Transgrid

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Project Number: P0016384

State Significant Infrastructure (SSI) Number: - 10040

Operational Environmental Management Plan

Project Energy Connect (NSW Western section)

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Rev 7	18/02/2025	Response to DPHI RFI	Andrew Scott – Senior Environmental Business Partner Luke Fania – Environment and Sustainability Manager Megan Calvert – Senior Environmental Approvals Coordinator
Rev 8	20/02/2025	Response to DPHI	Luke Fania – Environment and Sustainability Manager Megan Calvert – Senior Environmental Approvals Coordinator

Official

Contents

1. Project Background

1.1. Introduction

Project EnergyConnect NSW Western Section (The Project) involves the construction and operation of a new 330 kilovolt (kV) transmission line connecting the NSW and SA transmission networks (via Buronga substation) and the construction and operation of a new 220kV transmission line into Victoria, including the decommissioning of the existing 220kV transmission line between Buronga substation and Red Cliffs substation. The key components of the project include:

- constructing and operating a new 130 km long 330 kV transmission line between the NSW / SA border near Chowilla to the existing Buronga substation.
- constructing and operating a new 24 km long transmission line to replace the existing 220 kV transmission line between the Buronga substation and the Red Cliffs substation.
- upgrading the existing Buronga substation; and
- developing construction/ancillary facilities, such as construction compounds and accommodation camps.

The Construction phase of the transmission infrastructure was estimated to take 24 months and the upgrade of the Buronga substation taking 36 months. Once operational, the infrastructure provides a direct link between the NSW and SA energy markets between Chowilla in SA, Buronga in NSW and Red Cliffs in Victoria. Full details of the proposed development for NSW were included in Chapters 5 and 6 of the Environmental Impact Statement and within Section 1 of Planning Permit application report for Victoria.

The NSW portion of the project was approved under the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* by the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces on the 28th of September 2021. Determination here: (Project determination). The Victorian component of the project was approved by the Minister of Planning (Victorian) under Planning and Environment Regulation 2015 on 11th November 2021.

1.2. Project Planning Approval

The purpose of this Operational Environmental Management Plan (OEMP) is to ensure operational activities associated with Project EnergyConnect West meet the environmental requirements set out for the project, including:

- NSW Infrastructure approval (Infrastructure approval)
- Environmental Impact Statement and appendices (EnergyConnect NSW Western Section EIS - Volume 1, WSP 2020)
- Amendment report (EnergyConnect (NSW - Western section) - Amendment report, WSP 2021)
- Victorian Planning Permit Number PA2101252
- Planning Report Application for a Planning Permit, (EnergyConnect Victorian Section, July 2021)

The NSW project determination and further supplementary information can be sourced here: Project EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section) | Planning Portal – Department of Planning and Environment

Table1-1: NSW - State Significant Infrastructure Determination

Project Details	
Application Number	SSI-10040
EPBC ID Number	2020/8673
Assessment Type	State Significant Infrastructure
Local Government Areas	Wentworth Shire
Decision	Approved
Determination Date	28/09/2021
Decider	Minister

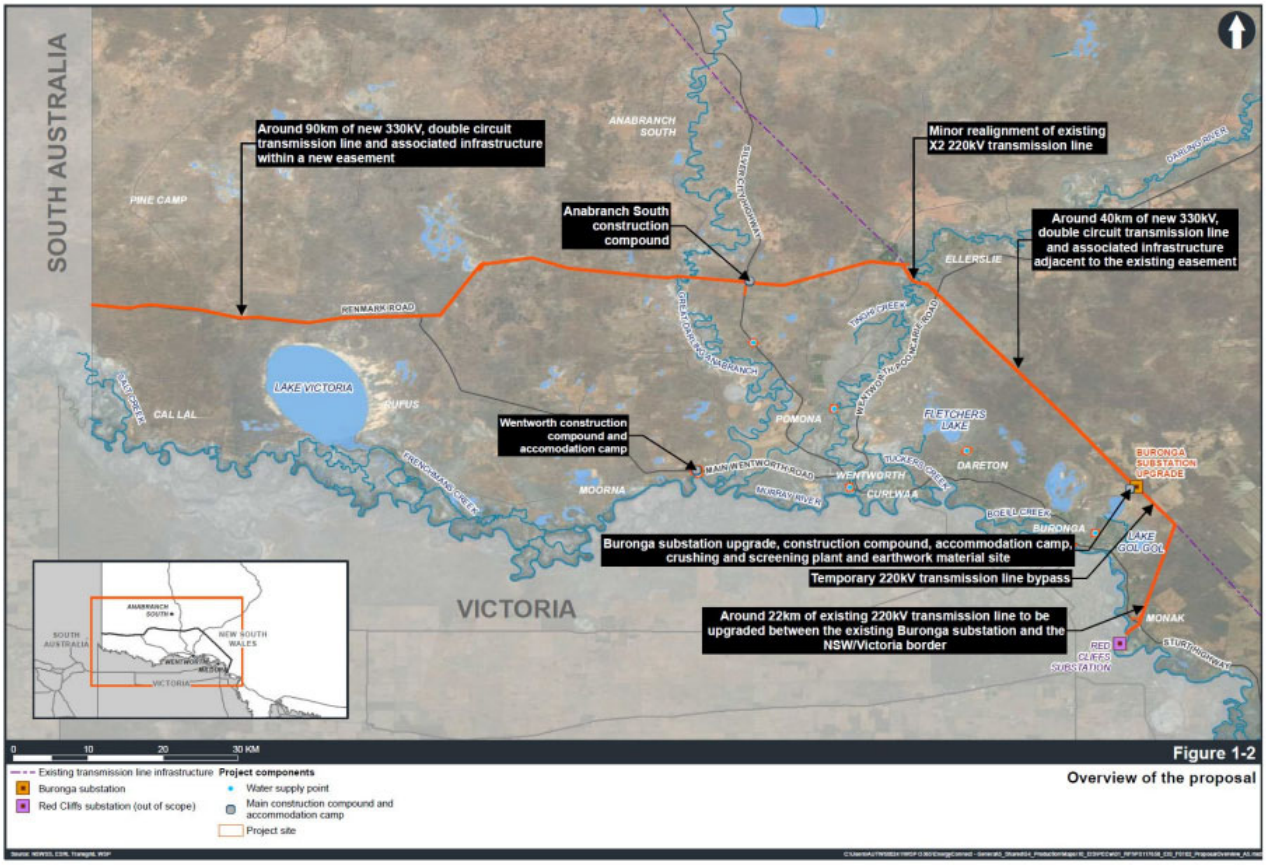
Table 1-2: VIC – Planning Permit

Project Details	
Permit Number	PA2101252
Assessment Type	Planning Permit
Planning Scheme	Mildura Planning Scheme
Decision	Approved
Permit Date	11/11/2021
Responsible Authority	Minister for Planning

1.3. Project Location

Figure 1-1 shows the overall project layout within the NSW section and the Victorian section, from the Infrastructure Approval.

Figure 1-1: Project layout (Appendix 1 of Infrastructure Approval)



1.4. Project Description

1.4.1. Construction phase scope of work

The scope of the construction phase of the project works is summarised as per below. Note that the principal contractor has prepared the Approved Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) for this phase of works to comply with the Infrastructure approval.

Enabling works

- Site establishment and operation of the main construction compound and camp sites
- Biodiversity, heritage and other preliminary investigations
- Establishment of access tracks (as minor works) and construction site compound areas and ancillary areas

Construction and commissioning of the new or upgraded transmission lines

- Vegetation clearance

- Access track construction
- Earthworks and civil construction works
- Transmission tower foundations and erection
- Conductor stringing
- Installation of tower and line fittings, and
- Testing

Construction and commissioning of the Buronga substation upgrade and expansion

- Component 1 – civil construction and commissioning to enable the proposed connection and operation of the transmission lines between SA/NSW border and Buronga substation, and Buronga substation and Red Cliffs substation.
- Component 2 – upgrade and expansion work required to facilitate the future connection and operation of the proposed transmission lines between Buronga substation and Wagga Wagga substation. The final staging arrangement would be confirmed during detailed design.

Residual construction activities

- Decommissioning of redundant 220kV transmission lines and tower structures.
- Remediation of site access tracks not required for operational phase.
- Remediation of all other impacted/disturbed areas.
- Handover of excess land not required for operational phase.
- Repair / replace any infrastructure, irrigation and water infrastructure facilities to pre-existing conditions.
- Reinstate natural drainage in areas where temporary facilities were provided.
- Repair / replace fences, gates, etc., which may have been damaged during construction.
- Installation of the permanent Transgrid property boundary fence surrounding the expanded substation site.

1.4.2. Commencement of Operational phase

Project EnergyConnect West is currently estimated to enter its operational phase after September-October 2024, post-completion of inter-network testing with the Australian Energy Market Operator (AEMO) to enable the carrying out of the approved purpose of the development. This date is considered the anniversary date where specified in this OEMP.

Staging of certain operational conditions has been required due to certain portions of the development entering the operational phase after successful completion of inter-network testing.

- The staging of these conditions has been submitted to the Department in parallel to this OEMP.

Operation as defined by the Infrastructure Approval is '*The carrying out of the approved purpose of the development upon completion of construction but does not include commissioning trials of equipment or use of temporary facilities. Note: There may be overlap between the carrying out of construction and operation if the phases of the development are staged. Commissioning trials of equipment and temporary use of any part of the development are within the definition of construction*."

1.4.3. Operational phase maintenance

Upon completion of the construction phase and commencement of the ongoing operational phase, maintenance activities for the project would include:

- Regular inspection (ground and aerial) and maintenance of electrical assets (transmission lines, towers and substation assets).
- General building, asset protection zone and general landscaping maintenance.
- Fire detection system inspection and maintenance.
- Fence, signage and gate maintenance and repair.
- Stormwater and drainage infrastructure maintenance.
- Easement vegetation maintenance.
- Access track maintenance.
- Maintenance works based on defects raised in inspections.

General maintenance activities and frequency can be found in Transgrid Plan: *Generic Maintenance Plan*.

Scheduled inspection and specific maintenance of assets is managed as per Transgrid maintenance plans listed in the Table 1-3 and Table 1-4 below. The purpose of this maintenance is to maintain network reliability and mitigate incidents, bushfire risk and public safety risk.

Note that assets located in Victoria are to be managed as per the defined Victorian maintenance plans as noted in Table 1-4. The purpose of maintenance in Victoria is to mitigate fire risks associated with the fuel load below the transmission line as far as practicable and to maintain minimum clearances on easements.

Further detail on the operational phase maintenance requirements for electrical transmission assets, substation, and easement and access tracks is specified in the following tables and sections.

1.4.3.1. Maintenance plans - NSW

Table 1-3: Maintenance plan: New South Wales

Asset	Maintenance	Frequency	Transgrid plan reference
Transmission lines	Aerial inspections	1 year (every June/July)	*Maintenance Plan – Transmission Line Assets.*
	Climbing inspection/ Thermographic inspection	End of Defect Liability period for new line	
	Compliance inspection	1-3 years	
	Structure earth testing	10 years	
	Thermographic inspection	2-4 years	
	Maintenance works	As required based on inspections. All maintenance works will comply with Transgrid NSW EAF (refer to section 3.2)	
Transmission towers	Drone/climbing inspections	6 years	
	Foundation inspections	6 years	

Buronga substation	Substation inspections – CCTV	Monthly	*Maintenance Plan – Substation Assets*
	Substation equipment Inspections	6 monthly	
	Bushfire inspections	Annual - completed in June	
	Thermographic inspection	Annual - completed in June	
	Bushfire maintenance	Annually – completed prior to 1st September	
Easements	Defect liability inspection	End of Defect Liability period for new line	*Maintenance Plan – Easements and Access tracks*
	LiDAR and/or compliance inspections – easement vegetation	Annually between February and 1st August. And after fire.	
	Easement vegetation maintenance work	As required based in condition/inspections annually prior to 1st September	
Access tracks	Condition inspection	As required	
	Maintenance	As required based on condition/risk	

All environmental authorisation for maintenance works in Table 1-3 will be managed as per the Transgrid *Environmental Assessment Framework – NSW.*

1.4.3.2. Maintenance Plans - Victoria

Table 1-4: Maintenance plan: Victoria

Asset	Maintenance	Frequency	Transgrid plan reference
Electrical transmission assets (towers, lines and substations)	All maintenance of electrical transmission assets as per Electrical Safety Management Scheme (ESMS)	As per Transgrid Plan: *Generic Maintenance Plan*	*Transgrid Electric Line Clearance Management Plan 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2026*
Easements	LiDAR and/or compliance inspections – easement vegetation	Annually	*Transgrid Victorian Assets Bushfire Mitigation Plan*
	Easement vegetation and access track maintenance work (routine and defect based)	Maximum three years – frequency based on inspection	

All environmental authorisation for maintenance works in Table 1-4Table 1-4: will be managed as per the Transgrid *Environmental Assessment Framework – Victoria.*

Note: For assets in Victoria, upon energisation all maintenance activities will be covered by Transgrid's Electricity Safety Management Scheme. Refer to the Transgrid document: Environmental Assessment Framework – Victoria

Refer to Section 3.2 of this plan for detail on how asset maintenance integrates with Transgrid's Environmental Management System. This includes the Environmental Management Framework (3.2.2), the Environmental Handbook (3.2.3), Environmental Guidance Notes (3.2.4) and Environmental Critical Riak Controls (3.2.5)

Refer to Table 4-1 of this plan for Transgrid responsibilities (RACI).

1.4.3.3. Transmission Line Assets Maintenance

Maintenance activities include regular inspection and maintenance of transmission lines, towers and poles to ensure safety and function including:

- An annual aerial survey as part of seasonal bushfire prevention will be undertaken or at a frequency to be determined by vegetation growth rates.
- Routine infrastructure inspection on a six-yearly cycle for self-supporting towers and three-yearly cycle for guyed towers. This would typically involve two to three maintenance crew driving a light vehicle from public roads to the easement utilising access tracks, and along the easement centreline inspecting each transmission line tower in turn. Towers would be inspected both from the ground and by personnel climbing the tower.
- Routine / planned line maintenance using a light vehicle(s), an elevated work platform and a medium sized truck with up to around five to ten personnel to rectify any defects found from routine inspections. Generally, this would occur within the same three to six-year maintenance cycles as the routine infrastructure inspection.
- Ad hoc fault and emergency fly over(s) to assess infrastructure condition should an unplanned outage occur (for example through a weather event or other failure of infrastructure). This maintenance would occur as required. The amount of maintenance and/or crew required for repair of any damaged infrastructure would depend on the extent of repairs required.
- Vegetation below transmission lines would require ongoing management throughout operation to ensure electrical safety clearances and protection zones are maintained. The required clearance of vegetation within the corridor would be undertaken in accordance with Transgrid's maintenance guidelines and procedures.

Maintenance will be undertaken as per Transgrid controlled document: *Maintenance Plan – Transmission Line Assets.*

1.4.3.4. Buronga Substation Operation and Maintenance

Maintenance at the expanded substation site would typically include attendance (up to three times a week) of one or two switching operators to undertake planned and unplanned switching of equipment. It is expected that these activities would only require light vehicles and/or small to medium plant (depending on the works required).

Any waste generated during operation would be minimal and disposed of on an 'as need' basis by the attending maintenance personnel.

Additional maintenance activities at the substation would typically include:

- Routine substation infrastructure inspection (such as transformers and other electrical plant and equipment) throughout the year by around two to three personnel.
- Routine / planned substation maintenance of equipment, property and switchyard areas on a scheduled basis. This would typically be monthly and undertaken by around three to five maintenance personnel.
- Ad hoc fault and emergency works for repair of any damaged infrastructure (for example through a weather event or other failure of infrastructure).

All maintenance would occur on a as required basis. The amount of maintenance and/or crew required to access for repair of any damaged infrastructure would depend on the extent of repairs required. Equipment for the substation is expected to have a service life of around 50 years. Maintenance would be regularly undertaken for the different infrastructure components and plant items such as transformers. These components would be replaced/refurbished towards the end of their serviceable life, allowing the service life of the substation to be extended.

Maintenance will be undertaken as per Transgrid controlled document: *Maintenance Plan – Substation Assets.*

1.4.3.5. Maintenance – Easements and Access Tracks

Access to the easement for operational purposes will use existing public and private roads and tracks. Access tracks created for construction may be retained for the operational phase to provide safe access and as part of residual construction phase activities.

Access easements may be required to provide Transgrid with access from the nearest public road to the easement. These access easements are negotiated with landholders as required. Transgrid may install locked and signed access gates to access the easement should a landholder not have a suitable existing gate nearby.

Easement maintenance may also include the below works:

- Off easement hazard tree pruning/removal.
- On easement hazard tree pruning/removal.
- Weed removal to assist with vegetation management.
- Rehabilitation of areas on easement that will restrict tall growing vegetation species
- Identification and management of any unauthorised encroachments
- All fences and gates on easement must be earthed and isolated in accordance with Transgrid's Fencing Guidelines during this phase.
- Landowner agreement to manage vegetation on easement, and conditions of access track maintenance is recorded in TSS.

LiDAR point cloud data of the line and vegetation to be shared with Transgrid GIS team for repository.

Geospatial information on the access tracks used during operation needs is mapped and provided to Transgrid GIS team.

Maintenance of easements and access tracks will be undertaken as per Transgrid controlled document: *Maintenance Plan – Easements and Access Tracks.*

Note: For assets in Victoria, refer to the *Electric Line Clearance Management Plan* and *Bushfire Mitigation Plan.*

1.4.4. Operational Phase – other actions

All maintenance measures undertaken during the operational phase will be conducted in line with the Transgrid Environmental Management System (EMS). For all actions Transgrid maintains a structured process: *The Transgrid Environmental Assessment Framework.* This process requires that all Transgrid actions go through an environmental risk review process prior to carrying out any work to ensure:

- Transgrid's actions comply with relevant legislation, regulations and statutory environmental requirements.
- An appropriate level of environmental risk review is completed prior to the conducting of any action.
- Any construction and operational activities are appropriately assessed to identify environmental risks.
- Appropriate mitigation measures to eliminate or minimise risks are prescribed and put in place before works are started.
- Work teams are provided training and induction regarding the management of environmental aspects/constraints.

2. Operational Phase: Environmental Management Requirements

2.1. Operational Environmental Management Plan

Transgrid is committed to conducting its activities in a manner that minimises environmental impacts and complies with project approvals, relevant legislation, industry standards and codes of practice. To fulfil these commitments, Transgrid maintains an Environmental Management System (EMS) certified to AS/NZS ISO 14001:2016. Pursuant to its management system, Transgrid will establish and implement this Operational Environmental Management Plan for this project and in accordance with its EMS.

This OEMP details how the commitments made, and the environmental impacts and mitigation measures identified in the EIS and in the relevant conditions from the Infrastructure Approval will be implemented and achieved during the operational phase of this project.

The OEMP achieves this by identifying:

- Conditions of approval to be met during the operational phase.
  - Environmental aspects, key impacts and mitigation measures as detailed in the EIS and planning permit report.
  - How adherence with Transgrid's EMS and existing processes and procedures will mitigate the risks associated with the operational phase.
  - Environmental management responsibilities and management structures related to the operational phase.
  - Environmental monitoring requirements associated with the operational phase.
  - Reporting requirements for Transgrid during the operational phase.

As per the NSW Infrastructure Approval, Project EnergyConnect West requires an approved environmental plan(s) to be in place and implemented for the construction and operational phases of the NSW project components. An approved Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) was in place for the construction component of the works and focused on construction phase mitigation measures.

2.2. Legislative and Regulatory Obligations

Key Commonwealth and State legislation relevant to the operation of Transgrid infrastructure is provided in Appendix A. The Appendix is sourced from Transgrid's Environmental Compliance Requirements Register (Doc ref: D2015/08881).

The Environmental Compliance Requirements Register is a vital part of Transgrid's Environmental Management System and is used to ensure policies and procedures that form part of the system take into consideration all aspects of legal and regulatory requirements across Transgrid's operations.

2.3. Approval Conditions

2.3.1. NSW

Infrastructure Approval, SSI10040, includes conditions of approval specifically in relation to the post-construction and operational phase of the project. Table 2-1Table 2-1 describes these commitments and provides a concordance table referencing where each item has been addressed in this OEMP.

Table 2-1: Infrastructure approval conditions of consent - operational phase

Reference	Description	OEMP reference
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	This document
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:	This OEMP has been prepared to compliment the Transgrid 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;	This OEMP Section 3 and Section 5
	b) issues identified through ongoing risk analysis can be managed	Section 3
	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;	Section 6.3
	d) there is a strategic framework for environmental management of the development;	Section 3
	e) the role, responsibility, authority and accountability of all key personnel involved in the environmental management of the development is clear; and	Section 4.1
	f) procedures are in place for: • keeping the local community and relevant agencies informed about the operation and environmental performance of the development;	Section 7
	• receiving, handling, responding to, and recording complaints;	Section 7
	• resolving any disputes that may arise.	Section 7
	• responding to any non-compliance; and	Section 7
	• responding to emergencies.	Section 7
C3	Prior to commencing operation, the OEMP or EMS or equivalent as agreed with the Planning Secretary must be prepared to the satisfaction of Planning Secretary.	This OEMP
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 40 dB(A) LAeq,15min, at the reasonably most affected point of the residence,	Section 5.2.2

	in accordance with the NSW Noise Policy for Industry (EPA, 2017) at any non-associated residence	
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.	Section 5.2.2
D12	The Proponent must undertake further noise monitoring of the development if required by the Planning Secretary.	Section 5.2.2
D28	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.	Section 5.2.3
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.	Section 5.2.4
D46	The Proponent must: a) minimise the fire risks of the development, including managing vegetation fuel loads on-site. b) ensure that the development: • complies with the relevant asset protection requirements in the RFS's Planning for Bushfire Protection 2019 (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	

<table>
<tr><td></td><td>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.
c) ensure that buildings within the compounds and accommodation camps comply with Australian Standard AS3959-2018 Construction of buildings in bushfire-prone areas (or equivalent) and RFS's Planning for Bushfire Protection 2019.
d) develop procedures to manage potential fires on site, in consultation with the RFS and FRNSW.
e) assist the RFS, FRNSW and emergency services as much as practicable if there is a fire in the vicinity of the site; and
f) notify the relevant local emergency management committee following completion of construction of the development, and prior to commencing operations.</td><td>a)-e) N/A for operational phase

Section 6.3</td></tr>
<tr><td>D48</td><td>Waste generated during construction, operation, upgrading and decommissioning must be dealt with in accordance with the following priorities:
a) waste generation must be avoided and where avoidance is not reasonably practicable, waste generation must be reduced.
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.</td><td>Section 5.1</td></tr>
<tr><td>D54</td><td>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>Objectives</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>• Always ensure public safety</td></tr>
</table></td><td>Section 5.2.9</td></tr>
<tr><td>E3</td><td>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</td><td>Section 6.3</td></tr>
</table>

	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.	
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.	Section 6.3
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.	Section 8
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.	Section 8
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.	Section 8

2.3.2. Commonwealth

Under the Commonwealth Approval – Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation – EPBC 2020/8673, the additional conditions of approval are relevant to the operational phase of this project.

Table 2-2: Conditions under Commonwealth Approval

Reference	Description	Addressed in OEMP
Condition 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: a) Publish each compliance report on the website within 60 business days following the relevant 12-month period b) Notify the Department by email 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	Section 6 Reporting requirements

	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	
Condition 14	Within 30 days after completion, the approval holder must notify the Department in writing and provide completion data ***Completion data*** *means an environmental report and spatial data clearly detailing how conditions of this approval have been met. The Department's preferred spatial data format is shapefile.*	This condition is the responsibility of the principal contractor and will be completed after the entirety of works under the Infrastructure approval has been completed.

2.3.3. EIS Mitigation Measures

As per EIS the following environmental aspects and mitigation measures relate to the operational phase of this project. These are as per requirements specified in the EIS and amendment report.

Table 2-3: EIS mitigation measures - operational phase

Reference	Description	OEMP reference
Biodiversity 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.	Section 5.2.3.1
Biodiversity 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.	Section 5.2.3.2
Biodiversity B19	Implement Transgrid's operational guidelines and requirements for the operations and maintenance of the proposal.	Section 5
Aboriginal Heritage 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.	Section 5.2.5
Land use and property LP10	Fencing and access arrangements along the transmission line easement, such as locked gates, will be determined in consultation with landholders and implemented.	Section 7.3 Section 5.2.6
Land use and property 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.	Section 5.2.7

Land use and property LP12	Where present within the operational transmission line easement and associated areas for permanent infrastructure, weeds will be managed in accordance with the Biosecurity Act 2015.	Section 5
Land use and property 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.	Section 5 Section 5.2.6
Landscape and visual amenity 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.	Section 5
Hydrology, flooding and water quality HF6	Maintenance works in the vicinity of waterways will be conducted in accordance with the Transgrid's HSE Guideline.	Section 5
Hazard and Risks 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 chemical volume contained within the bunded area. The location of the bunded enclosure/s will be shown on the site plans.	Section 5
Hazard and Risks 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.	Section 8.1
Hazard and Risks HR14	The proposal will be designed, operated and maintained in accordance with Transgrid's Bushfire Risk Management Plan and Bushfire Mitigation Plan (for assets in Victoria). This includes reduction in fuel loads, management of asset protection zones and inspections of infrastructure	Section 5
Hazard and Risks HR15	The Buronga substation Emergency Response Manual will be updated to include the new proposed design and required revised emergency response procedures.	Section 5.2.8
Waste Management 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.	Section 5
Waste Management WM8	All waste will be assessed, classified, managed and disposed of in accordance with the *Waste Classification Guidelines* (NSW EPA, 2014).	Section 5

2.3.4. Victoria

The approval for the Victorian section falls under Planning Permit (PA2101252). The following conditions apply to the operational phase of the project.

Table 2-4: Victorian Planning Permit - operational phase

Reference	Description	OEMP reference
VIC 3 (a-i)	After the installation of the infrastructure, a Rehabilitation Plan must be prepared and submitted for approval by Parks Victoria, via the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning. The plan must include: a) Statutory requirements and consultation. b) End use objectives and final concept plan including timelines for completion. c) Landscaping. d) Soil respreading. e) Revegetation. f) Runoff and erosion control. g) Removal of plant and equipment. h) Ongoing monitoring to ensure the successful establishment of the revegetated rehabilitated areas. Ongoing monitoring should occur for 3 years from the date of the works occurring and any diseased or dying vegetation should be replaced and ongoing weed control during the monitoring program; and i) Any special circumstances of the land and surrounding environment.	Section 5.2.9
VIC 4	Before any maintenance works start, an Asset Maintenance Plan must be submitted for approval by Parks Victoria via the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning. The Plan must outline how and when site maintenance will occur, types of maintenance activities and equipment to be used.	Section 3.2 and Transgrid ELCMP to be updated to include this.
VIC 5	The existing powerline alignment, to be decommissioned following the commissioning of the new towers, is to be rehabilitated to its original Ecological Vegetation Class. Decommissioning work is to be undertaken in accordance with the approved rehabilitation plan and as per *VEAC River Red Gum Recommendations 2008*, B Regional Parks.	To be completed by construction phase contractor
VIC 6	At the completion of works, the access track is to be freshly graded. It should be topped with limestone to a depth suitable to meet the future maintenance needs of TransGrid and meet the standards of the *DELWP-PV-Road Management Plan 2019* Class 5C Minor Public Road Standard to the satisfaction of Parks Victoria.	To be completed by construction phase contractor
VIC 7	Any damage to Mildura Rural City Council's assets including existing roads and tracks used during the construction phase will be the responsibility of the permit holder to maintain / rectify at completion of the works	To be completed by construction phase contractor
VIC 20	After the installation of the infrastructure, a Rehabilitation Plan to the satisfaction of the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning and Parks Victoria, must be submitted to and approved by	To be completed by construction phase contractor

	the responsible authority. When approved, the plans will be endorsed and will then form part of the permit. Once approved the plan must be implemented to the satisfaction of the department.	
VIC 22	To offset the removal of 5.417 hectares of native vegetation, the permit holder must secure native vegetation offsets, in accordance with the Guidelines for the removal, destruction or lopping of native vegetation (DELWP 2017)	Completed
VIC 27	The removed poles (including all associated materials and rubbish) must be removed from the site within 6 months of the completion of the replacement project.	To be completed by construction phase contractor
VIC 31	Details of all future works (including interface works) within AusNet Transmission Group's property must be submitted to AusNet Transmission Group and approved in writing prior to the commencement of work on site.	This will be managed by Transgrid Asset Management

2.3.5. Victorian Planning Permit Report Management Measures

As per the Planning Permit Report the following proposed management measures for risk management relate to the operational phase of this project.

