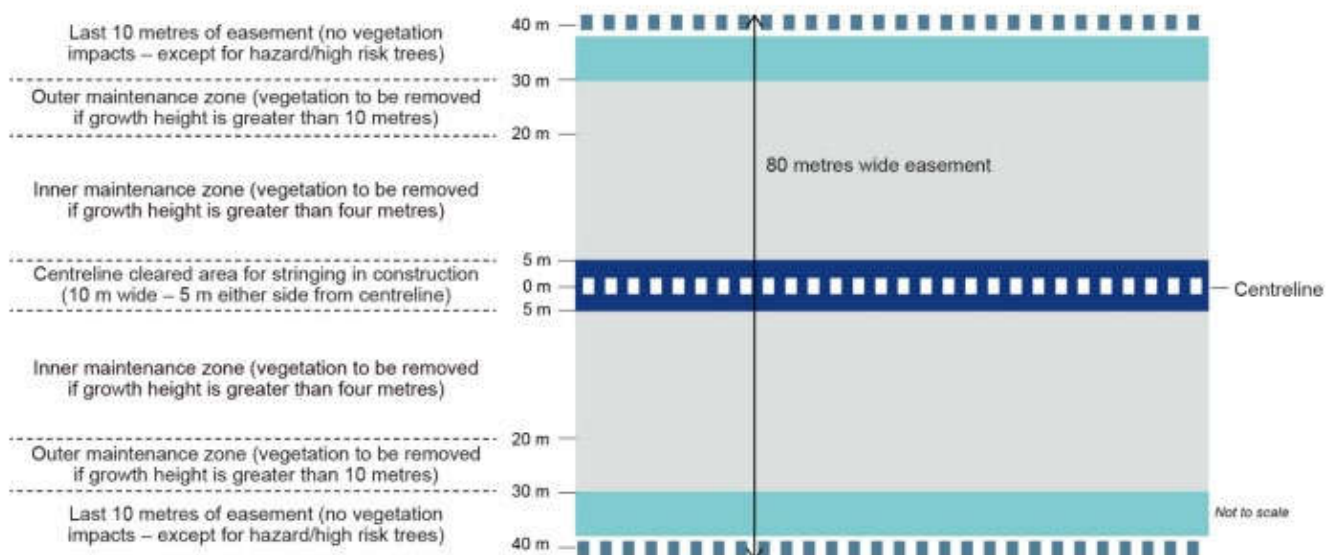


Figure 5.2 – Easement sections

5.5.1 Disturbance Area B4

An area where partial vegetation clearing occurs. Clearing is to occur to trees that are above **4 metres** or have the potential to grow above **4 metres** in height.

Disturbance Area B4 is **15 metres in width each side of the centreline clearing (total 30 metre width)**. Therefore Disturbance Area B4 commences at the 5 metre mark and ends at the 20 metre mark each side of the centreline.

The Final BDAR reports that there is potential for temporary minor changes to understorey composition in these areas due to the temporary ground disturbance activities. Minor impacts to understorey to remove a tree will occur however impacts must be minimised as much as possible to remain minor. Retention of root bases and tree stumps will occur where practicable.

5.5.2 Disturbance Area B10

An area where partial vegetation clearing occurs. Clearing is to occur to trees that are above **10 metres** or have the potential to grow above **10 metres** in height.

Disturbance Area B10 is **10 metres in width each side of the centreline clearing (total 20 metre width)**. Therefore Disturbance Area B10 commences at the 20 metre mark and ends at the 30 metre mark on each side of the centreline.

The Final BDAR reports that there is potential for temporary minor changes to understorey composition in these areas due to the temporary ground disturbance activities. Minor impacts to understorey to remove a tree will occur however impacts must be minimised as much as possible to remain minor. Retention of root bases and tree stumps will occur where practicable.

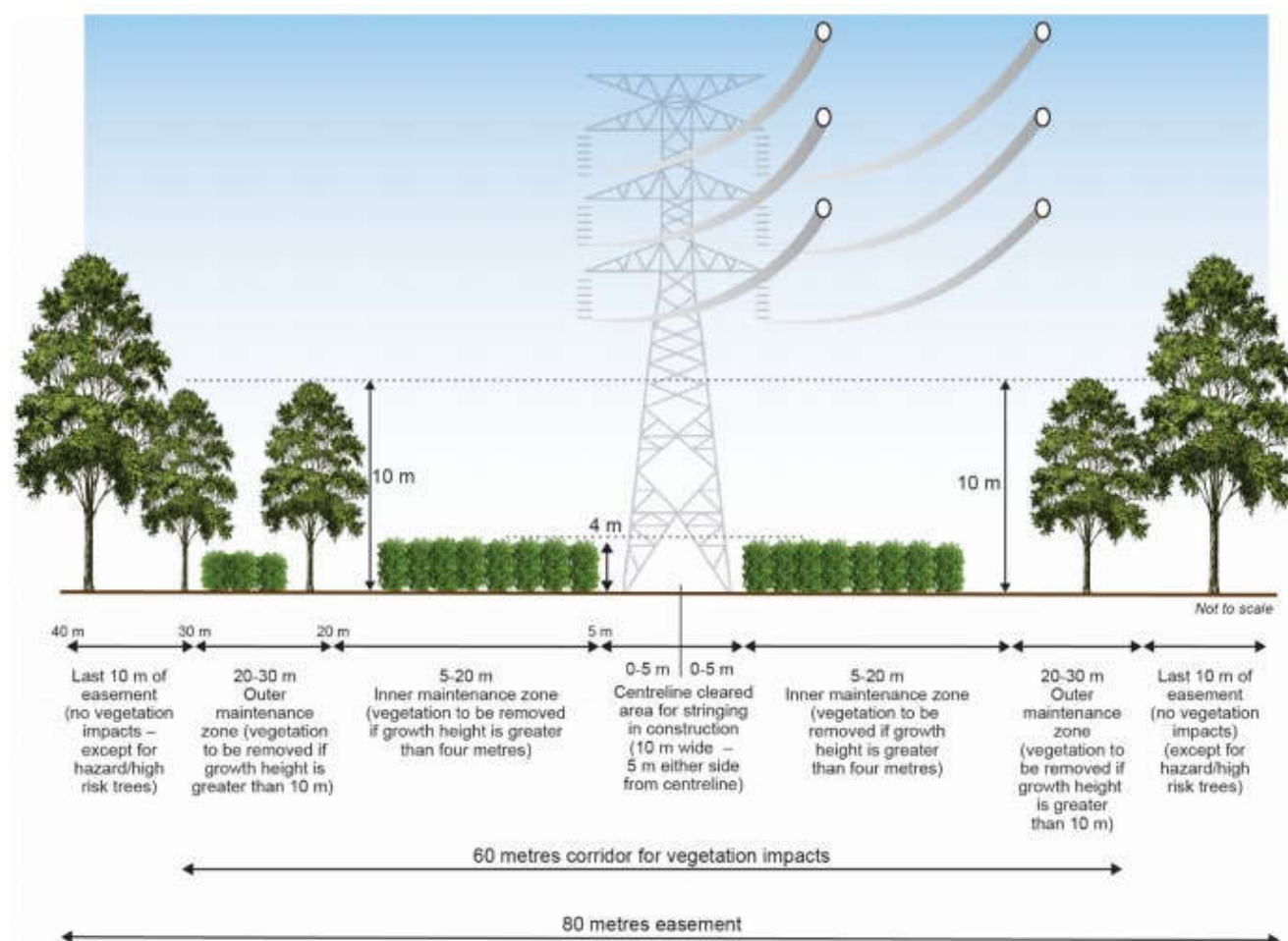


Figure 5.3 – Cross-sectional view of clearing areas

5.6 Other areas

5.6.1 Hazard / high risk trees

Hazard or high risk trees within the final 10 metres of each side of the easement may require removal based on the arborist report. If heritage sites are to be impacted, removal is not permitted without seeking advice from the Environmental Manager regarding the need for additional approvals.

5.6.2 Fauna connectivity corridors

A wildlife corridor or connectivity corridor is an area of habitat connecting wildlife populations separated by human activities or structures (such as roads or easements). Wildlife corridors are a link of wildlife habitat, generally native vegetation, that connect two or more larger areas of similar habitat. Wildlife corridors can range in size from small, local corridors, to large corridors that stretch across various landscapes.

The following locations will be considered for connectivity corridors:

- in key riparian areas:
 - the Darling River;
 - the Greater Darling Anabranh; and
 - the Murray River;
- areas of the alignment that join with proposed Biodiversity Stewardship Agreement sites and or conservation reserve estate; and
- areas of existing dense mallee / belah vegetation.

The connectivity corridors will be 20m wide and will typically be located adjacent to towers where the height of the transmission line is greater and an increased vegetation height can be accommodated (Figure 5.4).

Centreline clearing will occur in the connectivity corridor, however clearing on either side of the centreline will only occur to trees that are above 10m in height or have the potential to grow above 10m in height. The last 10m of the easement (the hazard tree location) will have no clearing at all. Where new or existing access tracks intersect with the connectivity corridor, these access tracks will be used during the construction period (to limit the need for additional clearing which would otherwise be required outside of, or around, the connectivity corridor).

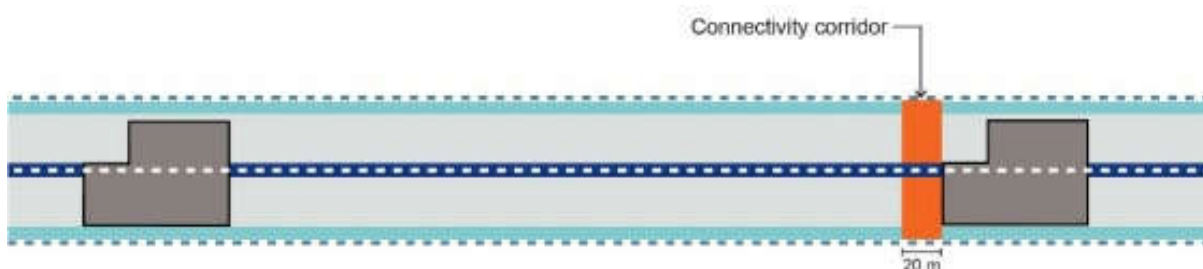


Figure 5.4 – Fauna connectivity corridor

5.6.3 Watercourses

There are three key watercourses within the transmission line easement:

- the Darling River;
- the Greater Darling Anabranh; and
- the Murray River.

Activities within the riparian zones of these watercourses will be managed to minimise impacts to aquatic environments wherever practicable. The riparian zone is defined by the *Guidelines for riparian corridors on waterfront land* (DPI – Office of Water, July 2012).

Shrub or ground stratum native vegetation within vegetated riparian zones of the Greater Darling Anabranch, Darling River and/or Murray River will be protected to the greatest extent practicable.

Vegetation clearing will be limited to the tree stratum only, with trunk bases retained in-situ (vegetation to remain at four metres and 10 metres based on the disturbance area). Should the riparian zone be subject to a connectivity corridor, then vegetation within this connectivity corridor will be cleared at 10 metres in height.

5.7 Nest boxes

Nest boxes will be provided to offset the loss of tree hollow fauna habitat in accordance with the *Supplementary Hollow and Nest Strategy* (45860-HSE-DOC-D-0004). Project ecologists will record the total number of hollows requiring clearing in the pre-clearing inspections which will be incorporated into the Strategy.

The size, type, number and location of nest boxes required will be based on the results of the preclearing inspections. Appropriately sized nest boxes will be installed within the vicinity of hollow-bearing trees (subject to landholder agreement and suitable existing trees being present) no more than two weeks prior to clearing of the tree. All nest boxes in a particular location will be installed within 6 months after clearing.

6 Unexpected Threatened Species Finds Procedure

The *Unexpected Threatened Species Finds Procedure* (45860-HSE-PR-D-0002) is applicable to all activities that have the potential to impact upon threatened flora and fauna species that have not been assessed and approved.

If during construction activities the project ecologist (or other project personnel) identify a threatened species or threatened ecological community that has not been (or is suspected to have not been) assessed as a part of the project assessment, the *Unexpected Threatened Species Finds Procedure* (45860-HSE-PR-D-0002) will be followed.

7 Reporting

Post-clearing reports will be prepared by project ecologists and will include:

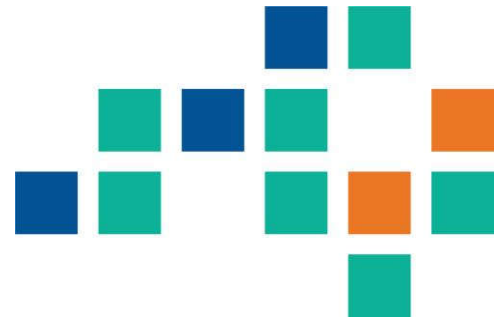
- information on clearing operations, dates, procedures and areas;
- the type of clearing (i.e. Disturbance Area A);
- a breakdown of the spatial extent and type of clearing of each Plant Community Type;
- a breakdown of the spatial extent and type of clearing of threatened ecological communities and threatened flora;
- the number of individuals and type of clearing for *Santalum murrayanum* (Bitter Quandong);
- the spatial extent and type of clearing of habitat for *Polytelis anthopeplus monarchoides* (Regent Parrot) (eastern subspecies);
- live animal sightings, captures, any releases or injured/shocked wildlife;
- fauna that may have died as a result of clearing; and
- photographs of any rescued fauna.

The spatial extent and type of clearing will be recorded in GIS file format and provided to TransGrid to allow the final offset requirements to be calculated based on the recorded clearing in accordance with RMM B15.

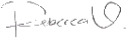
Clearing of native vegetation will be monitored and recorded to inform any final biodiversity offset requirements within the biodiversity offset package. This information will be tracked in the *Clearing and Land Disturbance Register* (45860-HSE-REG-1008).

Appendix B – Unexpected Threatened Species Find Procedure

INTERNAL



Unexpected Threatened Species Finds Procedure EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section) 45860-HSE-PR-D-0002

REV	DATE	GENERAL DESCRIPTION	PREPARED	REVIEWED	VERIFIED	VERIFIED	APPROVED
A	23/06/2021	Issued for internal review	L.Coetzee	R.Walker-Edwards	G.Crighton	JL.Barrenechea	D.Whatmough
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C	5/08/2021	Issued for TransGrid review	R.Walker-Edwards	M.Lee	G.Crighton	JL.Barrenechea	D.Whatmough
D	23/11/2021	Revised to address agency comments	R.Walker-Edwards	M.Lee	G.Crighton	JL.Barrenechea	D.Whatmough
E	16/12/2021	Issued for TransGrid review	 R.Walker-Edwards	 M.Lee	 G.Crighton	 JL.Barrenechea	 D.Whatmough

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Revision History	
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A	Issued for internal review
B	Issued for TransGrid review
C	Issued for TransGrid review
D	Revised to address agency comments
E	Issued for TransGrid review

Key Document Stakeholders
To be communicated with during reviews and revisions of this document

1 Introduction

This Unexpected Threatened Species Finds Procedure is part of the *Biodiversity Management Plan* (45860-HSE-PL-D-0006) prepared for EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section) and forms part of the overall environmental management framework for the project.

1.1 Purpose

The purpose of this procedure is to detail the actions to be taken in the event that an unexpected actual or potential threatened species or endangered ecological communities is encountered during project works.

2 Induction/Training

All site personnel (including subcontractors) will undertake an induction which will include details relating to this procedure. Training may also occur through toolbox talks, pre-starts and targeted training as required.

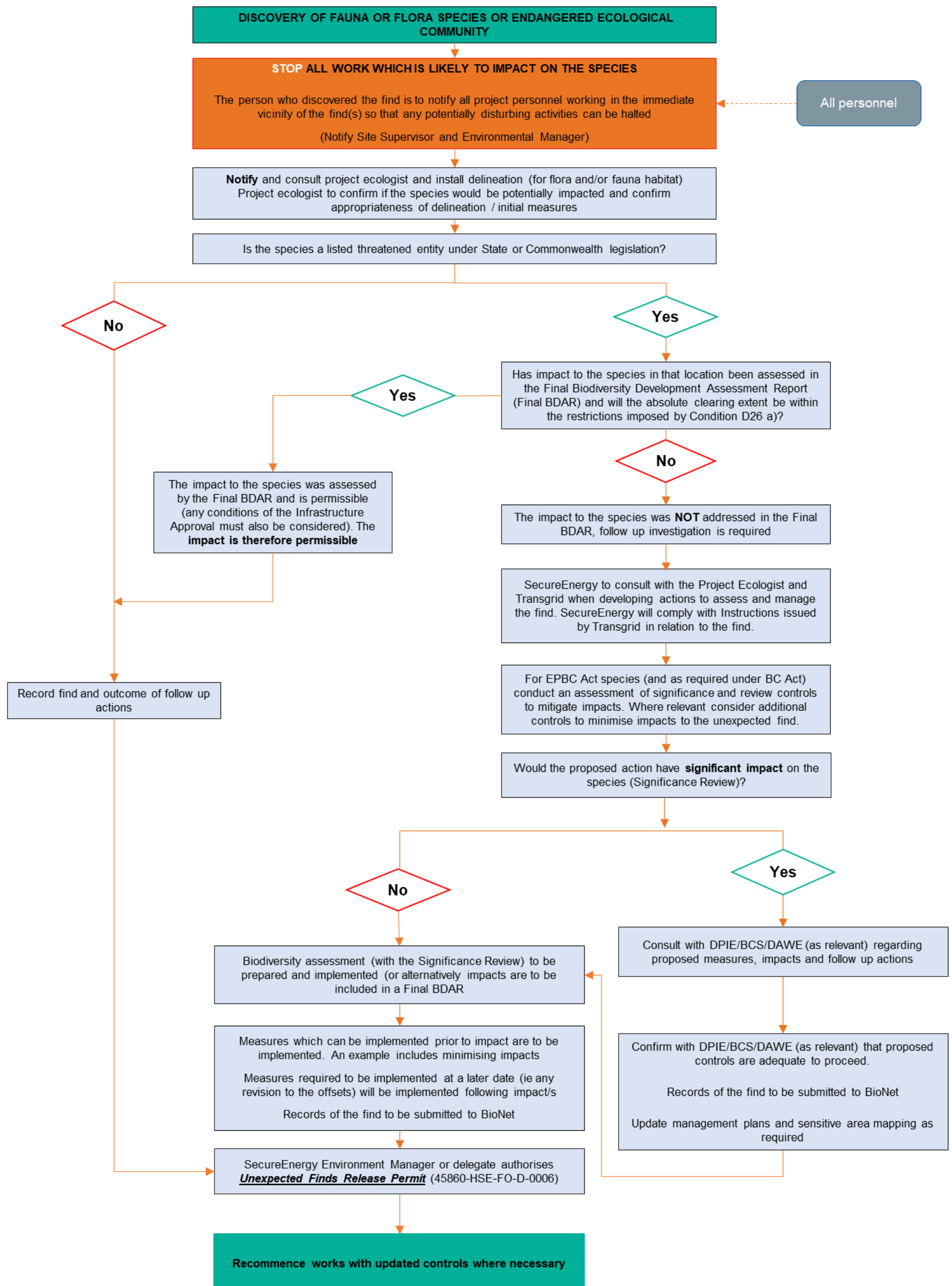
3 Scope

This procedure is applicable for the following:

- all activities conducted by site personnel (including sub-contractors) that have the potential to encounter unexpected threatened species finds (usually during pre-clearing inspections and construction);
- where the project does not have approval to impact the threatened species; and
- where mitigation measures for managing the disturbance (apart from this procedure) are not contained in the environmental impact assessment.

Biodiversity Management Procedure

Unexpected Threatened Species Finds Procedure



Appendix C – Fauna Handling Procedure

INTERNAL



Fauna Handling Procedure EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section) 45860-HSE-PR-G-1005

REV	DATE	GENERAL DESCRIPTION	PREPARED	REVIEWED	VERIFIED	VERIFIED	APPROVED
A	23/06/2021	Issued for internal review	L.Coetzee	R.Walker-Edwards	G.Crighton	JL.Barrenechea	D.Whatmough
B	25/06/2021	Issued for TransGrid review	L.Coetzee	R.Walker-Edwards	G.Crighton	JL.Barrenechea	D.Whatmough
C	5/08/2021	Issued for TransGrid review	 R.Walker-Edwards	 M.Lee	 G.Crighton	 JL.Barrenechea	 D.Whatmough

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Revision History	
Rev.	Detailed Description
A	Issued for internal review
B	Issued for TransGrid review
C	Updated following receipt of TransGrid's comments and draft Infrastructure Approval

Key Document Stakeholders
To be communicated with during reviews and revisions of this document

1 Introduction

This Fauna Handling Procedure is part of the *Biodiversity Management Plan* (BMP) (45860-HSE-PL-D-0006) for EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section) and forms part of the overall environmental management framework for the project.

1.1 Purpose

This procedure is applicable to the handling of any fauna encountered during construction if required.

Handling of fauna may be necessary when they are encountered and need to be relocated or if injured, taken to a vet or wildlife carer. Fauna handling should be undertaken either by the project ecologist or a person skilled in handling the species of fauna encountered.

Should any threatened species be identified, the *Unexpected Threatened Species Find Procedure* (45860-HSE-PR-D-0002) would be implemented.

2 Induction/Training

All site personnel (including sub-contractors) will undertake a site induction which will include details relating to this procedure. Training may also occur through toolbox talks, pre-starts meetings and targeted training as required.

Training will include the need for fauna handlers to be appropriately licensed or approved under relevant legislation. This includes the need for:

- those handling reptiles to have a Biodiversity Conservation Licence under the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016*; and
- any injured native fauna to be taken to a vet or to a licensed wildlife rehabilitation provider. The wildlife rehabilitation provider must hold a Biodiversity Conservation Licence (Wildlife Rehabilitation Licence) under the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016*.

3 Scope

This procedure is applicable for the following:

- all activities conducted by site personnel (including subcontractors) that have the potential to encounter fauna; and
- vegetation clearing and land disturbance.

4 General fauna handling requirements

Fauna may be encountered in a variety of situations during delivery of the project.

During clearing activities, any fauna handling will be carried out by the project ecologist or a trained fauna handler.

During other construction activities (when the project ecologist or fauna handler may not be present on site), fauna may require handling by other project personnel. Wherever possible, the project ecologist or trained fauna handler will be used and if they are not available, the Environment Team will attend to the fauna. Due to the remoteness and large distances between work sites there may be times when the project ecologist or fauna handler will not always be present on site and it is more important to move the fauna from danger or harm. In these circumstances, SecureEnergy personnel may be required to handle the fauna (i.e. where that movement removes the fauna from danger or harm). The general fauna handling requirements during construction are as follows:

- any fauna removed from hollows will only be removed in accordance with the *Pre-clearing and Clearing Procedure*. Fauna will be removed by hand. Removal may require cutting the entrance

of the hollow with a chainsaw, therefore extreme care is advised. If a chainsaw must be used to increase the entrance size, a suitable plug (for example, several scrunched-up cloth capture bags or towels) must be placed between the animal and the chainsaw wherever feasible. Care must be taken not to injure the animal during the extraction process. Firm but gentle pressure will be applied, to encourage the animal from the hollow. An inverted cloth capture bag must be used if appropriate to the circumstance, so that when the animal is extracted, the bag can be pulled over the animal immediately. Where it is not possible to extract the animal from a hollow, the log can be carefully removed intact and located outside of the disturbance area so that the fauna can leave of their own accord. Ensure that egress from the hollow is not blocked when placing the log down;

- if nocturnal fauna is required to be kept during the day, they will be kept in either standard pet carrying cages, ventilated cardboard/plastic animal boxes or cloth capture bags. Captive fauna will generally be kept at a cool or ambient temperature and shaded conditions to avoid any heat stress. Water will be provided if necessary. Captured fauna will be kept in accordance with recommendations from the project ecologist. The project ecologist is to regularly monitor captive fauna when in attendance, otherwise monitoring will be conducted Environment team in consultation with project ecologist;
- if juvenile fauna is displaced and cannot be re-united with its parent(s), they must be taken to an authorised wildlife shelter within the region; and
- in the event that fauna is injured during construction, the animal should initially be assessed and first aid rendered by the project ecologist (if available) and subsequently taken to a Veterinarian for further assessment and treatment, and if necessary, euthanasia. Injured fauna will be kept in shaded conditions with water provided if necessary. Providing external heat (where available) may assist.

If fauna is handled or moved during clearing activities, this will be recorded in clearing reports. A *Fauna Handling Record Sheet* (45860-HSE-FO-D-001) will not be required to be completed during these activities. During other times of project delivery, if fauna is handled or moved, the *Fauna Handling Record Sheet* (45860-HSE-FO-D-001) is to be completed.

If fauna is struck by a vehicle this is recorded by the Environment team in the *Fauna Strike Register* (45860-HSE-REG-D-0001).

4.1 Fauna strike during travel

Due to the linear nature of the project, there will be a range of different roads and access tracks in which project personnel or subcontractors are likely to encounter fauna within and to and from worksites, ancillary areas and camps. The likelihood of encountering fauna during dawn and dusk is increased.

If during travel to and from the project on nominated project road or access tracks, SecureEnergy personnel or subcontractors accidentally strike fauna, the following is to occur:

- where safe to do so, direct the vehicle to a slow stop in a safe location with clear visibility to other oncoming vehicles;
- if the animal is deceased, where safe to do so, and if physically possible, move the animal off to the side of the road as far away from the road edge as practical. This will prevent any further fauna strike to other animals feeding on the carcass. If it is not physically possible to move the animal (due to size, nature of impact or safety concerns), leave it in place, note the location of and report the event to the Supervisor on return to the work site or camp. The Supervisor is to report the strike to the Environment team who will record the event in the *Fauna Strike Register* (45860-HSE-REG-D-0001);
- if the animal is alive, and escapes into adjacent habitat, note the location of the impact and the report the strike to the Environment team;

- if the animal is alive but injured, first aid should be provided and the Environment team should be contacted. The animal should be taken to a Veterinarian for further assessment and treatment;
- if the animal is alive but too dangerous to assist (e.g., a raptor such as a Wedge-tailed Eagle), note the location and report the event to the Supervisor on return to the work site or camp. The supervisor is to report the strike to the Environment Team; and
- if the animal is deceased but has an orphan in the pouch, contact the Environment team who will seek advice from the project ecologist regarding the best way to remove, store and transport the orphaned fauna. If the joey's mouth is attached to the teat, do not try to detach them, but instead, if possible, take the deceased mother, or cut off the teat. Where possible and safe to do so, recover the animal, keep warm in blanket or towel and transport in an aerated box to the work site or camp. Personnel to report immediately to the supervisor who will report the strike to the Environment team who will complete the *Fauna Handling Record Sheet* (45860-HSE-FO-D-001) and manage the animal in accordance with advice from the project ecologist.

