

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



## General information

Item	Detail
Ecologist / Fauna Spotter(s) completing Pre-Clearance Survey	Name: Madeleine Cicchelli, Hannah Roberts and Lachie Swain Qualification: Ecologist(s)
Date of Pre-Clearance Survey	20/01/2026
Specific Pre-Clearance Survey location (Line No./ Tower / Span No.)	L5 Easement between Towers 75-78
Scope methodology	<b>Desktop Survey:</b> A desktop survey was undertaken that encompasses the full Biodiversity Assessment Method (BAM) assessment extent. <b>Infield Survey:</b> The in-field survey encompassed the full easement, including a 15-metre buffer on both sides.

## Pre-clearance Survey details

Infrastructure surveyed				
Tower footprint	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Centreline		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Break and winch site, OPGW, EPZ, hurdle and/or crane pad site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Parking areas		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Access track (existing)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Access track (new)		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Disturbance Area B	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other		<input type="checkbox"/>
Any other details:				

## Protected Matters

Item	Presence identified		Quantum surveyed (Ha)	Quantum which will be disturbed (Ha)	Comments
	Yes	No			
White Box-Yellow Box-Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland <sup>1,2</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
Grey Box ( <i>Eucalyptus microcarpa</i> ) Grassy Woodlands and Derived Native Grasslands of South-eastern Australia <sup>1,2</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
Weeping Myall Woodlands <sup>1,2</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
Natural Grasslands of the Murray Valley Plains <sup>1,2</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
Habitat for Mossiel Daisy <sup>1,2</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
Habitat for Chariot Wheels <sup>1,2</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
Habitat for Slender Darling Pea <sup>1,2</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			

Notes:

1 Protected matter listed within the Notification of Approval EnergyConnect NSW – Eastern Section (EPBC 2020/8766)

2 Protected matter listed within the Revised Biodiversity Development Assessment Report (August 2022)

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## Pre-clearance Survey details

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

- 0.22 Ha of endangered BC Act-listed TEC 'Inland Grey Box Woodland in the Riverina, NSW South Western Slopes, Cobar Peneplain, Nandewar and Brigalow Belt South Bioregions' mapped within the easement.
- Exclusion zones not required due to disturbance caused by prior clearing.
- No additional mitigation measures required. Clearing works to be managed in accordance with the approved Biodiversity Management Plan.

## Hollow Bearing / Habitat Trees

Habitat trees and habitat features identified & marked?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Comments: Habitat identified. Hollow-bearing tree and stick nests.
GPS coordinates and habitat trees recorded?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Comments: Waypoint ID 56 & 338B (previously removed).
Nest boxes required?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Comments:
Fauna spotter required to be present during clearing activities?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Comments: Fauna spotter to be present for any additional tree removal.

## Weeds

Were any Weeds of National Significance or Priority Weeds identified?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Details:
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## Environmental exclusion zones

Threatened Species Identified within Disturbance Area B?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Details:
Environmental exclusion zones required?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Details: Not required due to disturbance caused by prior clearing.

## Unexpected Finds

Were any Unexpected Finds identified?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Details:
If yes, has the Environmental Manager been notified?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Details:

## Additional comments:

- Ecologist required only if additional tree removal is to occur.
- Vegetation removal has previously occurred within easement.
- 0.22 Ha of assumed species presence for Superb Parrot mapped within the easement.
- Weeds to be managed in accordance with the Biosecurity Management Plan.
- Additional weed species: Flaxleaf Fleabane (*Erigeron bonariensis*), Spear Thistle (*Cirsium vulgare*), Sow Thistle (*Sonchus oleraceus*), Small-flowered Mallow (*Malva parviflora*), Small Nettle (*Urtica urens*), Bathurst Burr (*Xanthium spinosum*), Paterson's Curse (*Echium plantagineum*), Capeweed (*Arctotheca calendula*), Rye Grass (*Lolium sp.*), *Sisymbrium* sp., Onion Weed (*Asphodelus fistulosus*), Wild Oat (*Avena sp.*), and Curled Dock (*Rumex crispus*).

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Ecology Pre-Clearance Survey Report**



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

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