Table 2-5: Planning Permit Report - operational phase

Reference	Description	OEMP reference
Bushfire Risk (BR)	The proposal would be designed, operated and maintained in accordance with *Transgrid Victorian Assets Bushfire Mitigation Plan* and *Transgrid Electric Line Clearance Management Plan 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2026*. This includes reduction in fuel loads in the transmission line corridor and inspections of infrastructure.	Section 5
Hydrology and Flooding (H&F)	Operational mitigation and management including managing spills, would be developed and implemented as part of the operations environment management plans for the proposal.	Section 8.1
Maintenance (Planning Permit Endorsed Plans)	Ensure future maintenance is completed in accordance with hygiene guidelines, including ensuring cleanliness of machinery and vehicles and minimising ground disturbance. Refer to s5.3.4.1 and s5.4 *PA2101252-Energy Connect Red Cliffs to Buronga Powerline Upgrade-Endorsed Plans*	Section 3

3. Transgrid Environmental Management System

Transgrid's Environmental Management System (EMS) is certified under the international standard, ISO 14001:2015. An EMS is part of an organisation's management system used to develop and implement its environmental policy and manage its environmental aspects and mitigate impacts.

Transgrid's EMS is designed to meet the commitments of its environment policy by identifying and assessing environmental risks, and where reasonable and practicable, implementing controls to avoid or limit these risks. Transgrid's EMS:

- Provides the framework for setting and reviewing environmental objectives and targets
- Provides an approach that recognises sensitive environmental and cultural sites on or near Transgrid infrastructure
- Integrates environmental management considerations into the maintenance, operation, commissioning and disposal of all assets
- Facilitates engagement with stakeholders regarding potential environmental or cultural impacts associated with Transgrid plans or activities
- Provides environmental training under Transgrid Environmental Rules to employees and Delivery Partners (contractors) to enable them to perform their duties in an environmentally sensitive manner.

Compliance with the policy, procedures, plans, handbook and guidance notes listed in Table 3-1in compliance with Transgrid's Environmental Management System (EMS) and the additional project specific requirements set out in this OEMP Section 5 will aid the organisation to meet the obligations set out in the Infrastructure Approval for this project.

Table 3-1: Transgrid policies and procedures - operational phase

Transgrid document	Purpose	Operational phase application
Transgrid's Environmental Policy	Outlines Transgrid's commitment to conducting its activities and services in a manner that minimises pollution and complies with relevant legislation, industry standards and codes of practice.	Applies to all activities and services undertaken from planning, building and operation of infrastructure, ongoing management of these assets and their decommissioning.
Transgrid's NSW Environmental Assessment Framework (EAF)	Outlines Transgrid processes for the categorisation and assessment of Transgrid's Actions as defined under the Network Operators Code of Practice for assets in NSW.	For works or actions required during the ongoing operational phase – the EAF provides an environmental risk assessment and mitigation measures for managing environmental aspects and impacts.
Transgrid's Victoria Environmental Assessment Framework (EAF)	Outlines Transgrid processes for the categorisation and assessment of Transgrid's Actions as defined under the Network Operators Code of Practice for assets in Victoria.	For works or actions required during the ongoing operational phase – the EAF provides an environmental risk assessment and mitigation measures for managing environmental aspects and impacts.

Transgrid document	Purpose	Operational phase application
Transgrid's Environmental Handbook	The Environmental Handbook provides the default level of environmental management for all staff and contractors	All actions / activities must be undertaken in accordance with Transgrid's Environmental Handbook during the operational phase of this project. All staff and delivery partners are instructed on the Environmental handbook as part of Environmental Authorisation training.
Environmental Guidance Notes (EGNs)	EGNs provide more detailed management requirements for specific environmental aspects and actions / activities.	There are numerous guidance notes with application during ongoing maintenance and other works during the operational phase. Application to specific environmental aspects is found in Table 5.1
Hot Work or Fire Risk Work Procedure	Identifies and manages the risks associated with Hot Work and Fire Risk Work conducted by Transgrid employees and contractors.	Applies to all Transgrid staff and contractors undertaking Hot Work or Fire Risk Work on Transgrid easements, access tracks, substations, switching stations, depots, buildings, communication facilities, perimeter lands and non-operational lands.
Site Management Plans	Site Management Plans for substations only are compiled for each managed site where minor maintenance activities are required on non-operational property (note: this doesn't include transmission line easements). 1. Mowing and slashing 2. Minor building maintenance. 3. Minor civil works involving maintenance and repair of services (such as water supply, sewer etc).	Provides task and site-specific environmental mitigation measures as required for non-operational Transgrid property/land.
Aboriginal Heritage Due Diligence Assessment	This Due Diligence Assessment includes Transgrid's Unexpected Finds Protocol	If previously unrecorded or unanticipated Aboriginal objects are encountered, the protocol provides guidance for action.
Environmental Spatial Data Due Diligence	Identifies the environmental spatial data that Transgrid utilises to undertake environmental constraints, risks and due diligence assessments within NSW and ACT	Provides assurance that the latest datasets are being utilised and that any risks associated with the spatial data have been considered and are documented.
Ecological Due Diligence Assessment	Transgrid's legal obligations in relation to the NSW Biodiversity Conservation (BC) Act (2016) and Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation (EPBC) Act (1999) the	Provides a process for Transgrid personnel and external contractors to assess the potential for harm to protected flora, fauna and ecological communities for Transgrid's construction and maintenance activities on Transgrid Managed Land

Transgrid document	Purpose	Operational phase application
	protection of animals and plants covered by both Acts.	
Authorisation to Work	This procedure applies to all workers requiring authorisation to access, observe or perform work on Transgrid sites	Ensures that all workers and contractors have an appropriate level of environmental training and competence as required for their specific role on site.
HSE Incident Management	This procedure sets out the process for health, safety and environmental hazard and incident management, and notification in Transgrid	Ensures that environmental incidents are reported to all relevant stakeholders.
HSE Inspection	This procedures sets out the process for =conducting health, safety and environment (HSE) inspections at Transgrid, to identify process improvements, highlight any further training or audit requirements and ultimately improve safety 'on the job' and across the business	Ensures operational environmental aspects are inspected.
Maintenance plan - Easements and Access tracks	Details the maintenance activities for easements and access tracks.	The plan includes - Vegetation Clearance Requirements to conductors. - management of hazard trees - Management of access tracks - Management of signage - Methods and frequency of maintenance activities. Section 7.7 details environmental requirements to be complied with during operational phase
Maintenance plan - Easements and Access tracks - Victoria	*Note for Assets located in Victoria there are specified vegetation maintenance standards and requirements detailed in Transgrid Victorian Assets Bushfire Mitigation Plan* and *Transgrid Electric Line Clearance Management Plan 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2026*	The plan includes vegetation management for lines in Victoria - Vegetation Clearance Requirements to conductors. - management of hazard trees - Management of access tracks - Methods and frequency of maintenance activities.
Maintenance plan - Substation assets	Details the preventative and corrective maintenance of substation assets installed in Transgrid substations	Section 22.1 details environmental requirements to be complied with during operational phase.
Maintenance Plan – Network Property	Details the preventative, condition based, and corrective maintenance requirements of	Section 5.2 Governing Principles notes that Network Property assets are designed to support Transgrid's objective of providing a

Transgrid document	Purpose	Operational phase application
	Network Property assets within Transgrid's network	safe, reliable, environmentally effective, and economic bulk electricity transmission network service to our customers and community.
Maintenance plan – Transmission line assets	Details the inspection and routine and corrective maintenance of all transmission lines assets maintained by Transgrid	Section 8.2 details environmental requirements to be complied with during operational phase.

3.1. Transgrid Environment Policy

Environment Policy

The Transgrid Group is committed to conducting its activities and services in a manner that protects the environment, prevents pollution, meets our compliance obligations, and supports the development of a green energy future. Transgrid actively supports and encourages employees and contractors to consider the environmental impact of their daily activities, aligning with our commitment to sustainability.

The Environment Policy covers all activities and services undertaken by the Transgrid Group including the planning, building and operation of infrastructure, ongoing management of these assets and their decommissioning.

We aim to enhance our systems and processes in a manner that promotes continuous improvement in environmental management and performance which will lead to the achievement of good industry practice and a reduction in our environmental footprint.

In meeting these commitments, Transgrid:

- Maintains an Environmental Management System that provides the framework for setting and reviewing our environmental objectives and targets, including the implementation, monitoring and review of these objectives and targets, as well as facilitating continuous improvement in environmental performance.
- Continues to develop systems that recognise sensitive environmental and cultural sites on or near our infrastructure and provides processes to manage our activities with the aim of preventing environmental harm or adversely impacting the environment.
- Integrates environmental management considerations into the planning, design, siting, construction, maintenance, operation, decommissioning, and disposal of all Transgrid assets.
- Provides environmental training, assessment, and authorisation under our Environmental Management System to employees and contractors to enable them to perform their duties in an environmentally sensitive manner.
- Engages with the community, customers, employees, government, and other stakeholders regarding potential environmental or cultural impacts associated with our plans and activities.
- Pursues opportunities to maximise resource efficiencies and reduce the generation of waste through reduction, reuse and recycling programs.
- Identifies, sets, and monitors realistic environmental performance measures and communicates them to all employees and stakeholders.

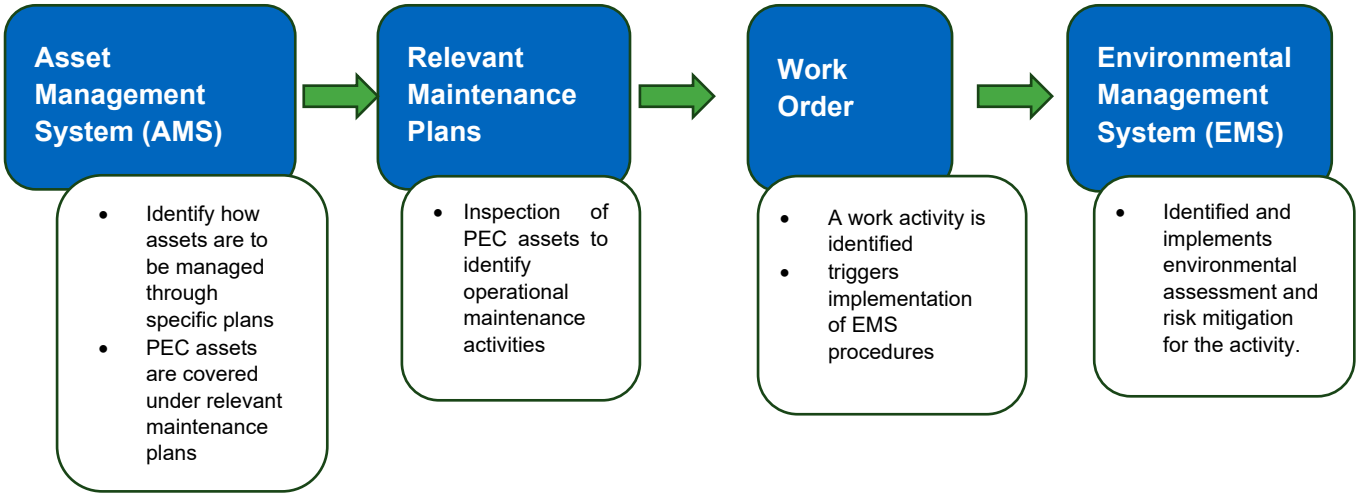
Approved by: Brett Redman, CEO, February 2024

Official

3.2. Asset Management System

Transgrid maintains an Asset Management System to identify how assets are managed, inspected and maintained. This Asset Management Plan interacts with the Transgrid EMS to ensure that environmental risk is managed as part of asset maintenance. The relationship with the EMS is as per below figure:

Figure 3-1: Interaction between Asset Management System and Environmental Management System



The expanded substation and transmission lines would be inspected by field staff and contractors on a regular basis, with other operational activities occurring in the event of an emergency, or for repair as required during the ongoing operational phase.

3.2.1. Risk management

Transgrid understands that the failure of an employee or a contractor to adhere to the conditions of approval, legislative requirements or environmental assessment requirements during the operational phase and maintenance activities presents a key area of potential environmental risk.

For most maintenance works required during the operational phase of the project, it is expected that the actions would meet the criteria for low or negligible risk, (refer to Appendix B of the Transgrid Environmental Assessment Framework for direction).

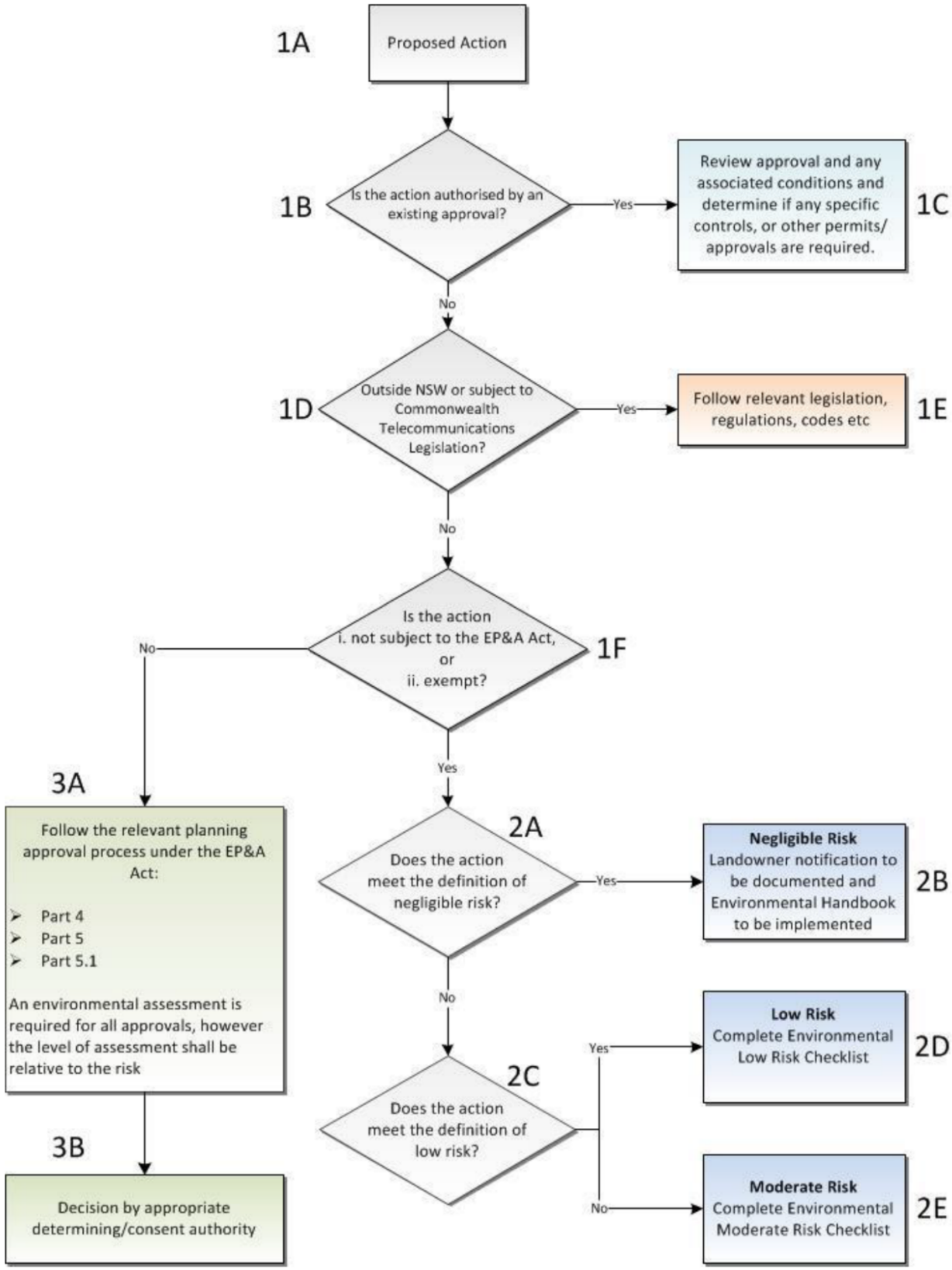
3.2.2. Environmental assessment framework

To mitigate this risk Transgrid has developed an *Environmental Assessment Framework (EAF)* to streamline the way maintenance activities are assessed. The EAF is designed to ensure that all Transgrid actions go through a risk review process prior to carrying out any work, and that the assessment is undertaken in line with current legislation and best practice. Figure 3-2 illustrates the process to be followed for any works to be undertaken. Note that for assets on Victoria, the *Environmental Assessment Framework (EAF) Victoria* is to be complied with.

Under the EAF:

- All operational phase activities will be appropriately assessed to identify environmental risks; and
- Mitigation measures to eliminate or minimize risks will be put in place *before* works are started.
- Work teams will be provided with clear instruction on environmental constraints.

Figure 3-3: Environmental Assessment Framework - decision making process



3.2.3. Transgrid Environmental handbook

Transgrid's environmental practises to be adhered to on site are set out in an Environmental Handbook. This is a practical focused, and easily accessible document with a focus on ground staff and contractors. The handbook includes mitigation measures for common environmental aspects and impacts that may be encountered during operational, and maintenance works on Transgrid assets.

The Handbook applies to Transgrid workers and contractors involved in the construction, operation and maintenance of the network. It specifies the minimum environmental controls for all construction and maintenance work on Transgrid's network. Note that additional task specific controls may be identified during the assessment phase. The Handbook applies to all construction and maintenance work and must be available on site.

3.2.4. Transgrid Environmental Guidance notes

Transgrid publishes environmental guidance notes to assist staff and delivery partners in understanding environmental aspects and impacts of activities undertaken on Transgrid sites. These include guidance on:

- Biosecurity (including for specific weed species)
- Access and Work Mandatory Environmental Controls
- Acid Sulphate Soils
- Bird Nest Removal
- Construction Noise
- Easement Environmental Aspects
- Excavation and Machine Work
- Flora Fauna, Ecological Communities and Sensitive Habitats
- Habitat Trees
- Heritage
- LiDAR Processes
- Minor Civil Works - Dewatering
- Minor Civil Works - Erosion and Sediment Control
  - Mulching and Slashing
  - Naturally Occurring Asbestos
  - Protected Land
  - Regulated Land
  - Working near Watercourses

The current publicly available versions of Transgrid Environmental Guides and procedures can be found here https://www.transgrid.com.au/community/environment

3.2.5. Environmental Critical risk Protocols

Transgrid's Environmental Critical Risk Protocols outline essential actions and practices to manage Transgrid's 5 Environmental critical risks, serving as a minimum line of defence against key risk areas that may lead to significant harm to the environment if not properly managed. These are listed below.

- Hot work
- Historical and legacy waste
- Failure to comply with environmental assessment and management requirements
- Access track management

- Biosecurity

Each Critical Risk has protocols that provide guidance to essential controls that apply to any job involving these risks, with expectations for both leaders and workers. All Transgrid employees and delivery partners must meet and understand these protocols for any work during the operational phase of this project. This is a recent concept for Transgrid, with continual improvement on-going to fully embedded these processes throughout the business.

4. Roles and Responsibilities

Transgrid has overall responsibility and accountability to ensure the Project EnergyConnect West is operated in compliance with the Infrastructure Approval.

4.1. Structure and Responsibilities

This section outlines the project specific organisation, indicating the hierarchy of all positions with environmental management responsibilities for the project. This section will include all roles and responsibilities that have been referred to throughout the OEMP. Responsibilities identified will include:

- Ongoing review of the OEMP
- Management of Environmental Inductions
- Ensuring that all staff are appropriately trained in the project's environmental and contractual requirements as set out in the OEMP
- Monitoring and reporting on the compliance with all the environmental requirements
- Reviewing and implementing Transgrid's environmental inspection and audit findings
- Authority to order Stop-Work
- Assignment of specific environmental control measures

Table 4-1: Project environmental responsibilities.

Role	Responsibility	Authority
General Manager Health Safety and Environment	• Oversee implementation of environmental management during the operational phase • Oversee review and amendments to OEMP as required	• Order Stop-work for an activity that may cause environmental harm. • Act on behalf of Transgrid with Environmental regulators • Notification to Environmental regulators for environmental incidents.
Senior Environment and Sustainability Manager	• Oversee implementation of Transgrid Environmental Management System (EMS). • Responsible for ensuring all Transgrid activities comply with relevant legislation, regulations and guidelines.	• Order Stop-work for an activity that may cause environmental harm. • Notification to Environmental regulators for environmental incidents. • Act on behalf of Transgrid with Environmental regulators
Environmental Business Partner	• Review and approve Environmental Moderate Risk Checklists	• Order Stop-work for an activity that may cause environmental harm.

Role	Responsibility	Authority
	• Inspect Maintenance Works as required or where directed (e.g. vegetation management works in National Parks) • Provide waste management and/or disposal advice as requested. • Reviewing and actioning environmental inspection and audit findings (if required). • Monitoring the environmental aspects of the work, particularly in relation to waste indigenous heritage, biodiversity management, access works, and soil management. • The timely and proper response to requests for information and environmental issues raised by regulatory bodies. • Inspection / review of environmentally sensitive sites prior to works.	• Approve material changes to environmental sub-plans. • Review of OEMP. • Respond to Environmental Hazards and Incidents where required.
All Transgrid staff and sub-contractors	• Work in accordance with this OEMP. • Work in accordance with the Transgrid Environmental Handbook. • Report and raise any issues that arise that may have an environmental impact. • Report and raise the discovery of any artefacts, Aboriginal relics or places and cease work until the matter has been addressed.	• Report any issues that may have the potential to cause environmental harm. • Report any incidents or near-misses that may impact on the environment in CAMMS or to their leader. • Respond to Environmental Hazards and Incidents where safe to do so. • Notify of environmental hazards and incidents.

4.2. Environmental Authorisation

4.2.1. Transgrid Environmental Authorisation

As part of the EMS, Transgrid maintains an environmental authorisation system to ensure that staff and contractors appropriately understand environmental risks and legislative requirements.

Transgrid have identified five levels of authorisation for environmental work (for both employees and contractors). All workers during the operational phase of this project will be trained to the appropriate level for their role as per the below levels (E1-E5):

E1 – Access and Inspection (Observation Only)

- This level of training is for people who are required to access Transgrid property, private lands and/or

public lands on behalf of Transgrid.

- It is for visual inspection and light vehicle access activities only.
- The E1 authorised person must ensure that access and inspection activities are undertaken with negligible environmental impact.

E1 Authorisation is not required for:

- People who are accessing/inspecting for the purposes of observation only and are supervised by an appropriately authorised person.
- People accessing Depot's for the purpose of office-based activities.
- Registered Aboriginal Parties.

E2 – Carry out Work

- This level of authorisation is for persons undertaking physical work activities on behalf of Transgrid.
- Persons undertaking work must do so in accordance with the requirements of the relevant Environmental Checklist, Environmental Guidance Notes and Transgrid's Environmental Handbook.
- E2 authorised persons must be supervised by an E3 authorised person, unless the work being undertaken is of negligible environmental risk as defined in Transgrid's Environmental Assessment Framework.
- If there is an Environmental Action Check associated with the work, there must be an E3 authorised supervisor.

E2 Authorisation is not required for

- Registered Aboriginal Parties, if directly supervised by an E3 authorised person or working under an existing Environmental Management Plan.

E3 – Supervise Work

- This level of authorisation is for persons supervising work or inducting others into the requirements of CEMPs, SMPs and SEPs.
- Persons supervising work must ensure that all work is undertaken in accordance with the requirements of the relevant Environmental Checklist, Environmental Guidance Notes and Transgrid's Environmental Handbook.

E4 – Prepare Environmental Checklists (Low and Moderate).

- This level of authorisation is for persons who prepare documentation for Transgrid's Environmental Checklists for Low-Risk and Moderate-Risk Actions (General, Vegetation, Water Crossing, Oil/PCB Management).
- Persons who hold an E4 authorisation may also approve the above-mentioned Environmental Checklists for Low and Moderate Risk Actions provided that no environmental triggers have been exceeded.

E5 – Prepare and Approve Environmental Documentation

- This level of authorisation is for persons who are approving Environmental Checklists for Moderate-Risk Actions (General, Handling, and Transport of PCB/Oil, Vegetation Maintenance and Access Tracks) where environmental triggers have been exceeded.

- Preparing environmental impact assessments (including Part 4, 5 and 5.1 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979) and preparing other environmental documentation (including CEMPs and SEPs).

5. Environmental Management During Operations

5.1. Key issue conditions: Environmental aspects, impacts and mitigation

All maintenance and works during the operational phase are to be undertaken as per the existing Transgrid EMS procedures. Project specific requirements from the Infrastructure Approval and EIS, are identified in Table 5-1. References to relevant Transgrid documents are included as hyperlinks for publicly available Transgrid documents. Note some documents are controlled internal documents, in this case the document reference is provided only (not hyperlinked).

Further project specific mitigation measures are in the OEMP reference sections as per below.