4.2 Transmission line bird strike/electrocution

There is the potential that birds may accidentally fly into powerlines in the project easement or they may perch on transmission lines and spread their wings causing potential electrocution. If during construction of the project, any birds are found to be impacted by the project itself (such as by the bypass line), they must be reported to the Supervisor. The Supervisor is to notify the Environment team and they would complete *Fauna Handling Record Sheet* (45860-HSE-FO-D-001) and manage the animal with project ecologists.

4.3 Livestock interactions

Refer to the *Livestock and Construction Conflict Management Procedure* (45860-HSE-PR-G-1007).

5 Specific handling requirements

5.1 Birds

General rescue approach for birds:

- where possible and safe to do so, gain access to nests using an elevated platform/ladder. Capture and remove any nestlings;
- place nestlings in cotton capture bags and assess for injuries. Store bags containing nestlings in a pet carrying cage or ventilated cardboard box. The animal container will be covered to reduce stress on the bird. Deliver to specialist wildlife carer; and
- if adult birds are captured, they will be released away from construction activities.

5.2 Ground dwelling mammals: Echidna

General rescue approach for echidnas:

- if echidnas are found within the construction zone or during habitat removal, they will need to be captured and relocated;
- dig echidna out by hand or carefully by shovel to the side of the echidna. The aim is to get a hand(s) beneath the echidna and to grasp a hind leg(s) and lift the echidna from the soil; and
- place in a dig-proof container, such as a ventilated plastic box or garbage bin. Captive echidnas will be kept in a cool, well ventilated location, out of direct sun. Uninjured echidnas will be translocated and released as soon as possible.

5.3 Ground dwelling mammals: Native rodents

General rescue approach for native rodents:

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- capture rodents using a hand net; and
- once captured, rodents will be placed into a cloth capture bag, assessed and if not injured, retained until dusk and then released into appropriate habitat.

5.4 Ground dwelling mammals: Kangaroos, wombats and wallabies

General rescue approach for kangaroos, wallabies and wombats:

- if a macropod is within the construction zone, activities in the area which may impact the macropod may need to cease;
- in the event that a juvenile macropod is displaced (thrown from a pouch) and cannot be re-united with its parent, orphaned macropods will be taken to a vet or wildlife carer; and
- uninjured adults will be calmly ushered from construction zone (as required).

5.5 Reptiles: Snakes, lizards, turtles

General rescue approach for reptiles:

- reptiles will be captured by the project ecologist (when they are available) or with a person who is licensed under the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016* to catch and release reptiles;
- snakes will only be captured and relocated if they present a potential threat to construction personnel or are likely to be harmed by the works. In most cases, snakes will attempt to move away from a disturbed area; and
- lizards will be released as soon as possible after capture into suitable habitat outside of the construction zone.

5.6 Amphibians: Frogs

General rescue approach for frogs:

- the capture and relocation of frogs require specific attention to minimise disease transmission. The following hygiene protocol applies:
 - capture, handling and housing of wild frogs will be minimised or avoided where possible;
 - single-use latex, nitrile or vinyl gloves or single-use plastic bags will be used when handling/capturing frogs (where available);
 - hand washing with 70% ethanol (allowing hands to dry) between handling individual frogs is acceptable if no gloves are available (note, repeated use on human skin is not recommended). Alcohol is toxic to frogs so hands must be washed thoroughly in water after treatment with alcohol;
 - each frog is to be housed separately in plastic zip lock bags (with air holes punched into the bag prior to frog capture). Bagged frogs are to be kept in a cool quiet location and released into suitable habitat at the earliest opportunity (immediate release ideal or release before night fall on the day of capture); and
 - plastic bag will not be re-used and are to be disposed of after a single use.

5.7 Arboreal mammals: Possums

General rescue approach for arboreal mammals:

- the project ecologist will be on site to inspect trees for possums that may need to be relocated;
- if possums are found during vegetation clearing, the project ecologist will determine if capture and relocation is warranted;
- possums will be captured either by hand or net and placed into a suitable cage;

- captured possums will be released at a location deemed suitable by the project ecologist; and
- in the event that juvenile possums/glidens are displaced and cannot be re-united their mother, they will be taken to an authorised wildlife shelter within the region.

5.8 Other mammals: Microbats

General rescue approach for microbats:

- there is potential for microbats to carry the Australian Bat Lyssavirus (a rabies like virus), a disease potentially fatal to humans. To reduce the risk of infection, only experienced and vaccinated personnel be authorised to handle microbats;
- the project ecologist is to be on site during the removal of vegetation and to inspect trees for microbats that may need to be relocated;
- microbats will be captured by hand using protective gloves;
- as soon as possible, captured microbats will be placed into a cloth bag hung vertically in a quiet, cool, dark place until released;
- all captured microbats will be relocated into adjacent suitable habitat; and
- in the event that a juvenile microbat is displaced and cannot be re-united with its parent, orphaned microbats will be taken to a vet or wildlife carer.

6 Contact details

The closest wildlife carer organisation to the clearing operations or construction activity will be contacted prior to the clearing operations to advise of any potential animals that may come into care and determine their available to assist with caring of injured or orphaned native wildlife if required.

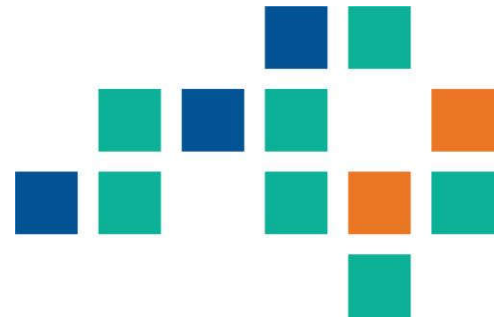
In the event that local wildlife carers are not available, the national WIRES contact number can be used to identify any other local qualified wildlife carers.

Table 6.1 - Contact details

Role	Organisation	Location	State	Contact details
Project Ecologist	ngh	Wagga Wagga	NSW	The contact details for the Project Ecologist will be retained by the project staff and available to personnel upon request.
Wildlife Carers	WIRES	National service utilising local volunteers	NSW	1300 094 734
Veterinary Clinic	Mildura Veterinary Hospital	370 Deakin Ave, Mildura	VIC	(03) 5023 3838
Veterinary Clinic	Wagga Wagga Veterinary Clinic	132 Urana St, Turvey Park NSW	NSW	(02) 6926 0900
Veterinary Clinic	Hay Veterinary Clinic	379 Murray St,	NSW	(02) 6993 1861

Appendix D – Biosecurity Management Plan

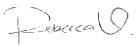
INTERNAL



Biosecurity Management Plan

EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section)

45860-HSE-PL-D-0032

REV	DATE	GENERAL DESCRIPTION	PREPARED	REVIEWED	VERIFIED	VERIFIED	APPROVED
A	23/06/2021	Issued for internal review	L.Coetzee	R.Walker-Edwards	G.Crighton	JL.Barrenechea	D.Whatmough
B	29/06/2021	Issued to Transgrid	L.Coetzee	R.Walker-Edwards	G.Crighton	JL.Barrenechea	D.Whatmough
C	9/09/2021	Issued to Transgrid	L.Coetzee	R.Walker-Edwards	G.Crighton	JL.Barrenechea	D.Whatmough
D	24/11/2021	Issued to Transgrid	 R.Walker-Edwards	 M.Lee	 G.Crighton	 JL.Barrenechea	 D.Whatmough

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Revision History	
Rev.	Detailed Description
A	Issued for review
B	Issued to Transgrid
C	Revised to address Transgrid comments
D	Revised to address Transgrid comments. No comments from agency review.

Key Document Stakeholders
To be communicated with during reviews and revisions of this document

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Abbreviations / Definitions

Acronym	Definition
Amendment Report	<i>EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section) Amendment Report</i>
BC Act	<i>Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016</i>
Biosecurity duty	Biosecurity duty is defined in Part 4, Division 3, Section 30 of the <i>Biosecurity Act 2015</i> (NSW) as: (1) A person who becomes aware of, or suspects, that a prohibited matter event has occurred, is occurring or is about to occur has a biosecurity duty to immediately notify the prohibited matter event in accordance with the requirements specified in the regulations. (2) A biosecurity duty arises under this Division only if the person— (a) is the owner, occupier or person in charge of, or has the care, custody or control of, premises, a carrier or other thing in relation to which the prohibited matter is present or suspected of being present, or (b) becomes aware of, or suspects, the occurrence of the prohibited matter event as a result of any consultation or other work carried out in relation to premises, a carrier or other thing in the person's professional capacity, or (c) is a person of a class prescribed by the regulations.
Biosecurity matter	Biosecurity matter is defined in Section 10 of the <i>Biosecurity Act 2015</i> (NSW) as: a) any living thing, other than human, or b) any part of an animal, plant or living thing, other than a human, or c) a product of a living thing, other than a human, or d) a disease, or e) a prion, or f) a contaminant, or g) a disease agent that can cause disease in a living thing (other than a human) or that can cause disease in a human via transmission from a non-human host to a human, or h) anything declared by the regulations to be biosecurity matter.
Final BDAR	<i>Final Biodiversity Development Assessment Report</i> (August 2021)
CEMP	Construction Environmental Management Plan
DECCW	Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water (now Department of Environment, Energy and Science)
DPIE	Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
DPI	Department of Primary Industries
EIS	<i>EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section) Environmental Impact Statement</i>
EPBC Act	<i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i>
HSSE	Health, Safety, Security and Environment
HSSE Manual	Health, Safety, Security and Environment Management Manual
IMS	Integrated Management System
KTP	Key Threatening Process
LGA	Local Government Area
LLS	Local Land Services
NSW	New South Wales
OEH	Office of Environment and Heritage (now Department of Environment, Energy and Science)
OJD	Ovine Johne's Disease
Prohibited Matter Event	As per Section 31 of the <i>Biosecurity Act 2015</i> (NSW): A prohibited matter event means— (a) the presence of biosecurity matter in a part of the State in which it is prohibited matter, or

Acronym	Definition
	(b) the introduction of biosecurity matter into a part of the State in which it is prohibited matter.
Project, the	EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section)
RMM	Revised mitigation measures
SecureEnergy	Elecnor and Clough Projects Australia Pty Ltd have formed SecureEnergy. SecureEnergy is the contractor who will be carrying out the project on behalf of Transgrid.
Submissions Report	<i>EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section) Submissions Report</i>
WMS	Work Method Statement
WoNS	Weeds of National Significance

1 Introduction

1.1 Context

This Biosecurity Management Plan (or plan) is an Appendix to the Biodiversity Management Plan which forms part of the Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) for EnergyConnect (NSW - Western Section).

This plan has been prepared to address the requirements of the Infrastructure Approval (SSI 10040), the *EnergyConnect (NSW - Western Section) Environmental Impact Statement* (EIS), the *EnergyConnect (NSW - Western Section) Submissions Report* (Submissions Report), *EnergyConnect (NSW - Western Section) Amendment Report* (Amendment Report) and the additional information letter dated 10 August 2021 (Response to DPIE Request for Information).

1.2 Purpose and objective

The key objective of the Biosecurity Management Plan (this plan) is to describe the management measures that will be implemented to ensure that biosecurity impacts are minimised and in accordance with the requirements of:

- the *Biosecurity Act 2015* (NSW); and
- the Infrastructure Approval, EIS, Amendment Report and Response to DPIE Request for Information.

To achieve this the plan describes:

- the existing and potential weeds, pest animals and animal diseases identified within the study area during the preparation of the environmental assessment;
- the implementation of appropriate processes to manage the spread of weeds, pests and diseases; and
- how the implementation of practical measures will be undertaken prior to and during construction to avoid the introduction of new weeds and to minimise the spread of existing weeds.

2 Environmental requirements

2.1 Legislation

Legislation relevant to weed management is detailed within Table 2.1.

Table 2.1 – Relevant legislation and its application

Legislation	Application
<i>Biosecurity Act 2015</i> (NSW) and <i>Biosecurity Regulation 2017</i> (NSW)	The <i>Biosecurity Act 2015</i> (Biosecurity Act) and the <i>Biosecurity Regulation 2017</i> (NSW) provides for risk-based management of biosecurity in NSW. It provides a statutory framework to protect the NSW economy, environment and community from the negative impact of pests, diseases and weeds. The primary object of the Act is to provide a framework for the prevention, elimination and minimisation of biosecurity risks posed by biosecurity matter, dealing with biosecurity matter, carriers and potential carriers, and other activities that involve biosecurity matter. Under the <i>Biosecurity Act 2015</i> there is a general obligation on people to be aware of their surroundings and take action to prevent the introduction and spread of pests, diseases, weeds and contaminants, referred to as the general biosecurity duty under Part 3, section 22 of the Act. The Act also identifies Biosecurity Zones and imposes Biosecurity Control Orders. No weeds listed under the three applicable Biosecurity Zones or one listed under a Biosecurity Control Order were identified during field surveys, however provisions for their identification and management are included in this plan. In addition to the general biosecurity duty, the Biosecurity Act also identifies 'prohibited matter', which includes twenty-seven (27) weeds. It is an offence to deal with prohibited matter under the Act without a prohibited matter permit. As outlined in the Revised BDAR Section 5.3, two exotic flora species were recorded within the proposal study area during field surveys were listed in the <i>Biosecurity Act 2015</i> as priority weeds for the Western Region (Department of Planning, Industry and Environment, 2020). Both the <i>Biosecurity Act 2015</i> (NSW) and the <i>Biosecurity Regulation 2017</i> (NSW) impose notification requirements on the landowner or the occupier to report to the Department of Primary Industries or the local council (Wentworth Shire Council) of biosecurity events, prohibited matters or notifiable weeds, pests and diseases. These are discussed further in Section 5 of this plan. Biosecurity control orders may also be in place as part of the <i>Biosecurity Act 2015</i>. A control order can prohibit or control the doing of anything, subject to certain limitations, to prevent the introduction or eradicate a biosecurity matter that poses a biosecurity risk. Control measures may include requirements to take, or not to take, any action necessary to prevent, eliminate, minimise or manage the biosecurity risk or biosecurity impact.
<i>Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016</i> (NSW) (BC Act)	Key Threatening Processes (KTPs) as outlined under Division 5 of the BC Act are discussed in Section 9.10 of the Revised BDAR. A number of weeds are identified as Key Threatening Processes (KTPs) under Division 5 of the BC Act (list provided in Schedule 4 of the Act). None of those listed in Schedule 4 of the Act, have been identified in the project area.
<i>Pesticides Act 1999</i> (NSW)	It is an offence under this act to wilfully or negligently use pesticides in a manner that may harm humans, animals or property or threaten endangered, vulnerable or protected species outlined under the BC Act.
<i>Pesticides Regulation 2017</i> (NSW)	Specifies that pesticides used in an occupational setting may only be used by qualified persons and that a Pesticide Use Notification Plan must be prepared and implemented when use of pesticides occurs on public lands such as rail corridors. The plan must include public consultation requirements of this regulation.

2.2 Conditions of Approval

The conditions of the Infrastructure Approval relevant to biosecurity management are detailed in Table 2.2 in bold, italicised text.

Table 2.2 – Conditions relevant to biosecurity management

Condition	Requirement	Where addressed
D28	The Biodiversity CEMP Sub-Plan required under condition B2 must include: a) a description of the measures that would be implemented for: • minimising the amount of native vegetation clearing within the approved development footprint; • minimising the loss of key fauna habitat, including tree hollows; • minimising the impacts on fauna on site, including undertaking pre-clearance surveys; • minimising the potential indirect impacts on threatened flora and fauna species, migratory species and 'at risk' species; • rehabilitating and revegetating disturbance areas; • protecting native vegetation and key fauna habitat outside the approved disturbance area; • maximising the salvage of resources within the approved disturbance area – including vegetative and soil resources – for beneficial reuse (such as fauna habitat enhancement) during the rehabilitation and revegetation of the site; • controlling weeds; • controlling erosion; and • bushfire management; b) details of the Proponent's commitment to make a one off \$150,000 funding contribution targeted at further scientific study into the impacts of electric and magnetic fields on birds in Australia; c) preparation and implementation of a two year bird impact monitoring program at the commencement of operations; and d) a detailed program to monitor and report on the effectiveness of these measures.	This document and the Biodiversity Management Plan

2.3 Revised mitigation measures

The revised mitigation measures (RMMs) are defined in Appendix G of the Additional Information (August 2021). The RMMs relevant to biosecurity for the project are presented in Table 2.3 below. The RMMs provided below are extracts from the Additional Information (August 2021). The management measures that will be implemented for the project are provided in Section 4 and Section 5 of this plan.

Table 2.3 – Revised mitigation measures relevant to biosecurity management

Reference	Revised mitigation measures	Where addressed
LP2	The locations of transmission line structures, (other permanent structures and the extents of associated construction areas or compounds) will be located where possible to avoid or minimise impacts, or as agreed with the affected landholder, on: • cropping and irrigated horticultural land • areas used for set up and pack up of agricultural equipment, entry points and turning areas • radiocommunication sensitive areas • drainage catchments for farm dams • locations of high biosecurity risk.	Section 5 Table 5.1
LP7	Biosecurity controls will be implemented during construction to minimise the risk of off-site transport or spread of disease, pests or weeds. Controls will include (but not be limited to): • inspections and cleaning of vehicles, machinery, and personal equipment prior to movement on and off the construction work areas or between properties	Section 5 Table 5.1

Reference	Revised mitigation measures	Where addressed
	- minimising movements across adjoining farmland including trip numbers and locations - additional measures where localised areas of high biosecurity risks have been identified. The specific controls applicable to a property will be identified in consultation with the affected landholder. The effectiveness of these controls will be regularly monitored.	
LP8	Where present, weeds will be managed in consultation with Western Local Land Services (LLS), Wentworth Shire Council and NSW Department of Primary Industries.	Section 5 Table 5.1
LP9	In the event of new infestations of notifiable weeds as a result of construction activities, the relevant control authority will be notified as per <i>Biosecurity Act 2015</i> and <i>Biosecurity Regulation 2017</i> .	Section 5.5 Table 5.1

2.4 Guidelines

The guidelines within Table 2.4 were considered in the development and implementation of this plan.

Table 2.4 – Relevant guidelines

Guideline / Strategy	Application
Western Regional Strategic Weed Management Plan 2017-2022	Regional Strategic Weed Management Plans have been developed for eleven regions of NSW. The Plans provide guidance on the outcomes required to discharge the duty for managing weeds under the Biosecurity Act. The Western Regional Strategic Plan is applicable to the Project area and lists priority weed species as determined by NSW Department of Primary Industries and includes regional management measures for priority weeds. For each priority weed, the management objective and specific requirements for management is included. Outcomes to demonstrate compliance with the General Biosecurity Duty are identified for each regional priority weed species and recommended measures that will assist in the achievement of these outcomes. Weeds listed in the Western Regional Strategic Weed Management Plan that occur or have the potential to occur in the project area are discussed in Section 3 of this plan.
National Weeds Strategy 2017-2027	Identifies thirty-two (32) introduced plants as Weeds of National Significance (WoNS). These weeds are regarded as a current priority and future weed threat to Australia because of their invasiveness, potential for spread, and economic and environmental impacts. Two (2) WoNS were identified in the project area and another fourteen (14) identified as potentially occurring in the vicinity of the project area. The Strategy also identifies twenty-eight (28) introduced plants as National Environmental Alert Weeds. These weeds are in the early stages of establishment and have the potential to become a significant threat to biodiversity if they are not managed. No National Environmental Alert weeds were identified in the project area.
NSW <i>Invasive Species Plan 2018-2021</i> (DPI, 2018a).	The plan adopts four goals for managing invasive species (including weeds): 1. Exclude – prevent the establishment of new invasive species. 2. Eradicate or contain – eliminate or prevent the spread of new invasive species. 3. Effectively manage – reduce the impacts of widespread invasive species. 4. Capacity building – ensure NSW has the ability and commitment to manage invasive species. This plan will aim to align with the relevant first three main goals of preventing the establishment of new invasive species and containing invasive species in areas directly impacted by construction as outlined in Sections 4 and 5 of this plan.
<i>Western Local Land Services Region Priority Weed Identification Guide</i> (May 2020)	The guide has been developed as an easy to use resource to assist land managers and members of the general community to identify high priority weeds. It is not intended to provide detailed information on each species and their control. Notification details are also provided within the guide for the identified priority weeds.

3 Existing environment

The following section summarises existing known weed, pest animal and pathogen species within and adjacent to the project based on the information contained in Chapter 12 and Technical Paper 3 (Agricultural land impact assessment) of the EIS, and the Final BDAR.

3.1 Weeds

The Far West region of NSW has the potential to effectively manage biosecurity risks due to its separation from major populations and intensive agricultural industries, and as its semi-arid climate, which is challenging for exotic animals and plants to survive. The EIS found that the project area has relatively few examples of widespread introduced species of weeds in the areas surveyed for the biodiversity assessment.

The EIS identified 35 species of weeds that are known or likely to be located in the project area, including:

- weeds under the *Biosecurity Act 2015* including:
 - two weeds which are listed as priority weeds for the Western Region and are also listed as Weeds of National Significance;
 - six species of weeds recorded during property inspections undertaken in accordance with the *Biosecurity Act 2015* (DPI, 2020);
- 11 species that are identified as regional priority weeds on the *Western Regional Strategic Weed Management Plan 2017 – 2022* (Western LLS, 2017);
- one state priority weed – Bitou bush (*Chrysanthemoides monilifera*);
- four weeds that were specifically mentioned as problematic weeds by landholders and the Wentworth Shire Council biosecurity officer: Khaki weed, caltrops, thornapple and onionweed; and
- Noogoora burr and Bathurst burr, which can be a problem in irrigation fields and contaminate wool.

3.1.1 Weeds under the *Biosecurity Act 2015*

As identified in Section 5.3 of the Final BDAR, there are two exotic species that were recorded in the project area and are listed as priority weeds and Weeds of National Significance. These species are:

- African boxthorn (*Lycium ferocissimum*); and
- Prickly pear (*Opuntia* spp.).

The EIS Technical Paper 3 (Agricultural land impact assessment), reported weeds recorded by authorised officers during property inspections under the *Biosecurity Act 2015* (DPI, 2020b):

- Horehound (*Marrubium vulgare*);
- Common pear (*Opuntia stricta*);
- Burr ragweed (*Ambrosia confertiflora*);
- Boneseed (*Chrysanthemoides monilifera*);
- Hudson pear (*Cylindropuntia rosea*); and
- African boxthorn (*Lycium ferocissimum*) (also listed as a priority weed above).

3.1.2 Weeds under the former *Noxious Weeds Act 1993*

Under the former *Noxious Weeds Act 1993* the following weeds were declared noxious in the Wentworth Shire local government area (LGA):

Class 4 (Locally controlled weeds)

- Rope pear (*Cylindropuntia imbricata*);
- Hudson pear (*Cylindropuntia rosea*); and
- Prickly pear (*Opuntia* spp.)

Class 5 (Restricted plant)

- Athel pine (*Tamarix* spp.);
- Bridal creeper (*Asparagus asparagoides*); and
- Willows (*Salix* spp.).

3.1.3 State priority weeds

As outlined in EIS Technical Paper 3 (Agricultural land impact assessment), the only state priority weed which may be present in the vicinity of the proposal study area is Bitou bush (*Chrysanthemoides monilifera*) (DPI, 2000c).

3.1.4 Other weeds identified in the EIS

The *Western Regional Strategic Weed Management Plan 2017 – 2022* (LLS, 2017) identifies regional priority weeds, some of which may be present in the vicinity of the proposal study area (DPI, 2000c), as follows:

- Boxing glove/coral cactus (*Cylindropuntia fulgida*);
- Burr ragweed (*Ambrosia confertiflora*);
- Clock weed (*Oenothera curtiflora*);
- Willow rhus (*Searsia lancea*);
- Giant reed (*Arundo donax*);
- Silver-leaf nightshade (*Solanum elaeagnifolium*);
- African boxthorn (*Lycium ferocissimum*);
- Bridal creeper (*Asparagus asparagoides*);
- Rope pear (*Cylindropuntia imbricata*);
- Prickly pear; (*Opuntia* spp. excl *Opuntia ficus-indica*) and
- Spiny burrgrass (*Cenchrus* spp.)

The weeds identified as likely to be present across the study area, and legislation or document under which they were identified are listed in Table 3.1 with images of the weeds included in Appendix B. In addition to priority weeds and Weeds of National Significance the following environmental weeds were also recorded in the ecological surveys to support the EIS:

- *Asphodelus fistulosus* (onion weed);
- *Emex australis* (Spiny Emex);
- *Marrubium vulgare* (Horehound);
- *Nicotiana glauca* (Tree Tobacco);
- *Onopordum acaulon* (Stemless Thistle);
- *Tribulus terrestris* (Cat-head); and
- *Xanthium occidentale* (Noogoora Burr).

Table 3.1 – Weeds, pests and pathogens known or potentially occurring in the study area

Note regarding General Biosecurity Duty and Prohibited matter

Where identified (refer to table below) plants are regulated with a *general biosecurity duty* (GBD) to prevent, eliminate or minimise any biosecurity risk they may pose. Any person who deals with any plant, who knows (or ought to know) of any biosecurity risk, has a duty to ensure the risk is prevented, eliminated or minimised, so far as is reasonably practicable.

Weeds identified as *Prohibited matter* means that the plant (or any parts of the plant) must not be imported into the state, sold, bartered, exchanged or offered for sale.

