

**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 Qualification: Ecologist(s)
Date of Pre-Clearance Survey	02/03/2026
Specific Pre-Clearance Survey location (Line No./ Tower / Span No.)	L5 Easement between Towers 142-143
Scope methodology	Desktop Survey: A desktop survey was undertaken that encompasses the full Biodiversity Assessment Method (BAM) assessment extent. Infield Survey: The in-field survey encompassed the full easement, including a 15-metre buffer on both sides

Pre-clearance Survey details					
Infrastructure surveyed					
Tower footprint	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Centreline	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Break and winch site, OPGW, EPZ, hurdle and/or crane pad site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Parking areas	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Access track (existing)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Access track (new)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Disturbance Area B	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Any other details:	Surveyed area including additional hazard trees.				
Protected Matters					
Item	Presence identified		Quantum surveyed (Ha)	Quantum which will be disturbed (Ha)	Comments
	Yes	No			
White Box-Yellow Box-Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland ^{1,2}	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1.1 Ha	0.31 Ha	EPBC Act-listed Threatened Ecological Community mapped within easement.
Grey Box (<i>Eucalyptus microcarpa</i>) Grassy Woodlands and Derived Native Grasslands of South-eastern Australia ^{1,2}	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
Weeping Myall Woodlands ^{1,2}	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
Natural Grasslands of the Murray Valley Plains ^{1,2}	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
Habitat for Mossgiel Daisy ^{1,2}	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
Habitat for Chariot Wheels ^{1,2}	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
Habitat for Slender Darling Pea ^{1,2}	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
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:

- 1.8 Ha of critically endangered BC Act-listed TEC 'White Box, Yellow Box, Blakely's Red Gum Grass Woodland and Derived Native Grassland' mapped within easement.
- Exclusion zones not required due to disturbance caused by previous clearing.
- Ecologist to be present during further tree clearing activities.
- No additional mitigation measures required. Clearing works to be managed in accordance with the approved Biodiversity Management Plan.

Hollow Bearing / Habitat Trees

Habitat trees and habitat features identified & marked?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Comments: Habitat identified. Hollow-bearing trees.
GPS coordinates and habitat trees recorded?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Comments: Waypoint ID 272B and 273B
Nest boxes required?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Comments: Suitable habitat for nest boxes located in adjacent vegetation.
Fauna spotter required to be present during clearing activities?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Comments: Required for any additional tree removal.

Weeds

Were any Weeds of National Significance or Priority Weeds identified?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Details:
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Environmental exclusion zones

Threatened Species Identified within Disturbance Area B?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Details: Spotted Harrier (<i>Circus assimilis</i>) observed hunting within easement (Vulnerable under the BC Act).
Environmental exclusion zones required?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Details: Not required due to disturbance caused by prior clearing.

Unexpected Finds

Were any Unexpected Finds identified?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Details:
If yes, has the Environmental Manager been notified?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Details:

Additional comments:

- Ecologist required for any tree trimming or removal.
- Vegetation removal has previously occurred within easement.
- Relocate fallen logs, where possible, into vegetation outside of the construction footprint for use as fauna habitat.
- 0.31 Ha of Superb Parrot habitat mapped within easement.
- 0.31 Ha of assumed species presence for Small Scurf-pea (*Cullen parvum*) mapped within easement.
- Weeds to be managed in accordance with the Biosecurity Management Plan.
- Additional weeds: Milk Thistle (*Sonchus oleraceus*), Black Nightshade (*Solanum nigrum*), Wild Oat (*Avena* sp.), and Flaxleaf Fleabane (*Erigeron bonariensis*).

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Pre-clearance Approval	
Ecologist	
Name	Madeleine Cicchelli
Signature	
Date	02/03/2026
Elecnor	
Name	Keeley Hartzer
Position	Environment Advisor - Biodiversity
Signature	
Date	02/03/2026

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