Table 5-1: Key Environmental aspects and impacts – operational and maintenance activities

Aspect	Potential Impact	Mitigation reference	Approval Condition
Noise	• Noise impacts above requirements to residences	• D2024/00104 Complaints and Enquiries Management Procedure • Operational noise review *OEMP Section 5.2.1* • Operational noise monitoring Section 5.2.2 • All maintenance and other operational phase works will be undertaken as per Transgrid Environmental Assessment Framework and Environmental Handbook • *Transgrid Environmental guidance note - out of hours construction noise*	CoA D9, D11 and D12
Biodiversity – fauna	• Impacts to fauna from operation • Impacts to from access track maintenance works	• Bird impact monitoring program. Refer to OEMP Section 5.2.3.1 • Transgrid Maintenance plan – Easement and Access tracks Section 7.7 Compliance with Environmental requirements • All maintenance and other operational phase works will be undertaken as per Transgrid Environmental Assessment Framework and Environmental Handbook Section 5.2 • *Environmental Guidance Note - Flora Fauna, Ecological Communities and Sensitive Habitats* • GIS Dataset currency maintained as per Transgrid procedure *Environmental Spatial Data Due Diligence*	CoA D28, B8, B9

Biodiversity – flora	• Impacts to vegetation from operation • Impacts to vegetation from maintenance of access tracks • Impacts to vegetation from maintenance of easements • Impact to biodiversity exclusion zones	• All maintenance and other operational phase works will be undertaken as per Transgrid Environmental Assessment Framework and Environmental handbook Section 5.1 • Transgrid environmental handbook Appendix 3 mulching and slashing • *Environmental Guidance Note - Flora Fauna, Ecological Communities and Sensitive Habitats* • *Environmental Guidance Note - Habitat Trees* • *Environmental Guidance Note - Mulching and Slashing* • GIS Dataset currency maintained as per Transgrid procedure *Environmental Spatial Data Due Diligence*	B19
Rehabilitation	• Impact to ancillary sites, accommodation camps and earthwork material sites	• *OEMP Section 5.2.9*	D54 VIC 3h VIC 20
Heritage	• Impact to Aboriginal heritage item • Impact to non-Aboriginal heritage item • Unexpected finds	• All maintenance and other operational phase works will be undertaken as per Transgrid Environmental Assessment Framework (Aboriginal Heritage Due Diligence Assessment procedure) and Environmental Handbook Section 6 • *Environmental Guidance Note - Heritage* • *OEMP Section 5.2.5* • GIS Dataset currency maintained as per Transgrid procedure *Environmental Spatial Data Due Diligence*	AH12
Biosecurity	• Spread of weeds and pathogens to and from Transgrid land • Application of pesticides	• All maintenance and other operational phase works will be undertaken as per Transgrid Environmental Handbook Section 5.4 • Victorian spans to be in compliance with plans agreed to with Parks Victoria as per Planning Permit (PA2101252) V04. • Application of pesticides will be undertaken as per Use of Pesticides and Approved Schedule of pesticides procedure as well as	LP11, LP12

		Environmental handbook Section 3.3 Pesticides • *Environmental Guidance Note – Biosecurity* • *Awareness of priority weeds as per OEMP Section 5.2.7.1* • GIS Dataset currency maintained as per Transgrid procedure *Environmental Spatial Data Due Diligence*	
Waste	• Generation of waste materials during the operational phase	• All maintenance and other operational phase works will be undertaken as per Transgrid Environmental Handbook Section 4.3 and 4.4 • *Transgrid procedure - Waste Management* • *Transgrid pesticide use notification plan* • Transgrid Easement Guidelines.	CoA D48, WM7, WM8
Contamination	• Unexpected finds • Asbestos works	• All maintenance and other operational phase works will be undertaken as per Transgrid Environmental Handbook Section 4.5 • All maintenance and other operational phase works will be undertaken as per Transgrid environmental handbook Section 4.1 asbestos • Transgrid Easement Guidelines	
Hazards - Bushfire risk	• Damage to Transgrid or other infrastructure • Starting bushfire due to operational works	• Electricity Network Safety Management System (ENSMS) Description • Formal Safety Assessments (FSA) – Bushfire – Public Safety – Environment and property • All maintenance and other operational phase works will be undertaken as per Transgrid Environmental Handbook Section 5.3 • Transgrid will maintain vegetation adjacent to assets to mitigate and reduce fire risk • *Fire Risk Assessment and Control Measures FRACM* • Transgrid has a network *Bushfire Risk Management Plan* that details Transgrid's management of bushfire risks in NSW and the ACT. This includes the effective	HR14, HR15 BR

		management of the risks to an acceptable risk level in accordance with the Bushfire Formal Safety Assessment and ENSMS. The Plan demonstrates compliance with the NSW Electricity Network Safety Management System Regulation (2014). • On Victorian Spans: – *Transgrid Victorian Assets Bushfire Mitigation Plan* – *Transgrid Electric Line Clearance Management Plan 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2026*	
Hazards – chemical or hazardous substances	• Storage of oil and other hazardous materials	• All handling and storage of hazardous chemicals will comply with Transgrid procedure: *Hazardous Chemicals Storage and Transport Procedure D2003/1790.* • *Environmental Guidance Note: Transport of Harmful Materials and Spill Response* • All transport of chemical will comply with Transgrid procedure: *Hazardous Chemicals Handling, Storage and Transport Procedure* • Oil Management (such as for electrical equipment) as per the Transgrid Procedure: *Oil Management D2003/2180*. • All Transgrid substations have an *Emergency Response Manual* that describes the roles and responsibilities, response to incidents, procedures and oil containment/spill management and equipment. • Any spill of hazardous materials or hydrocarbons will be minimised and spills will be cleaned up as soon as possible after they occur.	HR12
Soils and water	• Soil erosion and offsite sedimentation • Spills and chemical release to land or water • Impacts to waterways	• All maintenance and other operational phase works will be undertaken as per Transgrid Environmental Handbook Appendix 1 working near watercourses and Appendix 2 Excavation and machine work • Victorian spans to be in compliance with plans agreed to with Parks	HF6 H&F

		Victoria as per Planning Permit (PA2101252) V04. • All maintenance and other operational phase works will be undertaken as per Transgrid environmental handbook Section 3 chemical management • All maintenance and other operational phase works will be undertaken as per Transgrid environmental handbook Section 2.1 erosion and sediment control • *Environmental Guidance Note - Excavation and Machine Work* • *Environmental Guidance Note - Minor Civil Works - ESC* • *Environmental Guidance Note - Working near Watercourses* • *Environmental Guidance note - Pollution Incident response*	
Visual amenity	• Visual impacts to residences • Obtrusive substation lighting	• *OEMP Section 5.2.4* • *Environmental Impact Assessments (per Code of Practice for Authorised Network Operators)* • Lighting requirements have been designed as part of the detailed design process (for Construction). During operation lighting will be operated as per the approved designs.	CoA D41, LV9
Land use	• Land access • For any operational activities undertaken on transmission line easements or other property	• *OEMP section 5.2.6* • *Environmental Guidance Note – Access and Work Mandatory Environmental Controls* • Easement Guidelines • Subdivision and Development Guidelines.	LP10, LP13
Air quality	• Dust, smoke, fumes and odours can adversely impact the environment, human health and property	• *Environmental Handbook, Section 2.2*	
Hot works	• Bushfire from maintenance and operation activities	• *Hot work and fire risk work procedure* • *Hot work permit* • *Fire Risk Assessment and Control Measures (FRACM)*	

5.2. Operational Environmental Management project specific requirements

5.2.1. Operational noise review

Transgrid engaged a suitably qualified and experienced consultant (Renzo Tonin and Associates) to undertake an Operational Noise Review (ONR) of the project. The operational noise review collated all the

relevant environmental noise assessments and design reports prepared for the Transmission Lines and the Buronga Substation operations. This review was required per Conditions of the project Infrastructure Approval SSI 10040.

The ONR identified only one location near a transmission line, a large shed (small living area) on Low Darling Road Wentworth, could potentially exceed the 40dB(A) trigger level .

Consultation with the only impacted landowner identified that the shed is utilised on infrequent occasions and there are no permanent residents occupying the shed and any noise created from the development on the property would not be an issue to the users of the shed.

The approved noise consultant prepared a consultation strategy to seek feedback from directly affected landowners on operational noise mitigation measures that may be applied at an affected property.

Refer to *Operational Noise Review - EnergyConnect - NSW Western Section* (Doc ref: TL486-02F04 - Renzo Tonin and Associates 27/2/2023) for further details.

Complaints management is to be managed as per Section 7.3 of this OEMP by Transgrid. With regards to noise related complaints. When a complaint specific to operational noise is received, the following procedure will be carried out:

- Review and investigate the nature of the complaint to determine the potential cause of the complaint.
- If determined necessary and subject to the complainant's consent, conduct noise monitoring at the complainant's property to quantify the nature of the complaint.
- Subject to monitoring results, review and/or inspect all reasonable and feasible mitigation measures implemented to confirm the adequacy of the implemented noise mitigation.
- Where the noise mitigation measures are deemed to be not adequate, investigate any additional or alternative reasonable and feasible noise mitigation measures.

Note that further consultation on noise mitigation measures at Buronga substation is not required as the existing mitigation measures show that noise predictions are anticipated to comply with the project's noise trigger levels at all potentially affected receivers.

5.2.2. Noise monitoring

Within 6 months of the commencement of operation Transgrid will undertake noise monitoring to determine whether the development is complying with the conditions of approval. Transgrid has engaged Renzo Tonin and Associates.

Monitoring of operational noise shall be undertaken in accordance with conditions D9, D11 and D12, as deemed necessary, and the methodology is as follows:

- Project documentation review – including ONR and NIA acoustic assessment, Conditions of Approval, operational information and prevailing meteorological conditions historical data.
- Operational noise monitoring - determine the monitoring conditions are suitable in the upcoming period, prepare and send the monitoring equipment.
- Conduct site visits

  - transmission lines (receiver locations on Low Darling Road, Wentworth (Receivers 1489, 2022, 2023) – deploy up to 5 unattended noise monitors (with solar panels and an onsite temperature and humidity logger and 4G access).
  - Buronga substation - deploy up to 2 unattended noise monitors at the boundary of the substation, or at a defined point (ie. 100m from the boundary), as an intermediate monitoring point.

- Assessment and analysis
  - Attended noise monitoring analysis - analyse the attended noise monitoring to estimate the likely noise emission levels.
  - Unattended noise monitoring analysis - Review the noise monitoring data and correlate with meteorological conditions to determine highest noise emission levels. Confirm/correlate with the at-corridor monitoring data that data is likely controlled by transmission lines (ie. via audio) and estimate the operational noise emissions at receivers.
  - Noise modelling (simple modelling) - where required to assist with operational noise emission estimations, use a simple noise model to extrapolate the noise emissions from noise generating equipment to the required receivers and estimate the operational noise levels to correlate with at-receiver monitored estimates.

- Noise monitoring report (single consolidated report for the monitoring periods), including:
  - Summary of the operational noise compliance measurements undertaken.
  - Summary of the operational noise sources.
  - Summary of the measured noise levels and the estimated operational noise levels.
  - Review of the estimated operational noise levels against the CoC noise limits.
  - Outline any management actions to be taken to address any exceedances of the noise limits.

During the period from operations to the completion of the operational noise monitoring, the development will operate under Transgrid procedure: Environmental Assessment Framework and the Environmental Handbook.

Once completed, Transgrid will submit a copy of the monitoring results to the Planning Secretary. Further noise monitoring may be required if directed by the Planning Secretary.

The OEMP will be reviewed, and updated if required, after the noise monitoring is conducted within 6 months of the operations.

5.2.3. Biodiversity

5.2.3.1. Bird impact monitoring

Transgrid has engaged a consultant (WSP) to prepare and implement a bird impact monitoring program (BIMP) in accordance with project condition D28, REMM mitigation measures B6 and B8, and the PECw BDAR.

- This monitoring program (BIMP) will start from commencement of asset operation and include:
  - Transgrid facilitated engagement with the department (where required)
  - Development of a bird impact monitoring program and methodology
  - Quarterly monitoring (in each season) at a minimum three BDAR specified wetland/riverine locations for all nominated key species. BDAR nominated key species include *Haliaeetus leucogaster* (White-bellied Sea Eagle), *Hamirostra melanosternon* (Black-breasted Buzzard),

Hieraaetus morphnoides (Little Eagle), *Lophochroa leadbeateri* (Pink Cockatoo) and *Polytelis anthopeplus monarchoides* (Regent Parrot (eastern subspecies))

- Monitoring will be undertaken for a period of two years
- Annual reports of the results of the field surveys will be prepared at the end of Year 1 and Year 2, and provided to the Department and BCS for information.
- The annual reports will provide insight into bird strike matters associated with the asset and nominated species, and report on the effectiveness of mitigation measures applied during construction.
- The annual reports will also provide monitoring program recommendations, and detail opportunities for further proposed mitigation measures (should a need be identified)
- Transgrid will further engage with the department should an additional need for mitigation measures be identified. Where such additional measures need to be applied, Transgrid will review proposed measures for feasibility, and if viable seek internal asset management support for implementation.
- The need for additional bird impact monitoring will be considered should additional mitigation measures be applied. Also refer to Table 5-1 for key impacts biodiversity – flora and fauna.

5.2.3.2. Study of impact of electric and magnetic fields on birds

Transgrid has made a one-off funding contribution to Charles Sturt University (CSU) to sponsor a PhD research proposal, looking at the impacts of electric and magnetic fields on birds in Australia. This contribution meets the requirements of project condition D28(b) and REMM B9. CSU have advised their research scope as follows:

- To determine if powerlines and transmission networks induce significant effects on scavenger/predator behaviour and increase carcass removal rates in comparison to non-powerline areas
- To determine if current assessments of mortality provide accurate assessments of powerline-based mortality
- To determine if transmission towers act as a suitable nesting site for birds of prey and could additional mitigation measures be used to bolster these populations along transmission lines; and
- To determine if powerlines and associated transmission networks significantly affect agricultural production systems by increasing pest animal removal through predation

The scope of the study is at the discretion of CSU academic endorsement and not subject to Transgrid or departmental review. CSU have advised the end date for study as ‘no later than October 2027’ at which point the final PHD thesis will be prepared.

5.2.4. Transgrid is committed to facilitating access to network and asset data to aide this research proposal, and assisting CSU gain access to site for field observations. CSU will provide Transgrid the results of the study, and with CSU endorsement the results will be provided to the department (BCS) at the conclusion of the PHD thesis (at a minimum).Visual amenity

For a period of 2 years from the commencement of operations, the owners of properties R1489, R2022 and R2023 may request Transgrid to implement visual impact mitigation measures on their land to minimise the visual impacts of the development on their residence (unless the Planning Secretary agrees otherwise), in accordance with condition D41.

If Transgrid receives such a written request from the owner of these residences, then will implement appropriate mitigation measures (such as landscaping and vegetation screening) in consultation with the owner.

All agreed mitigation measures must be implemented within 12 months of receiving the written request unless the Planning Secretary agrees otherwise.

If Transgrid 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.

Note that further 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.

Any requirements and ongoing consultation with property owners during operation will be recorded in Transgrid's *Salesforce* program. *Salesforce* is Transgrid record keeping platform for all management interactions with property owners.

5.2.5. Heritage

All known sites below as defined in the Heritage report as part of EIS (*Technical paper 2 Non-Aboriginal & Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report* Navin Officer, Oct 2020) and any unexpected finds or changes to cultural heritage sites, including potential Archaeological Deposits, as a result of test excavation and salvage are to be mapped and recorded within GIS systems managed by Transgrid prior to any operational maintenance or works occurring in accordance with mitigation measures AH12.

Where extant known Aboriginal sites are located close to maintenance activities or works during for the operational phase of the project, mitigation measures to protect the sites include:

- Mapping of heritage sites on construction plans – access Transgrid GIS for information
- Ensure that known sites are marked on work plans before commencing work
- All staff and contractors to be made aware of identified heritage sites/areas and the control measures to protect heritage items including tagging/barricading sites prior to the commencement of work. This is managed through our Environmental Assessment Framework process and Contractor HSE Management procedure.
- Any excavation or ground disturbing works in the vicinity of identified cultural heritage sites must be reviewed by a Transgrid Environment Business Partner (E5)

If any unexpected finds are found during the operation phase of the project, they will be managed in accordance with Transgrid procedure – Aboriginal Heritage Due Diligence Assessment (Appendix D – Unexpected Finds Protocol) and Environmental Guidance Note - Heritage.

5.2.6. Land Use and Property

Fencing and access arrangements along the transmission line easement will be determined in consultation with the landholders (see Section 7.3), to meet the requirements of mitigation measure LP10. The requirements for access are recorded on Transgrid's spatial system (GIS) once agreements with landholders are determined, which is used to confirm the requirements prior to any works.

5.2.7. Biosecurity

5.2.7.1. Weeds

Two priority weeds for the Western region are identified within the Project area:

- *Lycium ferocissimum* (African boxthorn)
- *Opuntia ficus-indica* (Indian fig)

Land managers should mitigate the risk of new weeds being introduced to their land and should mitigate spread from their land. These plants should not be carried or released into the environment.

During Construction, where observed, the above weeds were either removed or if not located in areas subject to construction activity were delineated as no go areas.

In addition to priority weeds and, the following were also recorded as known in the region:

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

Known/recorded infestations of weeds will be recorded spatially in Transgrid's operational systems. All workers on site are to be made aware of weed species.

5.2.7.2. Biosecurity requirements adjoining lands

Operational biosecurity requirements are to be confirmed in consultation with any affected landholders in accordance with mitigation measure LP11.

All operational access and activity would be limited to properties that are transmission line easement or access easement affected.

Any required biosecurity controls for weeds, disease and other pathogens will be implemented during operational maintenance and management measures implemented to minimise the risk of off-easement transport or spread of diseases, pests or weeds during maintenance activities.

5.2.8. Hazards and risks – Buronga substation

The Buronga substation Emergency Response Manual has been updated to include the required revised emergency response procedures as per the requirements of mitigation measure HR15.

Transgrid will undertake a review to confirm if the manual requires an update post construction.

Refer to Transgrid Document: B*uronga 330kV Switching Substation Emergency Response Manual: MNASUB-ERM-302 Rev 12*.

5.2.9. Rehabilitation

Rehabilitation of ancillary facilities, accommodation camps and earthwork material sites are required within six months following the completion of construction, upgrading or decommissioning by NSW Infrastructure approval condition D54. A rehabilitation plan (Appendix B) will be prepared by Transgrid to ensure the rehabilitation complies with the objectives identified in Table 3 of the NSW Infrastructure approval.

A rehabilitation plan is required following the installation of the infrastructure for the Victorian component of the works. The rehabilitation plan is the responsibility of the contractor delivering Project EnergyConnect. The plans will be prepared to comply with the requirements of Condition 3 and 20 of the planning permits.

5.2.10. Waste Management

All maintenance and other operational phase works will be undertaken as per the following Transgrid documents:

- *Transgrid procedure - Waste Management*
- *Transgrid Environmental Handbook Section 4.3 and 4.4*
- Transgrid Easement Guidelines.
- Transgrid Work Instruction - Waste Management of Spoil
- Transgrid Work Instruction - Waste Management of Oil and Oil-Filled Assets
- Transgrid Work Instruction – Disposal of Asbestos
- Pollution Incident Response Management Plan – Transportation of Waste

These documents describe the processes for the storage, transportation and disposal of goods, assets and other solid or liquid wastes (collectively referred to as wastes) in a manner compliant with environmental legislation.

5.2.11. Flooding

Flooding has been addressed in a number of ways for the project including the EIS technical reports and detailed design of Buronga Substation and transmission lines.

The Buronga Substation is not located on flood prone land.

Some transmission line structures and footings are within flood prone land, however the transmission line structures above the footing consists of largely open space with connections to the footing. It is not anticipated that there would be significant impacts to flood behaviour from the presence of this infrastructure such as changes to flood levels, depth or velocities.

For any works undertaken, Transgrid adheres to the requirements of the Blue Book, including detailed erosion and sediment control plans and Soil and Water Management Plans by a CPESC.

6. Environmental Monitoring and Review

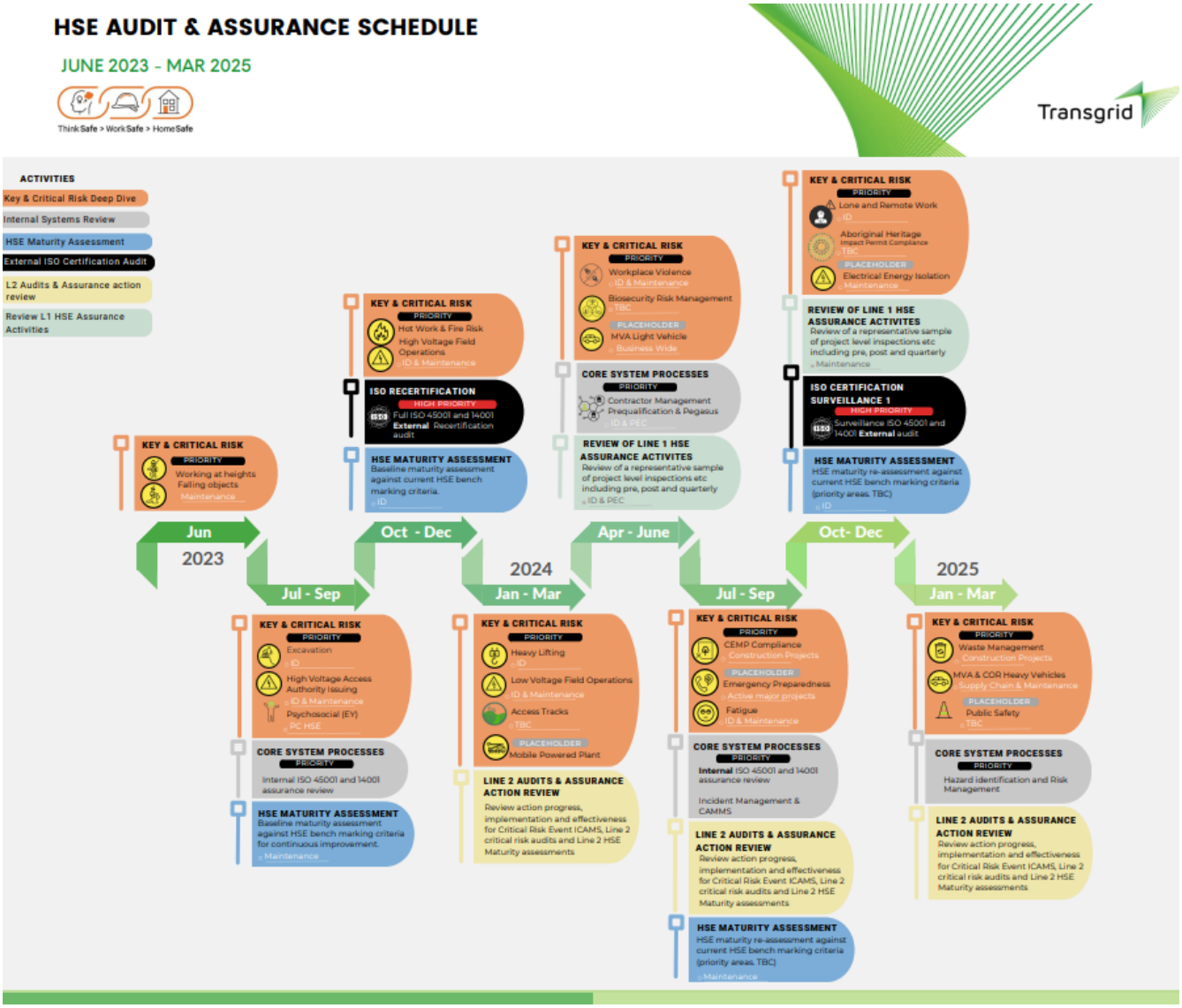
6.1. Environmental Monitoring of Operations

The purpose of ongoing monitoring is to continue to identify the potential for environmental impacts, and to determine whether controls, management and mitigation measures are applied and are effective in their methodology for the operational phase of the project.

6.2. Environmental Monitoring and Auditing

Transgrid will undertake ongoing monitoring and auditing of operations as per the HSE Audit and Assurance Schedule. The Schedule is focused on Critical Risks.

Figure 6-1: Transgrid HSE Audit and assurance schedule 2023-2025



Official

The Transgrid procedure: *Health Safety and Environment (HSE) Audit and Assurance* sets out the process for the planning, conduct and reporting of environmental audits. This procedure applies to internal and external environmental audits to ascertain compliance with:

- Transgrid's Environmental Management System,
- Environmental policies and procedures,
- Project's specific management plans
- Legislative requirements
- Memorandum of understandings with agencies such as NPWS
- Environmental licences and permits, and
- Any other requirements

6.2.1. Environmental Inspections

The Transgrid procedure: *Health, Safety and Environmental Inspection* sets out the process for conducting environment inspections at Transgrid, to identify process improvements and highlight any further training or audit requirements.

6.3. Reporting requirements

As per the NSW Infrastructure approval the following reporting requirements are detailed in Table 6-1 and includes the reporting timeframe.

These reporting requirements have also been captured in Transgrid's Health Safety Environment and Network Safety Communication and Reporting procedure to ensure these requirements have been embedded with 'business as usual' practices.

Table 6-1: Reporting requirements - operational

Reporting requirement	Timeframe for delivery	Delivered to	Responsible
C1 OEMP must be approved prior to commencing operation	Prior to commencing *operations*	Planning Secretary	Project Environment and Sustainability Manager
E3 Transgrid to notify the of the date of commencing the operational phase	Prior to commencing *operations*	Department in writing via the Major Projects website portal	Project Environment and Sustainability Manager
E4, Transgrid must submit plans that confirm the constructed layout of the development and showing comparison to the final layout plans	Prior to commencing *operations*	Planning Secretary, via the Major Projects website.	Project Environment and Sustainability Manager
D46 (f) Transgrid to notify the relevant local emergency management committee of completion	Following completion of construction and prior to commencing operations.	Local emergency services	Project Environment and Sustainability Manager
EPBC C8 Transgrid to submit a EPBC	For each 12-month period following the date	Notify the Department by email that a compliance	Senior Environment and Sustainability

compliance report holder must: Note: Exclude or redact sensitive ecological data from compliance reports published on the website 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	of commencement of the action, (or as otherwise agreed in writing by the Minister). Transgrid to publish each compliance report on their website within 60 business days following the relevant 12-month period for the duration of operation unless otherwise directed by the Commonwealth	report has been published on the website and provide the weblink for the report	Manager (once in operation)
EPBC C14, Transgrid to notify the Department in writing and provide Completion data (an environmental report and spatial data clearly detailing how conditions of this approval have been met)	Within 30 days after completion	The Department's preferred spatial data format is shapefile.	Project Environment and Sustainability Manager
D10 Operational Noise Review	Within 12 months of commencement of operation	Planning Secretary - completed	Project Environment and Sustainability Manager
D10 Appointment of Noise Expert	Completed		
D11 Operational Noise Monitoring	Within 6 months of commencement of operation	Provided for information	Project Environment and Sustainability Manager
D39 Post-Construction Dilapidation Report	Within 1 month of completion of construction, upgrading or decommissioning	To be prepared by construction contractor	Project Environment and Sustainability Manager
E3 Notification of commencement of future upgrading or decommissioning	Prior to commencing the relevant phase	Provided for information	Project Environment and Sustainability Manager
E5 Work as Executed Plans prior to commencing operations	Prior to commencing operations	Provided for information	Project Environment and Sustainability Manager
E6 Notification of Incident	Immediately upon becoming aware of the incident Information	Planning Secretary, via the Major Projects website.	Senior Environment and Sustainability Manager (once in operation)

E7 Notification of Non-compliance	Compliance Within seven days upon becoming aware of any non-compliance Information	Planning Secretary, via the Major Projects website.	Senior Environment and Sustainability Manager (once in operation)

7. Stakeholder and Community Engagement

7.1. Government Agency Consultation

For ongoing correspondence with government, outside the mandated reporting requirements set out in section 6.3, all written government enquiries must be responded to in the timeframe determined by the relevant department or Minister.

Response to government enquiries is to be drafted in one of the following formats:

- A letter directly from the Transgrid CEO or relevant Executive General Manager to the enquirer
- A draft response requiring the signature of the relevant State or Federal MP or Minister.

All written Government correspondence must be recorded in accordance with Transgrid's CEMS.
All ministerial enquiries must be referred to the Government and Stakeholder Relations team.

7.2. Project Handover

Once the project is completed, there will be an initial handover from Elecnor to Transgrid operations team. This will include the expectations for the maintenance of the project and will be updated in Transgrid's operational spatial system (GIS) to ensure the information is captured.

7.3. Landowner Consultation

During the construction phase, consultation and negotiation of fencing and gates for both construction and operation is managed by the Construction phase Contractor. Transgrid provides information to the Contractor detailing preferences for operational access to be negotiated with property owners. In almost all instances access will be via access points and access tracks constructed/used in the construction phase of the project.