Species Name Common name	Weeds identified in project area or likely in vicinity				Weed Category		Biosecurity Act 2015 and WRSW MP Requirements			
	Identified during EIS field surveys	DECCW reported weeds in region	Landowners / DPI / LLS / Council weeds in vicinity	Other environmental / agricultural weeds in vicinity	State or Regional Priority Weed	Weed of National Significance	General Biosecurity Duty applies	Prohibited matter	Notification to Local Control Authority required if identified / found	Species Specific biosecurity duty for Priority Weeds in NSW and/or Western LLS Region
<i>Lycium ferocissimum</i> African boxthorn	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		Prohibition on certain dealings Must not be imported into the state, sold, bartered, exchanged or offered for sale. Regional Recommended Measure Land managers mitigate the risk of the plant spreading from their land. Land managers reduce impact of plant on priority assets (riparian areas and floodplains).
<i>Parthenium hysterophorus</i> Parthenium weed Note that there are no occurrences of Parthenium weed in the Western LLS region, however, it has been included to ensure any plant / equipment relevant to Division 8, Clause 35 of the <i>Biosecurity Regulation, 2017</i> is appropriately managed.					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Prohibited Matter A person who deals with prohibited matter or a carrier of prohibited matter is guilty of an offence. A person who becomes aware of or suspects the presence of prohibited matter must immediately notify the Department of Primary Industries Prohibition on certain dealings The following equipment <u>must not be imported into NSW from Queensland</u> : grain harvesters (including the comb or front), comb trailers (including the comb or front), bins used for holding grain during harvest operations, augers or similar for moving grain, vehicles used to transport grain harvesters, support vehicles driven in paddocks during harvest operations, mineral exploration drilling rigs and vehicles used to transport those rigs, unless set out as an exception in Division 5, Part 2 of the <i>Biosecurity Order (Permitted Activities) 2017</i> .

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Species Name Common name	Weeds identified in project area or likely in vicinity				Weed Category		Biosecurity Act 2015 and WRSW MP Requirements			
	Identified during EIS field surveys	DECCW reported weeds in region	Landowners / DPI / LLS / Council weeds in vicinity	Other environmental / agricultural weeds in vicinity	State or Regional Priority Weed	Weed of National Significance	General Biosecurity Duty applies	Prohibited matter	Notification to Local Control Authority required if identified / found	Species Specific biosecurity duty for Priority Weeds in NSW and/or Western LLS Region
										Note from Western Local Land Services Weed Identification Guide Parthenium weed is not currently present in the Western Local Land Services region.
<i>Tamarix spp.</i> Athel pine		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		Prohibition on certain dealings Must not be imported into the state, sold, bartered, exchanged or offered for sale.
<i>Xanthium spinosa</i> Bathurst burr				✓			✓			NA
<i>Alternanthera philoxeroides</i> Alligator weed					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Prohibition on certain dealings Must not be imported into the state, sold, bartered, exchanged or offered for sale. Biosecurity Zone The Alligator Weed Biosecurity Zone is established for all land within the state except land in the following regions: Greater Sydney; Hunter (but only in the local government areas of City of Lake Macquarie, City of Maitland, City of Newcastle or Port Stephens). The local control authority must be notified of any new infestations of this weed within the Biosecurity Zone. Note from Western Local Land Services Region Priority Weed Identification Guide: Alligator weed is not currently present in the Western Local Land Services region; however there are infestations further upstream in the Murray and Murrumbidgee catchments.
<i>Eichhornia crassipes</i> Water hyacinth					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Prohibition on certain dealings Must not be imported into the state, sold, bartered, exchanged or offered for sale. Biosecurity Zone The Water Hyacinth Biosecurity Zone applies to all land within the State, except for the following regions: Greater Sydney or North Coast, North West (but only the local government area of Moree Plains), Hunter (but only in the local government areas of City of Cessnock, City of Lake Macquarie, MidCoast, City of Maitland, City of Newcastle

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Species Name Common name	Weeds identified in project area or likely in vicinity				Weed Category		Biosecurity Act 2015 and WRSW MP Requirements			
	Identified during EIS field surveys	DECCW reported weeds in region	Landowners / DPI / LLS / Council weeds in vicinity	Other environmental / agricultural weeds in vicinity	State or Regional Priority Weed	Weed of National Significance	General Biosecurity Duty applies	Prohibited matter	Notification to Local Control Authority required if identified / found	Species Specific biosecurity duty for Priority Weeds in NSW and/or Western LLS Region
										or Port Stephens), South East (but only in the local government areas of Eurobodalla, Kiama, City of Shellharbour, City of Shoalhaven or City of Wollongong). The local control authority must be notified of any new infestations of this weed within the Biosecurity Zone Regional Recommended Measure Land managers should mitigate the risk of new weeds being introduced to their land. The plant should not be bought, sold, grown, carried or released into the environment. Notify local control authority if found.
<i>Chrysanthemoides monilifera subsp. rotunda</i> Bitou bush				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Prohibition on certain dealings Must not be imported into the state, sold, bartered, exchanged or offered for sale. Biosecurity Zone The Bitou Bush Biosecurity Zone is established for all land within the State except land within 10 kilometres of the mean high water mark of the Pacific Ocean between Cape Byron in the north and Point Perpendicular in the south. The local control authority must be notified of any new infestations of this weed within the Biosecurity Zone
<i>Chrysanthemoides monilifera subsp. monilifera</i> Boneseed		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Prohibition on certain dealings Must not be imported into the state, sold, bartered, exchanged or offered for sale. Control Order - Boneseed Control Zone: Whole of NSW Owners and occupiers of land on which there is boneseed must notify the local control authority of new infestations. A person who deals with a carrier of boneseed must ensure the plant (and any seed and propagules) is not moved from the land; and immediately notify the local control authority of the presence of the plant.
<i>Cylindropuntia fulgida</i> Boxing glove/coral cactus			✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Prohibition on certain dealings Must not be imported into the state, sold, bartered, exchanged or offered for sale. Regional Recommended Measure Land managers should mitigate the risk of new weeds being introduced to their land. The plant should not be

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Species Name Common name	Weeds identified in project area or likely in vicinity				Weed Category		Biosecurity Act 2015 and WRSW MP Requirements			
	Identified during EIS field surveys	DECCW reported weeds in region	Landowners / DPI / LLS / Council weeds in vicinity	Other environmental / agricultural weeds in vicinity	State or Regional Priority Weed	Weed of National Significance	General Biosecurity Duty applies	Prohibited matter	Notification to Local Control Authority required if identified / found	Species Specific biosecurity duty for Priority Weeds in NSW and/or Western LLS Region
										bought, sold, grown, carried or released into the environment. Notify local control authority if found.
<i>Asparagus asparagoides</i> Bridal creeper		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		Prohibition on certain dealings: Must not be imported into the state, sold, bartered, exchanged or offered for sale. *this requirement also applies to the Western Cape form of bridal creeper Regional Recommended Measure: Land managers mitigate the risk of the plant spreading from their land. Land managers reduce impact of plant on priority assets (riparian areas and commercial horticultural areas).
<i>Ambrosia confertiflora</i> Burr ragweed			✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	Regional Recommended Measure Land managers should mitigate the risk of new weeds being introduced to their land. The plant should not be bought, sold, grown, carried or released into the environment. Notify local control authority if found.
<i>Tribulus terrestris</i> Caltrops or Cat-head	✓		✓							NA
<i>Oenothera curtiflora</i> Clock weed			✓		✓				✓	Regional Recommended Measure Land managers should mitigate the risk of new weeds being introduced to their land. The plant should not be bought, sold, grown, carried or released into the environment. Notify local control authority if found. Note from Western LLS Region Priority Weed Guide Land managers should notify their local shire council or Western Local Land Services immediately if they have found or suspect that clockweed is present on their land. Minor use permits currently exist for a small number of herbicides if larger infestations are encountered.
<i>Opuntia spp.</i> Prickly pears	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		Prohibition on certain dealings Must not be imported into the state, sold, bartered, exchanged or offered for sale. For all <i>Opuntia</i> species except for <i>Opuntia ficus-indica</i> (Indian fig).

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Species Name Common name	Weeds identified in project area or likely in vicinity				Weed Category		Biosecurity Act 2015 and WRSW MP Requirements			
	Identified during EIS field surveys	DECCW reported weeds in region	Landowners / DPI / LLS / Council weeds in vicinity	Other environmental / agricultural weeds in vicinity	State or Regional Priority Weed	Weed of National Significance	General Biosecurity Duty applies	Prohibited matter	Notification to Local Control Authority required if identified / found	Species Specific biosecurity duty for Priority Weeds in NSW and/or Western LLS Region
										Regional Recommended Measure Land managers mitigate the risk of the plant spreading from their land. Land managers mitigate the risk of the plant being introduced to their land. The plant or parts of the plant are not traded, carried, grown or released into the environment. This Regional Recommended Measure applies to all species of <i>Opuntia</i> except for <i>Opuntia ficus-indica</i> (Indian fig). <u>Related species:</u> Aaron's beard prickly pear Blind cactus Bunny ears cactus Chicken dance cactus Common pear Smooth tree pear Tiger pear Velvety tree pear Wheel cactus
<i>Opuntia stricta</i> Common pear			✓		✓	✓		✓		Prohibition on certain dealings Must not be imported into the state, sold, bartered, exchanged or offered for sale. Regional Recommended Measure Land managers mitigate the risk of the plant spreading from their land. Land managers mitigate the risk of the plant being introduced to their land. The plant or parts of the plant are not traded, carried, grown or released into the environment. Land managers reduced impact of the plant on priority assets (grazing, conservation and urban areas). Note from Western LLS Region Priority Weed Guide Land managers with infestations can contact Western Local Land Services to organise a release of biocontrol agents, which will kill the plants over time. Isolated plants can be dug up and then buried or burned, or treated with a herbicide registered for that purpose. Land managers should take measures that reduce impact of prickly pear on

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Species Name Common name	Weeds identified in project area or likely in vicinity				Weed Category		Biosecurity Act 2015 and WRSW MP Requirements			
	Identified during EIS field surveys	DECCW reported weeds in region	Landowners / DPI / LLS / Council weeds in vicinity	Other environmental / agricultural weeds in vicinity	State or Regional Priority Weed	Weed of National Significance	General Biosecurity Duty applies	Prohibited matter	Notification to Local Control Authority required if identified / found	Species Specific biosecurity duty for Priority Weeds in NSW and/or Western LLS Region
										grazing lands, conservation areas and urban areas and mitigate the risk of the plant spreading to other properties.
<i>Pennisetum setaceum</i> Fountain grass (also identified as <i>Cenchrus setaceus</i>)		✓					✓			NA
<i>Arundo donax</i> Giant reed					✓		✓			Regional Recommended Measure Exclusion zone: whole region except for the core infestation area of Wentworth Shire Council Wentworth Shire Council Area Land managers within the core infestation area (the Wentworth Shire Council) should take measures that reduce impact of giant reed on riparian areas and mitigate the risk of the plant spreading to other properties. Land managers in all other areas of the region should destroy all plants found and ensure any subsequent generations are also destroyed. Whole region: Land managers should mitigate the risk of the plant being introduced to their land. The plant should not be bought, sold, grown, carried or released into the environment.
<i>Marrubium vulgare</i> Horehound	✓		✓				✓			NA
<i>Cylindropuntia rosea</i> Hudson pear			✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Prohibition on certain dealings Must not be imported into the state, sold, bartered, exchanged or offered for sale. Regional Recommended Measure Land managers should mitigate the risk of new weeds being introduced to their land. The plant should not be bought, sold, grown, carried or released into the environment. Notify local control authority if found.
<i>Cylindropuntia imbricata</i> Rope pear			✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		Prohibition on certain dealings: Must not be imported into the state, sold, bartered, exchanged or offered for sale. All species in the <i>Cylindropuntia</i> genus have this requirement.

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Species Name Common name	Weeds identified in project area or likely in vicinity				Weed Category		Biosecurity Act 2015 and WRSW MP Requirements			
	Identified during EIS field surveys	DECCW reported weeds in region	Landowners / DPI / LLS / Council weeds in vicinity	Other environmental / agricultural weeds in vicinity	State or Regional Priority Weed	Weed of National Significance	General Biosecurity Duty applies	Prohibited matter	Notification to Local Control Authority required if identified / found	Species Specific biosecurity duty for Priority Weeds in NSW and/or Western LLS Region
										Regional Recommended Measure Land managers should mitigate spread from their land. Land managers reduce impact of plant on priority assets (grazing conservation and urban areas). The plant should not be bought, sold, grown, carried or released into the environment.
<i>Alternanthera pungens</i> Khaki weed			✓	✓			✓			NA
<i>Prosopis</i> spp. Mesquite		✓			✓	✓	✓	✓		Prohibition on certain dealings Must not be imported into the state, sold, bartered, exchanged or offered for sale. All species in the genus <i>Prosopis</i> have this requirement Regional Recommended Measure Exclusion zone: whole region except for the core infestation area of Evelyn, Yantara, Mootwingee, Yancowinna, Menindee, Tandora, Livingstone and Windeyer counties Whole region: Land managers should mitigate the risk of the plant being introduced to their land. The plant should not be bought, sold, grown, carried or released into the environment.
<i>Xanthium occidentale</i> Noogoora burr				✓			✓			NA
<i>Asphodelus fistulosus</i> Onion weed	✓		✓				✓			NA
<i>Solanum elaeagnifolium</i> Silver-leaf nightshade		✓			✓	✓	✓	✓		Prohibition on certain dealings Must not be imported into the state, sold, bartered, exchanged or offered for sale. Regional Recommended Measure Land managers mitigate the risk of the plant spreading from their land. Land managers reduce impact of plant on priority assets (dryland farming areas).
<i>Cenchrus</i> spp. Spiny burgrass	✓				✓		✓	✓		Regional Recommended Measure Land managers mitigate the risk of the plant spreading from their land. Land managers reduce impact of plant on

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Species Name Common name	Weeds identified in project area or likely in vicinity				Weed Category		Biosecurity Act 2015 and WRSW MP Requirements			
	Identified during EIS field surveys	DECCW reported weeds in region	Landowners / DPI / LLS / Council weeds in vicinity	Other environmental / agricultural weeds in vicinity	State or Regional Priority Weed	Weed of National Significance	General Biosecurity Duty applies	Prohibited matter	Notification to Local Control Authority required if identified / found	Species Specific biosecurity duty for Priority Weeds in NSW and/or Western LLS Region
Note two species listed as Priority Weeds for Western LLS Region: <i>Cenchrus longissimus</i> and <i>Cenchrus spinifex</i> syn. <i>Cenchrus incertus</i>)										priority assets (commercial horticultural areas, grazing lands and conservation areas). The plant or parts of the plant are not traded, carried, grown or released into the environment.
<i>Datura spp.</i> Thornapple			✓				✓			NA
<i>Searsia lancea</i> Willow rhus					✓		✓		✓	Regional Recommended Measure Land managers should mitigate the risk of new weeds being introduced to their land. The plant should not be bought, sold, grown, carried or released into the environment. Notify local control authority if found.
<i>Salix spp.</i> Willows			✓			✓	✓	✓		Prohibition on certain dealings Must not be imported into the state, sold, bartered, exchanged or offered for sale. All species in the <i>Salix</i> genus have this requirement, except <i>Salix babylonica</i> (weeping willows), <i>Salix x calodendron</i> (pussy willow) and <i>Salix x reichardtii</i> (sterile pussy willow).
<i>Emex australis</i> (now re-named as <i>Rumex hypogaeus</i>) Spiny emex (Also known as: cathead, doublegee, prickly jacks, three-cornered jacks)	✓			✓			✓			NA
<i>Nicotiana glauca</i> Tree Tobacco	✓			✓			✓			NA
<i>Brassica tournefortii</i> Wild / Mediterranean turnip	✓		✓				✓			Noted as Herbicide resistant weed in Additional species of concern Appendix 2 Western Regional Strategic Weed Management Plan 2017 - 2022

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Species Name Common name	Weeds identified in project area or likely in vicinity				Weed Category		Biosecurity Act 2015 and WRSW MP Requirements			
	Identified during EIS field surveys	DECCW reported weeds in region	Landowners / DPI / LLS / Council weeds in vicinity	Other environmental / agricultural weeds in vicinity	State or Regional Priority Weed	Weed of National Significance	General Biosecurity Duty applies	Prohibited matter	Notification to Local Control Authority required if identified / found	Species Specific biosecurity duty for Priority Weeds in NSW and/or Western LLS Region
<i>Carrichtera annua</i> Ward's weed	✓		✓	✓			✓			Noted as 'other' in Additional species of concern Appendix 2 Western Regional Strategic Weed Management Plan 2017 - 2022
<i>Echium plantagineum</i> Paterson's Curse	✓			✓			✓			NA
<i>Onopordum acaulon</i> Stemless thistle	✓						✓			NA
<i>Hordeum glaucum</i> Barley Grass	✓		✓				✓			Noted as Herbicide resistant weed in Additional species of concern Appendix 2 Western Regional Strategic Weed Management Plan 2017 – 2022.
<i>Limonium lobatum</i> Winged sea lavender	✓		✓				✓			Noted as 'other' in Additional species of concern Appendix 2 Western Regional Strategic Weed Management Plan 2017 – 2022.
<i>Sonchus oleraceus</i> Common sow thistle	✓						✓			Noted as Herbicide resistant weed in Additional species of concern Appendix 2 Western Regional Strategic Weed Management Plan 2017 – 2022.
Vertebrate Pests • rabbits; • foxes; • kangaroos; • goats; • wild dogs; • feral pigs; and • feral cats.			✓							NA Where identified property owners will be advised as a courtesy.
Sheep Footrot			✓				✓		✓	The occurrence of sheep footrot in the vicinity of the proposal study area has been low in recent years. DPI (2016) reported no flocks were quarantined for footrot in either March 2014 or December 2015. Duty to Notify There is a duty to notify any awareness or suspicion of notifiable matter or a biosecurity event. The duty to notify is detailed in the Biosecurity Act 2015 (Sections 30 and 38) and the Biosecurity Regulation 2019 (clause 7).

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EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section) Biosecurity Management Plan

Species Name Common name	Weeds identified in project area or likely in vicinity				Weed Category		Biosecurity Act 2015 and WRSW MP Requirements			
	Identified during EIS field surveys	DECCW reported weeds in region	Landowners / DPI / LLS / Council weeds in vicinity	Other environmental / agricultural weeds in vicinity	State or Regional Priority Weed	Weed of National Significance	General Biosecurity Duty applies	Prohibited matter	Notification to Local Control Authority required if identified / found	Species Specific biosecurity duty for Priority Weeds in NSW and/or Western LLS Region
Ovine Johne's disease			✓				✓		✓	The landowners consulted confirmed that footrot and OJD has not been a significant problem in the past and is unlikely to readily spread in the proposal study area. Duty to Notify There is a duty to notify any awareness or suspicion of notifiable matter or a biosecurity event. The duty to notify is detailed in the Biosecurity Act 2015 (Sections 30 and 38) and the <i>Biosecurity Regulation 2019</i> (clause 7).
Potato Biosecurity Zone							✓	✓		The potato biosecurity zone restricts the movement of any potato biosecurity matter into the potato biosecurity zone.
Greater Sunraysia Pest Free Area							✓			There is a ban on bringing fresh fruit and vegetables into the Pest Free Area (including Wentworth LGA) to ensure that the area remains pest free, there is a ban on bringing fresh fruit and vegetables into the area.
Phylloxera Exclusion Zone							✓	✓		The project area is included with the Phylloxera Exclusion Zone and is related to the movement of grapes, grapevine plant material and soil / organic materials from vineyards that are within Infestation and Risk Zones coming into the Exclusion area. The project area is not within any current Infested Zone or Risk Zone. Not generally applicable to project activities, however, Phylloxera can be transported on machinery and vehicles.

The above table has been compiled by cross referencing the following information:

Appendix D Revised Biodiversity Development Assessment Report

EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section) Technical Paper 3: Agricultural land impact assessment

Appendices C-2 and C-3 *EnergyConnect (NSW - Western Section) Technical paper 1 – Biodiversity Development Assessment Report*

<https://weeds.dpi.nsw.gov.au/>

https://www.lls.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0006/722391/Western-RSWMP-web.pdf

<https://weeds.dpi.nsw.gov.au/WeedListPublics/CategoryResults?showImages=True&categoryId=1&pageTitle=Weeds%20of%20National%20Significance>

Western Local Land Services Region Priority Weed Identification Guide (DPI LLS, May 2020)

Western Regional Strategic Weed Management Plan 2017 – 2022 (DPI LLS May 2017)

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3.2 Pest animal species

The EIS advised that during consultation, local landholders and the Western Local Land Services (LLS) biosecurity officer identified the following main vertebrate pest species in the area:

- rabbits;
- foxes;
- kangaroos;
- goats;
- wild dogs;
- feral pigs; and
- feral cats.

Common carp is also present throughout all major river systems in the Western LLS region (Western LLS, 2018). Plague locusts can also cause problems in favourable seasons.

It is important to note that goats and pigs can pose significant biosecurity, economic and social threats to the Western region as they can transmit endemic and exotic disease.

The Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water reported that feral donkeys and deer were increasing in abundance in the Lower Murray Darling region, but numbers were still at low levels.

3.3 Potential animal diseases

The EIS Technical Paper 3 concluded that the occurrence of sheep footrot has been low in recent years with only one flock out of 861 flocks being quarantined in 2015.

The study area is in a “low prevalence area” of Ovine Johne’s disease (OJD) in 2011 with an estimated infected flock proportion of less than 0.8 per cent (DPI, 2011). No known OJD infections were reported during landowner consultations.

Landowners confirmed the above-mentioned diseases have not been an issue in the past and are unlikely to spread, however stock movement due to the drought could increase their incidence.

Horticultural enterprises are particularly susceptible to plant diseases and pests. Parts of the study area are located in plant quarantine zones including the:

- Greater Sunraysia Pest Free Area - aimed at preventing the entry of the Queensland fruit fly by banning certain fruit and vegetables from entering the area;
- Phylloxera Exclusion Zone - bans taking grapevines, cuttings or budwood into this zone;
- Potato Biosecurity Zone - bans the movement of plants belonging to the Solanaceae family and associated matter into this zone.

It is unlikely that the proposed activities will introduce any prohibited matter in relation the above potential animal and pest diseases.

4 Biosecurity risks and impacts

There are risks that animal diseases, plant diseases, feral pests and (especially) weeds could be introduced or spread during the construction of the proposal through vegetation clearing, ground disturbance and vehicle, machinery or construction personnel movements. Soil borne biosecurity hazards could also be spread by soil erosion and water runoff associated with construction works.

These risks are identified within the Environmental Aspect and Impact Register within Appendix A3 of the CEMP.

4.1 Risk of weed spread

The risk of weed spread is generally highest during the earthworks phase of construction, due to the high frequency of vehicle movements and disturbance of ground cover and soil, which could lead to weed growth. Some species of weeds are readily spread by vehicles, machinery and human activity, including cactuses, spiny burrgrass, khaki weed, Noogoora burr and Bathurst burr.

Biosecurity incidents (as defined in Section 5) have the potential to impact surrounding agricultural enterprises due to the costs of monitoring pests, weeds or diseases and implementing control measures as well as the reduced income caused by loss of livestock, crop or pasture production and lower produce quality.

To minimise the risk of biosecurity incidents occurring due to construction, mitigation measures would be implemented to avoid the spread of weeds. In addition, the study area lies within the biosecurity zones for alligator weed, bitou bush and water hyacinth (as per the *Biosecurity Regulation 2017*), which means that the local control authority would need to be notified of a new infestation of the weeds as well as action undertaken by the contractor to eradicate, destroy or suppress the weeds.

4.2 Risk of livestock disease / pathogens

There is the potential for livestock diseases to be spread during construction of the proposal including:

- ovine footrot, which is an important risk despite its low current prevalence due to the relative ease of its spread and economic consequences due to impacts to stock health, productivity and value, as well as disease control costs
- ovine Johne's disease, which can result in significant economic losses due to sheep deaths, lost meat production, fewer lambs and less wool
- sheep lice, which can cause significant losses in sheep enterprises due to treatment costs, reduced wool growth and lower meat production.

Under the *Biosecurity Act 2015* Schedule 1, ovine footrot and Ovine Johne's disease are notifiable diseases.

However, considering the low density livestock and low prevalence of disease in the area, the overall risk of spreading these livestock diseases during construction is low.

4.3 Risk of other pests

The most significant pest animals in the vicinity of the proposal study area are pigs, foxes and rabbits, which may result in economic impacts on livestock and crop enterprises due to lamb predation, fence damage or consumption of pasture and crops. However, construction activities are unlikely to significantly change the number or movement patterns of these pests.

5 Weed pest and pathogen management

The management of weeds is based on managing the risk of introducing new weeds to any project work areas during the construction phase due to project activities.

Safeguards and management measures will be implemented to avoid, minimise or manage impacts from the introduction and spread of weeds. These are summarised in Table 5.1 below.

5.1 Training and awareness

Construction personnel and subcontractors will be inducted in the importance of preventing weeds from entering the project and the measures which must be taken for vehicles, machinery and plant used on the project.

5.2 Vehicle and mobile equipment weed hygiene when arriving on the project

In order to minimise the risk of any new weeds being introduced to the project, vehicles, and mobile plant shall be inspected on arrival at the construction compounds by the SecureEnergy Plant Department (or their delegate). In accordance with project onboarding obligations, vehicle, plant and equipment hygiene inspection forms will be completed by suppliers prior to arrival on the project and presented to the Plant Department (or their delegate). If a Hygiene Inspection Form is not present or completed prior to arrival, one will be completed by the deliverer prior to inspection. If the vehicle, plant or equipment does not present clean, it will either be washed down at a site compound or be removed off the project and cleaned by the supplier at a suitable facility. A Hygiene Inspection Form shall be completed (refer to **Appendix A – Hygiene Inspection Form**). This form is an example form that may be amended during project delivery as required.

Vehicle or plant inspected will be assigned an identification number and this identification number will be used on vehicle washdown log sheets.

A copy of the Hygiene Inspection Form is to be retained on the project files and / or provided to a member of the Environmental Team.

5.3 Management of weeds, pests and or pathogens

Washdown bays will be established at designated points along the project and at compounds. Washdown bays will contain apparatus to clean vehicles, plant, equipment and footwear. The location of washdown bays will be dependent on the biosecurity risks identified in that location and confirmed with the affected landholder in the Property Management Plans referred to in Section 5.4 below. Water from washdown bays will drain to a contained sump/low point and materials (sediments) from washdown bays will be contained and disposed of in accordance with the *Waste Management Plan*.

5.4 Property Management Plans

All properties affected by the project area will have a Property Management Plan and where relevant will contain specific 'on-farm' biosecurity requirements.

