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



Table 1 - Information

Item	Detail
Ecologist / Fauna Spotter(s) Completing Pre-Clearance Survey	Name: Justine On and Madeleine Cicchelli Qualification: Ecologists
Date of Pre-Clearance Survey	13/07/2023
Specific Pre-Clearance Survey Location (Line No./ Tower / Span No.)	L5 Access Track 5004
Scope Methodology	Desktop review of vegetation mapping for nominated area In field visual inspection by ecologists of the proposed tower location
Work Package ID	Access Tracks (L5)

Table 2 - Pre-Clearance Survey Details

Infrastructure Surveyed					
Tower Footprint		Cer	treline		
Break and Winch Site	□ F		king Areas		
Access Track (existing)	☐ Acces		cess Track (new)		\boxtimes
Disturbance Area B	□ Other				
Details of Other:					
Protected Matters					
Item	Presence	Identified	Quantum to Clear (Ha)	Comments	
	Yes	No	Clear (Ha)		
White Box-Yellow Box-Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland 12		\boxtimes			
Grey Box (<i>Eucalyptus microcarpa</i>) Grassy Woodlands and Derived Native Grasslands of South-eastern Australia ¹²		×			
Weeping Myall Woodlands 12		\boxtimes			
Natural Grasslands of the Murray Valley Plains ¹²		\boxtimes			
Buloke Woodlands of the Riverina and Murray-Darling Depression Bioregions ²		×			
Mallee Bird Community of the Murray Darling Depression Bioregion ²		×			
Plains mallee box woodland of the Murray Darling Depression, Riverina and Naracoorte Coastal Plains bioregions ²					
Seasonal Herbaceous Wetlands (Freshwater) of the Temperate Lowland Plains ²		\boxtimes			

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Habitat for A spear-grass (austrostipa metatoris) ²		\boxtimes			
Habitat for A spear-grass (austrostipa wakoolica) ²		\boxtimes			
Habitat for Mossgiel Daisy 12		\boxtimes			
Habitat for Sand-hill Spider Orchid ²		\boxtimes			
Habitat for A burr-daisy ²		\boxtimes			
Habitat for Winged Peppercross ¹		\boxtimes			
Habitat for Chariot Wheels 12		\boxtimes			
Habitat for Slender Darling Pea ¹²		\boxtimes			
Habitat for Yellow Swainson-pea ²		\boxtimes			
Habitat for Plains Wanderer 12		\boxtimes			
Habitat for Regent Parrot (eastern subspecies) 12					
Habitat for Superb Parrot ¹²		\boxtimes			
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)					
 0.30ha of the critically endangered BC Act TEC White Box - Yellow Box - Blakely's Red Gum grassy woodland and derived native grassland mapped within the access track footprint. Exclusion zones to be installed to restrict access to protected matters outside the construction footprint. No additional mitigation measures required. Clearing works to be completed in accordance with the approved Biodiversity Management Plan. 					
Hollow Bearing / Habitat Trees					
Habitat trees and habitat features identified & marked?	Yes □	No ⊠	Comments:		
GPS coordinates and habitat trees recorded?	Yes □	No ⊠	Comments:		
Nest boxes required?	Yes □	No ⊠	Comments:		
Fauna spotter required to be present during clearing activities?	Yes □	No ⊠	Comments:		
Weeds					
Were any Weeds of National Significance or Priority Weeds identified?	Yes □	No ⊠	Details:		
Environmental Exclusion Zones					

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Threatened Species Identified within Disturbance Area B?	Yes □	No ⊠	Details:	
Environmental exclusion zones required?	Yes ⊠	No □	Details:	
Unexpected Finds				
Were any Unexpected Finds identified?	Yes □	No ⊠	Details:	
If yes, has the Environmental Manager been notified?	Yes □	No ⊠	Details:	
Additional Comments				
 Exclusion zones to be installed prior to construction works commencing. No ecologist required during clearing activities. Weeds to be managed in accordance with approved Biosecurity Management Plan 				

Additional weed species: Umbrella Sedge (Cyperus eragrostis), Avena sp. Spear thistle (Cirsium

vulgare), Bathurst Burr (Xanthium spinosum), Flaxleaf fleabane (Conzya bonariensis)

Table 3 – Pre-Clearance Approval

Ecologist	
Pre-clearance Assessment Timeframe for Nominated Works	3 months
Name	Justine On
Signature	JKO
Date	13/07/2023
SecureEnergy	
Name	Glenn Hayden
Position	Senior Environmental Advisor
Signature	
Date	19/07/2023