During operations, Transgrid will consult with landowners through the Environmental Assessment Framework (and Preparation and Approval of Environmental Checklists procedure) which requires Transgrid staff to complete a property owner access check in Transgrid's operational spatial system (GIS) and ensure this consultation is documented in the relevant environmental checklist.

Property specific biosecurity requirements are documented in Transgrid procedure: Biosecurity and will be included in Transgrid's operational spatial system (GIS). Transgrid procedures mandate that prior to access a *Property Check* is undertaken to determine access requirements, including for biosecurity.

In accordance with mitigation measure LP10 and LP11 and Infrastructure approval D41.

Transgrid maintains an external website which provides information to the community (including landowners) including the Land Access Code of Conduct, and support services for landowners.

7.4. Complaints handling

Transgrid maintains a Complaints and Enquiries policy, which will be relevant for the operational phase of this project.

Transgrid commits to provide timely, accurate and consistent responses to all complaints and enquiries related to Transgrid operations and services.

Transgrid aim to resolve all complaints and enquiries at the first point of contact.

Where this is not possible and further investigation may be required, Transgrid will aim to acknowledge receipt of the complaint or enquiry within 2 business days and provide a resolution/response within 10 business days.

If Transgrid are unable to meet these timeframes, the complainant will be advised of a suggested course of action and timeframe, as well as the name of a contact person for any further queries regarding the matter.

Transgrid will respond via the same channel as the complaint or enquiry is received unless advised otherwise.

7.5. Dispute resolution

In a case where Transgrid has attempted to resolve the complaint, exhausting all available options to reach an agreed outcome, and the complainant remains unsatisfied with the action taken, the following steps may apply:

- The Responsible Transgrid Officer will inform the stakeholder they have a right to raise the complaint to a higher level within our management structure to review and address the complaint
- After further internal investigation, if a complaint cannot be resolved to a stakeholder's satisfaction, or the stakeholder's conduct is believed to be unreasonable, the stakeholder should be advised to contact the Australian Energy Infrastructure Commissioner (AEIC), the Energy & Water Ombudsman of New South Wales (EWON) or if relevant, the Energy & Water Ombudsman of Victoria (EWOV).
- If a complaint is unable to be resolved through referral to the AEIC, EWON or EWOV, Transgrid may make a determination to cease efforts to resolve the complaint.
- If either of the above actions are required, details must be recorded in Salesforce.

8. Environmental Hazard and non-conformance

Potential hazards and incidents for the operational phase of this project (not exclusively) may comprise actual or potential harm, including:

- Oil or fuel spills or other Pollution incidents.
- Inappropriate disposal of waste
- Encroachment into No Go Zones
- Damage to cultural heritage
- Damage to flora / fauna
- Damage to habitat
- Uncontrolled Hot Work /Fire Risk Work
- Unauthorised ground disturbance
- Non-compliance with environmental mitigation measures or Conditions of Approval

In the first instance, all hazards, incidents, including near miss incidents, must be reported within one hour to the Supervisor/Team leader who will determine the appropriate course of action.

The supervisor may contact Transgrid HSE Group for advice and assistance.

8.1. Environmental Incidents

For any suspected environmental incident, Transgrid staff and delivery partners are to follow the incident response procedure as set out in the Transgrid Environmental Handbook and provide in Figure 8-1.

In the event of an environmental incident, staff must take all reasonable and practical measures to minimise the impacts of the incident on the environment if safe to do so.

Figure 8-1: Environmental Incident response

Transgrid employees can find further information in the HSE Incident Notification procedure.

If pollution goes unreported, the people who know of the incident can be fines up to $500,000 and a further $120,000 each day the offence goes unreported.

Oil spill into a waterway

Environmental Pollution Incidents:

- A spill of sediment in a sensitive area, drain or waterway
- Any volume of oil or chemical spilled on or off-site
- A spill that contains hazardous materials such as PCB or mercury

Other Environmental Incidents:

- Discovering contamination
- Damage to heritage items
- Unauthorised vegetation clearing
- Illegal waste disposal (e.g. asbestos dumping)
- Works without the necessary approval, licence or permit

Critical Risk Incidents are those incidents that cause or threaten significant or serious environmental harm.

These include:

- Pollution incidents reportable under the POEO Act
- Significant planning and conservation breaches
- Significant unauthorised vegetation clearing
- Damage to a heritage item

In the case of an incident, Transgrid employees must report the incident to their supervisor/team leader and enter the incident details into the CAMMS Incident Reporting Module at the earliest possible opportunity.

Contact Transgrid's HSE Group if you require any assistance.

For pollution incidents that fall into the Critical Risk (CR) category and are potentially reportable to the regulator, please contact the Senior Environment and Sustainability Manager for advice

If neither can be contacted within a reasonable time period, notify the appropriate authorities immediately.

Refer to HSE External reporting of incidents on the Wire.

8.2. Incident Management

Management of response to hazards and incidents that occur must be in accordance with the requirements of Transgrid's Hazard, risk, waste, incident, audit and compliance management system (CAMMS) and the *HSE Incident Management* procedure.

For incident management purposes, the following information must be provided for all hazards and incidents:

- Location, time and duration of hazard or incident.
- Site details: address and site description.
- Hazard / Incident details:
- A description of the hazard / incident and what happened (an estimation of quantity if a spill),
- Actions taken to deal with the hazard / incident,
- Names of persons who may have witnessed the hazard / incident, and
- Provide details of other stakeholders or properties affected (including adjacent land uses) by the hazard / incident.

All workers have an obligation to notify and escalate incidents as soon as possible. Once the site has been controlled, the following notifications must be completed:

- Emergency Notifications - Ambulance, Fire, Police via 000 (externally), 0 – 000 (internal phone system) or 112 from a mobile phone out of a service coverage area, Transgrid Control Room via 555 and alert to other workers/persons in the area of the situation to warn of danger/evacuation.
- Management notification – line leader or next up in reporting line in the organisational structure
- GM of Health, Safety and Environment – all major and catastrophic incidents must be reported to the GM of Health, Safety and Environment as soon as practicable.
- HSE notification – Safety and Environment Delivery team to determine if the incident is notifiable and whether scene requires preserving. Safety and Environment Delivery to contact the HSE/PC&S team to determine if the incident is notifiable to the regulator. All regulator notifications must be done in line with the requirements of the HSE External Notification of Incidents procedure.
- System notification – all incidents must be reported in CAMMS, Transgrid's hazard and incident reporting system.

Note: Should any person in the normal notification process not be contactable (in person) then the notification must be escalated to the next person in the organisation chart and so on until 'in person' contact has been established and the incident notified. A message must be left at each contact point in the process where the person was unable to be reached.

Any incidents (where material harm to the environment has occurred) must be reported to the Senior Environment and Sustainability Manager who will advise the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (DPHI), or any other authorities in consultation with the HSE Business Partner and Environmental Business Partners.

As soon as possible after any incident, Transgrid will conduct an appropriate investigation and provide copies of the completed Incident Report and Investigation Report to the DPHI.

8.2.1. Incident reporting per Infrastructure Approval (IA)

Any incident as defined in SSI 10040 is required to be reported per Appendix 3 of the IA (refer to Appendix E of this OEMP)

Note: Any reportable incident or non-compliance will be reported as required under the relevant State Significant Infrastructure (SSI) approval (as per Section 4.1). A reportable incident under the IA is defined 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
- 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.

Any update to the OEMP that may be required as a consequence of the incident will be done per Section 10.1 of this OEMP.

8.3. Corrective Actions

Environmental hazards and incidents will be managed as per Transgrid HSE procedures using the CAMMS system. Non-conformances will be reported and rectified as soon as practical. Any environmental hazards, incidents or non-conformances will be investigated by an Environmental Business Partner.

The process detailing non-conformances includes:

- Non-conformances associated with environmental management controls, (including those identified by Transgrid representatives) environmental incidents and emergencies.
    - Where non-conformances are raised, the relevant Environmental Business Partner will determine whether the non-conformance meets the definition of non-compliance per Condition E7 of the IA and discuss appropriate actions with the Senior Environment and Sustainability Manager.
- Responsibilities for investigating non-conformances; and
- Follow-up corrective actions (including maximum timeframes for completion).

Table 8-1: Corrective Actions Management of Environmental Non-conformances, Hazards and Incidents

Hold Issue*	Potential Impact / Consequence*	Immediate Actions (where safe to do so)	Follow up Actions
Negligible Non-Conformance	Negligible or none	Rectify / manage immediate impacts.	Highlight at Pre-Start or Toolbox to inform staff and prevent recurrence.
Minimal – Limited immediate Impact	Limited environmental damage, that can immediately be rectified.	Rectify / manage immediate impacts.	Notify Environmental Business Partner Submit into CAMMS
Minor – Impact is limited and short to medium term	Minimal, localised environmental impact which can be rectified in the short-term.	Rectify / manage immediate impacts.	Notify Environmental Business Partner Submit into CAMMS
Moderate – Impact is serious but short to medium term	Limited, moderate extent of environmental damage, which can be rectified over the medium-term.	Rectify / manage immediate impacts.	Notify Environmental Business Partner ***And Senior Environment and Sustainability Manager.*** Submit into CAMMS

Hold Issue*	Potential Impact / Consequence*	Immediate Actions (where safe to do so)	Follow up Actions
Major – Impact is significant and medium to long term	Serious, long term, widespread environmental damage.	Rectify / manage immediate impacts.	Notify Environmental Business Partner ***And Senior Environment and Sustainability Manager.*** Submit into CAMMS
Catastrophic – Impact affects the ongoing viability of Transgrid	Permanent, irreversible environmental Impact. and/or Significant damage across multiple sites.	Rectify / manage immediate impacts.	Follow the Corporate Emergency Management Plan

***Note**: For any incident that meets the criteria for 'material harm' as defined under section 8.2.1 of this plan, or is deemed a non-compliance with any condition of the IA, The Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure will also need to be notified per Condition E6 and E7 (Refer to Appendix 3 – Incident notification and reporting requirements).

9. Documentation and Record Keeping

Documentation and record keeping requirements will be as per *Transgrid Document and Record Management Procedure* and include:

Regulatory permits.

- Staff and subcontractor qualifications.
- Induction and training records.
- Inspection and monitoring reports.
- Environmental incident reports.
- Complaints.
- Minutes of environmental meetings.
- Daily toolbox sessions.
- Records to meet Transgrid's reporting requirements under the National Greenhouse Emissions Reporting Scheme.
- Waste Register; and
- Chemical and Hazardous materials register.
- Spatial data
- Landowner conditions of access, agreed operational access tracks, discussions relating to approval/endorsement of vegetation management on and off easement.

All Project documentation will be uploaded into TeamBinder, which will be used to manage the Project documentation:

- Categorisation,
- Visibility.
- Availability.
- Processes for recording changes; and
- Update / removal of superseded documents.

10. OEMP Review

This OEMP shall be reviewed following any changes in scope to activities to ensure that no additional risks or actions that have a potential impact on the environmental management at the site.

If any review is required during the operational phase of this project, an Environmental Business Partner shall recommend the appropriate changes and seek the appropriate endorsement/approval pathway in accordance with Transgrid's EAF and in accordance with Transgrid Corporate Controlled documents requirements.

The review will outline:

- The need or reason for the proposed variation.
- The potential environmental impacts of the change/variation and whether the change is consistent with the existing environmental approval.
- The proposed mitigation and control measures (reference may be given to existing control measures within the CEMP, or to new or altered control measures); and
- an appropriate level of review, endorsement and approval from the process owner.

For procedural details on the process of amending an OEMP, please refer to the *Preparation and Approval of Environmental Management Plans* (EMPs) procedure.

10.1. Update and review per Infrastructure Approval

The OEMP will also be reviewed and, if necessary, updated 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 the approval.

10.2. Amendment Approvals

Each new revision of this document will be distributed to all required personnel for review and approval by the Senior Environment and Sustainability Manager in line with EMS.

10.3. Document Control and Records Management

This OEMP and any subplans will be managed through Transgrid's Business rules for managing Corporate Documents and Corporate Records as specified in the procedure *Documents and Records Management*.

Transgrid utilises TRIM to store and record the management of all documented-controlled record.

Appendix A – Legislative Requirements

Table A1 – New South Wales legislative requirements

Legislation or Other Requirement	Jurisdiction	Relevant Sections	Requirements/ duties	Regulatory Authority	Subordinate Legislation and Guidance
Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016	NSW	1.6, 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 2.4-2.6, 2.8-2.10, 3.4, 3.6, 5.20, 5.22(1), 5.27, 5.29(1), 6.2(c)-(e), 6.3, 6.4, 6.12, 6.13, 6.15, 6.30, 7.2, 7.3, 7.4, 7.7, 7.8, 7.9, 7.13(1).(3),(5), 7.14(1),(3),(4), 7.15(1),(3),(5), 7.20, 7.21, 8.5, 8.6, 8.16, 11.31, 11.32, 11.36, sched 2, 5, 6	• Do not, unless authorised: – harm a protected animal or an animal that is a threatened species or is part of a threatened ecological community – pick a protected plant or a plant that is a threatened species or is part of a threatened ecological community – damage the habitat of a threatened species or threatened ecological community. – buy, sell, trade in, import, export or possess an animal or plant that is a threatened species or is part of a threatened ecological community. – liberate any: > animal, other than a captured protected animal in NSW > captured protected animal in a place other than the place it was captured. • Comply with any direction from an authorised officer to stop an activity that is distressing protected animals or provide appropriate welfare. • If the activity is likely to have a significant effect on the environment, prepare an environmental impact statement accompanied by a species impact statement (where threatened species will be significantly impacted), and comply with the Biodiversity Offset Scheme. • Do not: – damage an area of outstanding biodiversity value. – undertake any prohibited actions specified in Part 3 of the Regulations in the Little Penguin and Wollemi Pine declared areas. • Ensure that, if applying to enter into a biodiversity stewardship agreement with the Minister to establish a biodiversity stewardship site, it is accompanied by a biodiversity stewardship site assessment report prepared by an accredited person that: – assesses the biodiversity values of the proposed site in accordance with the Biodiversity Assessment Method Order 2017 (BAM) – sets out the management actions proposed to be carried out. – specifies in accordance with the BAM, the number and class of biodiversity credits that may be created in respect of those management actions. – includes the specified information – is certified by the accredited person that it has been prepared in accordance with the BAM and is submitted within 14 days of certification. • A public authority must not carry out development on a biodiversity stewardship site unless it has:	Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure	• Biodiversity Conservation Regulation 2017 • Biodiversity Conservation (Savings and Transitional) Regulation 2017 • Accreditation Scheme for the Application of the Biodiversity Assessment Method Order 2017 • Biodiversity Assessment Method Order 2017 • Biodiversity Offsets Payment Calculator Order 2017 • Land Management (Native Vegetation) Code 2017 • Local Land Services Amendment (Land Management—Native Vegetation) Regulation 2017

			– given written notice of the proposed development to the Minister and the owner of the site. – received written notice from the Minister consenting to the development. • A person required to retire biodiversity credits may instead make payment to the Biodiversity Conservation Fund of the value of the credits, in accordance with the Biodiversity Offsets Payment Calculator Order 2017. • A landowner may enter into a conservation agreement with the Biodiversity Conservation Trust to conserve or study the biodiversity of the land. A conservation agreement may require the land owners to undertake the specified actions. • A landowner may enter into a wildlife refuge agreement with the Biodiversity Conservation Trust to conserve or study the biodiversity of the land. A wildlife refuge agreement may require the land owners to undertake the specified actions. • A proponent must, if proposing to undertake the specified development, activities or clearing likely to significantly affect threatened species, ensure the application includes a biodiversity development assessment report prepared by an accredited person that: – assesses in accordance with the Biodiversity Assessment Method Order 2017 (BAM), the: > biodiversity values of the land subject to the proposed development, activity or clearing > impact of proposed development, activity or clearing on the biodiversity values of the land – includes the specified information – sets out measures that the proponent proposes to take to avoid or minimse the impact. – specifies in accordance with the BAM, the number and class of biodiversity credits that are required to be retired to offset the residual impacts on biodiversity values of the actions to which the biodiversity offsets scheme applies – is certified by the accredited person that it has been prepared in accordance with the BAM and is submitted within 14 days of certification. Ensure that biodiversity credits are retired before carrying out development that would impact on biodiversity values. A person required to retire biodiversity credits may instead make payment to the Biodiversity Conservation Fund of the value of the credits, in accordance with the Biodiversity Offsets Payment Calculator Order 2017.		
Biosecurity Act 2015	NSW	7, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 21- 28, 30- 32, 36, 38, 39, 44, 45, 58, sched 1,2 ,	• A person dealing with a biosecurity matter or carrier who knows, or should reasonably know the biosecurity risk posed by the matter, carrier or dealing, must: – prevent or eliminate a biosecurity risk so far as is reasonably practicable. – if it is not reasonably practicable to prevent or eliminate a risk, minimse the risk so far as is reasonably practicable. • Do not: – deal with any biosecurity matter that is prohibited matter	Department of Primary Industries	• Biosecurity Regulation 2017 • QX Disease biosecurity zone to manage the biosecurity risk of *Marteilia sydneyi* (QX disease) for all estuaries in NSW • POMS biosecurity zone to manage the biosecurity risk of Ostreid herpesvirus-µ variant-OsHV-1 µvar (OSHV1) that causes Pacific Oyster Mortality Syndrome (POMS) • citrus red mite biosecurity zone to manage the biosecurity risk of the pest *Panonychus citri* (Citrus red mite)

			– test or attempt to test for a prohibited matter unless in accordance with the specified provisions. • A person who is aware of, or suspects the presence of biosecurity matter in part of NSW in which it is prohibited matter, must ensure the biosecurity risk posed or likely to be posed is prevented, eliminated or minimised so far as is reasonably practicable. • A person must, if aware: – that a prohibited matter event has occurred or is occurring, immediately notify the event. – of or suspects the presence of any pest or disease listed in Schedule 1 of the Regulations must notify the Secretary within 1 working day – of or suspects the existence of a biosecurity event must immediately notify the event in accordance with specified requirements. • Do not import into NSW any of the specified animal pests or diseases. • Comply with any emergency orders issued by the Secretary for a current or imminent biosecurity risk that may have a significant biosecurity impact. • Comply with any control orders issued by the Minister to prevent, eliminate, minimise or manage a biosecurity risk or biosecurity impact. • Do not import into NSW: – or sell any plant listed in Schedule 3 of the Regulations – a species of vascular plant (Tracheophyta) if the species is not currently present in NSW, unless the Secretary has been notified in accordance with specified requirements at least 20 working days prior to import of the species, and of its proposed location in NSW – any specified equipment from QLD. • An occupier of land must: – prevent, eliminate or minimise any biosecurity risk posed or likely to be posed by weeds on the land and on: > any part of a road that intersects the land, not being part of the road that is fenced on both sides. > the half width of any part of a road that forms part of the boundary of the land, not being a part of the road that is fenced on both sides. > any part of a road that forms part of the boundary of the land, being a part of the road that is not fenced on the side forming part of the boundary but is fenced on the other side. > if situated on opposite sides of a watercourse, river or inland water - the land between those sides. > if a watercourse, river or inland water is situated between land occupied by different occupiers - the land between the boundary of the land and any fence erected to define the boundary of the land, or if there is no fence, the middle line of the watercourse, river or inland water.		• grapevine phylloxera biosecurity zone to manage the biosecurity risk of the pest *Daktulosphaira vitifoliae* (Grapevine phylloxera) • potato biosecurity zone to manage the biosecurity risk of specified pests and diseases • rice biosecurity zone to manage the biosecurity risk of certain pests and diseases • alligator weed biosecurity zone to manage the biosecurity risk of the weed Alternanthera philoxeroides • bitou bush biosecurity zone to manage the biosecurity risk of the weed *Chrysanthemoides monilifera* subsp. *rotundata* (Bitou bush) • water hyacinth biosecurity zone to manage the biosecurity risk of the weed *Eichhornia crassipes* (Water hyacinth). • Biosecurity (Abalone Viral Ganglioneuritis) Control Order 2017 • Biosecurity (Banana Bunchy Top Virus) Control Order 2017 • Biosecurity (Boneseed) Control Order 2017 • Biosecurity (Parkinsonia) Control Order 2017 • Biosecurity (Queensland Fruit Fly) Control Order 2017 • Biosecurity (Rabies Vaccination) Control Order 2017 • Biosecurity (Tomato Potato Psyllid) Control Order 2017 • Biosecurity (Tropical Soda Apple) Control Order 2017 • Biosecurity (White Spot Disease of Crustaceans) Control Order (No. 2) 2017 .

			> if in an irrigation area - any part of a: ○ public road, reserve or channel that intersects the land or forms part of the boundary and is within 20 m of the boundary. ○ watercourse, river or inland water situated on the land. if a public road, reserve or channel less than 40 m wide situated between land within an irrigation area occupied by different occupiers - the part of the road, reserve or channel that is located between the boundary of the occupier's land and the middle line of the road, reserve or channel.		
Contaminated Land Management Act 1997	NSW	15, 17, 60, 185	• Comply with any EPA order to investigate and report on the level of contamination of land specified in the order. • An owner of contaminated land or a person whose activities have contaminated land must notify the EPA as soon as practicable after becoming aware of a substance contaminating land, or any by-product that: – enters or will foreseeably enter neighbouring land, the atmosphere, groundwater or surface water, and – the levels in the neighbouring land, atmosphere, groundwater or surface water will foreseeably be, and remain above, those in regulations or in the EPA Publication: Guidelines on the Duty to Report Contamination under the Contaminated Land Management Act 1997 • An authorised officer may require occupiers to provide reasonable assistance and facilities to enable the investigation of premises.	Environmental Protection Authority	• Contaminated Land Management Regulation 2022 • Office of Environment and Heritage (NSW) Publication: Guidelines on the Duty to Report Contamination under the Contaminated Land Management Act 1997
Crown Land Act 1989	NSW	155(1)(j), 155(1)(e), 156(3)	• Do not, without approval: – clear, dig up or cultivate – plant, damage, pick or remove a tree, shrub, vine, flower or other vegetation – remove any dead timber, log or stump – deface, remove or disturb any rock, soil, sand, stone or similar substance – light a fire at any time where it is prohibited under the Rural Fires Act 1997 or other time where it is not in a properly constructed fireplace or portable cooking equipment – carry, lay, set or drop from an aircraft any trap, snare or poison bait on public land. • Do not: – dispose of waste in a manner that harms, or is likely to harm the environment deposit or leave on public land without approval any rubbish, litter, refuse, dead animals, filth or other similar matter, prescribed matter unless in a place or receptacle provided.	Department of Primary Industries	• Crown Land Regulation 2006
Dangerous Goods (Road and Rail Transport) Act 2008	NSW	4,9	• If transporting dangerous goods by road or rail, ensure that the obligations apply to instruction and training, packaging, marking and labelling, placarding, safety standards for vehicles and equipment, stowage and restraint, safety standards for vehicles and equipment, stowage and	Environmental Protection Agency	• Dangerous Goods (Road and Rail Transport) Regulation 2014 • Australian Dangerous Goods Code (ADG)

			restraint, segregation, bulk transfer, documentation, safety equipment, procedures during transport, emergencies, licences and insurance are met.		
Electricity Supply Act 1995	NSW	54-63A	• A network operator has power to compulsorily acquire land (including easements) under the Land Acquisition (Just Terms Compensation) Act 1991, with the prior consent of the Minister. • The corporation is exempted from the need to obtain approval under the Local Government Act in relation to work connected with the erection, installation, extension, alteration, maintenance and removal or electricity works, except where the works relate to buildings. • Make provision for powers of entry onto land in respect of electricity works	Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure	
Energy Services Corporation Act 1995	NSW	6B	• Protection of the environment is one of the principal objectives of an energy transmission operator and the operator is bound by all relevant laws (such as those concerning native vegetation, soil conservation and easement management).	Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure	
Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979	NSW	s 76A, 80, 106-109B, 109C, 110-112, 115Y	• Duty to consider environmental impact • If the activity is likely to have a significant effect on the environment, prepare an environmental impact statement/species impact statement. • Do not commence development unless a development consent and any relevant certification has been obtained. • Comply with the terms of any development consent.	Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure	• Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000 – Clauses 4, 39-46, 228, sched 3
Environmentally Hazardous Chemicals Act 1985	NSW	10, 21, 22, 26, 28	• The corporation must observe the provisions of any CCO. It is an offence to carry on a prescribed activity in contravention of a CCO (e.g. To keep, distribute, convey, use, sell or dispose of an environmentally hazardous chemical or declared chemical waste). • The corporation may apply to the EPA for a licence to carry on a prescribed activity. • A licence holder who contravenes a condition in the licence is guilty of an offence under the act. • Each person who is a director of the corporation or who is concerned in the management of the corporation must take steps to ensure that the licence obligations under the EHC Act are complied with.	Environmental Protection Agency	• Environmentally Hazardous Chemicals Regulation 2017 • Environment Protection Authority (NSW) Webpage: Chemical control orders (CCOs)
Fisheries Management Act 1994	NSW	199, 205	• The Minister for Fisheries must be notified prior to a public authority (such as the corporation) carrying out any dredging or reclamation work, and consideration must be given to any matters raised by the Minister. The FM Act provides for dispute resolution by the Minister responsible for the corporation if work is proposed to be carried out contrary to comments made by the Minister for Fisheries. • Prohibition against harming certain marine vegetation in Crown land or land vested in a public authority that is submerged by water, except under the authority of a permit issued by the Minister for Fisheries under Part 7 of the FM Act.	Department of Primary Industries	
Forestry Act 2012	NSW	38, 67	Do not, unless authorised: • in a forestry area:	Environmental Protection Authority	• Forestry Regulation 2022

			– engage in an activity (including a recreational activity) that risks damaging the area – damage, interfere with, or destroy vegetation, other than timber – obstruct, interfere with or damage any roads, iwfmsfljxywzhyzwjx, drainage features, such as a watercourse or iwfmsfljqnsj – obstruct or interfere with the flow of water in a watercourse – interfere with forest materials (other than those that are on a road) in a way not prohibited by Section 38(1)(b) of the Act – use land – light a fire (jjjruyntsxfuuq) – possess or discharge a firearm – possess, place or use a net, trap, snare, hunting device, poison or explosive – take, kill, hunt, shoot, poison, net, spear, capture, lure or injure any animal (including a bird or reptile, but not a fish) – store liquid fuel • on any Crown-timber land, State Forest or flora reserve: – cut, strip, obtain, remove, destroy or damage any timber – quarry, dig for, extract, obtain, remove, destroy or damage any forest products or forest materials.		
Heritage Act 1977	NSW	4, 56, 57, 79(c)(4), 146	• Do not, without an approval from the Heritage Council (NSW) or local council, demolish, damage, move or develop around any place, building, work, relic, moveable object, precinct, or land that is: the subject of an interim heritage order listed in the State Heritage Register or listed in the Local Environmental Plan. • If a stop work order has been issued, do not carry out any work (other than work specified in the stop work order) with respect to the building, work, relic, moveable object or place the subject of the order. Notify the Heritage Council of the discovery of a relic, within a reasonable time, unless it is reasonably believed the Council is already aware of its location.	Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure	• Heritage Regulation 2008
Transport and Infrastructure SEPP 2021	NSW	2.43-2.48	• Duty to consider environmental impact • If the activity is likely to have a significant effect on the environment, prepare an environmental impact statement/species impact statement. • Do not commence development unless a development consent and any relevant certification has been obtained. • Comply with the terms of any development consent.	Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure	
Local Government Act 1993	NSW	638	• Do not discharge any substance into a sewer owned by a local council, except in accordance with a contract or trade waste permit.	Office of Local Government	• Local Government Regulation 2005