Appropriate demarcation or signage (similar to below) will be installed in areas identified as having biosecurity risks or requirements as outlined in the in the Property Management plans. Figure 5.1 shows a sample Farm Biosecurity signage that is installed by property owners to indicate that a property has biosecurity requirements and/or an existing Biosecurity Management Plan. Please note that not all property owners may have this sign installed.



Figure 5.1 – Example signage advising that farm biosecurity measures exist

5.5 Incident notification

A biosecurity incident on the project means the detection of a terrestrial contaminant or terrestrial species on freight, people, plant, or equipment on the project which was not previously identified in the EIS. This would include a situation where there are weed species which were not previously identified in the EIS and are suspected to be spread to new locations as a result of project activities. This would exclude weeds which might be detected on properties or previously known locations (adjacent to or in the study area), that are distant from project activities. In the event of a biosecurity incident which has occurred as a result of construction activities, the process outlined in Section 8.2 of the CEMP will be implemented. Incident management and response will be undertaken in accordance with the incident reporting procedures detailed within the Construction Environmental Management Plan.

There are several instances that require notification in accordance with the *Biosecurity Act 2015* and *Biosecurity Regulation 2017*. These include the requirement to notify a biosecurity event and the requirement to notify a certain pest or disease.

Notification requirements with respect to biosecurity matters are detailed below.

5.5.1 Notifiable biosecurity events and prohibited matter events

In accordance with Section 39 of the *Biosecurity Act 2015* (Act), a biosecurity event is something that has, is having, or could have, a significant biosecurity impact.

In terms of the Act, a biosecurity event does not involve prohibited matter. For example, a biosecurity event could be the sudden death of a flock of birds or a herd of cattle.

Prohibited matter is defined as any species listed in Schedule 2 of the *Biosecurity Act 2015*. Schedule 2 includes pests and diseases of plants and animals, diseases of aquatic animals, pest terrestrial invertebrates, terrestrial and freshwater weeds, and aquatic pests. Examples include the diseases African swine fever, foot and mouth disease, Hendra virus and the pest species Siam weed and rubber vine. If any of these are identified on the project site by project ecologists or informed by Property Owners, during construction delivery of the project, the SecureEnergy Environmental Manager would notify Transgrid and Department of Primary Industries. A person is required to immediately notify of a biosecurity event or prohibited matter event. The SecureEnergy Environmental Manager would notify Transgrid and the Department of Primary Industries (if SecureEnergy is the occupier of the project site at the time).

5.5.2 Notifiable pests or diseases

The *Biosecurity Regulation 2017* (Regulation) includes requirements for the notification of certain pests and diseases that are found in NSW and could have a severe effect on the economy, environment or community if not managed appropriately.

Pests and diseases that require notification are listed in:

- Schedule 2 of the Act; and
- Schedule 1 of the Regulation.

In terms of diseases identified as animal diseases of concern (under the *Biosecurity Act 2015* and *Regulation*), sheep footrot and OJD are notifiable diseases.

The list of notifiable pests and diseases in the Act and Regulation is large and they typically require specialist knowledge to identify. The list is not, therefore, repeated within this plan. No notifiable pests or diseases were identified as occurring or likely to occur in the project area.. Presence of notifiable pests or diseases on the project would be identified in the Property Management Plans in consultation with landholders / property owners or as advised by Department of Primary Industries.

5.5.3 Notifiable weeds

Biosecurity zones cover most of NSW, including the project area and require landowners and occupiers to notify the local control authority in accordance with section 30 and section 38 of the *Biosecurity Act 2015* of a new infestation of the weeds, and eradicate, destroy or suppress the weeds. The Wentworth Shire Council is the local control authority for this project. Refer to table 3.1 for identification of weeds that require notification to the local control authority. Note that should Boneseed be found / identified DPIE should be notified.

The EIS Technical Paper 3 (Agricultural land impact assessment) advises that the project area lies within the biosecurity zones for alligator weed, bitou bush and water hyacinth (listed under Part 5 of the *Biosecurity Regulation 2017*). If these weeds are encountered during construction, the owner or occupier of the project site must:

- (a) if the weed is part of a new infestation of the weed on the land, notify the local control authority for the land as soon as practicable in accordance with Part 6 of the *Biosecurity Regulation 2017*, and
- (b) eradicate the weed or, if that is not practicable, destroy as much of the weed as is practicable and suppress the spread of any remaining weed.

5.5.4 Who is required to notify?

In the case of a pest or disease that is listed as prohibited matter in Schedule 2 of the *Biosecurity Act 2015* or a biosecurity event, the duty to notify applies only if the person has anything to do with the premise in which the pest and disease is identified or suspected. This could include the owner (Transgrid) or occupier of the premise (SecureEnergy).

In the case of a pest or disease that is listed as notifiable in Schedule 1 of the Regulation, the duty to notify applies to any person who is aware of the presence or suspected presence of the pest or disease.

Notification must occur within one working day of first becoming aware.

SecureEnergy will notify Transgrid and the NSW Department of Primary Industries (DPI). DPI indicates that there are several contact points based on what the issue is. As a first point of call it is recommended to contact DPI Biosecurity on 1800 680 244.

Where it is an animal pest, SecureEnergy will advise the relevant property owner (should the property owner wish to be informed).

5.6 Management measures

The management measures outlined in Table 5.1 will be implemented to minimise biosecurity impacts.

Table 5.1 – Biosecurity management measures

ID	Measurement/Requirement	When to implement	Responsibility	Source document
BS1	All construction personnel and subcontractors will attend the project induction which will include awareness of priority weeds, content regarding the importance of preventing weeds from entering the project site and the measures which must be taken for vehicles, machinery and plant used on the project.	Pre-construction Construction	HSSE Manager	Good practice
BS2	Prior to arriving on the project site, the supplier/owner of plant and equipment shall complete a Hygiene Inspection Form. If a Hygiene Inspection Form is not present or completed prior to arrival, one will be completed by the deliverer prior to inspection. All vehicles and mobile plant will be inspected on arrival at the construction compounds. A Hygiene Inspection Form with an assigned inspection number will be issued for vehicle / plant assets inspected as required. If plant or equipment arrives on the project site unclean it will either be washed down at the site compound or be removed from the project site by the supplier/owner and cleaned an appropriate facility.	Pre-construction Construction	Subcontractor/owner/sup pliers Plant Department or delegate	Good practice
BS3	The specific controls applicable to a property will be identified in consultation with the affected landholder, documented in a Property Management Plan as appropriate and implemented during all relevant site activities. The effectiveness of these controls will be regularly monitored.	Pre-construction Construction	Community and Stakeholder Engagement Team, Environmental Manager	RMM LP7
BS4	Where any of the weeds listed in the Biosecurity Plan are identified pre-construction or during construction, consultation (where relevant or required) will occur with Property Owners, Western Local Land Services (LLS), Wentworth Shire Council and/or NSW Department of Primary Industries.	Construction	Environmental Manager	RMM LP8
BS5	Cleaning of vehicles and machinery will occur at designated washdown bays prior to movement onto the construction work areas or between properties (as required by the Property Management Plans).	Construction	All personnel	RMM LP7
BS6	Water from washdown bays will drain to a contained sump/low point and materials (sediments) from washdown bays will be contained and disposed of in accordance with the <i>Waste Management Plan</i> .	Construction	Supervisor, Environmental Manager, Environmental Advisor	Good practice
BS7	Site demarcation or signage will be installed in areas of significant biosecurity risk where access is required.	Construction	Environmental Manager, Environmental Advisor	Good practice
BS8	The locations of permanent structures (and the extents of associated construction areas or compounds) will be located where possible to avoid or minimise impacts, or as agreed with the affected landholder, on locations of high biosecurity risk.	Construction	Engagement Manager, Environmental Advisor	RMM LP2
BS9	Vehicle and equipment movements across adjoining farmland, including trip numbers and locations, will be minimised where possible where localised areas of high biosecurity risks have been identified.	Construction	Supervisor, Environmental Manager, Environmental Advisor	RMM LP7

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ID	Measurement/Requirement	When to implement	Responsibility	Source document
BS10	If during construction, new infestations of notifiable weeds, pests or diseases are identified in project areas that are owned by Transgrid and/or occupied by SecureEnergy, the Environment Manager will notify Transgrid and will report the infestation to the relevant local control authority.	If required during construction only	Environmental Manager	<i>Biosecurity Act 2015</i> <i>Biosecurity Regulation 2017</i> RMM LP9
BS11	Weeds are to be identified as part of pre-clearing inspections by project ecologists.	Pre-Construction	Ecologist	Good practice
BS12	Weeds are to be managed appropriately in accordance with legislative (or local control authority) requirements and may use a range of options including but not limited to: • slashing (timing/species dependent); • onsite burning; • onsite deep burial; or • stockpile spraying.	Construction	Supervisor, Environmental Manager, Environmental Advisor	Good practice

Appendix A – Hygiene inspection form

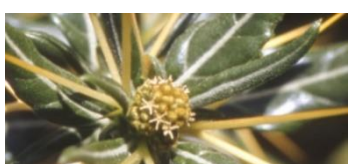
Hygiene inspection form

Part A - Information				
Date:				
Supplier/Owner of vehicle/plant:				
Description of vehicle / plant:				
Make:				
Registration No:				
Name of Operator / Driver:				
Travelling / delivered from:				
Part B – Washdown, brush down or blower log				
Location of washdown, brush down or blowing of soil and Inspection:				
Inspection criteria	Is the item free of soil?		Action required (eg cleaning of area)	
Underside of the vehicle				
Wheel arches	☐ Yes	☐ No	☐ Yes	☐ No
Mud flaps	☐ Yes	☐ No	☐ Yes	☐ No
Tyres and rims	☐ Yes	☐ No	☐ Yes	☐ No
Engine bay				
Radiator	☐ Yes	☐ No	☐ Yes	☐ No
Grill	☐ Yes	☐ No	☐ Yes	☐ No
Top of transmission gearbox	☐ Yes	☐ No	☐ Yes	☐ No
Other areas	☐ Yes	☐ No	☐ Yes	☐ No
Interior of the plant / machinery				
Foot wells	☐ Yes	☐ No	☐ Yes	☐ No
Carpet	☐ Yes	☐ No	☐ Yes	☐ No
Other				
Utes and trucks – inspect tray	☐ Yes	☐ No	☐ Yes	☐ No
Trailers – check inside of the trailer, wheels, guards				
Please provide details of any action taken as required				
Part C - Declaration				
(I, the undersigned declare that the information that I have provided in this declaration is true and correct)				
Name:				
Signature:				
Date:				
Please ensure that a copy of this form is recorded on the project files and / or provided to a member of the Environment Team.				

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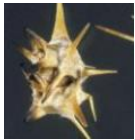
Appendix B – Identification of weeds

Weed identification guide

Common name	Species name	Images
African boxthorn	<i>Lycium ferocissimum</i>	 
Alligator weed	<i>Alternanthera philoxeroides</i>	
Athel pine	<i>Tamarix spp.</i>	 
Barley grass	<i>Hordeum glaucum</i>	
Bathurst burr	<i>Xanthium spinosa</i>	 
Bitou bush	<i>Chrysanthemoides monilifera</i> *State priority	  
Boneseed	<i>Chrysanthemoides monilifera</i>	

Common name	Species name	Images
Boxing glove/coral cactus	<i>Cylindropuntia fulgida</i>	
Bridal creeper	<i>Asparagus asparagoides</i>	
Burr ragweed	<i>Ambrosia confertiflora</i>	
Caltrops or Cat-head	<i>Tribulus terrestris</i>	  
Clock weed	<i>Oenothera curtiflora</i>	 
Common pear	<i>Opuntia stricta</i>	 
Common sow thistle	<i>Sonchus oleraceus</i>	
Fountain grass	<i>Pennisetum setaceum</i>	 

Common name	Species name	Images
Giant reed	<i>Arundo donax</i>	
Horehound	<i>Marrubium vulgare</i>	 
Hudson pear	<i>Cylindropuntia rosea</i>	 
Khaki weed	<i>Alternanthera pungens</i>	
Mediterranean turnip	<i>Brassica tournefortii</i>	
Mesquite	<i>Prosopis spp.</i>	 
Noogoora burr	<i>Xanthium occidentale</i>	 
Onion weed	<i>Asphodelus fistulosus</i>	 

Common name	Species name	Images
Parthenium weed	<i>Parthenium hysterophorus</i>	 
Paterson's curse	<i>Echium plantagineum</i>	
Prickly pear	<i>Opuntia</i> spp.	 
Rope pear	<i>Cylindropuntia imbricata</i>	  
Silver-leaf nightshade	<i>Solanum elaeagnifolium</i>	 
Spiny burrgrass	<i>Cenchrus</i> spp.	  
Spiny emex	<i>Rumex hypogaeus</i>	

Common name	Species name	Images
Stemless thistle	<i>Onopordum acaulon</i>	
Thornapple	<i>Datura spp.</i>	  
Tree tobacco	<i>Nicotiana glauca</i>	
Ward's weed	<i>Carrichtera annua</i>	
Water hyacinth	<i>Eichhornia crassipes</i>	
Willow rhus	<i>Searsia lancea</i>	
Willows	<i>Salix spp.</i>	 

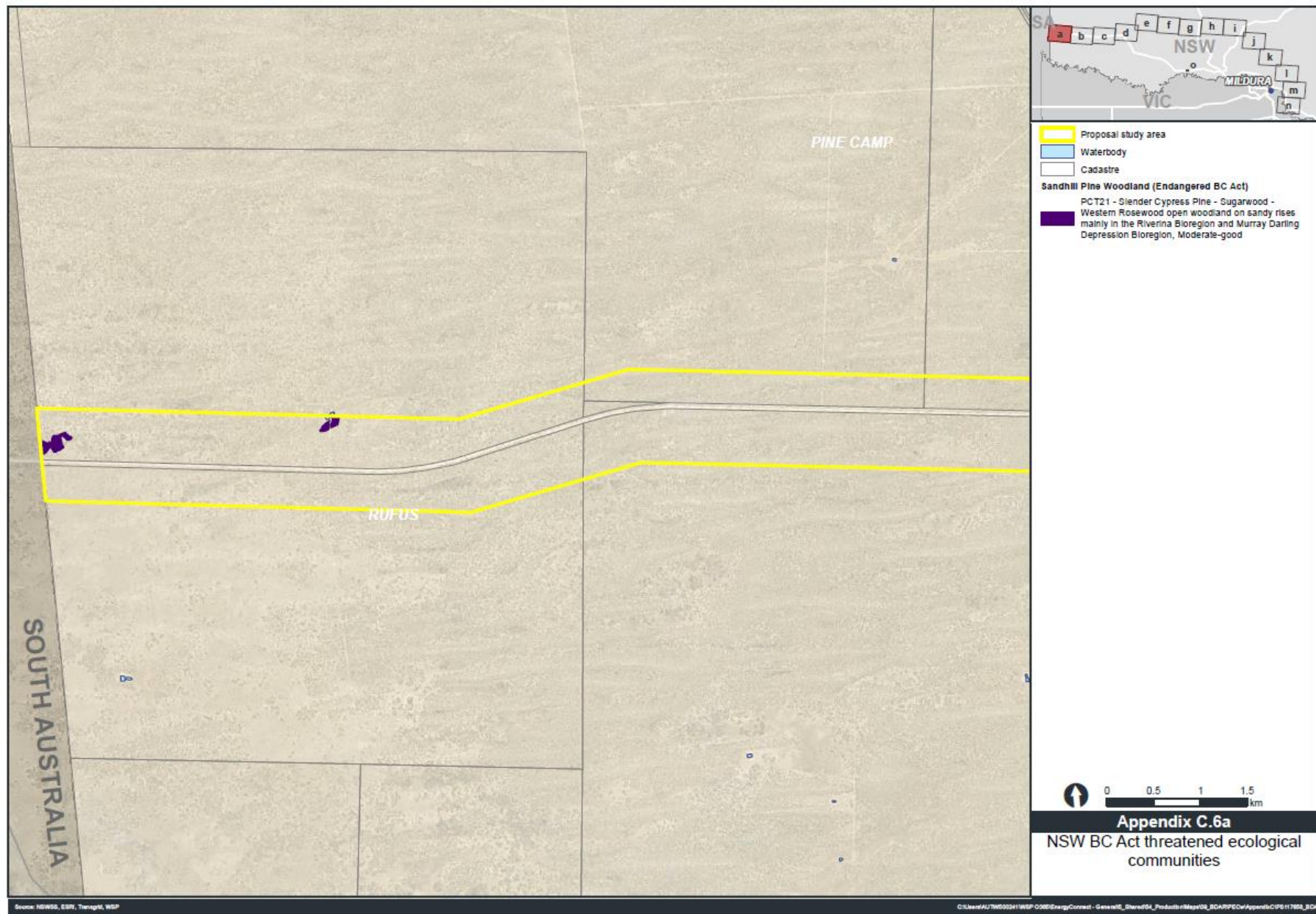
Common name	Species name	Images
Winged sea lavender	<i>Limonium lobatum</i>	

Appendix E – Biodiversity Mapping

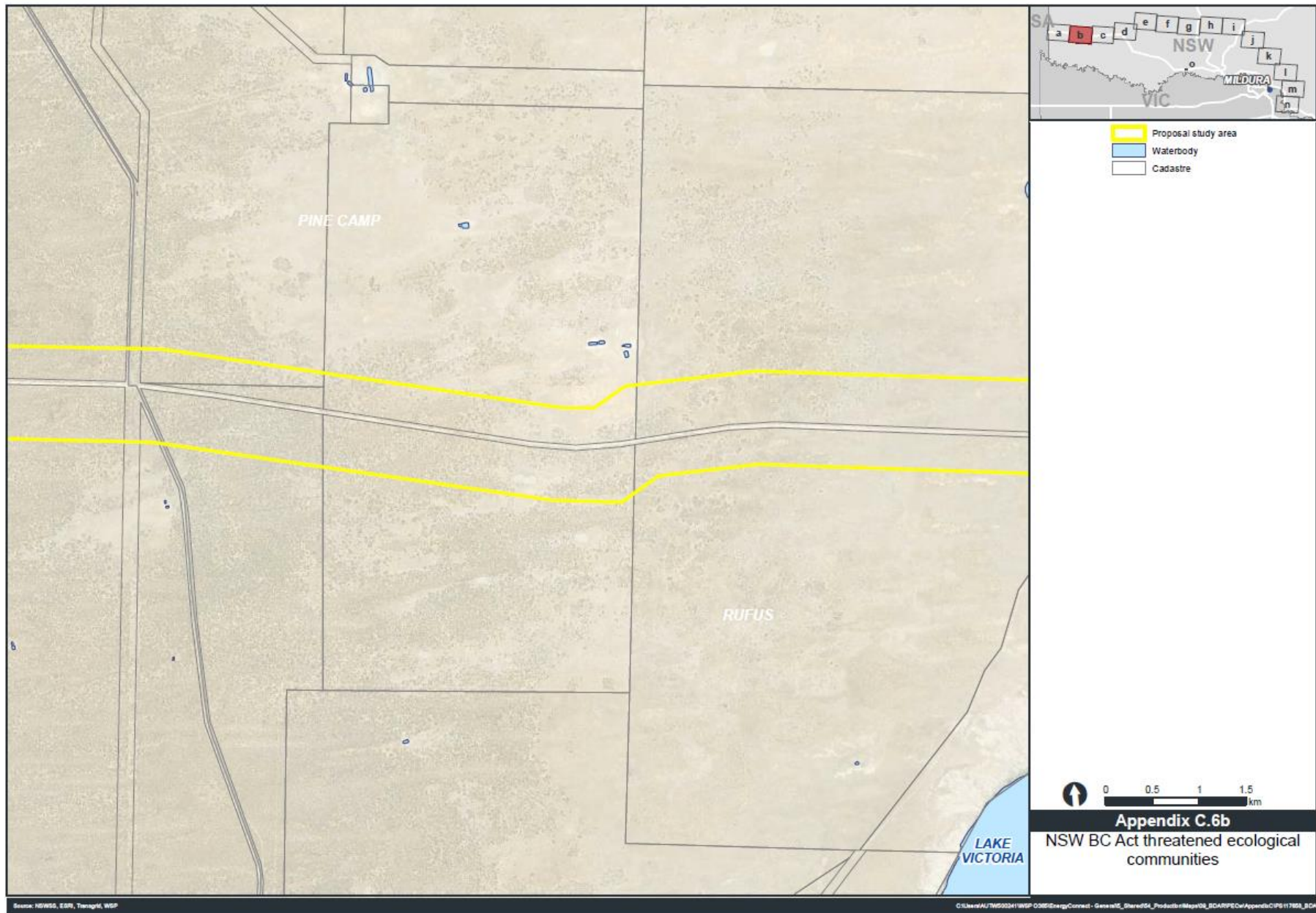
E1 - Threatened Ecological Community Mapping

E2 - Threatened Flora Mapping

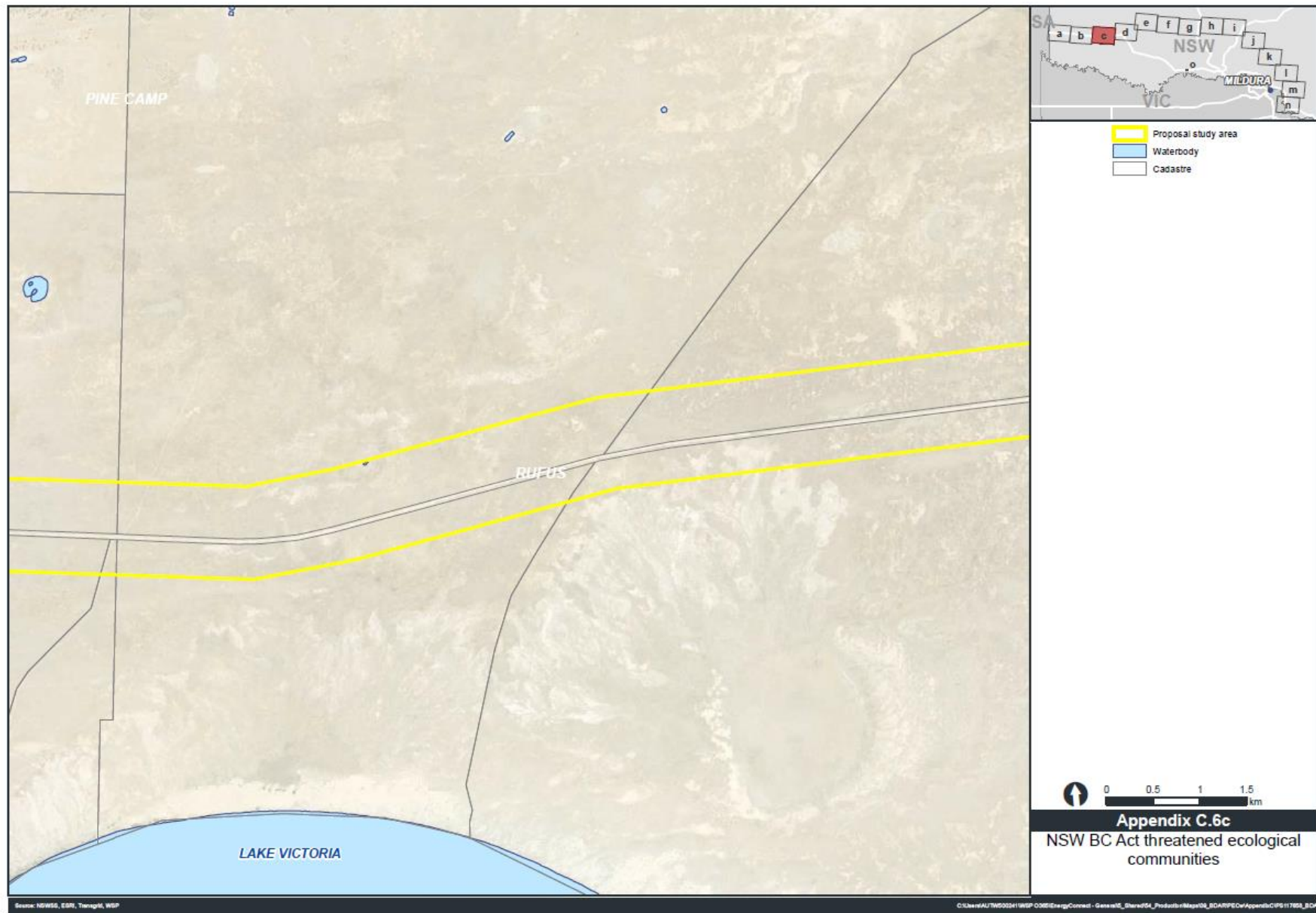
E1 – Threatened Ecological Community Mapping



