

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



General information	
Item	Detail
Ecologist / Fauna Spotter(s) completing Pre-Clearance Survey	Name: Scott Rolph, Hannah Roberts, Madeleine Cicchelli Qualification: Ecologist
Date of Pre-Clearance Survey	12/02/2026
Specific Pre-Clearance Survey location (Line No./ Tower / Span No.)	Survey Extent: T150-200
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 of B10.

Pre-clearance Survey details					
Infrastructure surveyed					
Tower footprint	<input type="checkbox"/>	Centreline	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Brake and winch site, OPGW, EPZ, hurdle and/or crane pad site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Parking areas	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Access track (existing)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Access track (new)	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Disturbance Area B	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Any other details:	Full easement with 15-meter buffer to accommodate for hazard & tall growing trees				
Protected Matters					
Item	Presence identified		Quantum surveyed (Ha)	Quantum which will be disturbed (Ha)	Comments
	Yes	No			
White Box-Yellow Box-Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland ^{1,2}	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	43.09 Ha		EPBC Act Threatened Ecological Community (including additional disturbance areas)
Grey Box (<i>Eucalyptus microcarpa</i>) Grassy Woodlands and Derived Native Grasslands of South-eastern Australia ^{1,2}	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	10.30 Ha		EPBC Act Threatened Ecological Community (including additional disturbance areas)
Weeping Myall Woodlands ^{1,2}	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
Natural Grasslands of the Murray Valley Plains ^{1,2}	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	8.50 Ha		EPBC Act Threatened Ecological Community (including additional disturbance areas)
Habitat for Mossgiel Daisy ^{1,2}	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			

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Pre-clearance Survey details			
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"/>	
<p>Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Critically endangered BC Act TEC <i>White Box Yellow Box Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland</i> identified within the surveyed area. Endangered BC Act TEC <i>Inland Grey Box Woodland in the Riverina, NSW South Western Slopes, Cobar Peneplain, Nandewar and Brigalow Belt South Bioregions</i> identified within the surveyed area. Critically Endangered BC Act TEC <i>Natural Grasslands of the Murray Valley Plains</i> identified within the surveyed area 			
<p>Management measures required to avoid or minimise impacts to Protected Matters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exclusion zones not required as clearing has already occurred within the easement. No additional mitigation measure 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"/>	<p>Comments: Hollow-bearing trees and nests identified (includes initial pre-clearance surveys marked with GPS and incidental observations recorded on Field Maps). All trees to be re-assessed by ecologists prior to clearing due to the high likelihood of new nests being established since initial pre-clearance surveys.</p> <p>Additional violation trees marked for pruning or removal by ENSPEC have been assessed based on in-field and prior GIS data and identified as containing habitat.</p>
GPS coordinates and habitat trees recorded?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Comments: Total of 252 existing GPS waypoints recorded during pre-clearance surveys between Tower 150-200 (includes trees previously removed)</p> <p>Nine additional violation trees identified have the following ENSPEC IDs: 5, 9, 10, 14, 34, 37, 39, 42, 57; as well as 11 trees that lack ENSPEC IDs (total of 20 violation trees).</p>
Nest boxes required?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Comments: Nest boxes previously installed.</p>
Fauna spotter required to be present during clearing activities?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Comments: Pre-inspection of all trees by an ecologist required prior to tree trimming and/or removal.</p> <p>Pre-inspection of all grassland habitat by an ecologist required before any ground stripping activities (including PCT 0).</p> <p>Ecologist required during removal of any hollow-bearing and/or nest trees.</p>

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			Ecologist required during ground stripping activities (only required in PCT 0 if suitable fauna habitat is identified by an ecologist during pre-inspection).
Weeds			
Were any Weeds of National Significance or Priority Weeds identified?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Details: African Boxthorn (<i>Lycium ferocissimum</i>) - Tower 164-165, 168-169, 192-193
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>) (BC Act-listed as Vulnerable) - Tower 172-173, 195-196, 197-199 Superb Parrot (<i>Polytelis swainsonii</i>) (EPBC and BC Act-listed as Vulnerable) - Tower 155-156 Grey-crowned Babbler (<i>Pomatostomus temporalis temporalis</i>) (BC Act-listed as Vulnerable) - Tower 161-164, 192-193 White-fronted Chat (<i>Epthianura albifrons</i>) (BC Act-listed as Vulnerable) - Tower 172-173, 181-183, 188-189 Flame Robin (<i>Petroica phoenicea</i>) (BC Act-listed as Vulnerable) - Tower 184-185, 198-199 Southern Whiteface (<i>Aphelocephala leucopsis</i>) (EPBC and BC Act-listed as Vulnerable) - Tower 198-200
Environmental exclusion zones required?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Details: Not required due to prior clearing within easement.
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:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ecologist required for pre-inspection of all vegetation prior to removal (ground stripping and tree trimming/removal). - Ecologist required during removal of all vegetation (excludes non-habitat trees, cropped and/or pasture paddocks, and grassland with no habitat features identified during ecologist pre-inspection). - Ecologist required for pre-inspection prior to removal or relocation of log piles or large hollow-bearing logs (if logs have remained in-situ for four (4) weeks or longer). - Vegetation removal has previously occurred within easement. - Squirrel Glider habitat mapped within Disturbance Area B (Tower 150-165, 191-200). - Assumed species presence Superb Parrot (Tower 176-177). - Hollow-bearing limbs/logs to be retained as fauna habitat where possible. - Weeds to be managed in accordance with the Biosecurity Management Plan. 			

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Pre-clearance Approval	
Ecologist	
Name	Scott Rolph
Signature	
Date	12/02/2026
Elecnor	
Name	Frank Team
Position	Environmental Coordinator
Signature	
Date	12/02/2026

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