Local Land Services Act 2013	NSW	60A, 60B, 60C, 60S, 60O, sched 5A, Part 2, Part 4	• Do not clear native vegetation under the Code: – if the native vegetation forms part of a critically endangered ecological community identified in Part 2 of Schedule 2 of the Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 – if the clearing: > occurs outside a treatment area > harms a threatened species > is for forestry operations – unless Local Land Services has certified in a mandatory code compliant certificate that the intended clearing complies with the Code – without the prior written consent of: – for land that is not Crown land - all the owners of the land – for Crown land - the Department of Primary Industries. • Comply with any requirements and restrictions of the Code. Exemptions apply. • Do not clear native vegetation in any non-rural area of NSW: – without a permit from the appropriate local council – that exceeds the biodiversity offset scheme threshold and is not approved by the Native Vegetation Panel (excluding biodiversity certified land under Part 8 of the Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016). • Provide the Native Vegetation Panel with a biodiversity development assessment report when applying for approval or if applying to modify an approval. • Comply with any requirements to retire biodiversity credits. • Clearing of native vegetation in a regulated rural area is authorised under other legislation in any of the following cases: **Planning Approval -** The clearing was authorised by: • a development consent under Part 4 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979, or • a State significant infrastructure approval under Part 5.1 of that Act, or • a transitional Part 3A project approval under Schedule 6A of that Act. **Other Planning Authorisation** - The clearing was: • a part of or ancillary to the carrying out of exempt development within the meaning of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979, or • an activity carried out by a determining authority within the meaning of Part 5 of that Act after compliance with that Part, or • authorised by an approval of a determining authority within the meaning of Part 5 of that Act granted after compliance with that Part. **Biodiversity Conservation Authorisation -** The clearing was authorised by a biodiversity conservation licence under the Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 or was authorised by a	Department of Primary Industries	• Local Land Services Regulation 2014 • State Environmental Planning Policy (Vegetation in Non-Rural Areas) 2017 , cl 4, 5, 7, 8, 15(1), (3), (5), 16, 25

			regulation made under Section 2.9 of that Act (including under a code of practice made or adopted by any such regulation). **Rural Fires Authorisation** - The clearing was: an emergency firefighting act or emergency bush fire hazard reduction work within the meaning of the Rural Fires Act 1997, or bush fire hazard reduction work to which Section 100C(4) of the Rural Fires Act 1997 applies or vegetation clearing work under Section 100R of that Act. **Electricity Network Operator Bush Fire Risk Mitigation Direction -** The clearing was required to be carried out to give effect to a direction of a network operator under Division 2A of Part 5 of the Electricity Supply Act 1995. **State Emergency Authorisation -** The clearing was authorised by or under the State Emergency and Rescue Management Act 1989 or the State Emergency Service Act 1989 and was reasonably necessary in order to avoid a threat to life or property. **Biosecurity Authorisation -** The clearing was an authorised action for the purposes of Section 386 of the Biosecurity Act 2015. **Plantation Operations Authorisation -** The clearing was the carrying out of a plantation operation on an authorised plantation in accordance with the Plantations and Reafforestation Act 1999, the conditions of the authorisation and the provisions of the Plantations and Reafforestation Code applying to the plantation. **Forestry Operations Authorisation** - The clearing was: the carrying out of a forestry operation in a State forest or other Crown-timber land to which an integrated forestry operations approval under Part 5B of the Forestry Act 2012 applies, being a forestry operation that is carried out in accordance with the approval, or the carrying out of a forestry operation authorised by Part 5C (Private native forestry) of the Forestry Act 2012. **Water Management Authorisation -** The clearing was authorised by a licence, permit, approval or other authority under the Water Management Act 2000. **Mining/Petroleum Authorisation -** The clearing was authorised by a lease, licence or other authority under the Mining Act 1992 or the Petroleum (Onshore) Act 1991. **Fisheries Management Authorisation -** The clearing was authorised by a licence under Division 6 of Part 7A of the Fisheries Management Act 1994 or was authorised under Division 3 or 4 of Part 7 of that Act. **Survey Work -** The clearing was required to be carried out for the purposes of a survey under the Surveying and Spatial Information Act 2002 and was carried out by or under the direction of a surveyor. **Roads Authorisation -** The clearing was authorised by a consent under Division 3 of Part 9 of the Roads Act 1993. **Private Land Conservation Agreement** - The clearing was authorised by a private land conservation agreement under the Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016. **Other Legislative Authorisation** - The clearing was authorised by or under any other Act that has effect despite Part 5A of this Act		

			<u>Clearing Applying to Category 2-Vulnerable Regulated Land and Category 2-Sensitive Regulated Land</u> Note: Clearing native vegetation for other allowable activities does not apply to clearing on category 2-vulnerable regulated land as shown on the Office of Environment and Heritage (NSW) Webpage: Native Vegetation Regulatory Map, or clearing that is excluded by the Land Management (Native Vegetation) Code 2017. This clearing is only authorised where it minimises the risk of soil erosion. **Imminent Risk** - Clearing native vegetation that is reasonably necessary to remove or reduce an imminent risk of serious personal injury or damage to property. **Construction Timber** - Clearing native vegetation to obtain timber for the construction, operation or maintenance of rural infrastructure on the same landholding from which the native vegetation was cleared, provided the: • clearing does not cause land degradation, including soil erosion, rising water tables, increase in salinity, mass movement by gravity of soil or rock, stream bank instability and any process that results in declining water quality • native vegetation does not comprise (or be likely to comprise): • a threatened species or part of a threatened ecological community or the habitat of a threatened species under the Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016, or • the habitat of threatened species, populations or ecological communities of fish under the Fisheries Management Act 1994 • timber could not have been obtained from any other clearing authorised under this Schedule or by the Land Management (Native Vegetation) Code 2017. **Planted Native Vegetation** - Clearing native vegetation that has been planted, unless it was planted with the assistance of public funds granted for any purpose other than forestry operations. **Environmental Protection Works** - Clearing native vegetation for environmental protection works associated with the rehabilitation of land towards its natural state or any work to protect land from environmental degradation, including re-vegetation or bush regeneration works, wetland protection works, erosion protection works, dune restoration works, but does not include coastal protection works (within the meaning of the Coastal Protection Act 1979). **Public Works** - Clearing native vegetation for construction, operation or maintenance of infrastructure by a public or local authority in the exercise of its land management activities, provided the native vegetation does not comprise (or be likely to comprise): • a threatened species or part of a threatened ecological community or the habitat of a threatened species under the Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016, or • the habitat of threatened species, populations or ecological communities of fish under the Fisheries Management Act 1994. **Gravel Pits** - Clearing native vegetation for the construction, operation or maintenance of gravel pits, provided the:		

			• clearing is carried out by or on behalf of a local council • clearing is limited to, in the case of each gravel pit, a single area of land of no more than: • 5 hectares for gravel pits in the Western Zone • 2 hectares for gravel pits other than in the Western Zone • native vegetation does not comprise (or be likely to comprise): • a threatened species or part of a threatened ecological community or the habitat of a threatened species under the Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016, or • a protected plant under the Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016, or • the habitat of threatened species, populations or ecological communities of fish under the Fisheries Management Act 1994 • clearing is carried out in a way that does not harm any animal that is (or is part of) a threatened species or threatened ecological community under the Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 or that is a protected animal under that Act • clearing is carried out in conjunction with a restoration program or other arrangements that will ensure the restoration of native vegetation on the cleared land of the same or a similar species as the native vegetation cleared and to the same or a similar extent as existed on the cleared land. **Telecommunications Infrastructure** - Clearing native vegetation for the construction, operation or maintenance of telecommunications infrastructure provided it is carried out by or on behalf of the owner of the infrastructure (in addition to by or on behalf of the landholder). **Private Power Lines** - Clearing native vegetation that is reasonably necessary for the construction, operation or maintenance of privately owned power lines on private land. **Electricity Transmission Infrastructure -** Clearing native vegetation for the maintenance of public utilities associated with the transmission of electricity including: • maintaining the necessary safety clearances under power lines (conductors and structures) and around communication sites associated with the supply of electricity • minimising fuel loads under power lines to minimise the chance of smoke from a fire resulting in a line trip • maintaining existing access roads and tracks • provided those activities are being undertaken by or at the written direction of the body in which the public utility concerned is vested or that has the responsibility for that public utility safe operation. Maintenance of those public utilities does not include: • construction of new access roads or tracks • removal of low growing groundcover • maintaining safety clearances from power lines that exceed either of the following: the maximum distance set out in the following table:		

			<table><tr><td>Nominal Operating Voltage of Power Line</td><td>Maximum Clearing Distance</td></tr><tr><td>Not more than 11 kV</td><td>20 m</td></tr><tr><td>Above 11 kV up to and including 33 kV</td><td>25 m</td></tr><tr><td>Above 33 kV up to and including 66 kV</td><td>30 m</td></tr><tr><td>Above 66 kV up to and including 132 kV</td><td>45 m</td></tr><tr><td>Above 132 kV up to and including 330 kV</td><td>60 m</td></tr><tr><td>Above 330 kV</td><td>70 m</td></tr></table> the minimum distance that will ensure reliability of supply under all loading and environmental conditions and minimise the risk of arcing. **Firebreaks** - Clearing native vegetation for a firebreak in the Western Zone to a maximum distance of 100 m where the native vegetation predominantly comprises mallee species		
National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974	NSW	5, 86, 87, 89A, 98, 99, 101, 106, 110, s 117(1), 118(1), 156A(1)(b), 156A(1)(c),	• Do not knowingly or otherwise harm or desecrate an Aboriginal place or object unless authorised by an Aboriginal heritage impact permit. • Notify the Office of Environment and Heritage of the location of an Aboriginal object, within reasonable time, by written notice in the approved form(exemptions apply). • Do not, unless authorised, damage or remove any vegetation, rock, soil, sand, stone or similar substance on land that has been reserved under the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974. • Do not, unless authorised, damage any object or place of cultural value on land that has been reserved under the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974. • Do not, unless authorised: – harm, by any means, protected fauna – harm, by any means, threatened interstate fauna – buy, sell or possess protected fauna (not including threatened or endangered species) – import or export protected fauna to or from New South Wales – use a prescribed substance on protected fauna. Do not pick or sell a protected native plant (exemptions apply).	Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure	• National Parks and Wildlife Regulation 2009 - cl 69, 80A, 80B, 80C, 80D, 80E, 102 • Office of Environment and Heritage (NSW) Publication: Threatened Species Priority Action Statement • Office of Environment and Heritage (NSW) Webpage: Threatened species • Office of Environment and Heritage (NSW) Publication: Due Diligence Code of Practice for the Protection of Aboriginal Objects in NSW • Forests NSW Publication: Operational Guidelines for Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management Plantations and Reafforestation Code • NSW Government Industry & Investment Publication: Aboriginal Objects Due Diligence Code for Plantation Officers Administering the Plantations and Reafforestation (Code) Regulation 2001 • EPA (NSW) Publication: Private Native Forestry Code of Practice • NSW Minerals Industry Publication: Due Diligence Code of Practice for the Protection of Aboriginal Objects

					• Office of Environment and Heritage (NSW) Publication: Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010
Ozone Protection Act 1989	NSW	14	• The EPA may require a business that uses ozone depleting substances to provide information as to the business carried on in relation to those substances.	Environmental Protection Agency	
Pesticides Act 1999	NSW	7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 20, 39	• It is an offence to wilfully or negligently use pesticides in a manner that injures persons or damages property (or is likely to have either of these effects), harms any non-target plant or animal or materially harms an animal that is threatened species or protected fauna • It is an offence to use pesticides in a manner that injures persons or damages property (or is likely to have either of these effects) or harms any non-target plant or animal (section 11). • A person must not possess or use an unregistered pesticide unless the person holds a permit to do so and complies with that permit. • A public authority (including the corporation) may take clean up action if it reasonably suspects, or is advised by the EPA, that pesticide pollution is occurring or has occurred.	Environmental Protection Agency	Pesticides Regulation 2009 – Clauses -9-12, 14, 15, 19-23
Polychlorinated Biphenyl Wastes (PCB) Chemical Control Order 1997	NSW	6.4	• Obligations where PCB material or PCB waste is kept on premises: – provide an adequate supply of personal protective equipment and train personnel in safe handling practices. – ensure that any PCB contaminated soils are kept in a manner approved by the EPA. – notify EPA of the identity, amount and location of scheduled PCB material. – comply with licence conditions where 1 tonne or more in aggregate of scheduled PCB waste is kept. – maintain proper storage areas where there is more than 50 kg but less than 1 tonne of scheduled PCB waste. – observe requirements relating to the phase-out of equipment, and the conveying of PCB (clause 6.4) and disposal of PCB waste (clause 6.5). – have emergency procedures in place	Environmental Protection Agency	
Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997	NSW	47-49, 115, 116,120, 124-125,126, 140, 143, 145, 146, 142A	• Do not carry out a waste-related scheduled activity or perform development work for the purpose of allowing such an activity, unless in accordance with an EPA licence or resource recovery exemption. • Served (or issued orally then followed up in writing) where a pollution incident has occurred or is occurring. Directs the occupier or a person reasonably suspected of causing or having caused a pollution incident to clean-up as specified in the notice • Do not: – dispose of waste in a manner that harms, or is likely to harm the environment – deposit or leave on public land without approval any: ◦rubbish, litter, refuse, dead animals, filth or other	Environmental Protection Agency	Protection of the Environment Operations (General) Regulation 2022 Protection of the Environment Operations (Clean Air) Regulation 2021 Protection of the Environment Operations (Noise Control) Regulation 2017 Protection of the Environment Operations (Underground Petroleum Storage Systems) Regulation 2019 Protection of the Environment Operations (Waste) Regulation 2014 Environment Protection Authority (NSW) Publication: Approved Methods and Guidance for the Modelling and Assessment of Air Pollutants in NSW

			similar matter prescribed matter unless in a place or receptacle provided. • Do not harm or risk harming the environment by wilfully or negligently causing any substance to leak, spill or otherwise escape (whether or not from a container). • Do not cause water pollution (other than to a sewer), except in accordance with the conditions of any EPA licence. Exemptions apply. • Do not cause air pollution by failing to maintain and operate plant, or carry out maintenance work on plant, in a proper and efficient manner. • Do not cause air pollution by failing to deal with materials in a proper and efficient manner. • An occupier of a premises must not cause noise by failing to deal with materials properly and efficiently. • Do not cause or permit land pollution. • Do not transport waste to a place that cannot be lawfully used as a waste facility for that waste. • Do not litter in a public place, in an open private place or from a vehicle. • Notify each relevant authority immediately of pollution incidents where material harm to the environment is caused or threatened A holder of an EPA licence must prepare a pollution incident response management plan. Ensure it is implemented and: – contains specified information – made available to authorised officers – tested annually and within 1 month of any pollution incident occurring in the course of an activity to which the licence relates so as to assess, in the light of that incident, whether the information included in the plan is accurate and up to date and the plan is still capable of being implemented in a workable and effective manner – kept at the premises to which the relevant environment protection licence relates, or where the relevant activity takes place – made available to the public in a prominent position on a publicly accessible website of the person who is required to prepare the plan. If no such website exists, provide a copy of the plan without charge to any person who makes a written request for a copy.		Environment Protection Authority (NSW) Webpage: Duty to Notify Pollution Incidents Office of Environment and Heritage (NSW) Webpage: Reporting Pollution. Interim Construction Noise Guideline (2009)
Rural Fires Act 1997	NSW	63(2), 64, 99, 100(1B), 100(2)	• Comply with directions given in total fire bans. Do not, without lawful authority, set fire to land or property of another person, the Crown or a public authority when a total fire ban is in force. • An owner or occupier of land must not, without lawful authority, allow a fire to escape from the land where it causes, or is likely to cause, injury or damage to another person, land or property of another person, the Crown or a public authority. • Do not leave any fire in the open air unless it has been thoroughly extinguished. • An owner or occupier of land must take: – notified steps and other practicable steps, to prevent bush fires and minimise the danger of their spread	NSW Rural Fire Service	

			– all possible steps to extinguish a fire burning during a bush fire danger period, and if unable to do so, inform an appropriate officer of its existence and locality, if practicable to do so without leaving the fire unattended.		
Scheduled Chemical Wastes Control Order 2004	NSW	18, 19, 20, 21-23, 31	• Where more than 50 kg but less than 1 tonne, storage must be sited and constructed so as to prevent any discharge to the external environment and the EPA must be notified of identity, amount and location • where 1 tonne or more in aggregate, the chemical waste must be kept in an approved manner or in a storage facility in accordance with the conditions of the licence. The storage facility must be inspected at least once per month and a log containing details of the personnel carrying out inspections must be maintained. • Scheduled chemical wastes to be conveyed in the approved manner. • Disposal of scheduled chemical wastes must be by an approved process.	Environmental Protection Agency	
Soil Conservation Act 1938	NSW	15A, 18, 22, 27	• The Commissioner of Soil Conservation Service may issue a notice to the corporation requiring or preventing any act if it has caused or is likely to cause soil erosion or land degradation. • The Minister may authorise the Commissioner to give directions requiring the corporation to carry out remedial works or measures on land gazetted as an area erosion hazard. • The Minister may give a notice requiring the corporation to do or abstain from doing acts such as may be necessary to mitigate or avoid damage to a proclaimed work.	Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure	
Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Act 2001	NSW	16	• Comply with any extended producer responsibility schemes (EPRSs) that may be established.	Environmental Protection Authority	
Water Act 1912	NSW	21a	• Do not cause water pollution (other than to a sewer), except in accordance with the conditions of any EPA licence.	NSW Office of Water	
Water Management Act 2000	NSW	91B, s 91F, 345	• Do not, without a water management work approval, construct or use a: – water supply work (such as a pump, bore, tank, dam, pipe, channel, bank, levee or weir or a reticulated system of such works) – a land drainage work (such as a pump, pipe, channel or system), or – a flood work. • Do not excavate or remove material from a watercourse, lake or lagoon bank, shore or bed, or land within 40 metres from the top of the bank or shore of such a body or obstruct the likely flow of water in such a body, without a controlled activity approval or an aquifer interference approval. Exemptions apply.	NSW Office of Water	DPI Publication: NSW Aquifer Interference Policy DPI Webpage: Controlled Activity Approvals.
Wilderness Act 1987	NSW	15	• An organisation must not carry out development in a wilderness area that is subject to a wilderness protection agreement or conservation agreement unless given approval by the Minister	Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure	

Official

Table A2 – Commonwealth

Legislation or Other Requirement	Jurisdiction	Relevant Sections	Requirements/ duties	Regulatory Authority	Subordinate Legislation and Guidance
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Heritage Protection Act 1984	Commonwealth	20	• Report the discovery of remains which are believed to be Aboriginal remains, including details of the remains and their location, to the Department of the Environment.	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW)	
Corporations Act 2001	Commonwealth	s 292, 299, 299A	• An organisation required to submit an annual director's report under Section 292 of the Corporations Act 2001 must, if subject to any significant state or Commonwealth environmental law, provide details of performance against that law, in the report. • A listed public company must include environmental information (such as possible environmental liabilities) in the annual directors' report which would reasonably be required by members to make an informed assessment of operations, financial position, business strategies and prospects.	Australian Securities and Investment Commission	
Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999	Commonwealth	12, 15B, 16, 18, 20, 21, 23, 24B, 24D 11, 12-24E, 29, 32, 46(1), 67A, 68, 74AA, 136-140, 142, 142A, 523	• Commonwealth approval is required for any action that has or will have a significant impact, or is likely to have a significant impact, on Commonwealth areas or matters of national environmental significance.	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW)	Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Regulation 2000 – Clauses r 2.10, 4.03, sched 2 Department of the Environment Publication: EPBC Act - Frequently Asked Questions Department of the Environment Publication: Environment Assessment Process - Referral, assessment/decision whether to approve flowchart Department of the Environment Publication: Referral of Proposed Action Form Department of the Environment Publication: Bushfire Management and National Environment Law Department of the Environment Webpage: EPBC Act Policy Statements.
Hazardous Waste (Regulation of Exports and Imports) Act 1989	Commonwealth		• Observe the Hazardous Waste (Regulation of Exports and Imports) Act 1989 (Commonwealth), which implements in Australia the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal. For further information, see the Department of the Environment Webpage: Hazardous Waste	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW)	
National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting Act 2007	Commonwealth	s 7, 7A, 10, 19	• A registered corporation must submit a report each financial year (including the trigger year), prepared in the required manner and form, to the Clean Energy Regulator within 4 months of the end of the financial year, relating to the: – scope 1 and scope 2 emissions of greenhouse gas – energy production, and – energy consumption from the operation of facilities under the control of the corporation during that financial year.	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW)	National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting Regulation 2008 Clean Energy Regulator: NGER supplementary guidelines and factsheets Department of the Environment Publication: National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting System Measurement - Technical Guidelines for the estimation of greenhouse gas emissions by facilities in Australia.

Official

Table A3 – Victoria

Legislation or Other Requirement	Jurisdiction	Relevant Sections	Requirements/ duties	Regulatory Authority	Subordinate Legislation and Guidance
Environment Protection Act 2017	Victoria	s 3(1)(4), 4, 6, 25, 27 s 3(1), 30, 32, 33 s 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 292, 293 s 154, 155, 477 s 3(1), 4, 6, 35, 36, 38, 39 s 3(1), 35, 36, 37, 38, 40, 41 s 3(1), 166, 168	• A person who is engaging in an activity that may give rise to risks of harm to human health or the environment from pollution or waste must minimise those risks, so far as reasonably practicable. • A person who is engaging or has engaged in an activity that results in a notifiable incident must notify the EPA: – as soon as practicable after becoming aware, or after they reasonably should be aware, of the occurrence of the incident, and provide the specified information in the notification. – regardless of whether the incident is contained to: > a single place or premises > a place or premises that is occupied by, or under the management or control of, the person. • Do not engage in a: – listed development activity, except as authorised by a development license for that activity. Exemptions apply. – prescribed operating activity, except as authorised by an operating license for that activity. Exemptions apply. – prescribed permit activity, except as authorised by a permit for that activity. Exemptions apply. – prescribed registration activity, or an activity which has been made subject to Section 85 of the Act by an Order, except as authorised by a registration for that activity. Exemptions apply. • A person must comply with an applicable: – improvement notice, including any reporting requirement. – prohibition notice, including any reporting requirement. – notice to investigate, including any reporting requirement. – environmental action notice, including any reporting requirement. – site management order, including any reporting requirement. – non-disturbance notice. • Comply with any direction of an authorised officer to address an immediate risk of material harm to human health or the environment. • Comply with all Environmentally Hazardous Substance Orders. • A person in management or control of contaminated land must minimise risks of harm to human health and the environment from the contaminated land so far as reasonably practicable. • A person in management or control of land must: – notify the EPA if the land has been contaminated by notifiable contamination as soon as practicable after becoming aware, or after they reasonably should be aware, of the notifiable contamination.	EPA Victoria	Environmental Protection Regulation 2021 EPA (Vic) Publication 1741.1: Industry Guidance - Supporting You to Comply with the General Environmental Duty EPA (Vic) Publication 1994: Using SEPPs and WMPs in the New Environment Protection Framework Guide 520: Ten steps to successful community/industry consultation 740: Guidelines for running community liaison committees 1320.3: Annual Performance Statement Guidelines 1518: Recommended separation distances for industrial residual air emissions 1526: Your organisation's environmental responsibility - leadership actions for company directors and managers 1566: How EPA Responds to Reports of Pollution 1595.2: Forms of Financial Assurance 1695.1: Assessing and Controlling Risk: A Guide for Business 1702: Fact Sheet: Engaging Consultants 1727.2: Protocol for Calculating Monetary Benefits 1741.1: Industry Guidance - Supporting You to Comply with the General Environmental Duty 1753.2: Guide to the Environment Protection Regulations 1798.2: Compliance and Enforcement Policy 1812.1: Self-Assessment Tool for Small Business 1819.1: Agriculture - Guide to Preventing Harm to People and the Environment 1820.1: Construction - Guide to Preventing Harm to People and the Environment 1821.1: Local Government - Guide to Preventing Harm to People and the Environment 1822.1: Manufacturing - Guide to Preventing Harm to People and the Environment 1824.1: Retail - Guide to Preventing Harm to People and the Environment 1835: Victoria ™s New Environmental Laws 1856: Reasonably Practicable 1884: Site Planning and Management 1993: Administering Your Powers Under the Environment Protection Act 2017 - Guide for Local Government and Litter Authorities

			– provide the specified information in the notification. • Do not emit, or allow to be emitted from commercial, industrial and trade premises: – unreasonable noise – aggravated noise. • A person involved in the generation, management, or transport of waste within a waste and resource recovery region must not do anything in relation to the waste that is inconsistent with the relevant Regional Waste and Resource Recovery Implementation plan while the waste is in that region.		2002.1: Financial Assurance for Permissions and Contaminated Land Management 2003.1: Calculation of Financial Assurance for Landfills, Reportable Priority Waste Management and Waste and Resource Recovery Facilities 2012: Sector Guidance Poster - Construction 2013: Sector Guidance Poster - Manufacturing 2014: Sector Guidance Poster - Retail 2017: Sector Guidance Poster - Agriculture IWRG701: Sampling and Analysis of Waters, Wastewaters, Soils and Wastes Business Forms, Permits and Online Tools Delegations to Councils Discontinuation of SEPPs and WMPs Follow a Risk Management Process Operating Licences Summary of Regulations EPA (Vic) Publication 1826.4: Noise Limit and Assessment Protocol for the Control of Noise from Commercial, Industrial and Trade Premises and Entertainment Venues
National Parks and Wildlife Act 1975	Victoria	s 44A s 23, 24, sched 2A	• Do not cut or remove trees (including fallen trees) from a State Forest, National Park, State Wildlife Reserve or Nature Reserve without appropriate authorisation. • Do not (without approval), in any park that is not a wilderness park, construct buildings or any structure or permanent works for the protection, development or improvement of the park. Works which are necessary to maintain the park (excluding wilderness parks) in an appropriate condition may be carried out. • If undertaking activities in a National Park, do not, without a relevant permit: – cut, fell, pick, remove, take, destroy, or damage any vegetation. – bring in or plant any vegetation. – excavate, remove, deface, damage, or interfere with any archaeological or historical remains or relics. – damage, deface, remove, or interfere with any rock or similar natural object. – dig or remove from a park, or take into a park, any gravel, shell, grit, sand, soil or similar material. – remove, cut, displace, damage, deface or interfere with anything constructed or erected in the park. – enter a prohibited or restricted access area. – use or operate any noise-producing device or equipment likely to cause inconvenience or nuisance to any person. – light or maintain a fire in a park. • bring a vehicle into a prohibited area. • dispose of any soap, detergent, or similar substance unless: – at least 50 m from any river, stream, well, spring, creek, dam, bore or watercourse. – at least 50 m landward of the high-water mark	Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning	National Parks Regulations 2013