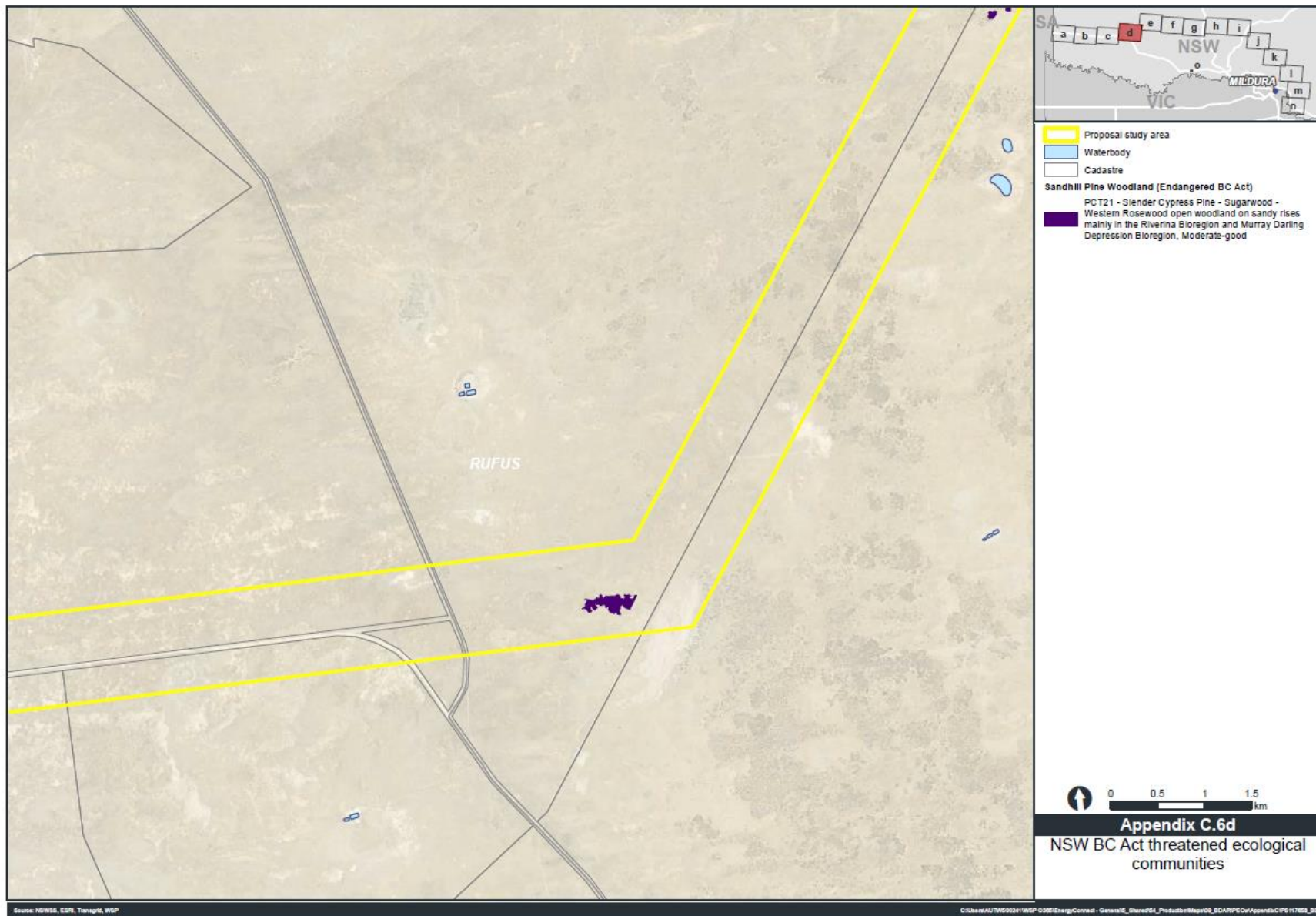
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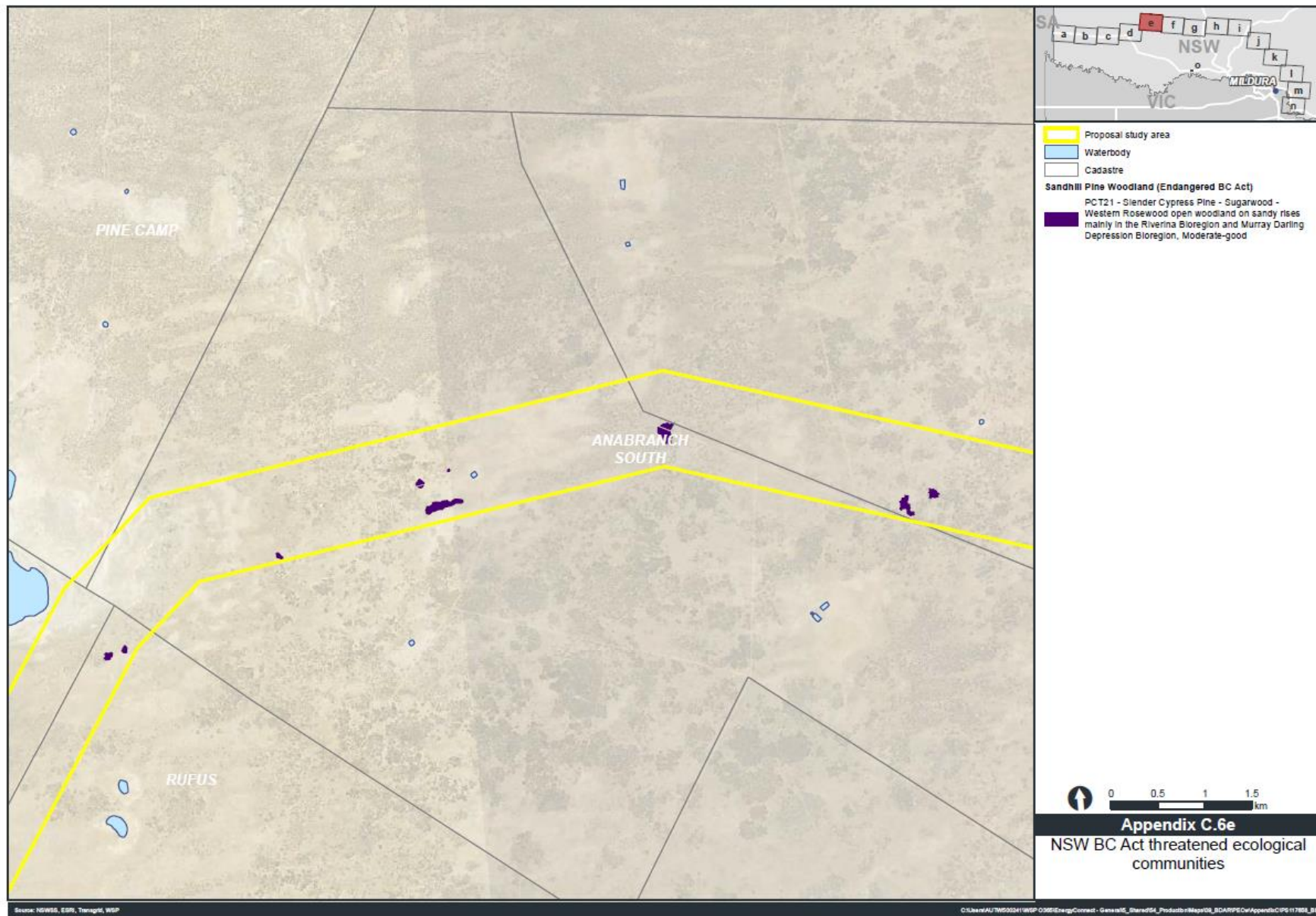
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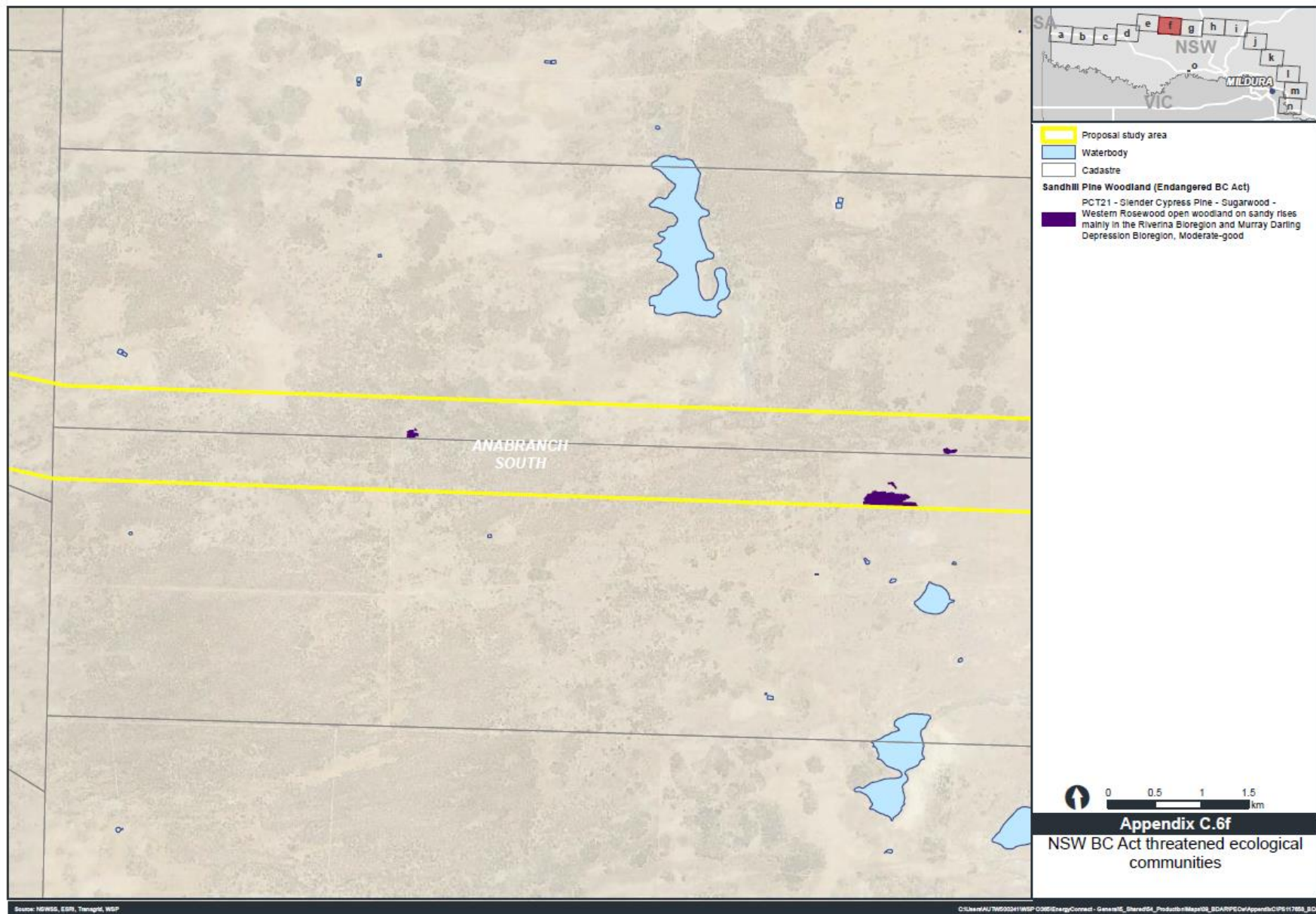
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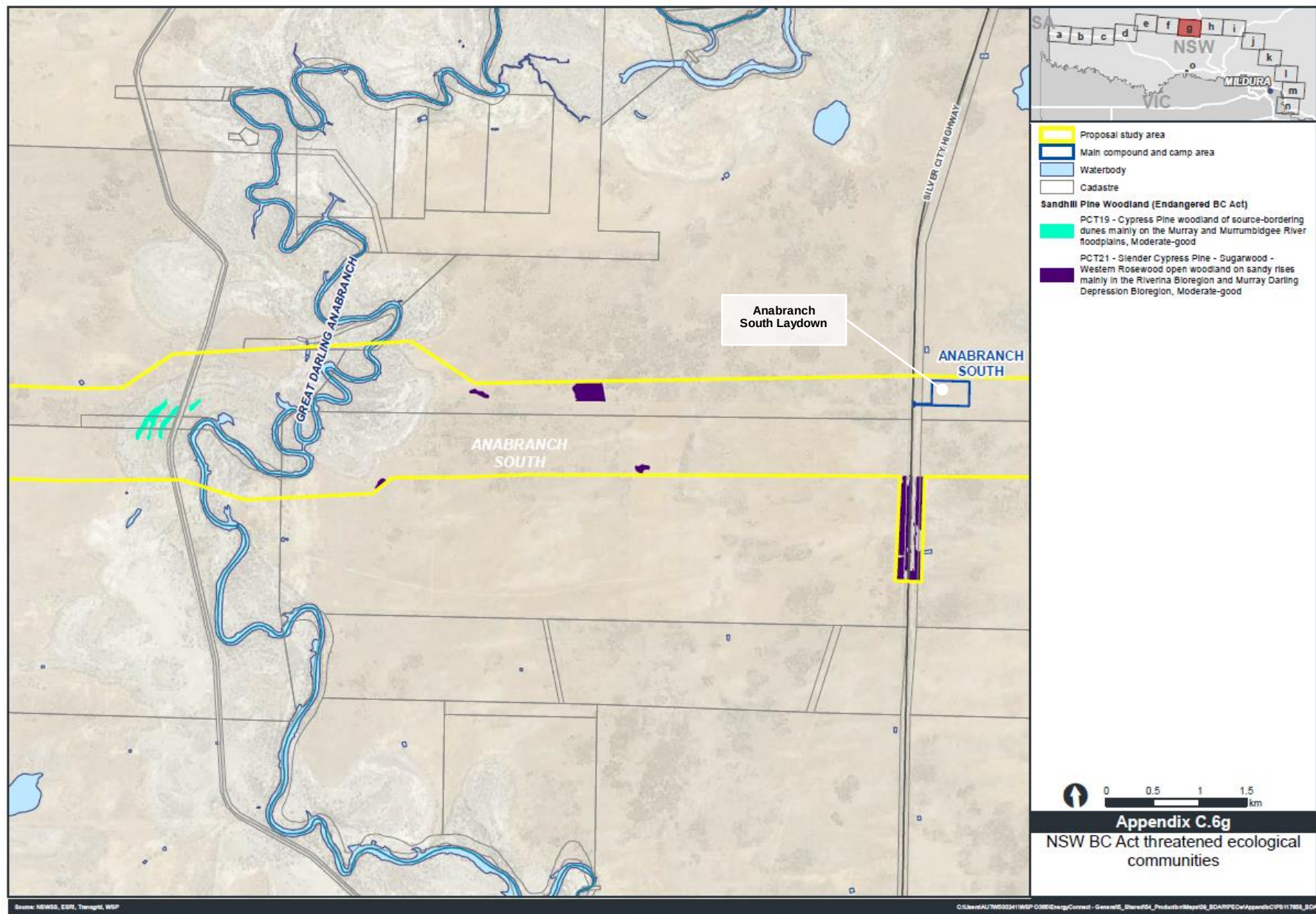
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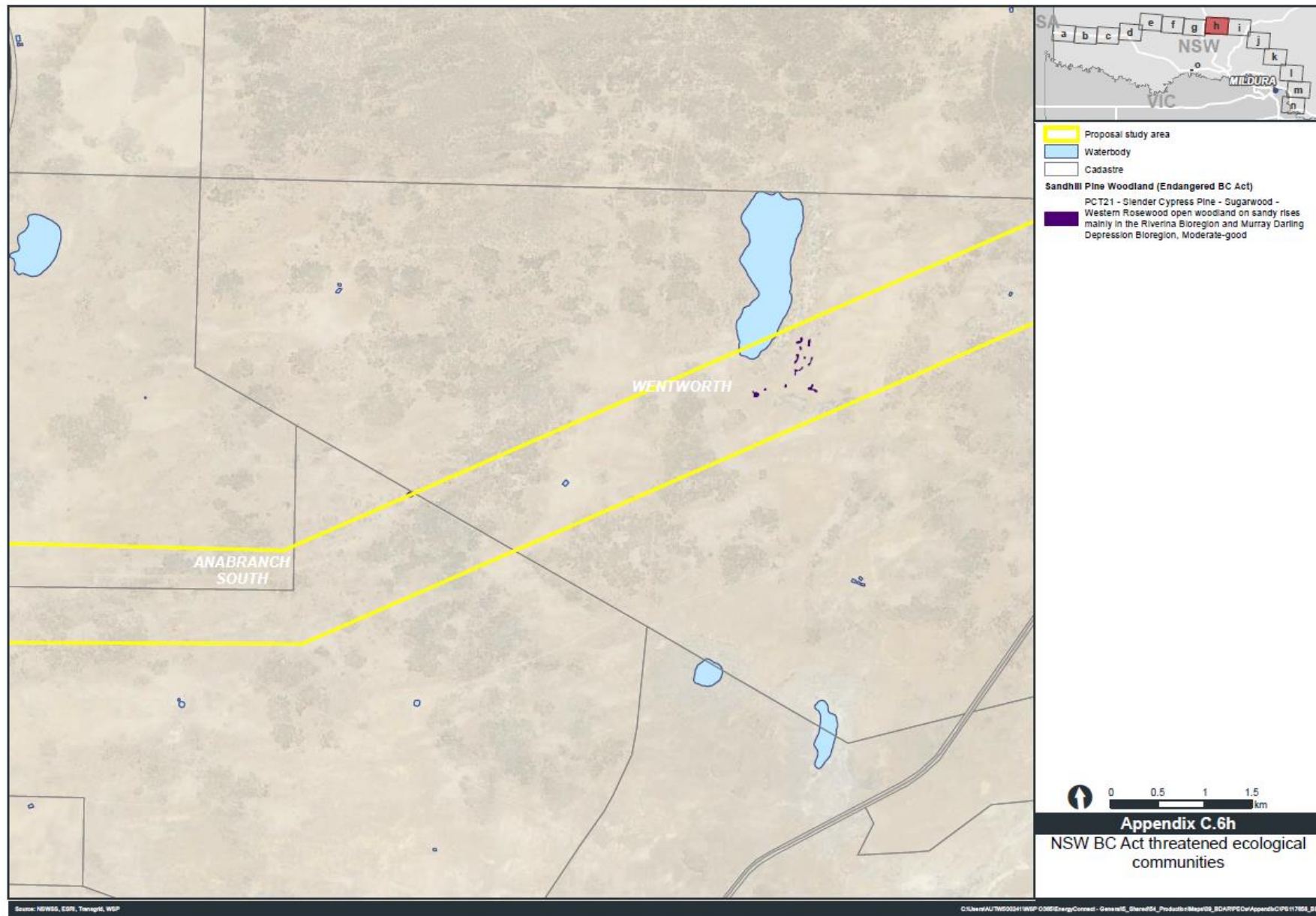
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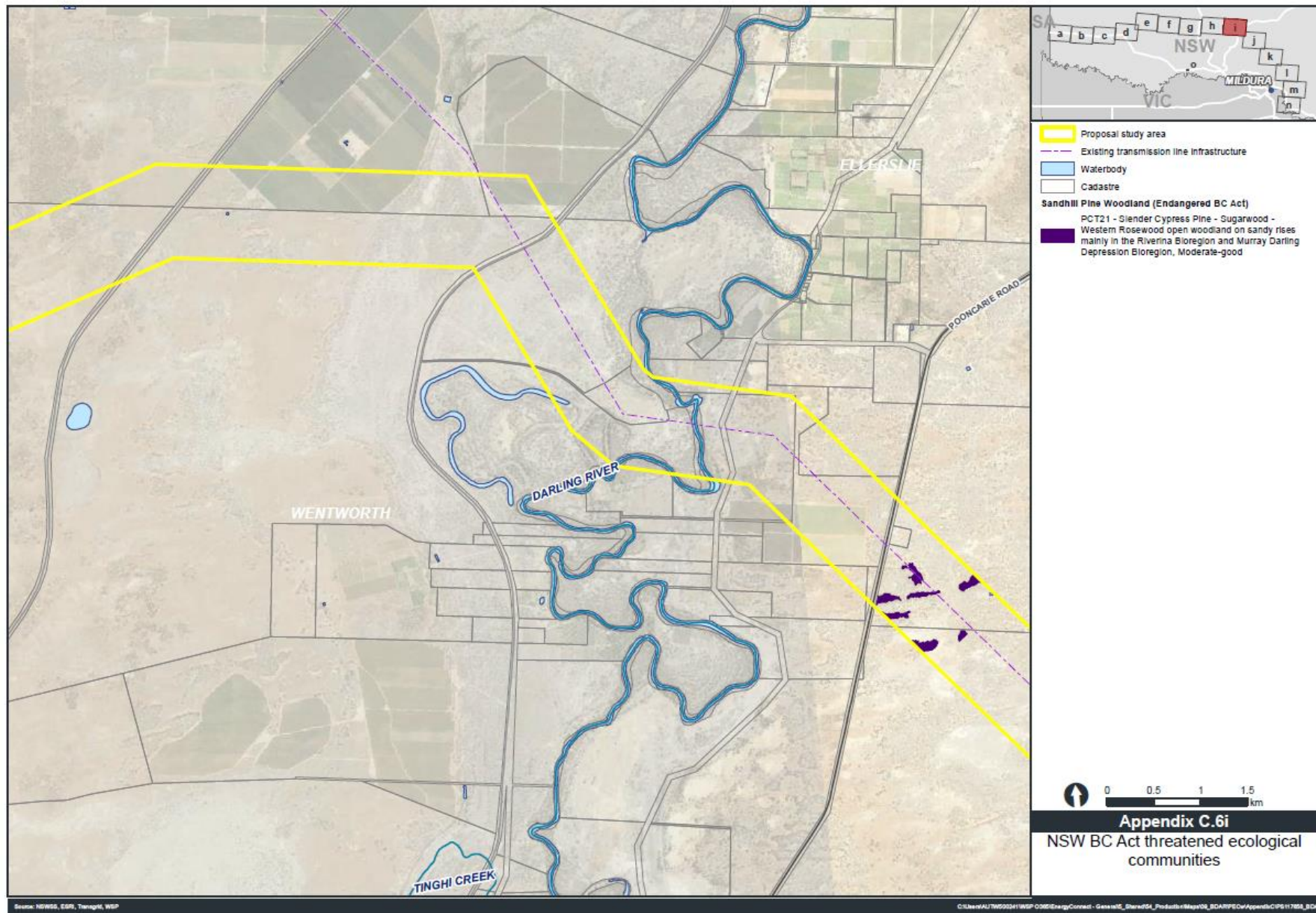
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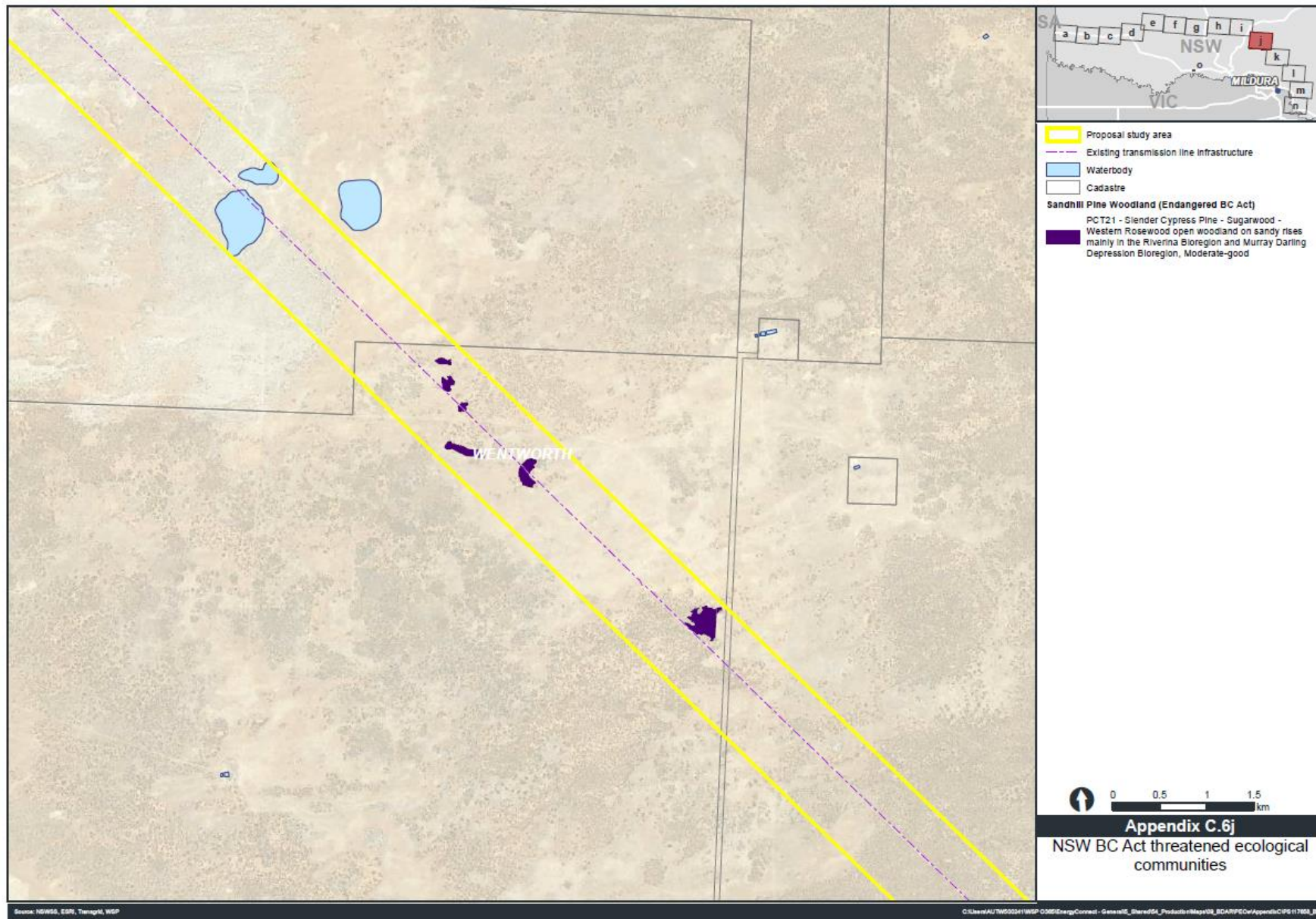
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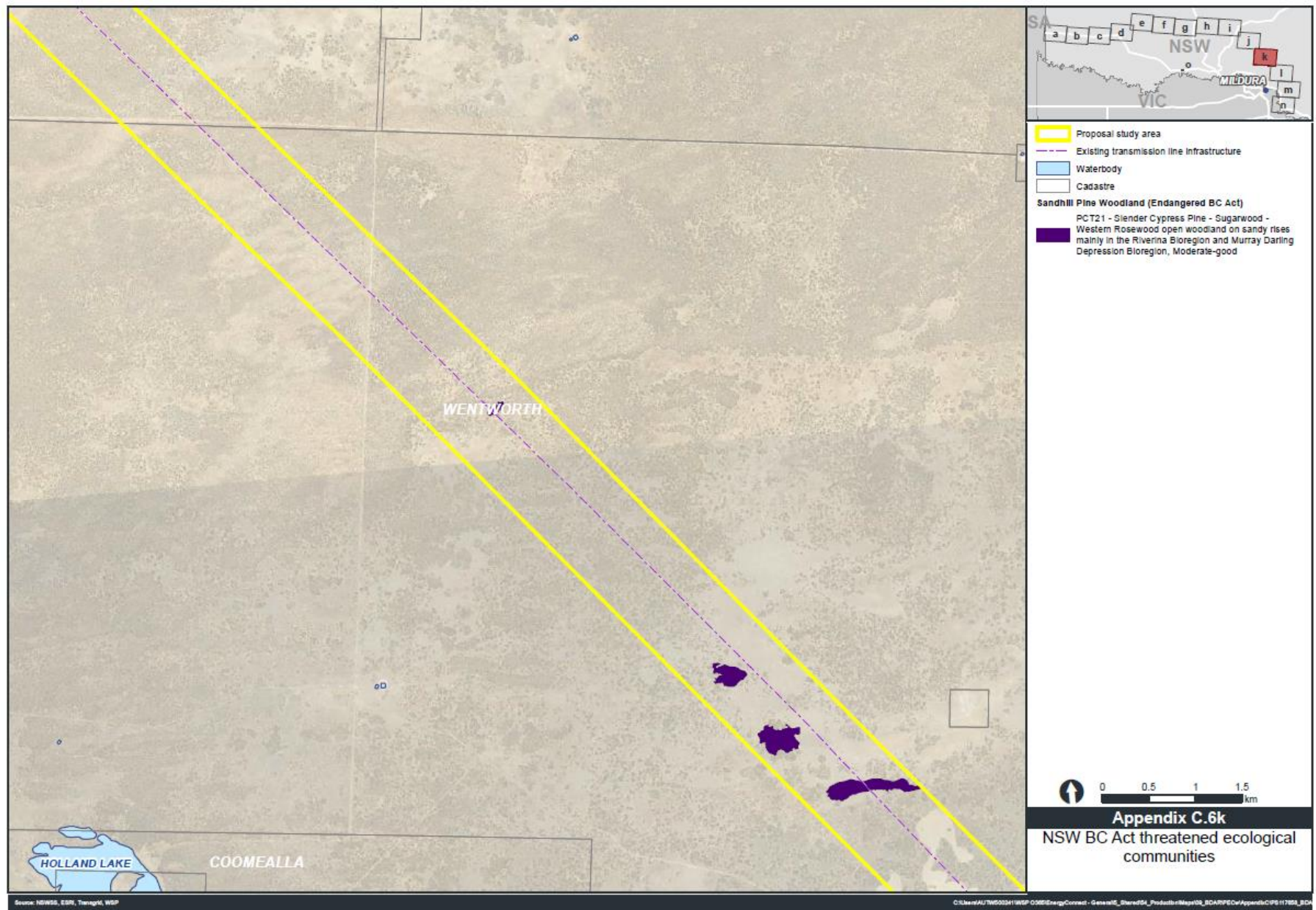
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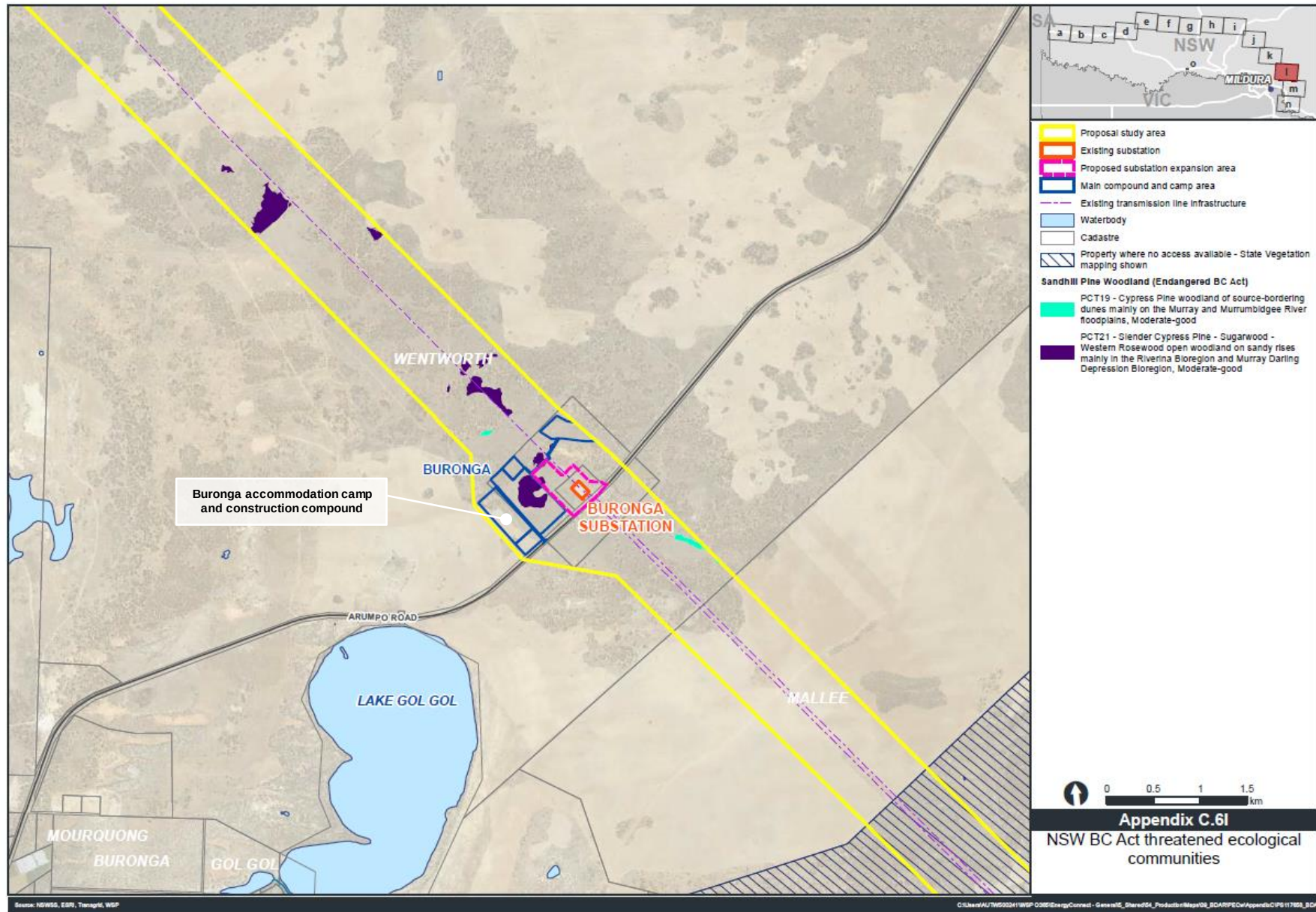
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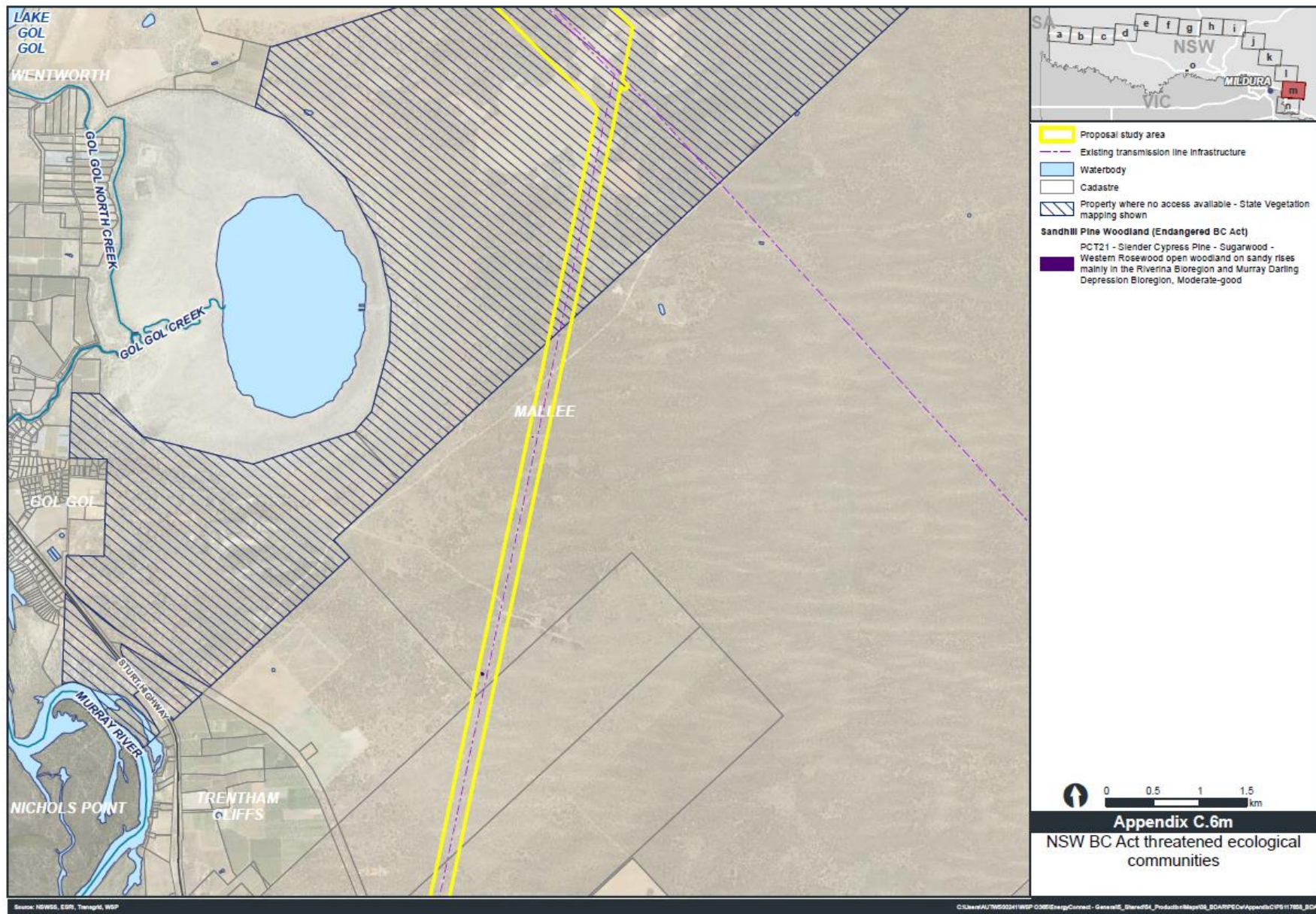
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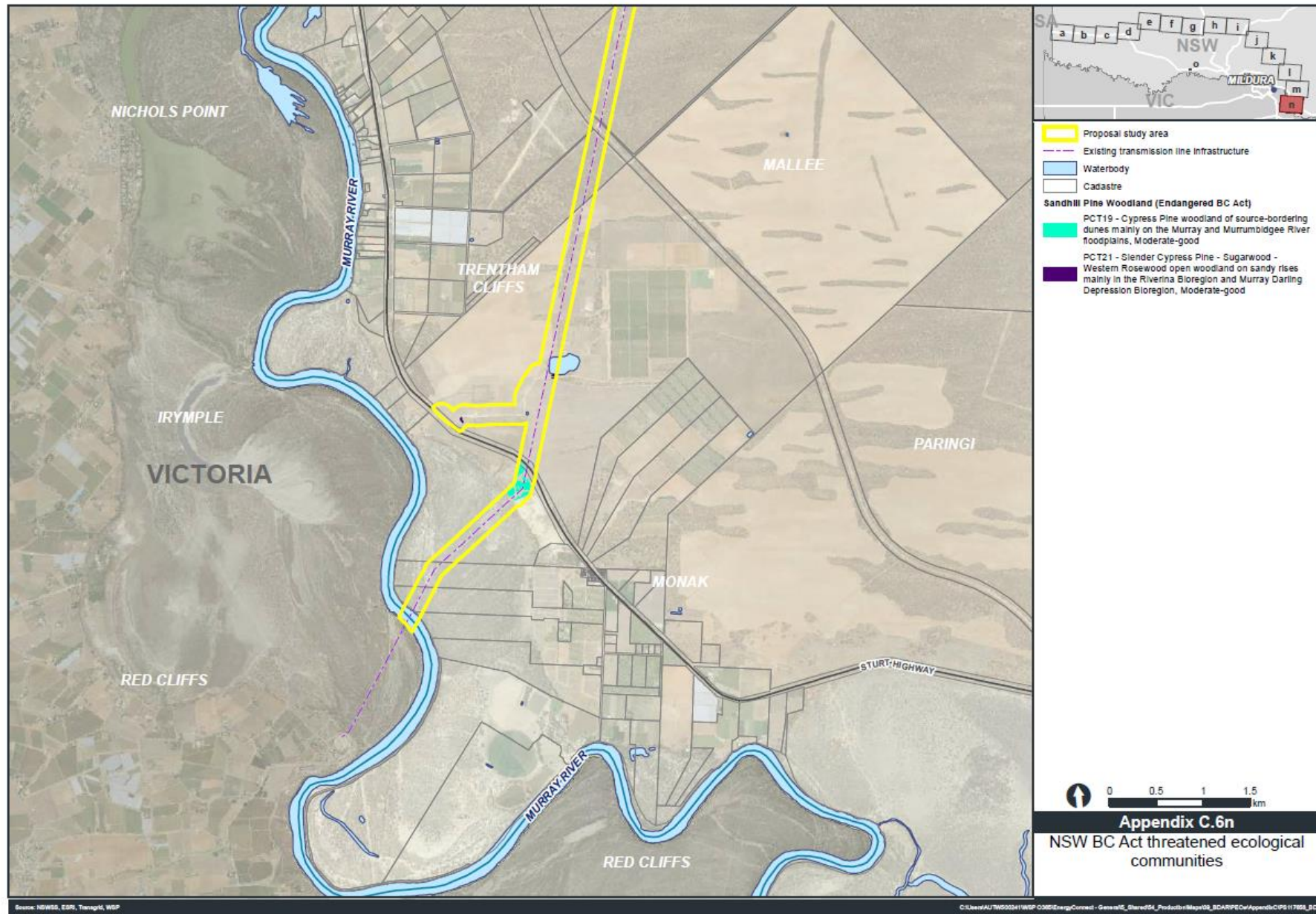
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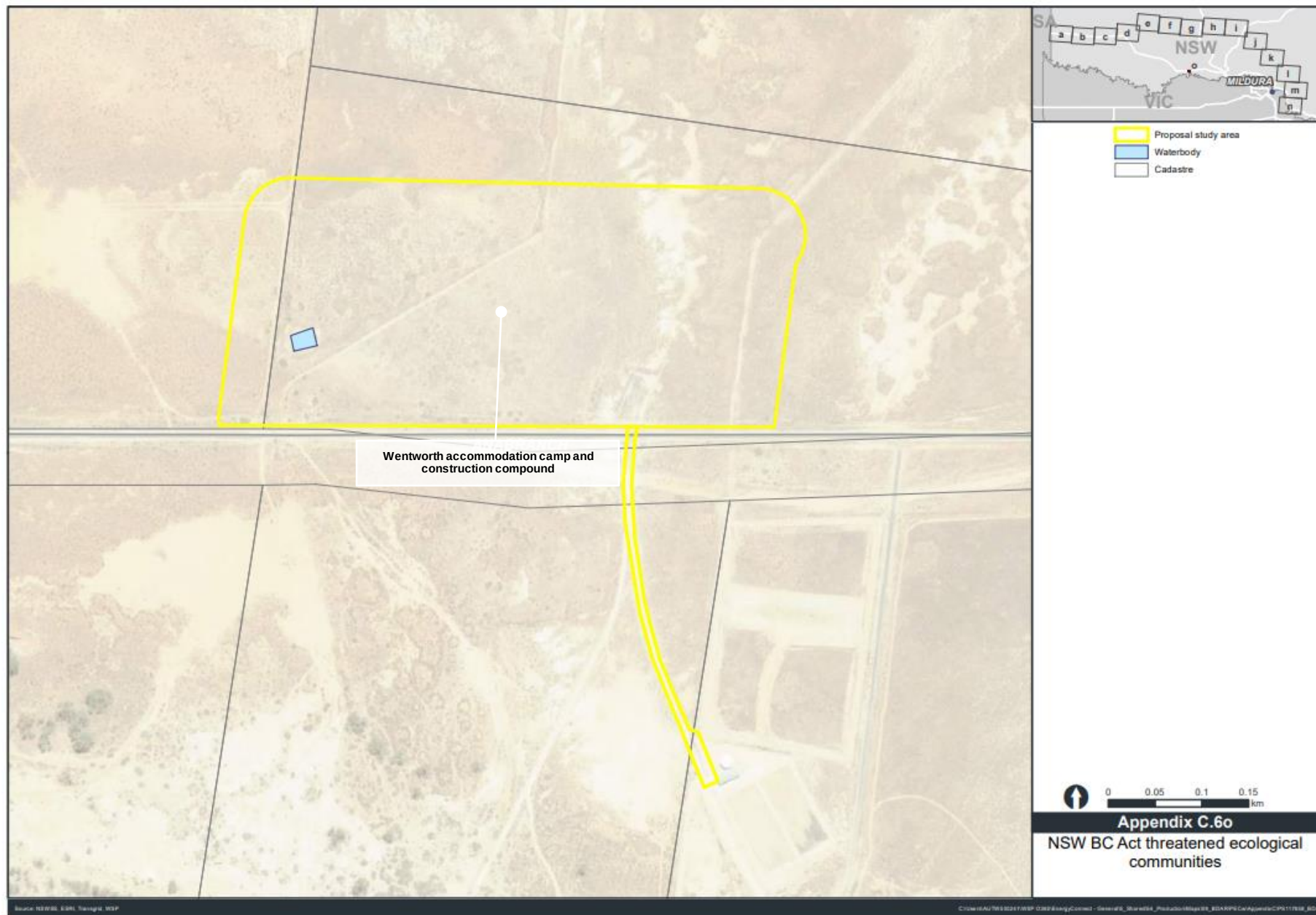
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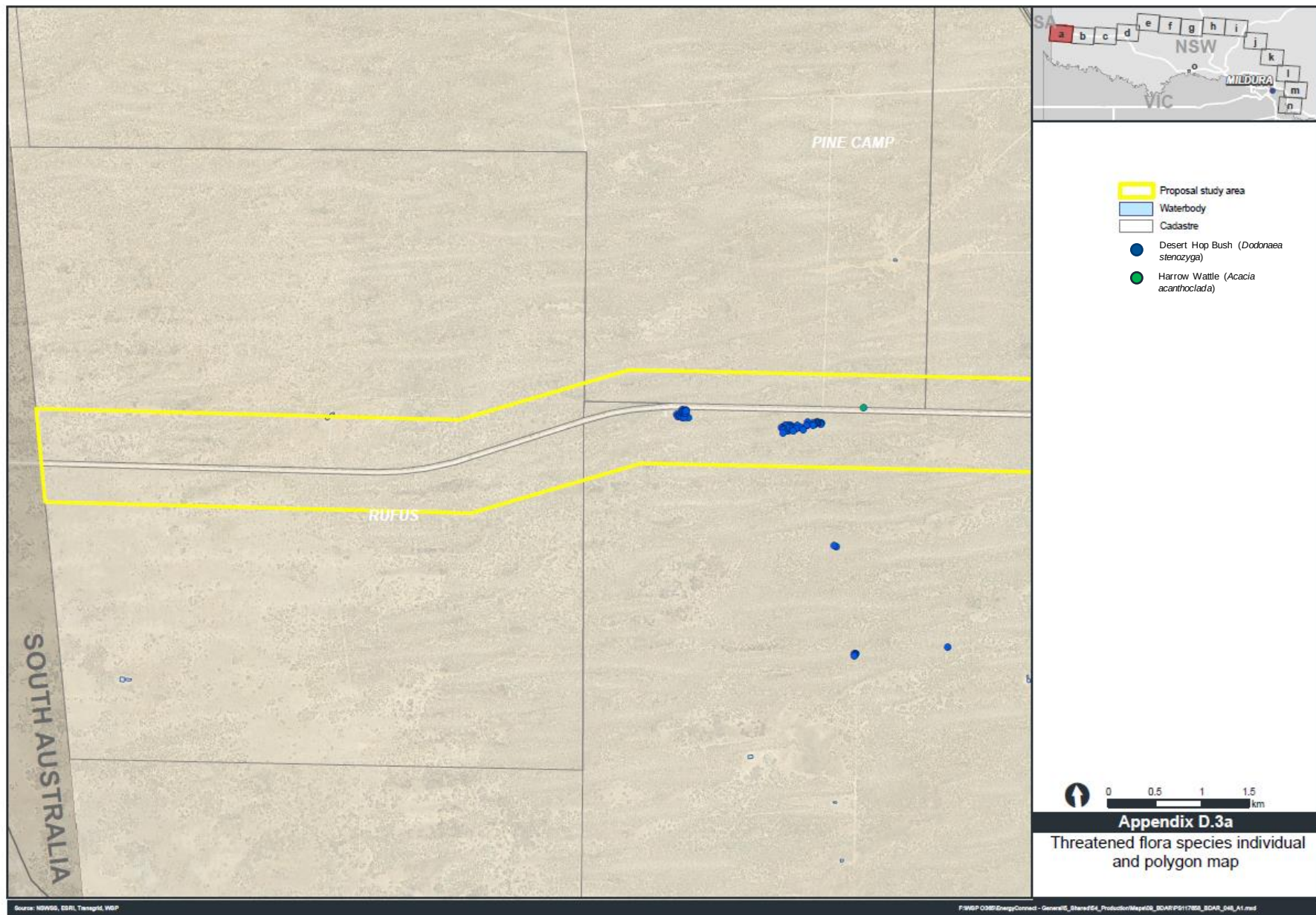