			– in an area that is seaward of the low water mark – erect, construct or install a building or other structure. – do anything that is likely to pollute a water body in a water supply catchment (this includes: touching the water, washing anything in or near that water, and throwing or allowing any litter or anything likely to pollute water into the water body). • If operating under a permit, comply with any permit conditions.		
Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994	Victoria	s 20(a)-(c), 58-67, 75, 75A, 76	• A landowner or occupier must take reasonable steps to: – eradicate regionally prohibited weeds – prevent the growth and spread of regionally controlled weeds – prevent the spread of, and as far as possible eradicate, established pest animals. • Do not remove a vehicle, machinery or other equipment from land on to a road without first taking reasonable precautions to ensure that the equipment is free from noxious weeds and the seeds of noxious weeds. • Do not, without a permit from the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA): – buy, sell, possess for sale in Victoria, display, plant or propagate, bring into Victoria, or transport a noxious weed, the seeds of a noxious weed or any part of a noxious weed that is capable of growing – remove soil, sand, gravel or stone which contains a noxious weed, is likely to contain the seeds or any part of a noxious weed that is capable of growing, or comes from land on which noxious weeds grow – sell soil, sand, gravel or stone which contains or is likely to contain any part of a noxious weed, or the seeds or any part of a noxious weed that is capable of growing, or comes from land on which noxious weeds grow – remove or sell fodder, grain or produce which contains the seeds or any other part of a noxious weed that is capable of growing – remove a substance, vehicle, equipment or machinery or any other item intended to be used in primary production and which contains the seeds or any other part of a noxious weed that is capable of growing – sell or hire a substance, vehicle, equipment or machinery that is intended to be used in primary production and which contains the seeds or any other part of a noxious weed that is capable of growing – sell an animal which is carrying seeds or any other part of a noxious weed that is capable of growing – remove or sell any materials used as bedding for animals that contain, or are likely to contain, the seeds or a part of a noxious weed that is capable of growing – deposit on land a noxious weed, or the seeds of a noxious weed that are apparently capable of germinating. • Ensure that the presence or suspected presence of a notifiable species is immediately notified to the Secretary or (DELWP) by the quickest means possible.	Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning	Catchment and Land Protection Regulations 2012

			• Sections 58-67 of the Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994 provide for the general classification of pest animals and noxious weeds. Further information on weeds and pest animals can be obtained from the DELWP.		
Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988	Victoria	s 49	• Do not, except as prescribed, abandon or release any prescribed flora into the wild, unless authorised (no processes or plants have been prescribed). • Do not take, trade in, keep, move or process: – buy, sell, possess for sale in Victoria, display, plant or propagate, bring into Victoria, or transport a noxious weed, the seeds of a noxious weed or any part of a noxious weed that is capable of growing – remove soil, sand, gravel or stone which contains a noxious weed, is likely to contain the seeds or any part of a noxious weed that is capable of growing, or comes from land on which noxious weeds grow – sell soil, sand, gravel or stone which contains or is likely to contain any part of a noxious weed, or the seeds or any part of a noxious weed that is capable of growing, or comes from land on which noxious weeds grow – remove or sell fodder, grain or produce which contains the seeds or any other part of a noxious weed that is capable of growing – remove a substance, vehicle, equipment or machinery or any other item intended to be used in primary production and which contains the seeds or any other part of a noxious weed that is capable of growing – sell or hire a substance, vehicle, equipment or machinery that is intended to be used in primary production and which contains the seeds or any other part of a noxious weed that is capable of growing – sell an animal which is carrying seeds or any other part of a noxious weed that is capable of growing – remove or sell any materials used as bedding for animals that contain, or are likely to contain, the seeds or a part of a noxious weed that is capable of growing – deposit on land a noxious weed, or the seeds of a noxious weed that are apparently capable of germinating.	Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning	
Forest Act 1958	Victoria	7, 57Q	• Do not cut or remove trees (including fallen trees) from a State Forest, National Park, State Wildlife Reserve or Nature Reserve without appropriate authorisation.	Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning	
Wildlife Act 1975	Victoria	s 21AA	• Do not cut or remove trees (including fallen trees) from a State Forest, National Park, State Wildlife Reserve or Nature Reserve without appropriate authorisation.	Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning	Wildlife Regulation 2013
Plant Biosecurity Act 2010	Victoria	s 3(1), 17, 18	• A landowner who knows or suspects that an exotic or notifiable pest or disease is present in any plant, plant product, used package, used equipment or earth material on land, must notify an inspector: – without delay, by the fastest means of communication available, on becoming aware, or suspecting, that an exotic pest or disease is present	Agriculture Victoria	Plant Biosecurity Regulation 2016

			– within 7 days, orally or in writing, on becoming aware, or suspecting, that a notifiable pest or disease is present. • A person must comply with a direction to: – undertake a biosecurity measure in relation to goods, a conveyance or premises under Section 347 of the Act, and Regulations 17-21 – leave a biosecurity response zone for a specified period under Section 367(c) of the Act – requirements in any applicable notice affixed at an entry or exit point of premises.		
Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008	Victoria	s 58(2), 61	• Do not cause or allow a nuisance to exist or emanate from land that you own or occupy.	Department of Health and Human Services Victoria	
Dangerous Goods Act 1985	Victoria	s 3, 9B, 3, 9B, 31(1)	• An occupier of premises where dangerous goods are stored and handled must ensure that: – structures and plant used for storing and handling dangerous goods are manufactured, installed, commissioned, operated, tested, maintained and decommissioned so as to eliminate risks or else reduce them as far as is reasonably practicable – any dangerous goods, and any structure or plant associated with the storage and handling of dangerous goods is, so far as is reasonably practicable, protected against damage from impact with vehicles, mobile plant, ships or boats – before their use, new plant, processes or systems of work have been designed to eliminate risks or else reduce them as far as is reasonably practicable. • An occupier of premises where dangerous goods are stored and handled must: – make provision for spill containment that will: – eliminate the risk from any spill or leak of solid or liquid dangerous goods, or else reduce it as far as is reasonably practicable – so far as is practicable, contain within the premises the dangerous goods that have been spilled or leaked, and any solid or liquid effluent arising from the incident – ensure that the spill containment for a tank used to contain dangerous goods in not shared with any other dangerous goods or substances that are not compatible. • An occupier must, in the event of a spill or leak of dangerous goods: – take immediate action to reduce any risk as far as is practicable – as soon as possible, clean up, dispose of or otherwise make safe the dangerous goods and any resulting effluent. • An occupier of premises where dangerous goods are stored and handled must: – investigate incidents to determine the likely cause, and record the outcome of the investigation	WorkSafe Victoria	Dangerous Goods (Storage and Handling) Regulations 2012

			– keep records of the investigation for five years and ensure they are made available to WorkCover on request – review the risk control measures, taking into account the result of the investigation – if the review identifies deficiencies, alter the risk control measures or implement new measures in accordance with Part 4 of the Regulations. • An occupier of premises where dangerous goods are stored and handled must ensure any risk associated with: – chemical or physical reaction between dangerous goods and other substances or articles is eliminated or reduced as far as is reasonably practicable > the storage and handling of dangerous goods is not increased, so far as is reasonably practicable, by any structure, plant (including materials used in the plant), system of work or activity that is: ○ not used to store or handle dangerous goods at the premises ○ capable of interacting with the dangerous goods at the premises.		
Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006	Victoria	s 4, 5, 9, 17, 24, 27, 28, 29, 33, 34, 36, 49, 95, 95C, 102, 108	• Do not knowingly perform an act that harms, or is likely to harm, Aboriginal cultural heritage. Exceptions apply. • Do not, unless authorised under a cultural heritage permit: – disturb or excavate any land for the purpose of uncovering or discovering Aboriginal cultural heritage – carry out scientific research on an Aboriginal place or remove an Aboriginal object from that place for the purpose of that research – sell an Aboriginal object – remove an Aboriginal object from Victoria - other than in accordance with the terms of a cultural heritage permit. • Do not knowingly possess an Aboriginal object, unless: – acting under an approved authority that applies to the Aboriginal cultural heritage, or – acting in accordance with a cultural heritage permit, approved cultural heritage management plan or cultural heritage agreement that applies to the Aboriginal cultural heritage, or – the owner of the Aboriginal cultural heritage, or – acting with the consent of the owner of the Aboriginal cultural heritage, or – the possession of the object is necessary because of an emergency. • If knowing the existence and location of human remains which are reasonably likely to be Aboriginal ancestral remains, as soon as practicable, report the existence of the remains to the Department of Premier and Cabinet, and supply all details about the location and nature of the human remains as would be reasonably required. • If the discoverer of an Aboriginal place or Aboriginal object, report the discovery to the Department of Premier and Cabinet as soon as practicable unless at the time of making the	Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Council	Aboriginal Heritage Regulations 2018

			discovery, there is reasonable cause to believe that the Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Register contained a record of the place or object. • Do not contravene any interim protection declaration or ongoing protection declaration made under this Act. If issued with a stop order or a 24-hour stop order issued under this Act comply with any of its provisions. • If intending to prepare a cultural heritage management plan, before commencing preparation ensure that written notice is given to: – each relevant registered Aboriginal party – the Department of Premier and Cabinet – the owner or occupier of any land within the area to which the plan relates – to any municipal council whose municipal district includes an area to which the plan relates. • If proposing a public works development that may have a significant effect on the environment, prepare an Environmental Effects Statement (EES) if required by the Planning Minister. If required to prepare an EES, before commencing the works, prepare a cultural heritage management plan as required under the Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006 for the area in which the works are to be carried out.		
Heritage Act 2017	Victoria	s 122, 123, 127(2), 128(3), 129, 131	• Do not: • deface, damage, interfere with, uncover or expose a site recorded in the Heritage Inventory or an archaeological site which is not recorded in the Heritage Inventory, except in accordance with a consent issued under Section 124 • without the consent of the Executive Director, buy or sell an archaeological artefact or possess it for sale • remove, damage or interfere with a screen, shelter or other structure erected by the Executive Director to protect and conserve any archaeological artefact. • A person in charge of construction or excavation of land must, if an archaeological site is discovered, report the discovery as soon as practicable to the Executive Director. • The owner of a place or object included in the Victorian Heritage Register must not: – allow that place or object to fall into disrepair – fail to maintain it to the extent that its conservation is threatened. • Do not, unless authorised, remove, relocate, demolish, damage, despoil, develop, disturb, alter or excavate all or any part of a place or object included in the Victorian Heritage Register. • If undertaking an investigation or survey of any land for a relevant survey purpose and an archaeological site is discovered, provide the Heritage Council with a site card within 30 days of the discovery.	Heritage Victoria	
Country Fire Authority Act 1958	Victoria	34, 37, 38, 39, 40	• Do not light a fire under adverse weather conditions likely to endanger the life or property of others. During a fire danger period, do not: – light a fire in the open air unless authorised (exemptions apply)	Country Fire Authority	Country Fire Authority Regulations 2014

			– discard or use any source of ignition in a way that may result in a fire – leave any open-air fire unattended during a fire danger period – conduct a high fire risk activity in the open air in country Victoria unless in accordance with conditions and the regulations.		

Appendix B – Rehabilitation Plan

Work Instruction

BUSINESS PRACTICE DOCUMENT

Rehabilitation Plan – PEC-West

Summary					
In 1-2 sentences, summarise the purpose of this work instruction.					
Revision no:	0	**TRIM No:**	TBC	**Approval/ Review Date:**	Still in draft
Business function:	Major Projects			**Document type:**	Guidance document
Lumea circulation:	Yes ☐	No ☒			
Author:	Megan Calvert, Senior Environmental Approvals Coordinator				
Reviewers:	Andrew Scott, Senior Environmental Business Partner Kim Lembke, Senior Environmental Business Partner				
Approver:	Luke Fania, Environment and Sustainability Manager				

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Contents

1. Purpose

This document has been prepared to assist with ensuring the rehabilitation and restoration for ancillary facilities is conducted and completed in accordance with consent condition objectives and requirements and provide assurance to the Planning Secretary.

2. Scope

This document applies to all rehabilitation of ancillary facilities required under Condition D54.

3. Definitions

Key term relating to this plan.

Term	Definition
Ancillary facilities	A temporary facility for construction of the development including an office, accommodation, and amenities compound, construction compound, material crushing and screening plant, materials storage compound, maintenance workshop, testing laboratory and material stockpile area

4. Work instruction

4.1. Objectives

The rehabilitation objectives for the project are detailed within condition D54 of the Infrastructure Approval. These 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.

In addition to these objectives Condition D54 requires that rehabilitation of these areas must be completed '*to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary'*.

The objectives per the Infrastructure Approval are listed below in Table 1.

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

Feature	Objective
Community	Ensure public safety at all times

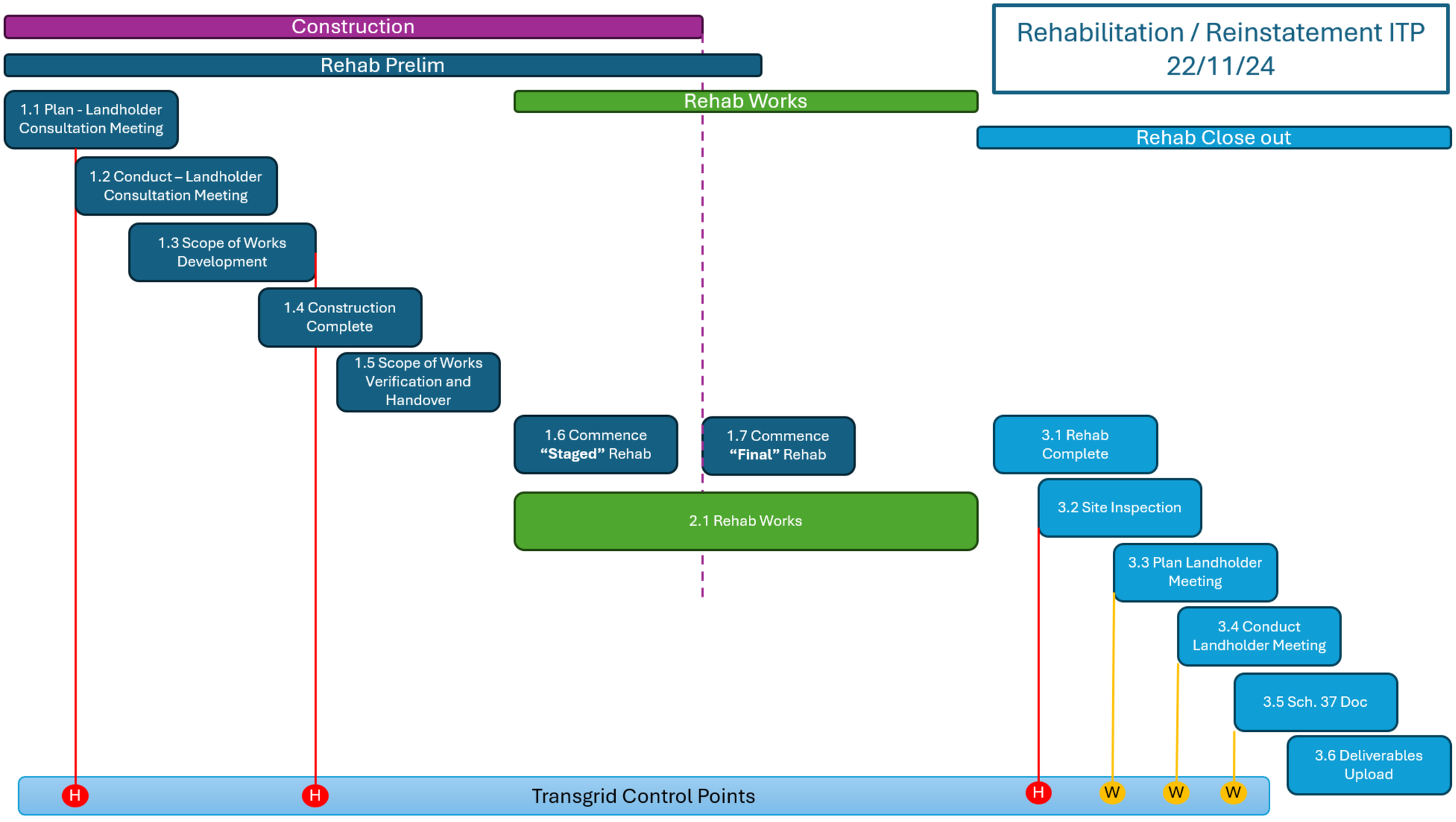
4.2. Implementing the objectives

Objectives	Transgrid response
Safe, stable and non-polluting	An *Erosion and Sediment Control Strategy* (ESCS) was implemented during construction and is included in the Stage 2 *Soil and Water Management Plan* (Appendix A). The ESCS was 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 was utilised in the development of the Progressive Erosion and Sediment Control Plan (PESCPs) that the Proponents contractor (Elecnor) continues to use in the reinstatement and rehabilitation across the entire project footprint (i.e. not limited to ancillary facilities). The Progressive Erosion and Sediment Control Plans (PESCPs) are prepared and implemented for locations where soil disturbance will occur. The PESCPs 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 are 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.
Progressive rehabilitation	Areas such as the existing 220kV transmission line (OX1), Buronga accommodation camp and construction compound and the Wentworth accommodation camp and construction compound were used during construction of the project, with rehabilitation of these

Objectives	Transgrid response
	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 was 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.
Be decommissioned and removed,	Once construction has been completed and within 6 months of entering operations, temporary infrastructure will be decommissioned and removed, unless agreed by the Planning Secretary. 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.
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 continues to occur to ensure that the land is returned to its pre-exiting use and to the satisfaction of the landowner.
Ensure public safety	Project works, including any decommissioning activities required as part of the rehabilitation works was undertaken in accordance Elecnor's *Health and Safety* Plan. During operations, Transgrid procedure: Public Safety Formal Safety Assessment details the safety management system and processes which will be implemented during operation of the assets. Transgrid also provides public safety information on the Transgrid website, including: • Easement guidelines • Electrical Network Safety Management System information • Public electrical safety awareness • Bushfire management • Power System Safety Rules

5. Rehabilitation Methodology

The following diagram sets out the methodology that will be undertaken for the rehabilitation works.



5.1. Preliminaries

#	Item	Resp	Acceptance Criteria
1.1	Landholder Consultation – Plan Meeting	EA - LAO	Schedule Landholder consultation meeting including Transgrid representation. Purpose of the meeting to develop and agree on rehabilitation/reinstatement scope of work. Transgrid to be notified through Team Binder Hold Point with 7 days notice as per Clause 5.5.1 (d) of the Environment, Property and Stakeholder Requirements. No landholder consultation meeting to commence until Hold Point is released by TG.
1.2	Landholder Consultation – Conduct Meeting	EA - LAO	Conduct Landholder Consultation meeting to develop and agree on rehabilitation/reinstatement scope of work.
1.3	Scope of works	EA - LAO	Detailed scope of works to be prepared (Rehabilitation / Reinstatement Plan) and attached to separate Team Binder Hold Point Form. NOTE – Staged / progressive rehabilitation/reinstatement works can be carried out prior to completion of construction. These specific activities need to be identified in the rehabilitation/reinstatement scope of work. (e.g. identify which works can be done pre/post construction completion **Staged/Final**) No works to commence until updated PAS and Rehabilitation/Reinstatement plan is signed by the Property Owner. No works to commence until Hold Point is released by TG.
1.4	Construction Complete Notification	EA – OHTL PM	Advice from Construction that either some or all construction activities, including defect rectification, inspections etc. are complete and ready for either **Staged** or **Final** rehabilitation/reinstatement to commence. This advice shall be given per holding to remove any chance of ambiguity.
1.5	Scope of Works – Verification and Handover	EA - LAO	Handover of detailed scope of work from Land Access and Environmental teams to Rehabilitation/Reinstatement Crews as per section 1.2 above. Acknowledgement from Rehabilitation/Reinstatement Crew that there is a clear understanding of the required works and specific work methodologies and staging to comply with landholder and environmental requirements.

#	Item	Resp	Acceptance Criteria
			Scope of works meeting to be held and attended by relevant Land Access, Environmental and Rehabilitation/Reinstatement Crew representatives to ensure clear understanding of the scope of works and any specific requirements to complete the works successfully – including details regarding **Staged** and **Final** works.
1.6	**Staged** Rehabilitation/Reinstatement Commencement – Land Access / Rehab	EA – LAO	Acknowledgement from EA – LAO to EA – OHTL PM that **Staged** rehab works are OK to commence and that any future construction activities will need to be coordinated through the Land Access team. NOTE: Prior to Schedule 37 sign off – EA to manage Land Access Post Practical Completion and Schedule 37 sign off – TG to manage Land Access
1.7	**Final** Rehabilitation/Reinstatement Commencement – Land Access / Rehab	EA – LAO	Acknowledgement from EA – LAO to EA – OHTL PM that **Final** rehabilitation/Reinstaement works are OK to commence and that any future construction activities will need to be coordinated through the Land Access team. NOTE: Prior to Schedule 37 sign off – EA to manage Land Access Post Practical Completion and Schedule 37 sign off – TG to manage Land Access

5.2. Rehabilitation/Reinstatement works

#	Item	Resp	Acceptance Criteria
2.1	Elecnor Rehabilitation/Reinstatement crew activities	EA	OHTL Reinstatement/Rehabilitation Field Inspection Checklist (FIC) 45860-CON-CHK-C-0002

Areas such as the existing 220kV transmission line (OX1), Buronga accommodation camp and construction compound and the Wentworth accommodation camp and construction compound were 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 was 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.

In consultation with the project ecologist, collection of seed occurred throughout construction. Seed collection was be undertaken in consideration of the NSW DPI guideline.

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.

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During the construction period, monitoring of the rehabilitation of these areas occurred during the environmental inspections detailed within Section 9.1 of the CEMP and by the Proponents Environmental representatives.

5.3. Close out

#	Item	Resp	Acceptance Criteria
3.1	Rehabilitation Complete - Notification	EA – Rehab PM	Advice from Rehabilitation/Reinstatement Crew Project Manager that all rehabilitation/reinstatement activities are complete and final closeout and handover process is ready to commence. Completion of Rehabilitation/Reinstatement Field Inspection Checklist (FIC) Signed off by Rehabilitation/Reinstatement Crew and EA/Environmental – QA Team. This advice shall be given per holding to remove any chance of ambiguity.
3.2	Site Inspection – Pre Close-out Meeting	EA - LAO	EA – LAO to co-ordinate a site walkthrough (prior to any handover / close-out meetings with the Landholder) to ensure scope of works have been completed as specified and agreed. This inspection needs to have attendance from Transgrid LADM, Transgrid Environmental Rep and Elecnor Environmental Rep. Transgrid to be notified through Team Binder Hold Point with 7 days notice as per Clause 5.5.1 (d) of the Environment, Property and Stakeholder Requirements. No pre close-out meeting to commence until Hold Point is released by TG.
3.3	Plan meeting – Close-out Landholder Meeting **(Schedule 37)**	EA - LAO	Schedule Landholder close out meeting including, informing Transgrid through Team Binder Hold Point with 7 days notice as per Clause 5.5.1 (d) of the Environment, Property and Stakeholder Requirements. No Land Holder Close-out meetings shall commence until this HP is initiated released.
3.4	Conduct meeting – Close-out Landholder Meeting **(Schedule 37)**	EA – LAO	Close-out Landholder Meeting to be held and attended by (as a minimum) EA – LAO and TG – LADM (optional) to effectively handover the site to the Landholder and the TG Asset Management and Operations Teams, having concluded the full rehabilitation/reinstatement scope of works program
3.5	Capture Documentation Form of Landholder Certificate	EA – LAO	Completion and Landholder/Elecnor Execution of Schedule 37 Form of Landholder Certificate

#	Item	Resp	Acceptance Criteria
3.6	Upload Documentation Form of Landholder Certificate	EA – LAO	All required documentation to be loaded into Team Binder “Lots” module

6. Assurance

Both Transgrid and Elecnor address rehabilitation as part of their inspection process. This includes:

- Transgrid: PEC Environmental Inspection - Rehabilitation
- Elecnor: Reinstatement/Rehabilitation Inspection Checklist **(FIC) 45860-CON-CHK-C-0002**

7. Accountability

Title	Responsibilities and Accountabilities
Environment and Sustainability Manager	Accountable for ensuring compliance with Condition D54. Responsible for ensuring sufficient evidence is recorded and received from Elecnor to satisfy and consent condition requirements.
Senior Environmental Business Partners	Undertake inspections of progress of rehabilitation and reinstatement across the project. Raise any corrective actions or non-conformance with rehabilitation commitments and objectives.

8. Implementation

Insert details of how this work instruction will be implemented.

9. Monitoring and review

This document will be reviewed within the first 3 months of inception to ensure adequate progress has occurred to satisfy Condition D54.

10. Change from previous revision

Revision no	Approved by	Amendment
0	Luke Fania – Environment and	Initial Issue

Revision no	Approved by	Amendment
	Sustainability Manager	

11. References

Infrastructure Approval – SSI-10040

Transgrid procedure: Public Electricity Safety Awareness Plan

Transgrid procedure: Public Safety Formal Safety Assessment

Construction Biodiversity Management Plan

12. Attachments

Attachment 1 – Example of PEC Environmental Inspection - Rehabilitation

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Attachment 1

Example of PEC Environmental Inspection - Rehabilitation

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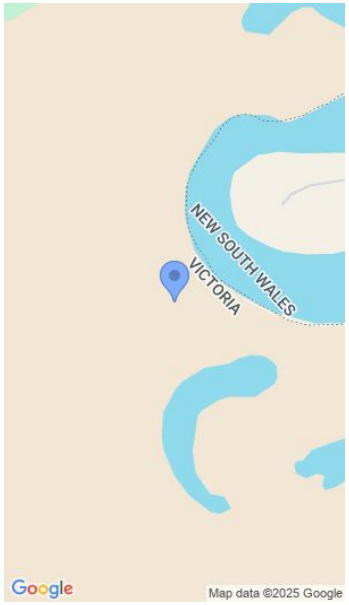
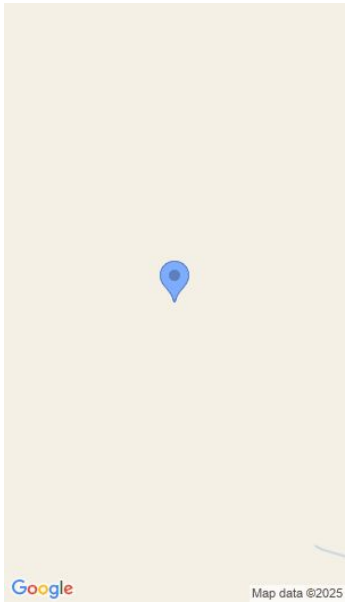
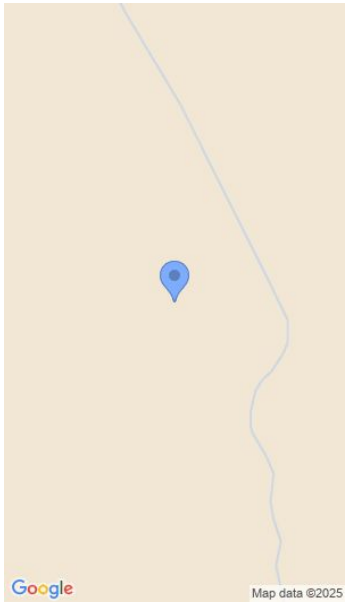


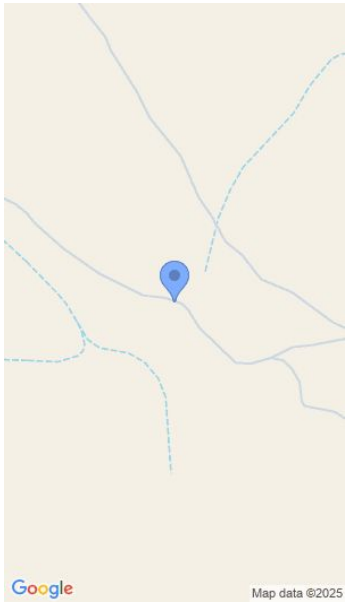
Captured by: Andrew Scott
Captured on: 14 January 2025, 9:58:51 am
Tags: L1
Description: L1 STR 229 Rehabilitation. Tower footprint ripped, good recruitment of vegetation, primarily Saltbush, some grasses and other low shrubs/ground covers. Typical of OHTL section along Renmark Rd H004.
Comments:



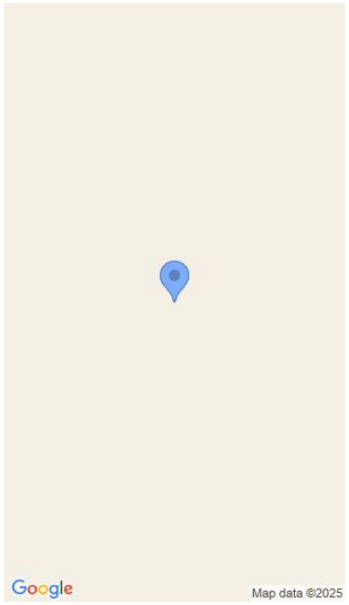
Captured by: Andrew Scott
Captured on: 14 January 2025, 11:54:22 am
Tags: L1
Description: L1 STR 278. Compacted and bare CL areas ripped. Impacts to low and ground cover vegetation avoided. Recruitment and revegetation occurring.
Comments:



Captured by: Andrew Scott
Captured on: 18 January 2025, 10:13:19 am
Tags: L2
Description: L2 STR 660-659 CL. Regrowth of vegetation cleared for VCR now established enough to have herbicide application. Herbicide application timeframes as detailed in the VMP have been exceeded. Recommend application of herbicide before regrowth height exceeds 1.5m.
Comments:
Andrew Scott 21 January 2025, 6:24:12 am
Corrective Action: Apply herbicide in accordance with VMP.



Captured by: Andrew Scott
Captured on: 22 January 2025, 2:37:10 pm
Tags: L1
Description: L1 STR 74. Ripping and topsoil respreading done for Temp Laydown and CL. Good recruitment. Stable.
Comments:



Captured by: Andrew Scott
Captured on: 22 January 2025, 2:51:12 pm
Tags: L1
Description: L1 STRs 76 and 77. Ripping and topsoil respreading done. Good recruitment. Stable.
Comments:

Appendix C Environmental Spatial Due Diligence

- Transgrid utilises spatial data to undertake environmental constraints, risks and due diligence assessments within NSW and ACT.
- Transgrid maintain a procedure: Environmental Spatial Data Due Diligence detailing Transgrid's governance of the environmental spatial data and the Spatial Environment reports generated from that spatial data.
- This procedure also provides assurance that the latest datasets are being utilised and that any risks associated with the spatial data have been considered and are documented.
- This procedure is to be read in conjunction with the Environmental Assessment Framework (EAF) and associated Environmental Management System (EMS) documents.
- This procedure has been created to provide guidance, context and general information regarding the environmental spatial data sets used for analysis and environmental assessments undertaken for Part 5 Assessments (required under the NSW Code of Practice for Authorised Network Operators) and Environmental Checklists (required under the Environmental Assessment Framework).
- Additionally, this procedure provides direction for managing continual improvement and environmental data management best practice
- The below tables detail the available managed datasets on Transgrids spatial system. These datasets are reviewed at the frequency specified below.
- These datasets will provide up to date information for the project during the operational phase, particulalrly for heritage and biodiversity risk management.

Table B1: Environmental spatial data (NSW, ACT)

Database No.	Dataset name	GSA coverage	Frequency of review	Risk rating
1	ACT Bush Fire Prone Land	All of ACT	Annual	Moderate
2	Assets of Intergenerational Significance (AIS)	All of NSW	Annual	High
3	Atlas of NSW Wildlife	All of NSW	Annual	High
4	Biosecurity Zones	All of NSW	Annual	High
5	Bush Fire Prone Land	All of NSW	As required	Moderate
6	Contours	All of NSW	As required	Low
7	Contours 1m	All of NSW	As required	Low
8	Critically Endangered Ecological Communities	All of NSW	Annual	High
9	Declared Aboriginal Places	All of NSW	Annual	High
10	Drinking Water Catchment	All of NSW	As required	Moderate
11	Elevation Data (ELVIS)	All of NSW	As required	Low
12	EPI critical habitat	All of NSW	Annual	High
13	Erosion Areas	All of NSW	As required	Low
14	Erosion Gully Streambank	All of NSW	As required	Low
15	Groundwater Vulnerability	All of NSW	As required	Low
16	Heritage – AHIMS – (includes projects specific data captured)	2km buffer (1km from centreline of any TG asset)	6 months (subject to data licence)	High
17	Heritage – Commonwealth	All of NSW	Annual	High
18	Heritage – Local	All of NSW	Annual	High

19	Heritage – National	All of NSW	Annual	High
20	Heritage – NSW Register	All of NSW	Annual	High
21	Heritage – World	All of NSW	Annual	High
22	Historic Heritage Information Management System (HHIMS)	National Parks Estates	Annual	High
23	Hydro Line \ Hydro Area	All of NSW	As required	Low
24	Important Wetlands DIWA	All of NSW	Annual	High
25	Key Fish Habitat	All of NSW	Annual	High
26	Land and Soil Capability	All of NSW	As required	Low
27	Land Zoning	All of NSW	As required	Low
29	Mine subsidence	All of NSW	Annual	Moderate
30	National Parks boundary	All of NSW	Annual	High
31	Naturally Occurring Asbestos	All of NSW	As required	High
32	NSW Acid Sulphate Soil Risk Maps	All of NSW	As required	Moderate
33	NSW Aquatic Reserves	All of NSW	As required	Moderate
34	NSW Contaminated Sites	All of NSW	Annual	High
35	NSW Declared Wilderness	All of NSW	Annual	High
36	NSW Land Use	All of NSW	As required	Low
37	NSW Marine Parks	All of NSW	As required	Moderate
38	NSW Seamless Geology	All of NSW	As required	Low
39	NSW Water Catchment Areas	All of NSW	Annual	Moderate
40	NSW Wetlands	All of NSW	Annual	Moderate
41	SEPP (Coastal Management)	All of NSW	Annual	High
42	SEPP Precincts	All of NSW	Manual	Low
43	Soil Landscape Maps	All of NSW	As required	Low

44	Soil Regolith	All of NSW	As required	Low
45	Spot Heights	All of NSW	As required	Low
46	State Forest – Flora Reserves	All of NSW	As required	Moderate
47	State Forest – FMZ	All of NSW	As required	Moderate
48	State Forest boundary	All of NSW	As required	Moderate
49	Strategic agricultural land	All of NSW	As required	Low
50	Terrestrial Biodiversity	All of NSW	As required	Moderate
51	Travelling Stock Routes (TSR)	All of NSW	As required	Low
52	Vulnerable Lands – Protect Riparian Areas	All of NSW	As required	Moderate
53	Vulnerable Lands – Special Category	All of NSW	As required	Moderate
54	Vulnerable Lands – Steep or Highly Erodible	All of NSW	As required	Low
55	Water NSW Restricted Areas	All of NSW	As required	Moderate
56	Western Division Land systems	All of NSW	As required	Low
57	Wetlands – Ramsar	All of NSW	Annual	High

Table B2: Environmental spatial data (NSW) - Analysed Datasets

Dataset No.	Dataset name	GSA coverage	Frequency of review	Risk
58	Airports	All of NSW	As required	Low
59	Biosecurity – Medium	All of NSW	Annual	High
60	Lembit – Fauna	All of NSW	Annual	High
61	Lembit – Flora	All of NSW	Annual	High
62	Flora Fauna Vegetation (project specific)	Limited Area	Annual	High
63	Flora Fauna Community (project specific)	Limited Area	Annual	High
64	TLF – Aboriginal DD	All of NSW	Annual	High

Table B3: Databases used for Part 5 Assessments under the NSW Code of Practice for Authorised Network Operators.

Environmental aspect	Datasets used for Spatial Environment reports and publicly available searches [(#Dataset) - refer to Table B1 and B2
Legislation/ Planning Context	No specific data used in Spatial Environment reports.
	Manual searches may be undertaken using: NSW legislation website: https://www.legislation.nsw.gov.au Federal legislation website: https://www.legislation.gov.au
Consultation	Spatial Environment report searches undertaken using: Coastal wetlands: *https://datasets.seed.nsw.gov.au/dataset/nsw-wetlands047c7* (#40) Mine subsidence: DPE EPI (#29) Airports: Transgrid dataset (#58) DCDB LGAs LALCs
	Manual searches may be undertaken using: NSW legislation website: https://www. legislation.nsw.gov.au and Federal legislation website: https://www.legislation.gov.au
Land use	Spatial Environment report searches undertaken using: Land zoning: *https://data.nsw.gov.au/data/dataset/environment-planning-instrument-local-environmental-plan-land-zoning* (#27) Water NSW restricted areas: https://datasets.seed.nsw.gov.au/dataset/special-and-controlled-areas (#55) Western division land: Unknown (#56) DCDB Commonwealth land NPWS (#30) State Forest (#48)
	Manual searches may be undertaken using: Assets of Intergenerational Significance: https://ais-map-dot-npws-ais-portal.ts.r.appspot.com/map (#2)

Geology & soils	Spatial Environment report searches undertaken using: NSW Acid Sulphate Soil Risk Maps: *https://datasets.seed.nsw.gov.au/dataset/acid-sulfate-soils-risk0196c* (#32) NSW contaminated sites: *https://www.epa.nsw.gov.au/your-environment/contaminated-land/notifice-and-regulated-contaminated-land/list-of-notified-sites* (#34) Mine subsidence: DPE EPI (#29) Naturally Occurring Asbestos: *https://datasets.seed.nsw.gov.au/dataset/naturally-occurring-asbestos* (#31)
	Manual searches may be undertaken using: Australian Soil Resource Information System (includes Acid Sulphate Soil mapping): *www.asris.csiro.au/* Geological Mapping: *https://www.resourcesandgeoscience.nsw.gov.au/miners-and-explorers/geoscience-information/products-and-data/maps* Soil and Landform Information: *www.environment.nsw.gov.au/eSpade2Webapp* National Pollutant Inventory: *www.npi.gov.au/npi-data/search-npi-data* Contaminated Sites Notified to the EPA: *www.epa.nsw.gov.au/clm/publiclist.htm* Contaminated Land Record: *www.epa.nsw.gov.au/prclmapp/searchregister.aspx* Naturally occurring asbestos: *https://www.seed.nsw.gov.au* Mine subsidence: *https://www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/spatialviewer/*
Hydrology	Spatial Environment report searches undertaken using: Groundwater vulnerability: *https://data.gov.au/dataset/ds-nsw-93cbdcda-adf8-4571-baae-b5a080f687bb/details?q=* (#15) Hydro/ hydro line: DTDB (#23) Drinking water catchment – DPE EPI (#10)
	Manual searches may be undertaken using: Groundwater: *https://realtimedata.waternsw.com.au* Drinking water catchment: *https://www.waternsw.com.au* Flood risk information: *www.ga.gov.au/flood-study-web*
Ecology	Spatial Environment report searches undertaken using: Critically endangered ecological communities: https://datasets.seed.nsw.gov.au/dataset/map-of-critically-endangered-ecological -communities-nsw-version-3e89bb (#8) NSW declared wilderness: *https://datasets.seed.nsw.gov.au/dataset/nsw-declared-wildernessea39b* (#35) Lembit – Fauna: Transgrid dataset (#60) Lembit – Flora: Transgrid dataset (#61)

	Flora and Fauna Vegetation: Transgrid dataset (#62) Flora Fauna Community – Transgrid dataset (#63) NSW water catchment areas: https://www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/opendata/dataset/epi-drinking-water-catchment (#39) NSW aquatic reserves: *http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/fishing/habitat/protecting-habitats/mpa#reserves* (#33) NSW marine parks: *http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/fishing/marine-protected-areas/marine-parks* (#37) NSW wetlands: *https://datasets.seed.nsw.gov.au/dataset/nsw-wetlands047c7* (#40) Important wetlands DIWA - *http://www.environment.gov.au/water/wetlands/australian-wetlands-database/directory-important-wetlands* (#24) Wetlands – Ramsar - *http://www.environment.gov.au/water/wetlands/ramsar* (#57) Key Fish Habitat – *www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/fishing/habitat/publications/pubs/key-fish-habitat-maps (provided by DPI)* (#25) Biosecurity risk layers – Transgrid dataset (#59) Biosecurity zones – *Provided by DPI* (#4)
	Manual searches may be undertaken using: EPBC Protected Matters: *https://pmst.awe.gov.au/* NSW Wildlife Atlas: *www.bionet.nsw.gov.au/* Key Fish Habitat: *www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/fishing/habitat/publications/pubs/key-fish-habitat-maps* Assets of Intergenerational Significance: https://ais-map-dot-npws-ais-portal.ts.r.appspot.com/map (#2) Areas of outstanding biodiversity: https://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/topics/animals-and-plants/biodiversity/areas-of-outstanding-biodiversity-value/area-of-outstanding-biodiversity-value-register
Aboriginal heritage	Spatial Environment report searches undertaken using: AHIMS: *http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/licences/AboriginalHeritageInformationSystem.htm* (#16) Declared Aboriginal places: *https://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/heritageapp/heritagesearch.aspx* (#9) TLF – Aboriginal DD: Transgrid dataset (#64) Soil landscape maps: OEH (#43)
	Manual searches may be undertaken using: AHIMS: *www.environment.nsw.gov.au/awssapp/login.aspx (outside buffer of Transgrid data)* Assets of Intergenerational Significance: https://ais-map-dot-npws-ais-portal.ts.r.appspot.com/map (#2)
Historic heritage	Spatial Environment report searches undertaken using: Heritage – Commonwealth: https://www.environment.gov.au/heritage/places/commonwealth -heritage-list (#17)

	Heritage – Local: *https://www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/opendata/dataset/environmental-planning-instrument-heritage-her* (#18) Heritage – National: *https://www.environment.gov.au/heritage/places/national-hertiage-list* (#19) Heritage - NSW Register: *https://www.datasets.seed.nsw.gov.au/dataset/state-heritage-register-curtilages1c5ee* (#20) Heritage – World: *https://datasets.seed.nsw.gov.au/dataset/australia-world-heritage-areas* (#21)
	Manual searches may be undertaken using: Australian Heritage Database: *www.environment.gov.au/cgi-bin/ahdb/search.pl* State Heritage Inventory: *www.environment.nsw.gov.au/heritageapp/heritagesearch.aspx* HHIMS - www.environment.nsw.gov.au/topics/parks-reserves-and-protected-areas/park-management/historic-heritage-information-management-system Assets of Intergenerational Significance: https://ais-map-dot-npws-ais-portal.ts.r.appspot.com/map (#2)
Noise & vibration	No specific data used in Spatial Environment reports.
	No specific manual searches are undertaken.
Traffic & access	No specific data used in Spatial Environment reports.
	Manual searches may be undertaken using: Traffic volume viewer: www.rms.nsw.gov.au/about/corporate-publications/statistics/traffic-volumes/ Classified roads: *https://roads-waterways.transport.nsw.gov.au/business-industry/partners-suppliers/lgr/documents/classified-roads-schedule.pdf*
Air quality	No specific data used in Spatial Environment reports.
	Manual searches may be undertaken using: NSW EPA Air Emissions Web Tool: *www.epa.nsw.gov.au/your-environment/air/air-emissions-inventory/air-emissions-my-community* National Pollutant Inventory: *www.npi.gov.au/npi-data/search-npi-data*
Hazards & risks	Spatial Environment report searches undertaken using: ACT bushfire prone land: http://actmapi-actgov.opendata.arcgis.com/datasets?q=Emergency%20Management (#1) Bushfire prone land: ftp://ftp.rfs.nsw.gov.au/ (#5)
	Manual searches may be undertaken using: Bushfire prone land: *www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/plan-and-prepare/building-in-a-bush-fire-area/planning-for-bush-fire-protection/bush-fire-prone-land*

Visual amenity	No specific data used in Spatial Environment reports.
	No specific manual searches are undertaken.
Waste	No specific data used in Spatial Environment reports.
	No specific manual searches are undertaken.
Social & economic considerations	No specific data used in Spatial Environment reports.
	No specific manual searches are undertaken.
Cumulative impacts	No specific data used in Spatial Environment reports.
	Manual searches undertaken using: Major Projects website: *https://www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects*

Appendix D Aboriginal Heritage Due Diligence Procedure

Official

Aboriginal Heritage Due Diligence Assessment

CONTROLLED DOCUMENT

Summary					
This procedure outlines Transgrid's Due Diligence requirement for the protection and management of Aboriginal Heritage objects and places					
Revision no:	3	**TRIM No:**	D2018/05672	**Approval/ Review Date:**	3 February 2022
Business function:	Manage Health, Safety and Environment			**Document type:**	Corporate-wide procedure
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Process owner:	Head of Health, Safety and Environment				
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Contents

1. Purpose

The Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Due Diligence Assessment (ACH DDA) has been prepared in consideration of the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage "Due Diligence Code of Practice for the Protection of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales' (DPIE CoP). The DPIE CoP was developed by DPIE to assist individuals and organisations in exercising due diligence when carrying out activities that may harm Aboriginal objects and to determine whether they should make an application to DPIE for permission to disturb/harm/remove any Aboriginal object in the form of an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP).

The DPIE CoP, which was made under the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 (NPW Act), sets out reasonable and practical steps which individuals and organisations need to take in order to:

- Identify whether or not Aboriginal objects are, or are likely to be present in an area.
- Determine whether or not their activities are likely to harm Aboriginal Objects (if present).
- Determine whether a heritage specialist is required to assist with more detailed investigations.

The NPW Act makes it an offence to:

- harm an Aboriginal object which the person knows is an Aboriginal object (referred to in this ACH DDA as 'harming a known Aboriginal object' for short);
- harm an Aboriginal object which the person does not know is an Aboriginal object (referred to in this ACH DDA as 'harming an unknown Aboriginal object' for short).

It is a defence to a prosecution for the offence of harming an unknown Aboriginal object if Transgrid proves that due diligence was exercised to determine whether the act or omission constituting the alleged offence would harm an Aboriginal object, and reasonably determined that no Aboriginal object would be harmed. The National Parks and Wildlife Regulation 2009 provides that compliance with the DPIE CoP is taken to constitute due diligence for that purpose.

Importantly, the defence is not available for the offence of harming a known Aboriginal object or harming a declared Aboriginal place (whether known or unknown).

The phrase "harm an Aboriginal object" is defined very broadly. It can include an act or omission that destroys, defaces, damages or even moves an Aboriginal object, or which causes or permits the object to be harmed (refer to Environmental Guidance Note - Heritage for further guidance on "harm").

The purpose of the ACH DDA is to provide clarity around the due diligence requirements and the process to be followed in the assessment of Transgrid specific construction and maintenance activities to ensure compliance with the DPIE CoP.

2. Scope

This procedure provides a process for Transgrid personnel to follow to assess the potential for harm to Aboriginal objects for Transgrid's construction and maintenance activities on existing assets within NSW. In essence, this procedure:

- Is to be applied to all work that is assessable under Division 5.1 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 (EP&A Act), exempt development, and those activities that are not subject to the EP&A Act. This procedure does not apply to activities subject to Part 4 of the EP&A Act (e.g. development

with consent, including State Significant Development) or under Division 5.2 of the EP&A Act (State Significant Infrastructure).

- Provides guidance for deciding when to seek specialist advice and/or engage a heritage specialist.
- Provides the requirements for an Authorised Officer to undertake the ACH DDA.
- Specifies documented evidence that needs to be retained to substantiate a defence against prosecution for a strict liability offence if it is determined that Transgrid harms an unknown Aboriginal object without an AHIP in place.

3. Definitions

Term	Definition
Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System (AHIMS)	DPIE database of recorded Aboriginal sites across NSW.
Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP)	A permit issued under the NPW Act to authorise a person to harm Aboriginal objects or places
Aboriginal Object	Means any deposit, object or material evidence (not being a handicraft made for sale) relating to the Aboriginal habitation of the area that comprises New South Wales, being habitation before or concurrent with (or both) the occupation of that area by persons of non-Aboriginal extraction, and includes Aboriginal remains or a Culturally Modified Tree.
Aboriginal Place	Means any place declared to be an Aboriginal place under the NPW Act.
Aboriginal Site	Means an area which contains an Aboriginal object or Aboriginal place.
Authorised Officer	Employees within Transgrid who are authorised to complete the Due Diligence Assessment will be required to be E5 authorised AND have completed a relevant training course on Aboriginal Awareness. This training can be conducted by DPIE, or a heritage specialist, and covers the DPIE CoP. External contractors who have the relevant environmental qualifications and experience may also be deemed Authorised officers but must follow this procedure and be authorised under the Authorisation to Work (ATW) system The Desktop Risk Assessment Process should be completed by a Transgrid Authorised Officer but if internal resourcing constraints prevent this, a suitably qualified external consultant can act as an Authorised Officer.
Culturally Modified Tree	Means a tree that has been scarred, carved or modified by an Aboriginal person by traditional methods.
Desktop Risk Assessment (DRA)	A process that involves consideration of the level of disturbance that a work activity may have on a potentially sensitive landscape.
Disturbed Land	Section 7.5.4 of the DPIE CoP states that land is disturbed if it has been the subject of human activity that has changed the lands surface, being changes that are clear and observable. Section 4.3.3.1 provides a detailed explanation of the various levels of disturbance that can be expected in the Transgrid environment and what constitutes **Disturbed Land** in the Transgrid context. Appendix A provides examples and further clarification of disturbed/undisturbed land.

Ground Disturbance	The carrying out of an activity that will disturb the ground surface or any Culturally Modified Tree. Disturbance of the ground surface is often significant when machinery is used to dig, grade, bulldoze, scrap, plough, or drill the ground surface for the purpose of, for example, building a structure or removing vegetation (taken from DPIE CoP). For the purposes of assessing activities carried out by Transgrid, the use of rubber wheeled vehicles (4WD's, EWP's etc.) are usually not activities that will result in ground disturbance. In addition, works carried out wholly inside the palisade fence of an existing substation or switchyard, **are not ground disturbance activities** for the purposes of this procedure due to their completely disturbed nature.
Heritage Specialist	Someone who is qualified (has the appropriate skills and experience) to undertake an Archaeological investigation as per the Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal objects in NSW. Minimum requirements include: 1. A bachelor degree with honours in archaeology or relevant experience in the field of Aboriginal cultural heritage management, 2. The equivalent of 2 years full time experience in Aboriginal Archaeological investigations, Demonstrated ability and experience (in a similar industry and scope of works), for investigating, reporting, and AHIP development and implementation.
Landscape Features (full)	Section 8 of the DPIE CoP describes a number of landscape features where Aboriginal objects (or Places) are more likely to occur as a result of these areas potentially being used for shelter, traditional cultural activities, or as a common travel route. These features include: • Within 200m of waters (river, stream, lake, lagoon, swamps, wetland, natural watercourse). • Within a sand dune system. • On a ridge top, ridge line, or headland. • Within 200m below or above a cliff face. • Within 20m of a cave, rock shelter, or a cave mouth. Section 4.3.3.2 describes in more detail Landscape Features and the differentiation between *Truncated Landscape Features* (TLF) and *Full Landscape Features* (FLF) when considering work activities on Disturbed and Undisturbed Land.
Landscape Features (truncated)	Transgrid's ACH DDA process includes a check of a reduced suite of landscape features for activities where soil disturbing activities are carried out on *disturbed land*. The Truncated Landscape Features (TLF) includes areas where there may be potentially sensitive landscapes or a high likelihood that Aboriginal objects may occur. The TLF include: • Within a mapped sand dune systems including lunettes • On a ridgeline in areas with sandstone geology or areas where rock platforms exist in proximity to water sources (unless a site inspection is undertaken to demonstrate that no rock shelters, engravings, grinding grooves or stone arrangements are present) • Within 200m of lower slopes/flats/terraces associated with Protected Riparian Land (unless a site inspection is undertaken to demonstrate the activity is not located within areas of deep soil profile).

	Section 4.3.3.2 describes in more detail Landscape Features and the differentiation between *Truncated Landscape Features* and *Full Landscape Features* when considering work activities on Disturbed and Undisturbed Land.
Low Impact Activity	Means an activity which is prescribed by clause 80B of the National Parks and Wildlife Regulation 2009 as a 'low impact act or omission'. Section 4.1 of this ACH DDA identifies some examples of Low Impact Activities and identifies the consequence of being a Low Impact Activity.
Specialist Archaeological Advice (SAA)	Specific advice from a Heritage Specialist in relation to the outcomes from the Desktop Risk Assessment (DRA).
Site Card	A record of an Aboriginal site stored in AHIMS.
TSS System	Transgrid's geospatial system that allows for the storage of AHIMS data, and other environmental data. AHIMS data is updated on TSS every 12 months.
Undisturbed Land	Section 4.3.3.1 provides a detailed explanation of the various levels of disturbance that can be expected in the Transgrid environment and what constitutes **Undisturbed Land** in the Transgrid context. Appendix A provides further examples of disturbed/undisturbed land in the Transgrid context.

4. ACH Due Diligence Assessment Procedure

The ACH DDA process sets out the methodology and requirements for Authorised Officers to follow when undertaking an initial assessment of the potential for an activity to harm an Aboriginal object or place.

For undertaking and completing the process:

- The first preference is for the process to be undertaken by a Transgrid Property & Environment Authorised Officer. If this is not feasible due to resourcing constraints then;
- The second preference is for the process to be undertaken by a Transgrid HSE Authorised Officer. If this is not feasible due to resourcing constraints or a change in project delivery method, then the DDA process can be conducted by an external Authorised Officer, in accordance with the following conditions:
    a. The assessment process must be supervised and checked by a Transgrid Authorised Officer for completeness, accuracy and validity (with respect to the principles of the Transgrid DDA).
    b. If the assessment process, upon checking/auditing by a Transgrid Authorised Officer is found to be deficient with respect to completeness, accuracy and validity, then the external Authorised Officer may be excluded from any further engagement with Transgrid.

4.1. Planning Process and Transgrid's Environmental Assessment Framework

For activities that are either exempt or actions to which the EP&A Act does not apply, Transgrid has assigned three (3) levels of environmental risk based on the potential for an activity to impact the environment. These risk levels are:

- **Negligible Risk** – No documented assessment required. Comply with Transgrid's Environmental Handbook. No earthworks or vegetation management is associated with negligible risk works.
- **Low Risk** – Complete an Environmental Low Risk Checklist (ELRC). Low level of disturbance occurs (is generally carried out on previously disturbed areas). Includes activities such as geotechnical surveys/inspections and underground inspections.
- **Moderate Risk** – Complete an Environmental Moderate Risk Checklist (EMRC). Usually for larger scale maintenance activities such as access track maintenance and vegetation maintenance control on easements.

Regardless of its risk rating, an activity will only be considered a 'Low Impact Activity' (under clause 80B of the National Park and Wildlife Regulation 2009 and clause 7.5 of the DPIE CoP) if:

- the activity is the maintenance of existing roads, trails or tracks on disturbed land (see 4.3.3.1 for guidance on what constitutes 'disturbed land');
- the activity is the maintenance of above or below ground electrical infrastructure, on disturbed land;
- the activity is surface geophysical surveys (but not including seismic surveys), sub-surface geophysical surveys that involve downhole logging, sampling and coring using hand-held equipment (but not including archaeological investigation);
- the activity is 'exempt development' or 'complying development' within the meaning of the EP&A Act, on disturbed land;
- the activity otherwise falls within the definition of a 'Low Impact Activity' (see clause 7.5 of the DPIE CoP),
- and, in each case, the activity does not harm a Culturally Modified Tree.