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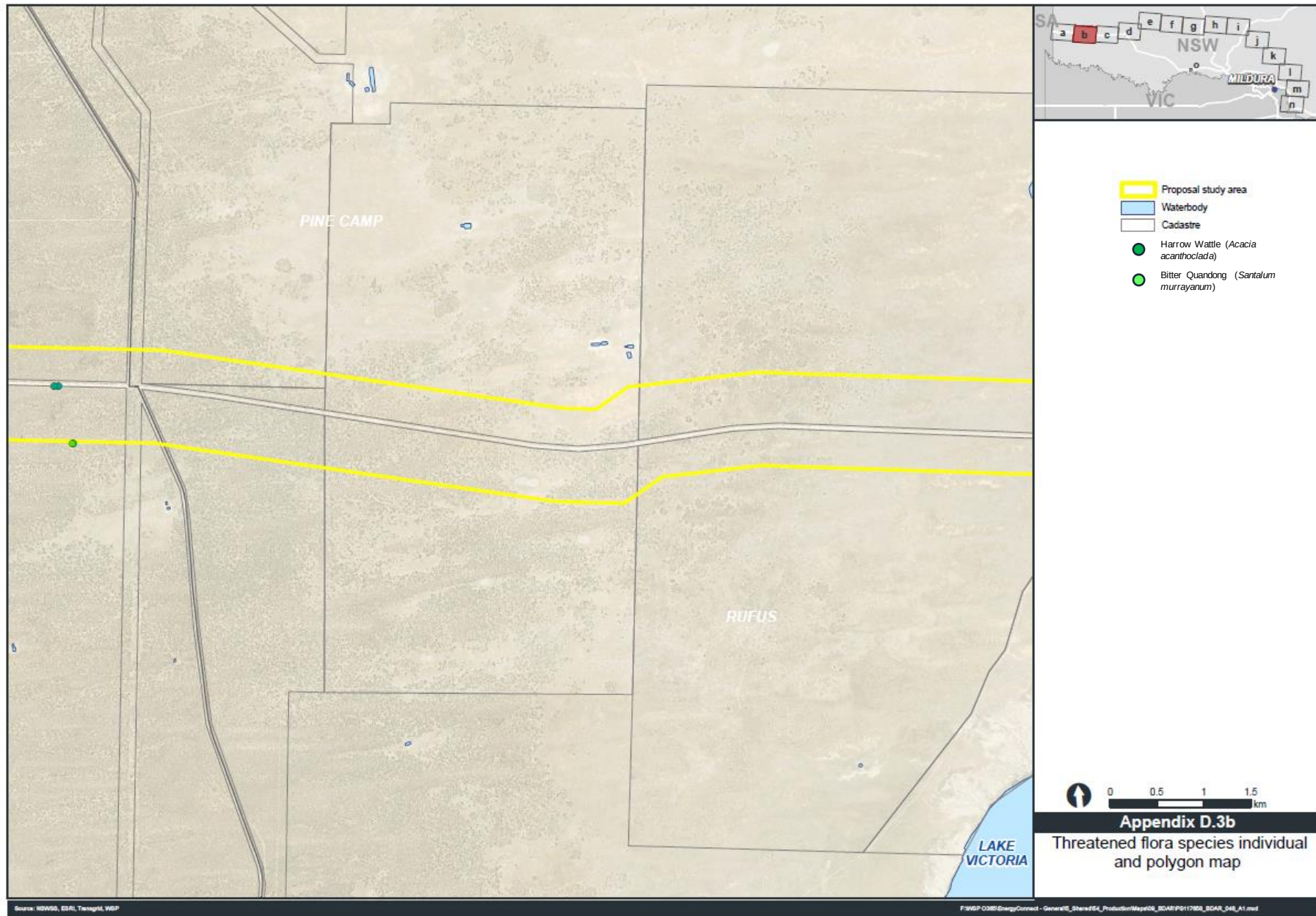


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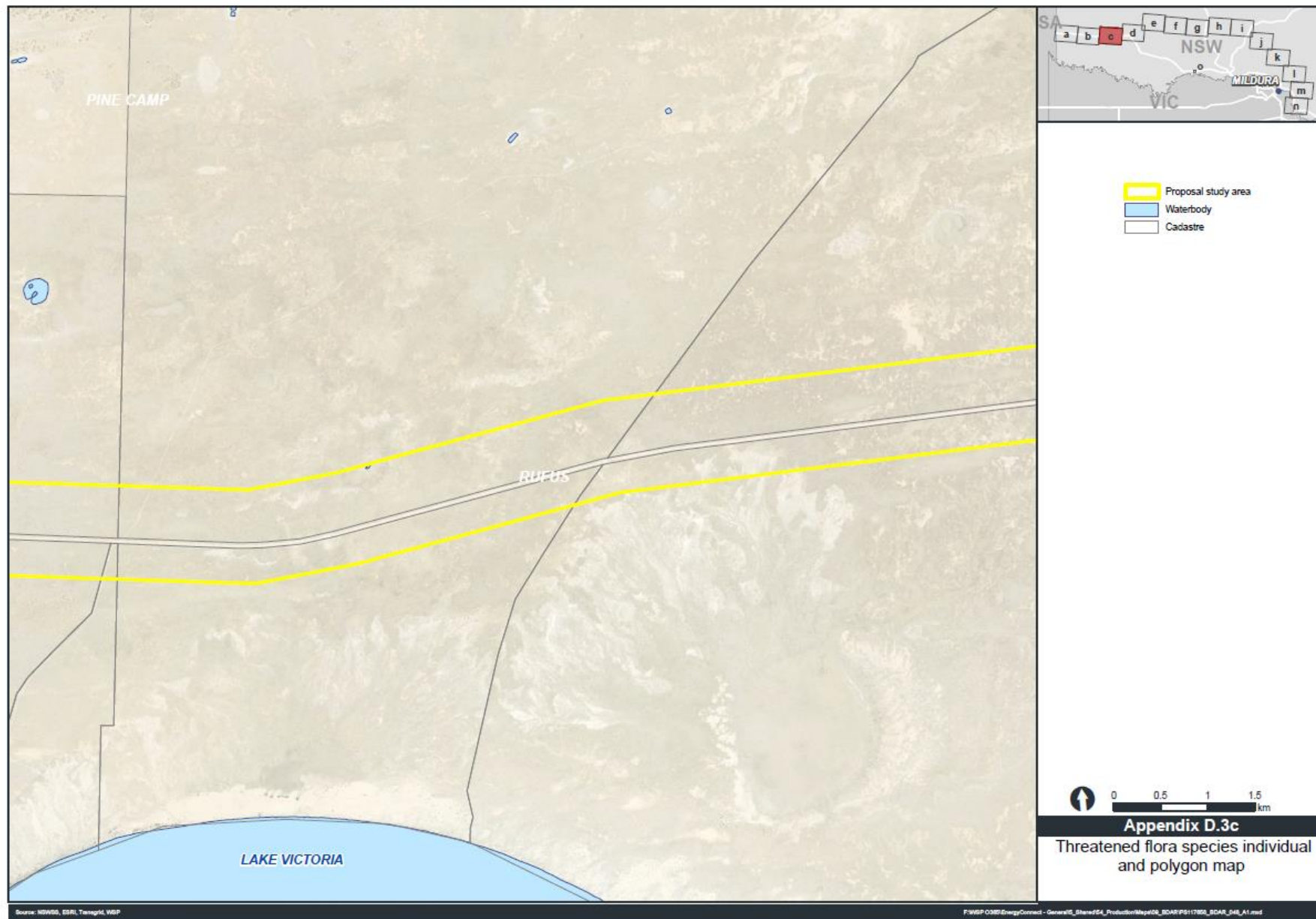
E2 – Threatened Flora Mapping



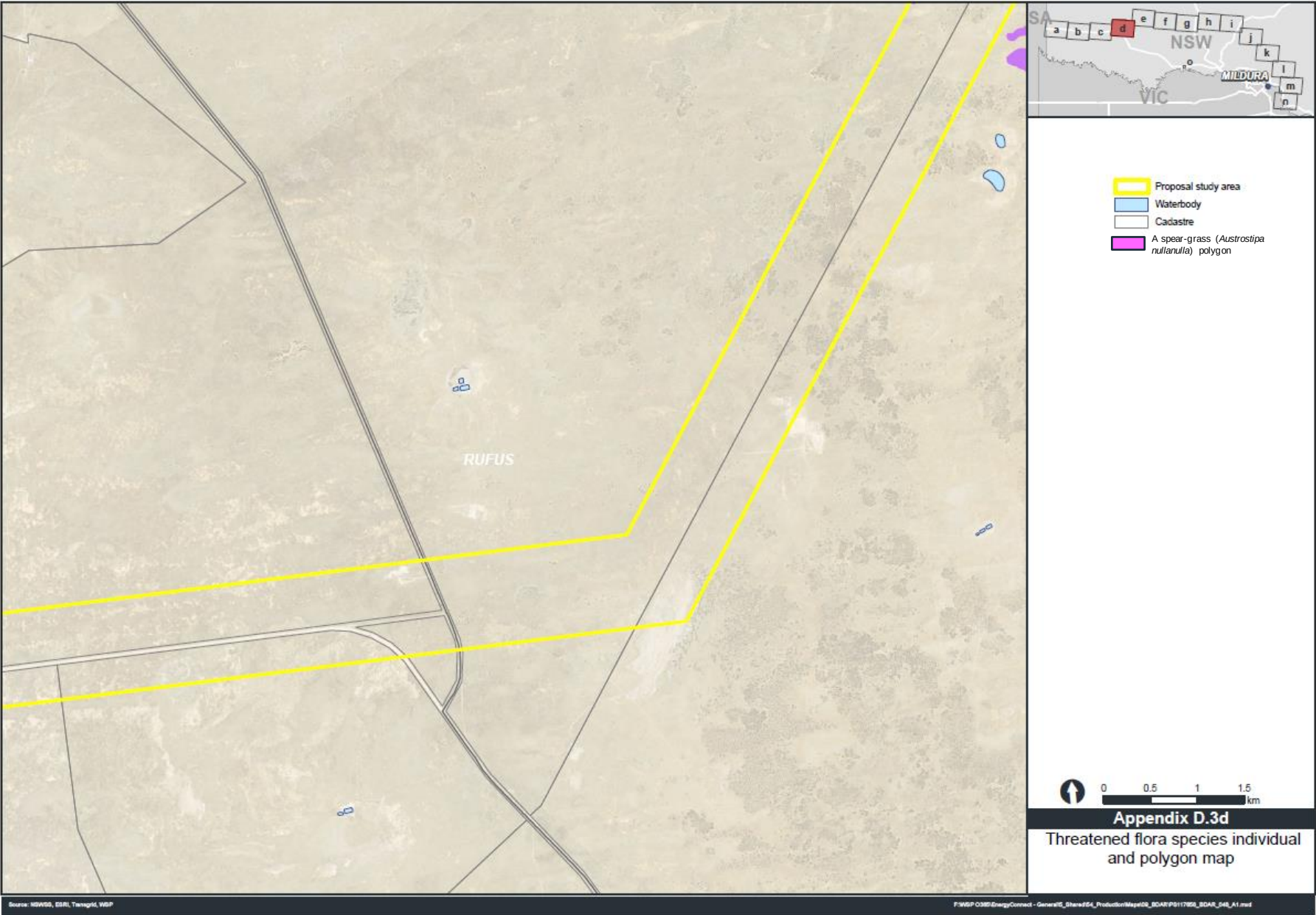
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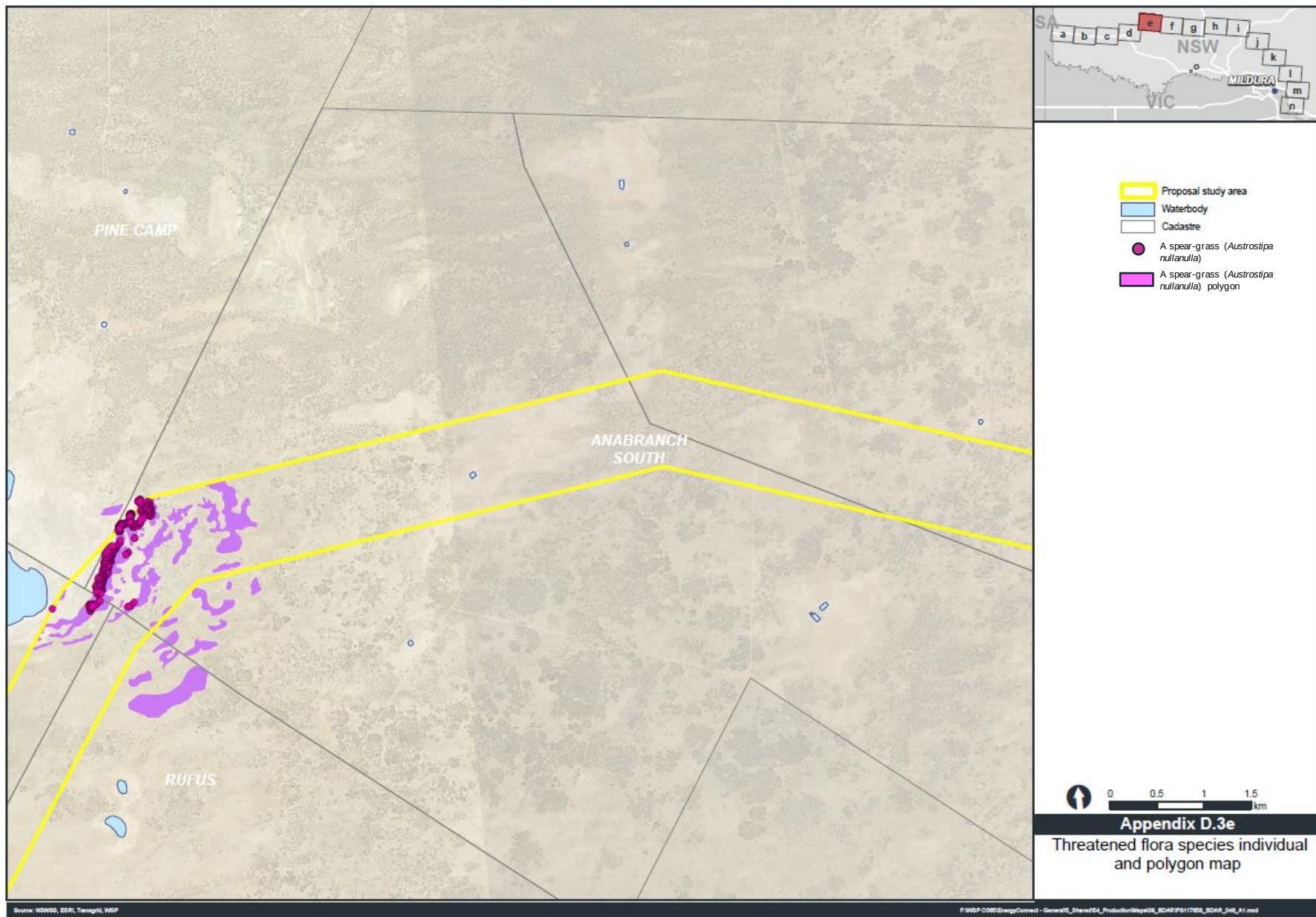
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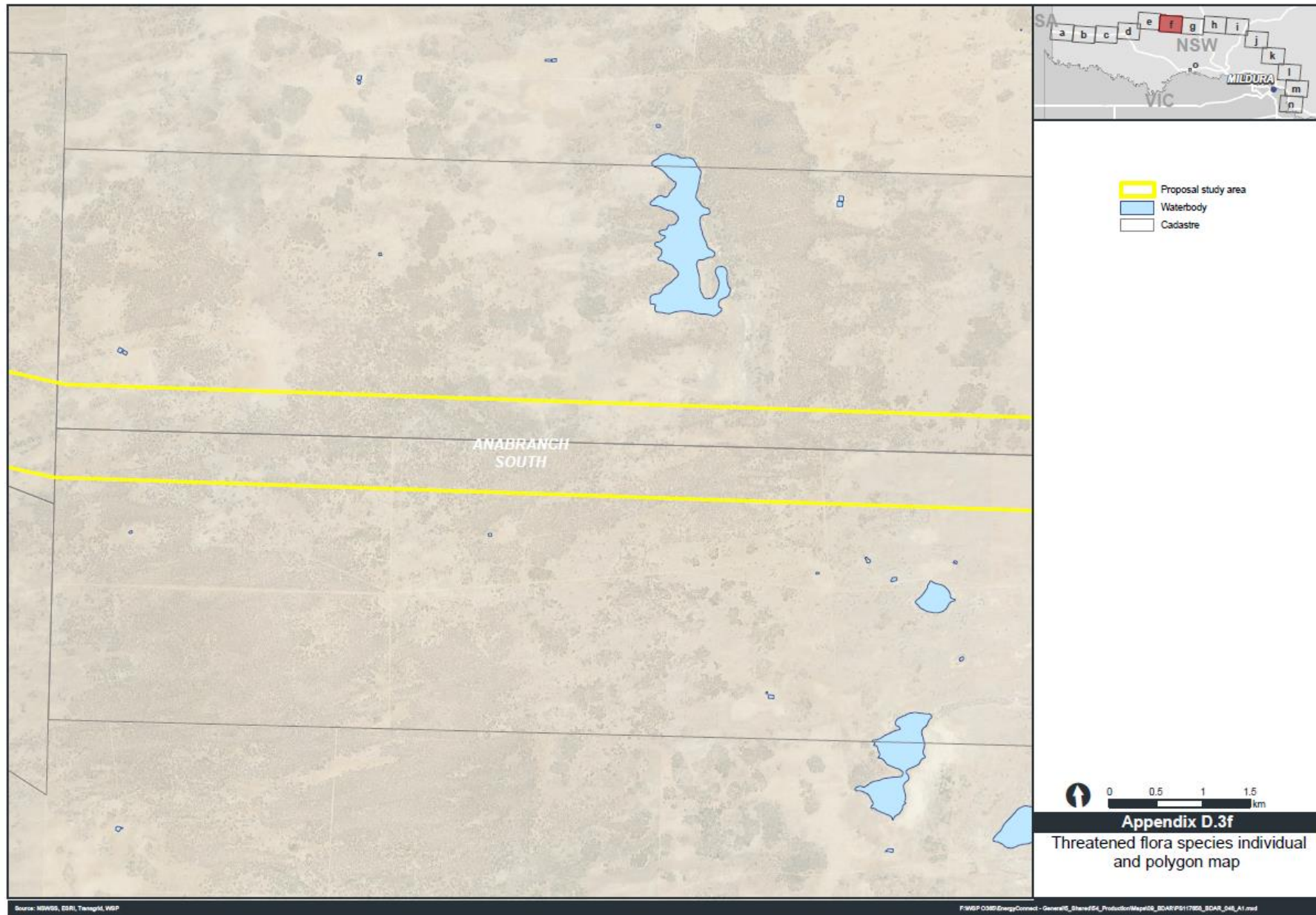
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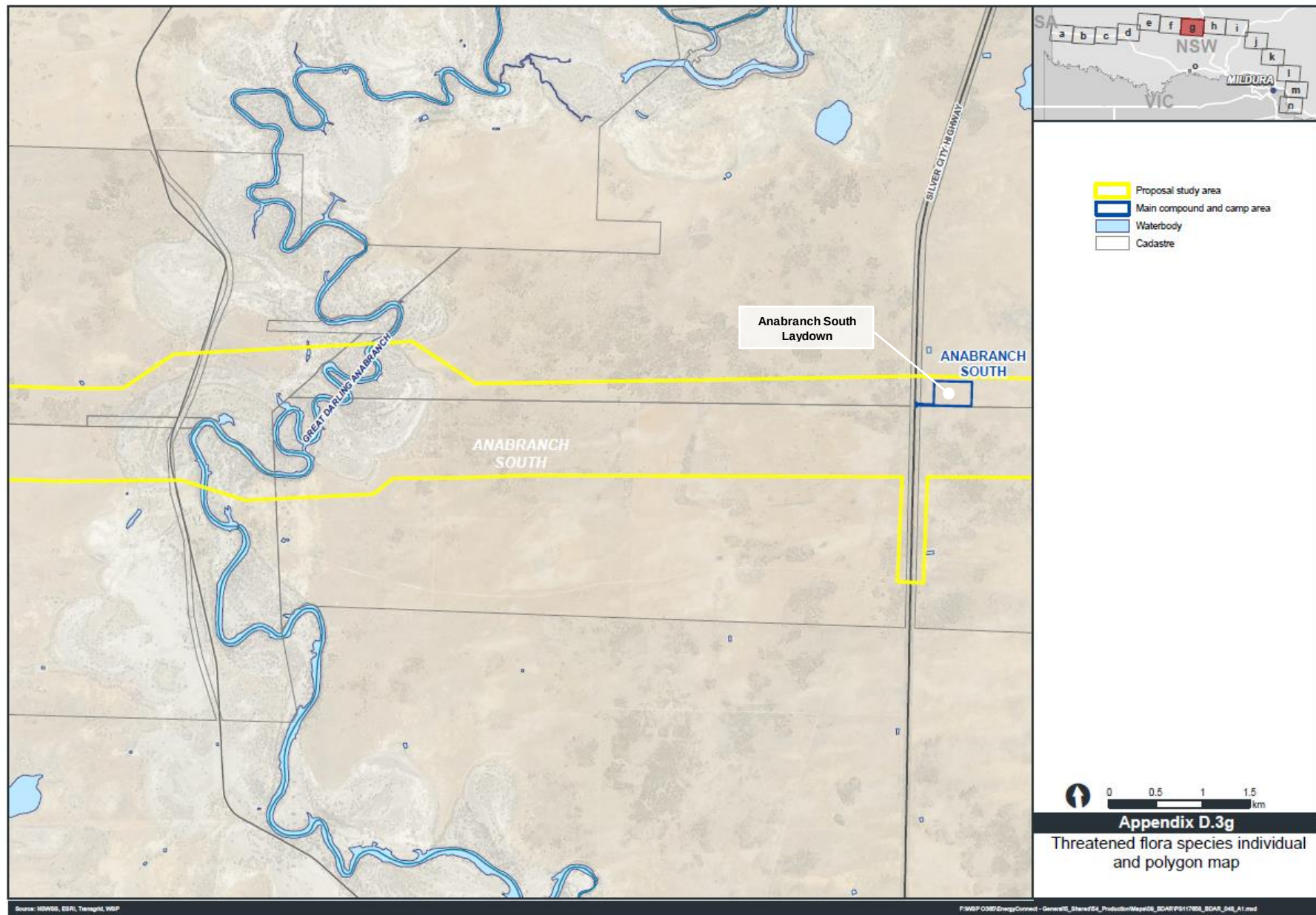
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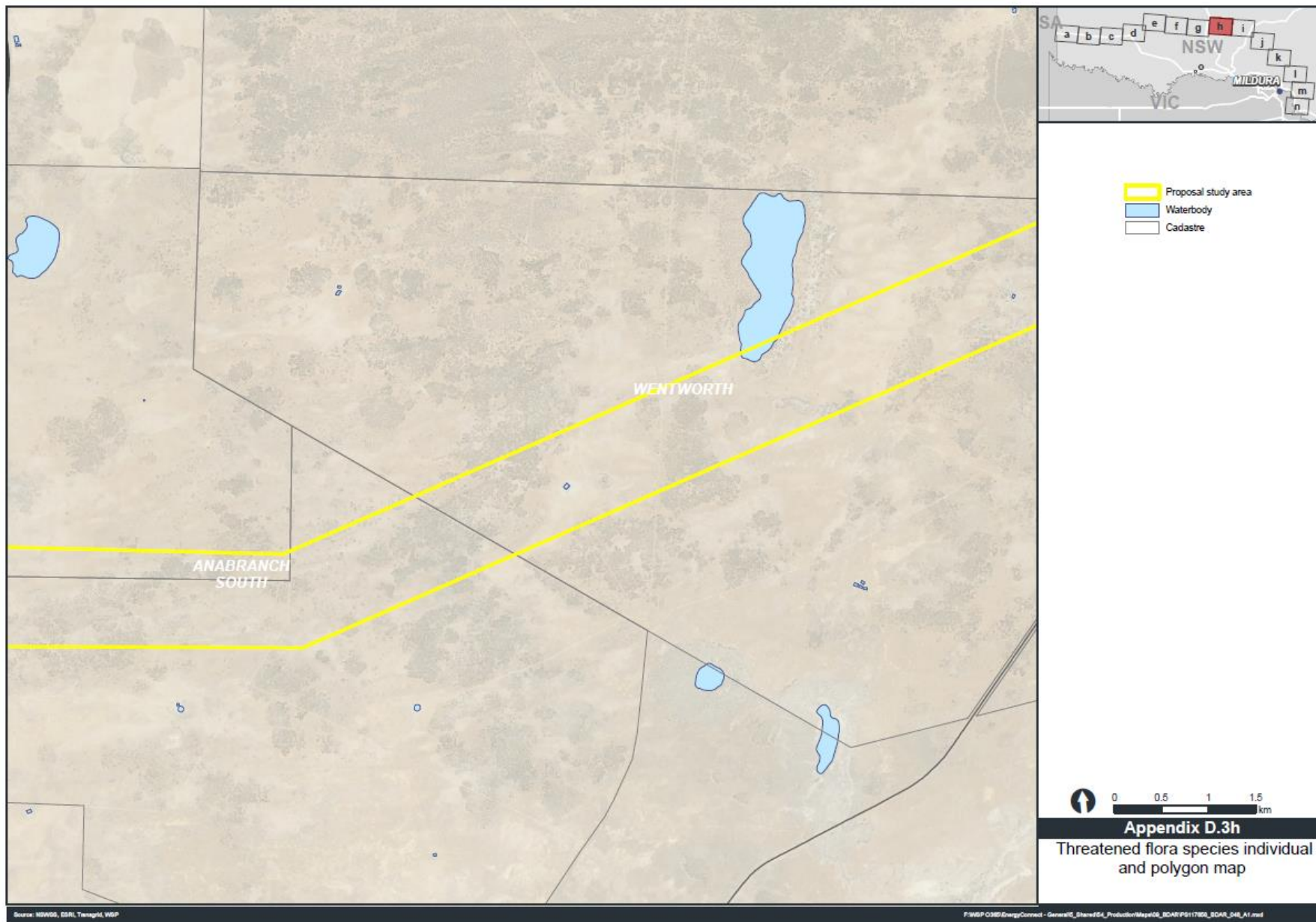
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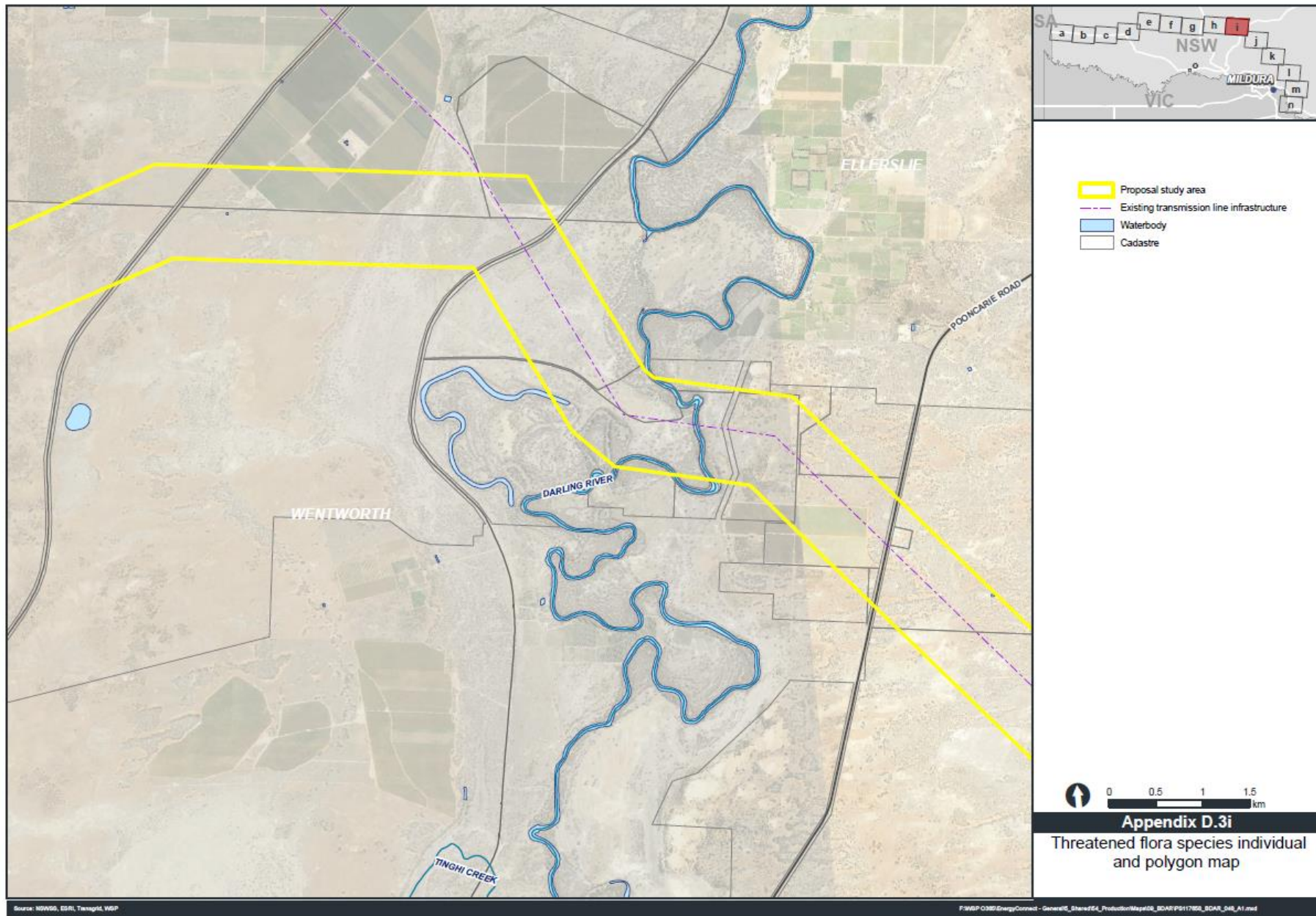
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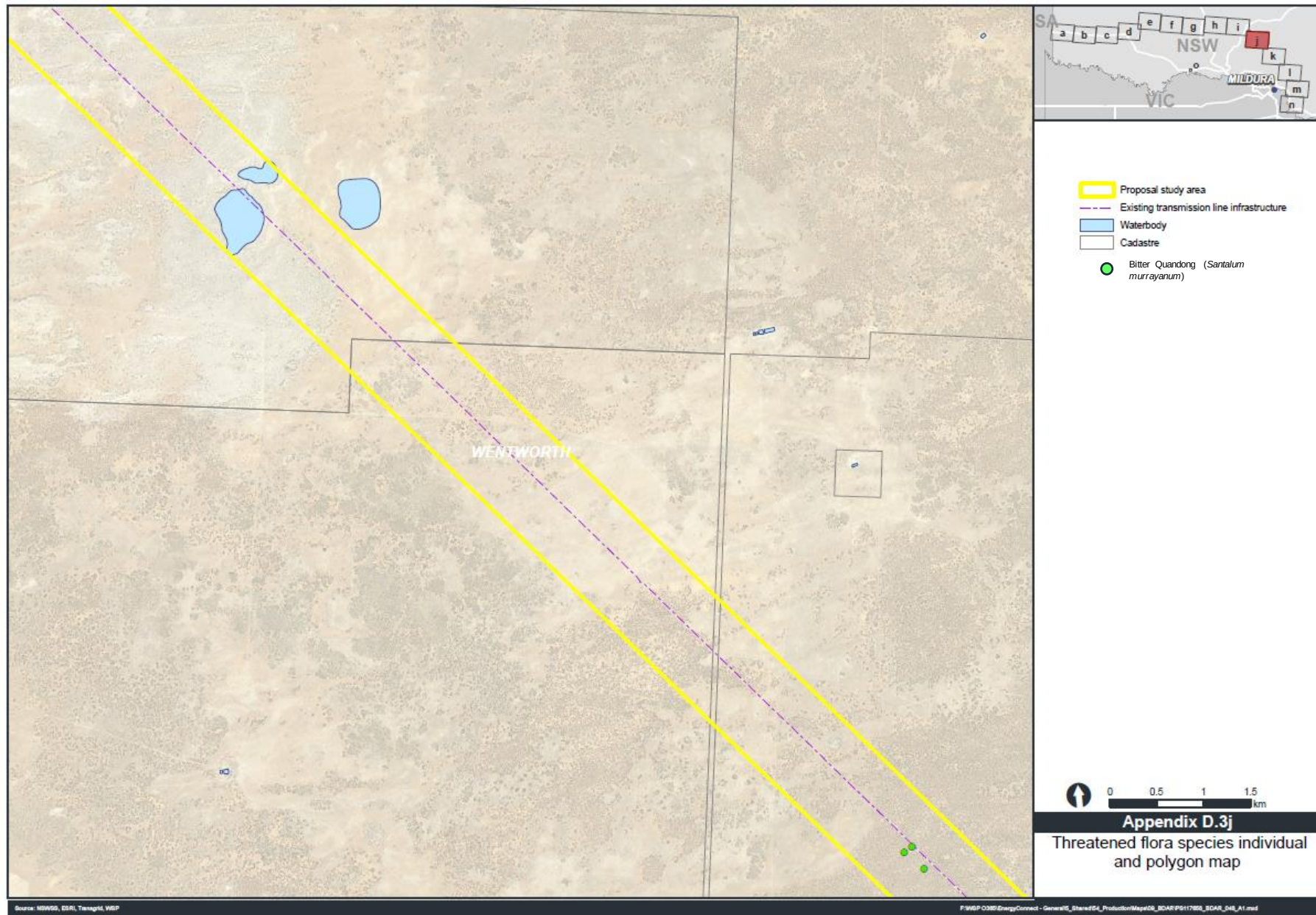
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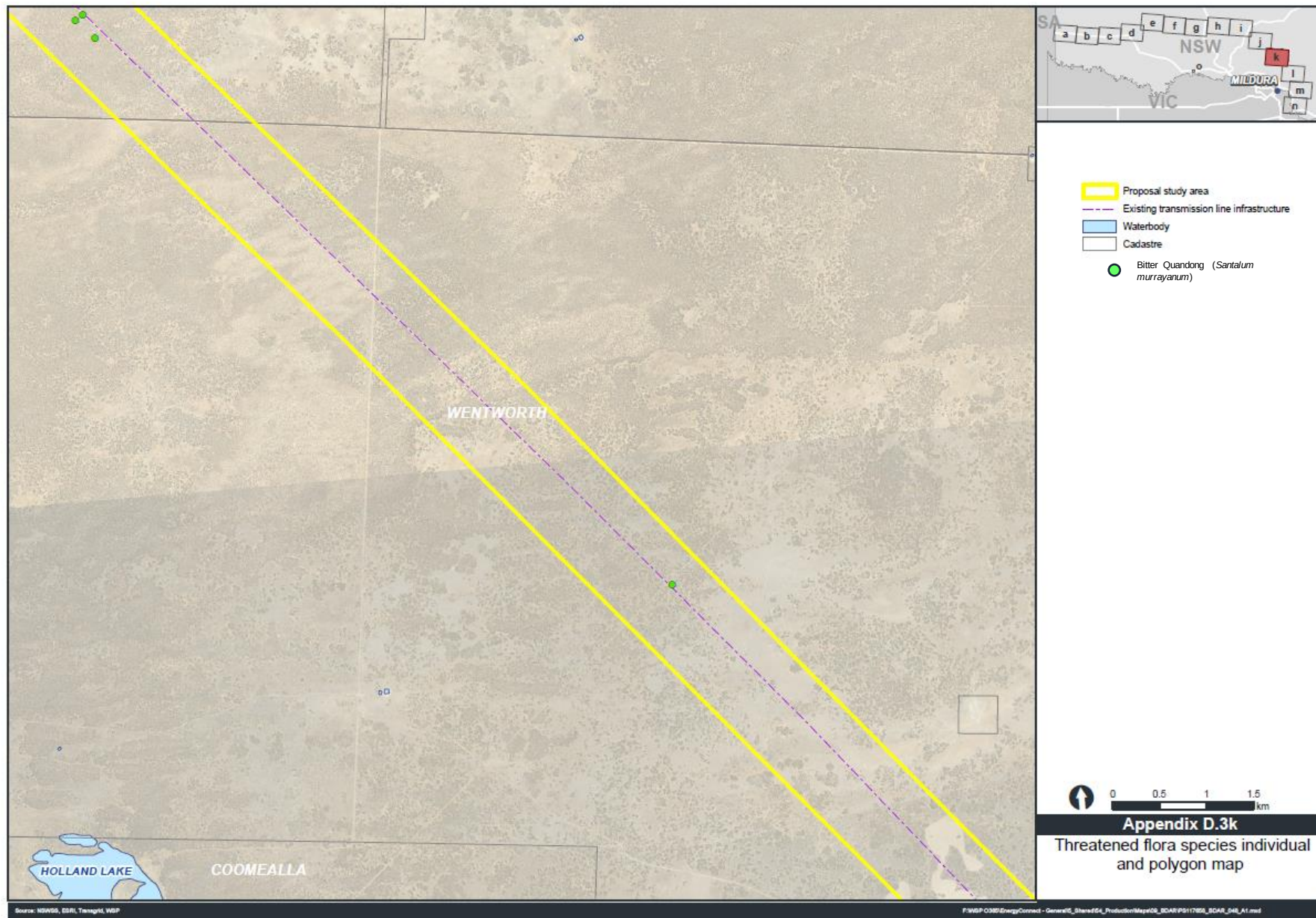
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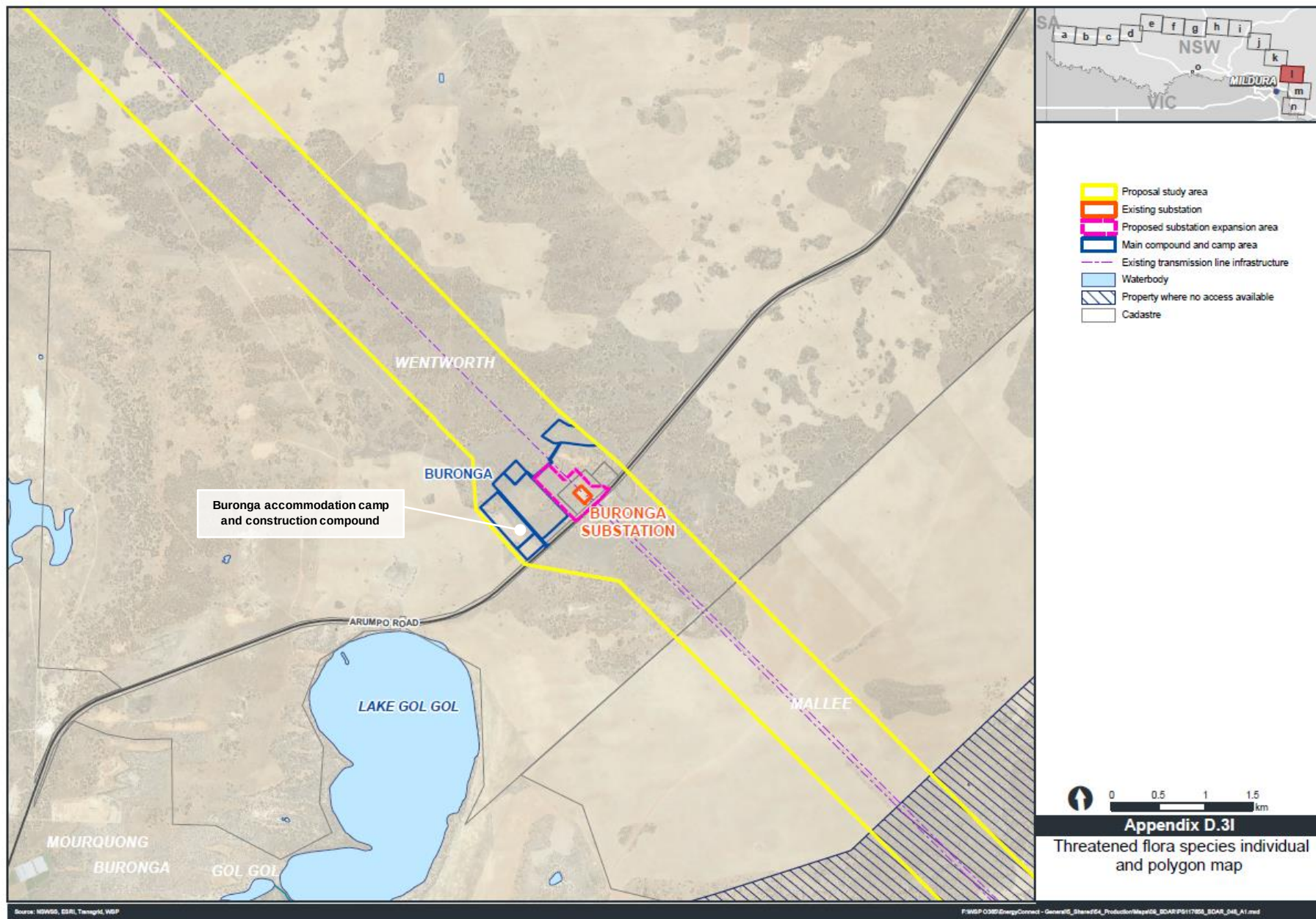
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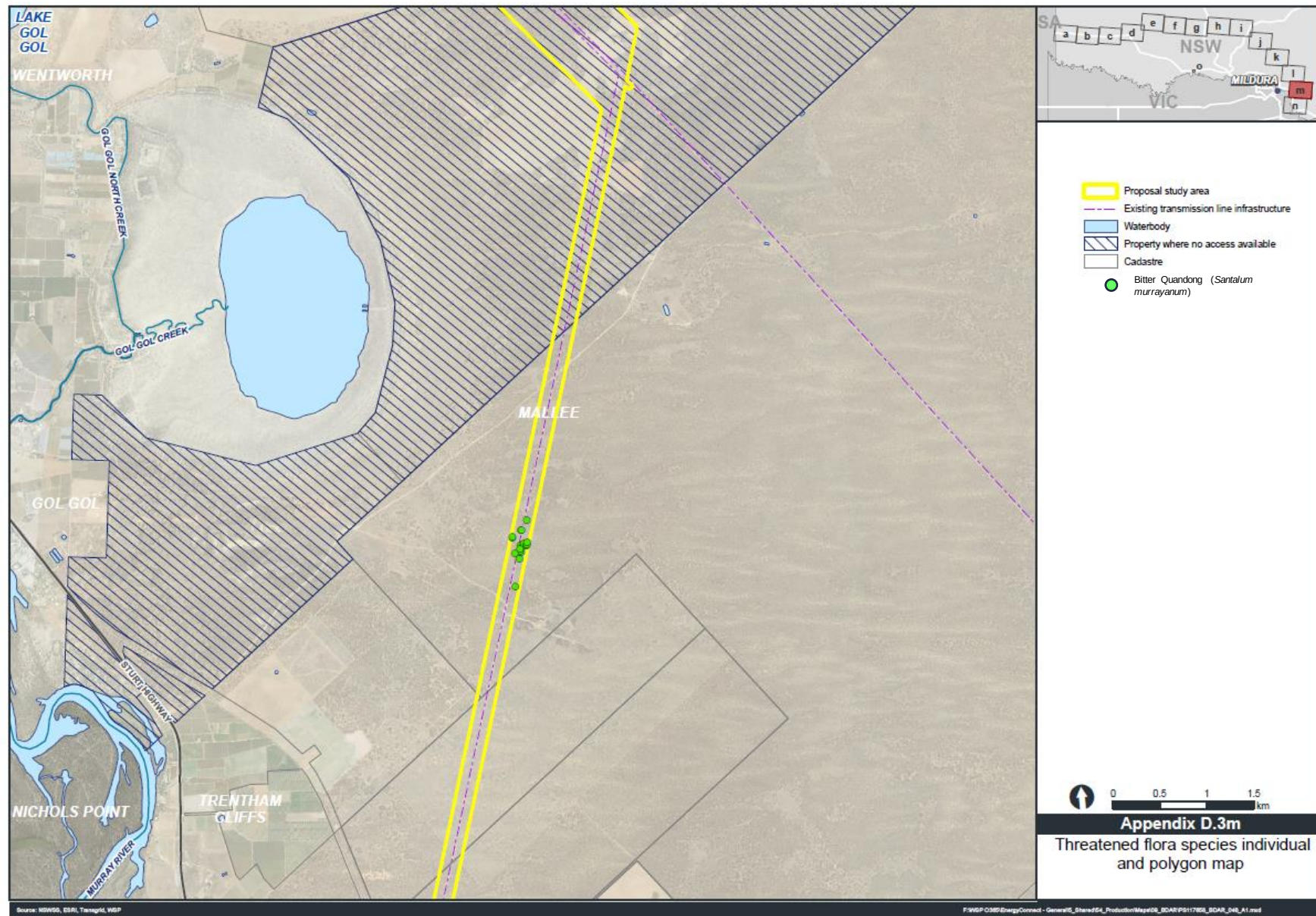
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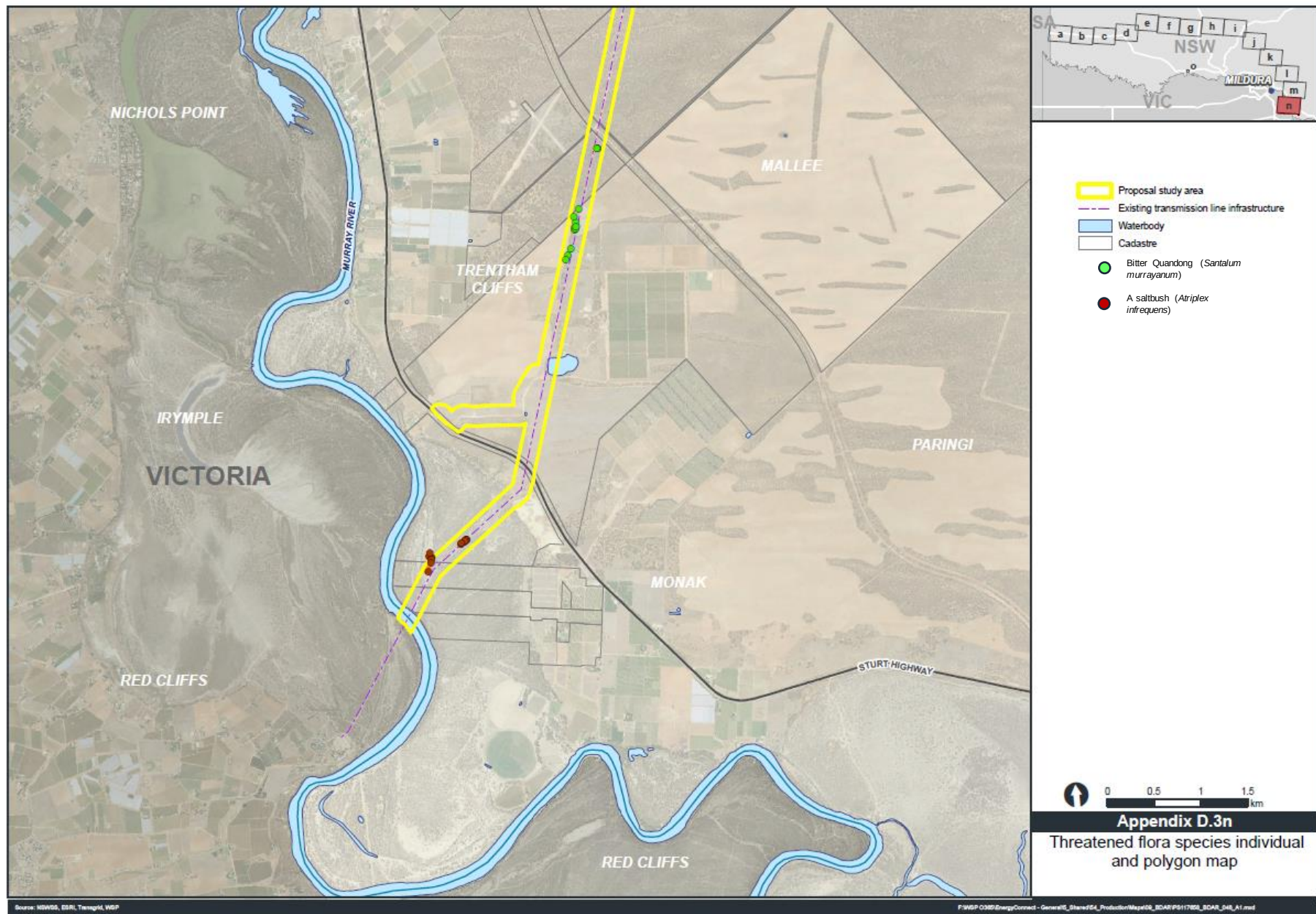
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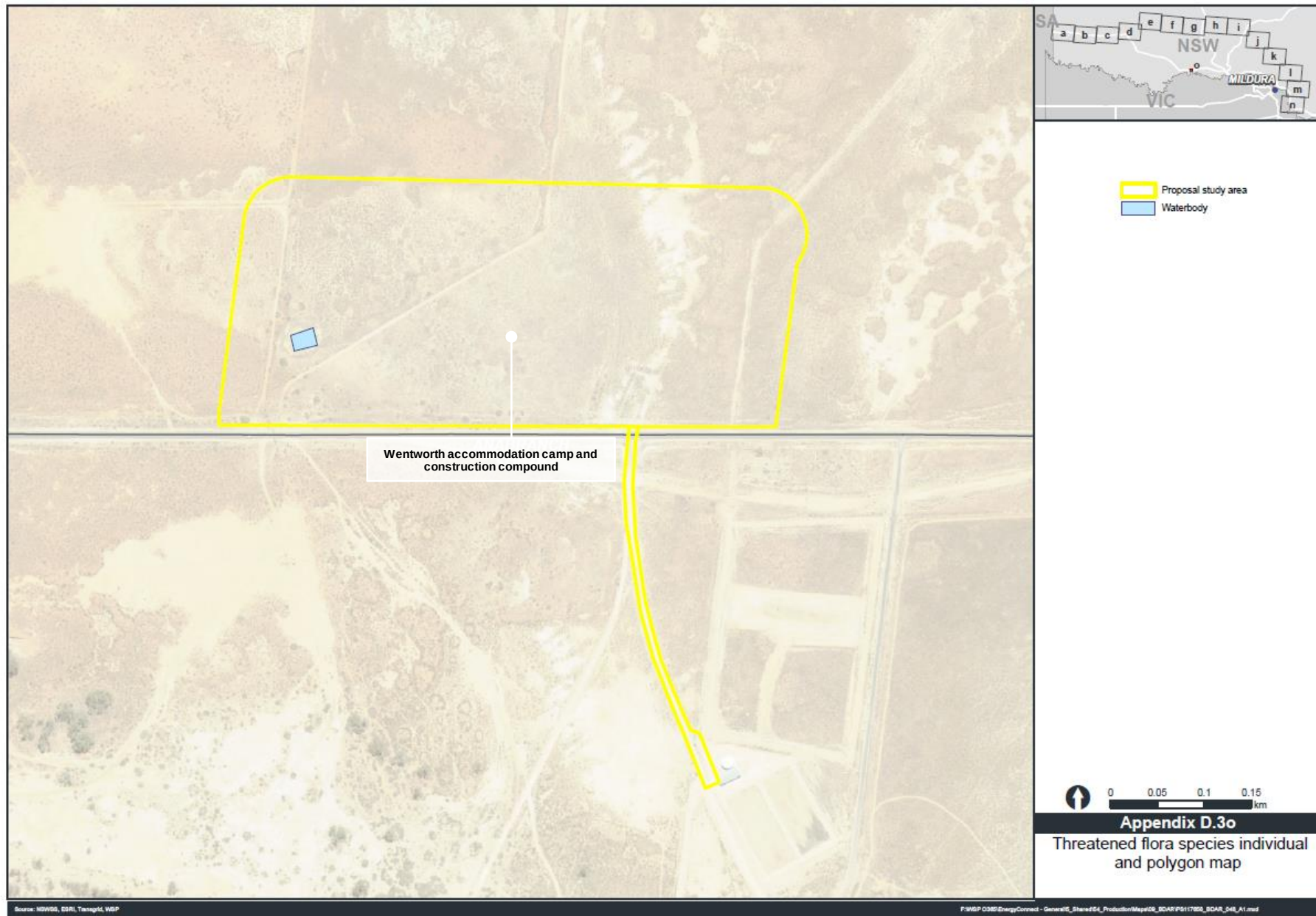
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Appendix F – Relevant legislation

Legislation/ Regulations	Aspect	Reference	Requirement	Applicability	Responsibility
<i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i> (EPBC Act)	Proposed action	Section 28	A person must not take an action that has, will have or is likely to have a significant impact on any of the matters of national environmental significance without approval.	Yes, the <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i> (EPBC Act) aims to protect matters of national environmental significance (MNES) including national heritage places. Following referral of the project to Department of Environment, Agriculture and Water, the project was determined on 25 June 2020 to be a controlled action under section 75 of the EPBC Act, and therefore required further assessment and approval under the <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i> . The referral number is EPBC 2020/8673. The EPBC Act controlling provisions for the proposed actions are listed threatened species and communities (section 18 and 18A). It should be noted that no MNES were identified in the EIS or Amendment Report for the project.	Transgrid
	Bilateral Agreement	Chapter 3 Clause 45	A bilateral agreement is a written agreement between the Commonwealth and a State with the intention of protecting the environment, promoting the conservation and ecologically sustainable use of natural resources, ensuring an efficient, timely and effective process for environmental assessment and approval of actions and to minimising duplication in the environmental assessment and approval process.	EnergyConnect (NSW - Western Section) will be assessed using the bilateral assessment process in accordance Amending Agreement No. 1.	Transgrid
<i>Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016</i> (BC Act)	Flora and Fauna	All	Legislation responsible for the conservation of biodiversity in NSW through the protection of threatened flora and fauna species, populations and Endangered Ecological Communities (EECs). The <i>Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016</i> , together with the <i>Biodiversity Conservation Regulation 2017</i> , established the Biodiversity Offsets Scheme which is outlined below.	The biodiversity impacts of the project have been assessed in accordance with the BC Act, which includes the Biodiversity Assessment Method (BAM) and documented in a Biodiversity Development Assessment Report (BDAR). A Biodiversity Management Plan has been prepared and will be implemented for the project to manage the conservation and protection of threatened flora and fauna.	Transgrid
		Part 6 Division 1 Clause 6.2	This Act, and the <i>Biodiversity Conservation Regulation 2017</i> , outlines the framework for addressing impacts on biodiversity from development and clearing. Biodiversity Offsets Scheme is a framework to avoid, minimise and offset impacts on biodiversity	As part of the assessment under the BC Act, the biodiversity offset credits has been estimated for the project and are outlined in the BDAR. Biodiversity Offset Credits is applicable for clearing on the project. Transgrid as the proponent will retire the	Transgrid

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Legislation/ Regulations	Aspect	Reference	Requirement	Applicability	Responsibility
			from development and clearing, and to ensure land that is used to offset impacts is secured in-perpetuity.	full biodiversity offset credit liability of the development.	
<i>Fisheries Management Act 1994</i>	Taking or possessing fish or marine vegetation	Section 37	Permit to take and possess fish or marine vegetation	A section 37 permit is required for any activity that involves taking or possessing fish or marine vegetation that would otherwise be unlawful under the <i>Fisheries Management Act 1994</i> including any collecting activities. There is currently no intention to take and possess fish or marine vegetation, however in the event that this is required, a permit would be developed.	Transgrid / SecureEnergy
	Mangroves, seagrasses and marine vegetation	Section 205	Do not harm any mangroves, seagrasses or other marine vegetation on public water land protected by the regulations without a permit.	As the project has been declared as Critical State significant infrastructure, in accordance with s.5.23 of EP&A Act, section 205 of the <i>Fisheries Management Act 1994</i> does not apply.	Not applicable
	Fish passage	Section 219	Do not block fish passage without a permit	As the project has been declared as critical State significant infrastructure, in accordance with s.5.23 of EP&A Act, section 219 of the <i>Fisheries Management Act 1994</i> does not apply.	Not applicable
<i>Biosecurity Act 2015</i>	Weeds and Pest Management	Section 22	Under Part 3 of the <i>Biosecurity Act 2015</i> , landowners or land managers have a general biosecurity duty to prevent, eliminate or minimise the biosecurity risk posed or likely to be posed by priority weeds. A biosecurity risk exists where priority weeds have the potential to negatively impact on agriculture, industry, the liveability of our city, human health or the environment. Invasive weeds are known as 'Biosecurity Matter' or 'Priority Weeds'.	Biosecurity matters will be discussed with the affected landholders and addressed in project management plans for each property.	Transgrid / SecureEnergy
<i>Local Land Services Act 2013</i>	Clearing of native vegetation in regulated rural areas	Part 5A Division 3 Clause 60N and Clause 60O	Clause 60N details the offence to clear native vegetation in a regulated rural area. Clause 60O details the planning approval and authorisation for clearing native vegetation in a regulated rural area.	Yes, as detailed 60O(b) of the Act, approval and authorisation for clearing native vegetation in a regulated rural area is subject to approval of the project under Part 5 of the EP&A Act. The Infrastructure Approval will satisfy this compliance requirement.	Transgrid