It is a defence to a prosecution for the offence of harming an unknown Aboriginal object if Transgrid proves that the activity was a Low Impact Activity. Importantly, the Low Impact Activity defence will not apply where the activity results in harming a known Aboriginal object (even if the harm was unintentional).

For activities that involve ground disturbance outside Premises (i.e. Substations/ Switchyards/ Depots), the ACH DDA process must be followed.

4.1.1. Development under Part 5 EP&A Act

The DPIE CoP (clause 4.1) states that the standards in the code can be used or adapted by proponents to inform the initial assessment of the potential impacts of an activity on Aboriginal Heritage.

This tailored ACH DDA has been developed and must be followed by Authorised Officers.

A significant portion of the work required for Part 5 activities on existing Transgrid infrastructure could be considered Low Impact Activities, however, it will be important to check that the activity meets the definition of a Low Impact Activity in each case (see 4.1 of this ACH DDA).

This ACH DDA also allows for determining when further assessment by a heritage specialist is required.

4.2. Transgrid's Due Diligence Assessment

The following ACH DDA process is summarised diagrammatically in Appendix B.

4.2.1. State Significant Infrastructure

For projects that have been determined to be State Significant Infrastructure, this ACH DDA process does not apply. The assessment for potential cultural heritage impacts should be conducted with reference to the Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARs).

4.2.2. Review of Proposed Activities

If the proposed activity does not involve ground disturbance or disturbance to mature trees which might be Culturally Modified Trees, there is no requirement for further assessment in relation to Aboriginal heritage. Caution should still be exercised in carrying out the activity, and if Aboriginal objects are found, work must be stopped (refer to the Unexpected Finds Protocol at Appendix A), and an AHIP obtained if those objects are to be harmed. If the proposed activity involves disturbance of the ground or any mature trees which might be Culturally Modified Trees, proceed to 4.3.3.

It should be kept in mind that disturbance of the ground might arise, for example, in the course of operating machinery or erecting a structure over land. Refer to the definition of Ground Disturbance in this ACH DDA for further guidance.

4.2.3. Review of known Heritage Sites and/or Landscape Features on Disturbed and Undisturbed Land

For identifying existing Aboriginal Heritage sites that have been recorded in the area, conduct a search within 100 metres of the work site by utilising TSS.

If TSS is unavailable, a search using the AHIMS database must be undertaken, together with a check of any other known sources of relevant information (if any) such as relevant previous studies, reports, assessments or surveys.

An AHIMS search result cannot be relied on if it is more than 12 months old.

If there is reason to believe that the information on AHIMS is not up to date or is inaccurate, the AHIMS registrar should be contacted (ahims@environment.nsw.gov.au).

If a known Aboriginal site is identified within 100 metres of the proposed activity, then the Site Cards, and any other relevant information must be obtained to verify the precise location, type and extent of the site.

If the Site Card or other information cannot be verified or identifies that an Aboriginal site cannot be avoided, then a site inspection by an Authorised Officer will be required to determine if the proposed work could harm the site or whether all harm can be avoided. Possible solutions to avoid harm may include changing the area of the activity footprint, changing its orientation, re-routing infrastructure trenching or incorporating a no-development area into the design.

If it is determined that all harm cannot be avoided, then SAA will be required, and it may be necessary to obtain an AHIP before the activity can be carried out. Refer to step 4.3.4.

If it is determined that all impacts to known Aboriginal sites can be avoided, consideration still needs to be given to whether there are any sensitive landscape features in the vicinity. Proceed to step 4.3.3.1.

If a known site is not identified through a search undertaken using TSS (for Transgrid internal assessments) or AHIMS (for external assessments) and there are no other known sources of relevant information which indicate that the area is an Aboriginal site, then consideration needs to be given to whether there are any sensitive landscape features in the vicinity. Critical in this consideration is whether the proposed work is to be undertaken on disturbed or undisturbed land. Proceed to step 4.3.3.1 for a description of requirements.

4.2.3.1. Disturbed/Undisturbed Land

The first step in the process is to determine whether the proposed work will be carried out on Disturbed or Undisturbed Land. Table 1 below documents what level of disturbance would be expected depending on the land use across the network. Appendix A provides Transgrid specific examples of what would constitute disturbed and undisturbed land (and its various gradations in between).

Table 1: Level of Disturbance within Potentially Sensitive Landscape

Level of disturbance	Description	Transgrid Examples
Completely modified	Landscape has been entirely modified by post-contact activity such that the natural soil profile has been entirely removed or relocated	• Access tracks that have been graded to clay or parent material or where all topsoil and A horizons have been removed and/or where imported material has been placed. • Existing substations/switchyards/depots where all topsoil was removed prior to construction.
Highly disturbed	Landscape that has been highly modified by post-contact activity such that no surface deposits will remain intact but retains some potential for the natural soil profile to remain partially intact beneath the depth of current disturbance	• Highly urbanised areas (e.g. Sydney/Newcastle CBD's). • Existing transmission line structures (as defined by extent of disturbance associated with structure installation and maintenance). • Access tracks graded into natural soils where some A horizon is still present and/or imported material has been placed. • Cultivated land (i.e. cropped or grazed land subject to extensive cultivation). • Areas subject to extensive vegetation clearance (i.e. tree root balls removed or

Level of disturbance	Description	Transgrid Examples
		spans have been mulched and/or trittored in the past). • Areas immediately surrounding the footings of T/L structures.
Moderately disturbed	Landscape that has been partially modified by post-contact activity but which may retain some areas of intact surface deposits and/or areas within which a remnant soil profile is likely to be present	• Grazed land not subject to extensive cultivation. • Areas subject to periodic vegetation clearance. • Cleared and managed parklands.
Minimally disturbed	Landscape that has been minimally altered by post-contact activity and may contain intact surface deposits and/or intact soil profiles	• Reserves and uncleared parklands subject to minimal vegetation clearance and/or minimal soil disturbance. • Areas of native vegetation communities subject to minimal vegetation clearance and/or minimal soil disturbance.
Completely undisturbed	Landscape that has been largely unaltered by post-contact activity	• Intact areas within National Parks/State Forest.

Undisturbed Land is characterised by landscapes that have been largely unaltered or modified by post contact activity. For the purposes of this procedure, land that is minimally disturbed or completely undisturbed is considered to be **Undisturbed Land**.

Examples include intact areas within National Park, Reserves and State Forests where negligible vegetation impacts or soil disturbing activities have been undertaken.

For the purposes of this procedure, land that is moderately disturbed, highly disturbed or completely modified is considered **Disturbed Land**. In both instances, whether the work activity is being undertaken on Disturbed or Undisturbed Land, proceed to step 4.3.3.2.

4.2.3.2. Checking of Landscape Features

If the work activity is to be carried out on Disturbed Land, a check for Truncated Landscape Features (TLF) in TSS needs to be undertaken. The use of some landscape features for disturbed land is in consideration of the level of risk involved and a decision on what level of due diligence is warranted in this situation. TLF are defined as:

- Within a mapped sand dune systems including lunettes.
- On ridgelines in areas with sandstone geology or areas where rock platforms exist in proximity to water sources (unless a site inspection is undertaken to demonstrate no rock shelters, engravings, grinding grooves or stone arrangements are likely to be present).

- Within 200m of lower slopes/flats/terraces associated with major watercourses (unless a site inspection is undertaken to demonstrate activity is not located within and not associated with areas of deep soil profile).

If any TLF are flagged within 200m of the work site, then a **Desktop Risk Assessment (DRA)** needs to be undertaken. Proceed to step 4.3.3.3 for a description of this process.

If no TLF are flagged in the vicinity of the work site then no further assessment is required. Proceed with caution and if there are known Aboriginal sites in the area, apply the necessary control measures to ensure that no harm is caused to those sites as set out in Environmental Guidance Note - Heritage and Standard Mitigation Measure HE1.

If the work activity is to be carried out on Undisturbed Land, a check for Full Landscape Features (FLF) in TSS needs to be undertaken. FLF are defined as:

- Within 200m of waters (river, stream, lake, lagoon, swamps, wetland, natural watercourse).
- Within a sand dune system.
- On a ridge top, ridge line, or headland.
- Within 200m below or above a cliff face.
- Within 20m of a cave, rock shelter, or a cave mouth.

If any FLF are flagged in the vicinity (within 200 metres) of the work site, then a DRA needs to be undertaken. Proceed to step 4.3.3.3 for a description of this process.

If no FLF are flagged in the vicinity of the work site then no further assessment is required. Proceed with caution and, if there are known Aboriginal sites in the area, apply the necessary control measures to ensure that no harm is caused to those sites (see the Environmental Guidance Note - Heritage) and Standard Mitigation Measure HE1).

4.2.3.3. Desktop Risk Assessment

On the basis that either TLF or FLF flag in the vicinity of the work site, a Desktop Risk Assessment (DRA) needs to be undertaken. This process involves consideration of the level of disturbance that the work activity may have on a potentially sensitive landscape. This is summarised in Table 2 below:

Table 2: Work Activity Level of Disturbance in a Potentially Sensitive Landscape

Level of disturbance	Description	Examples
Minimal	Activities that will have negligible to no surface impact and no subsurface impact.	• Pole inspections not requiring excavations by mobile plant (hand excavation only). • Pedestrian surveys/inspections. • Geophysical survey not requiring excavation by mobile plant e.g. hand excavation, seismic survey.
Low	Activities that have a limited surface and subsurface surface impact.	• Vegetation clearance to ground level (minimal soil disturbance). • Vegetation maintenance (slashing, mulching). • Manual tree planting/rehabilitation. • Lay-out and winding on of conductors. • Geotechnical investigations requiring minor ground disturbance. • Pole inspections requiring minor excavation at base of pole using mobile plant. • Defect pole replacement where replacement poles are installed in the existing pole foundation. • Access using rubber tyred/rubber tracked mobile plant. • Minor upgrades of existing access tracks that remain within the curtilage of the track.
Moderate	Activities that will result in limited surface impact and are likely to cause subsurface impact to relatively shallow depths or across a relatively limited area.	• Establishment of construction compounds/lay-down areas. • Pole or tower structure replacements where small areas of new excavation are required. • Access using steel tracked mobile plant. • Construction/expansion of minor vehicle access tracks or construction benches (<250m^2).
High	Activities that will result in surface impact and subsurface impacts within the A horizon profile to substantial depth and/or across a relatively large area	• Pole or tower structure replacements requiring large construction benches (>250m^2) and/or establishment of large excavated footings (>250m^2). • Construction/expansion of large areas of new access track (>250m^2 but <500m^2).

Level of disturbance	Description	Examples
Very high	Activities that will result in wholesale disturbance of the soil profile across an extensive area.	• Vegetation clearance and earthworks to establish a large section of new easement and/or substation/switching station. • Alterations to a watercourse (classed as Protected Riparian Land). • Establishment of substantial areas of new access track (>500m2).

Once a determination has been made on the level of disturbance from the work activity using Table 2, a comparison is made between this and the level of disturbance of the landscape (Table 1) where the work activity is to be undertaken. In summary we are comparing the level of the disturbance of the landscape to the level of disturbance of the activity to determine what the possible risk is with respect to potential damage to ACH that may be present at the work site. The level of possible risk will vary from low to high. Table 3 provides a matrix of possible risk outcomes from this process.

Table 3: Desktop Risk Assessment Matrix for Desktop Assessment

Level of current disturbance within potentially sensitive landscape	Level of disturbance from proposed activity				
	Minimal	Low	Moderate	High	Very High
Completely modified	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low
Highly disturbed	Low	Low	Medium	Medium	Moderate
Moderately disturbed	Low	Medium	Moderate	Moderate	High
Minimally disturbed	Low	Medium	Moderate	High	High
Undisturbed	Low	Moderate	High	High	High

If the DRA does not flag as Moderate or High Risk using the above matrix, then no further assessment is required. Proceed with caution and if there are known Aboriginal sites in the area, apply the necessary control measures to ensure that no harm is caused to those sites as set out in Environmental Guidance Note - Heritage and Standard Mitigation Measure HE1.

If the DRA flags as Moderate or High Risk, then further assessment is required.

If the DRA flags as Moderate or High Risk, the Authorised Officer must assess whether impact to identified landscape features (TLF or FLF) can be avoided. If identified landscape features can be avoided, then no further assessment is required. Proceed with caution and if there are known Aboriginal sites in the area, apply the necessary control measures to ensure that no harm is caused to those sites as set out in the Environmental Guidance Note - Heritage and Standard Mitigation Measure HE1.

If it is unclear whether impact to identified landscape features can be avoided, a visual inspection by an Authorised Officer will be required. If it is determined that impact to identified landscape features cannot be avoided, then SAA will be required. Refer to step 4.2.4. In summary, the following points summarise the next steps depending on the results of the DRA:

- **Low Risk:** Work in accordance with Environmental Assessment/ Checklist controls.
- **Medium Risk:** Work in accordance with Environmental Assessment/ Heritage Environmental Guidance Note.
- **Moderate and High Risk:** Visual Inspection (see below) by Authorised officer may be required to assess levels of disturbance and determine whether there will be significant impact to the landscape feature. If visual inspection by an Authorised Officer determines that impact to identified landscape features cannot be avoided or if the Authorised Officer is uncertain whether impact can be avoided, then SAA will be required.

Visual Inspection of Landscape Features is undertaken for the purpose of:

a. Verifying the DRA Risk Matrix Rating and
b. Assessing the likelihood of unknown aboriginal objects associated with the landscape feature being present.

4.2.4. Specialist Archaeological Advice (SAA)

If SAA is required, then a heritage specialist must provide advice on further assessment requirements.

Provision of SAA may include liaison with DPIE Heritage staff, where clarification of heritage related matters is required.

Where external heritage specialists are engaged, the provision of SAA must by overseen by an E5 Authorised Officer, including a review of the scope of works and any requirements for site inspections, to ensure the assessment is appropriate and relevant only to the sites/features identified in the above Due Diligence Assessment.

The outcome from the SAA process could be any one of the following:

- The risk rating may be changed based on SAA from DPIE,
- Impact to a site or landscape feature can be avoided or the likelihood of aboriginal objects being present is low and works can proceed on the basis that the recommended controls and mitigations are implemented.
- Impact to a site cannot be avoided and an AHIP will be required before works can proceed (refer to Appendix C for more detail).
- The potential for Aboriginal artefacts is low within a given landscape feature and works can proceed with caution, in accordance with the Heritage Environmental Guidance Note.

- The potential for Aboriginal objects is high within a given landscape feature and an AHIP may be required before works can proceed (refer to Appendix C for more detail).

4.2.5. Qualifications of Heritage Specialists

Minimum qualifications required to comply with the Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in NSW (24 September 2010) (The Code) include a bachelor's degree with honours in archaeology or equivalent experience (see definitions) or be employed by the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage as a Heritage Officer.

When engaging an external heritage specialist, their relevant qualifications must be provided and checked in accordance with the Code. Heritage specialists engaged by Transgrid to assess sites delineated through the Desktop Risk Assessment Process are deemed to be Authorised Officers for the purposes of this procedure. For assessments carried out be external contractors, a Transgrid Authorised Officer must review the assessment and provide confirmation that the findings are reasonable and justified.

4.2.6. Consultation

Consultation with the Aboriginal Community is not a formal requirement of the Due Diligence Assessment process. However, this can be considered if it can assist in the assessment and decision making. Consultation can occur with support from a heritage specialist, or can occur directly between Transgrid and the community for low risk or maintenance activities, or if there is a specific requirement outlined by a government authority. For larger scale projects, it may be prudent to contact DPIE directly to seek consultation advice.

Note that formal consultation with the Aboriginal Community (though the Local Aboriginal Land Councils) may be a requirement of the approval from the relevant land owner/land manager (e.g. NPWS, Forestry Corporation of NSW). If this is the case then this should be factored in prior to undertaking the ACH DDA for a project or maintenance activity.

Note: If it has been determined that an AHIP is required, consultation shall be undertaken in accordance with the '*Aboriginal Cultural Heritage consultation requirements for proponents 2010*'.

4.2.7. Documentation

Where an ACH DDA process is undertaken, all documentation involved in the assessment must be retained. Documentation should be stored alongside the EMRC/ELRC or SER/REF. This will include any evidence gathered and reviewed (e.g. TSS reports, DPIE Site Cards, photos, and site assessments) that clearly demonstrate that the required due diligence has been undertaken.

Site Card information must also be added to TSS within a month of receipt from OEH.

The Desktop Risk Assessment shall be in accordance with the form template attached in Appendix E.

4.2.8. Authorised Officers to undertake the Due Diligence Assessment

Transgrid staff or consultants/contractors who meet the requirements of an Authorised Officer are approved to undertake the ACH DDA. Consultants/contractors acting as Authorised Officers however must be directly supervised by a Transgrid Authorised Officer.

5. Accountability

Title	Responsibilities and Accountabilities
Senior Sustainability and Environment Manager	Ensure Transgrid Authorised Officers are appropriately trained. Ensure ELRC and EMRC assessments follow this process and procedure.
Head Of Land Community and Environment	Ensure Part 5 assessments follow this process and procedure.

6. Implementation

This procedure will be implemented by the following methods:

- Notification on the HSE Update page on the WIRE

7. Monitoring and review

This procedure will be reviewed every three years and in response to changes in legislation or the DPIE CoP in line with the Document and Records Management procedure.

8. Change from previous version

Revision no	Approved by	Amendment
0	Michael Gatt, EM, Works Delivery	Nil – First issue
1	Michael Gatt, EM, Works Delivery	• Updates to definitions. • Change to DDA protocol (update of flowchart reflecting outcomes from heritage workshops). • Updated detail and definition around what is meant by disturbed and undisturbed land. • Inclusion of Desktop Risk Assessment process for the consideration of landscape features (including use of Desktop Risk Assessment Matrix). • Additional requirements added around AHIP process.
2	Michael Gatt, EM, Works Delivery	• Section 4.2.3.3 - Changes made to the Desktop Risk Assessment (DRA) based on internal feedback. • Minor definitional and scope amendments.
3	Nicol Joubert, Acting Head of HSE	• Procedure updated to new template • Position titles updated to reflect current organisational structure

9. References

- Due Diligence Code of Practice for the Protection of Aboriginal Objects in NSW
- Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in NSW.
- Transgrid Environmental Guidance Note - Heritage

10. Attachments

Appendix A: Transgrid description and examples of Disturbed Land

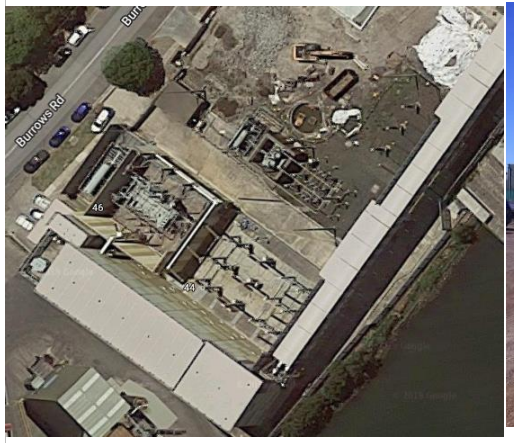
Appendix B: Summary of Transgrid ACH DDA protocol

Appendix C: Description of AHIP process

Appendix D: Unexpected Finds Protocol

Appendix E: Desktop Risk Assessment Template

Appendix A Disturbed and Undisturbed Land in the Transgrid Context (adjunct to Table 1)

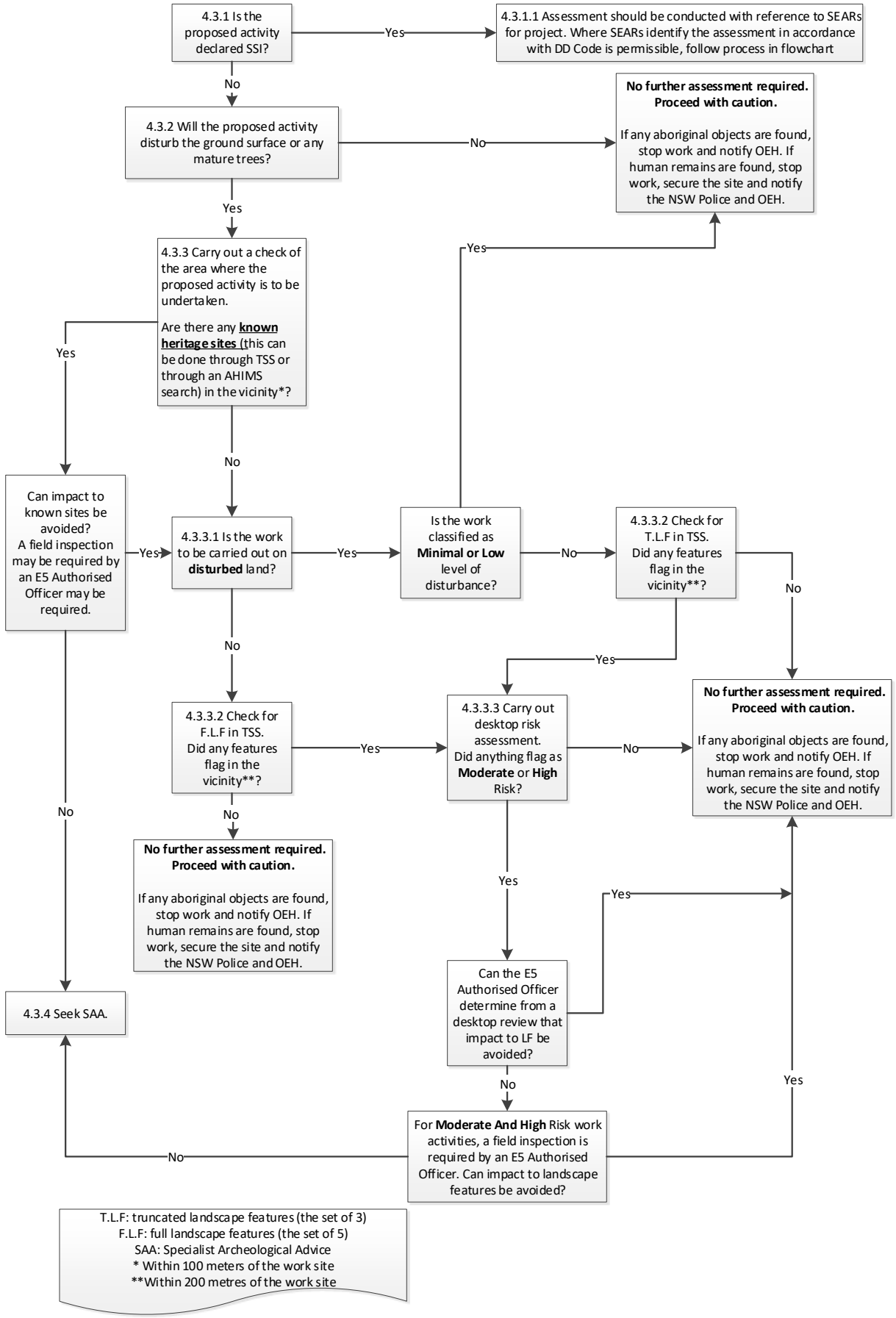
Level of disturbance	Transgrid Examples	Example Image
Completely disturbed Landscape has been entirely modified by post-contact activity such that the natural soil profile has been entirely removed or relocated	• Access tracks that have been graded to clay or parent material or where all topsoil and A horizons have been removed and/or where imported material has been placed. • Existing substations/switchyards/depots where all topsoil was removed prior to construction.	   

Level of disturbance	Transgrid Examples	Example Image
Highly disturbed Landscape that has been highly modified by post-contact activity such that no surface deposits will remain intact but retains some potential for the natural soil profile to remain partially intact beneath the depth of current disturbance	• Highly urbanised areas (e.g. Sydney/Newcastle CBD's) • Existing substations and switchyards • Existing transmission line structures (as defined by extent of disturbance associated with structure installation and maintenance) • Access tracks graded into natural soils where some A horizon is still present and/or imported material has been placed • Cultivated land (i.e. cropped or grazed land subject to extensive cultivation) • Areas subject to extensive vegetation clearance (i.e. tree root balls removed or spans have been mulched and/or trittored in the past). • Areas immediately surrounding the footings of T/L structures.	     

Level of disturbance	Transgrid Examples	Example Image
Moderately disturbed Landscape that has been partially modified by post-contact activity but which may retain some areas of intact surface deposits and/or areas within which a remnant soil profile is likely to be present	• Grazed land not subject to extensive cultivation • Areas subject to periodic vegetation clearance • Cleared and managed parklands	  

Level of disturbance	Transgrid Examples	Example Image
<u>Minimally disturbed</u> Landscape that has been minimally altered by post-contact activity and may contain intact surface deposits and/or intact soil profiles	• Reserves and uncleared parklands subject to minimal vegetation clearance and/or minimal soil disturbance • Areas of native vegetation communities subject to minimal vegetation clearance and/or minimal soil disturbance	 
<u>Completely undisturbed</u> Landscape that has been largely unaltered by post-contact activity	• Intact areas within National Parks/State Forest.	 

Appendix B Summary of Transgrid ACH DDA protocol



Appendix C - Description of AHIP process

Under the NPW Act, a person can apply for an AHIP as a defence to a prosecution for harming Aboriginal objects or Aboriginal places. The AHIP will be a defence provided that:

1. the harm was authorised by the AHIP, and
2. the conditions of that AHIP were not contravened.

An AHIP is required if the proposed activity will, directly or indirectly, harm an Aboriginal object or a declared Aboriginal place.

Once it is determined that harm is likely to occur, SAA will be required to assess the activity and site/s as per Step 4.3.5, to determine if an AHIP is required. Due to the compliance risk that an AHIP places on Transgrid, the following steps are to be undertaken:

- Once it is determined that an AHIP may be required and prior to engaging SAA, the Authorised Officer needs to document the rationale behind the requirement and forward this to the Corporate Environmental Manager for review.
- The Corporate Environmental Manger is to review the “request for AHIP” from the Authorised Officer and provide their endorsement to proceed with engaging SAA to determine if an AHIP is required. In the event there is a disagreement on whether an AHIP may be required, the Corporate Environment Manager is to review the information supplied with the Manager, Property & Environment to reach an agreement.
- Once approval to proceed is granted, the Authorised Officer is to seek SAA. If the SAA confirms that an AHIP will be required, the Authorised Officer will commence the AHIP application process with the assistance of the SAA.
- Once the AHIP is received by the Authorised Officer managing the AHIP application process, a review of conditions must be undertaken to determine if all conditions are reasonable and can be met by Transgrid during the construction and post-construction phase of the work activity. This review is to be undertaken in conjunction with the Corporate Environment Manager, Manager Environmental Approvals and the Environmental Team Leader (WD).
- Once the AHIP is received by the Authorised Officer, a formal face to face handover meeting is to be arranged with Works Delivery (Corporate Environment Manager, Environmental Team Leader) to ensure that there is a thorough understanding of the requirements of all AHIP conditions and that any relevant background information is canvassed for information and discussion.
- The AHIP conditions are to be entered into CAMMS by the relevant Authorised Officer to allow for assignment of responsibility to relevant individuals and to allow for complete tracking of compliance for all conditions of a permit.

The Steps of Applying for an AHIP are as follows:

3. complete an Aboriginal community consultation process required by the *National Parks and Wildlife Regulation 2009* (and also described in the **Aboriginal cultural heritage consultation requirements for proponents 2010**)
4. prepare a cultural heritage assessment report that meets the requirements in the *National Parks and Wildlife Regulation 2009*
5. download and fill in the **AHIP application form (DOC 134KB)** and provide any additional information to support your application, including site information for the Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System (AHIMS).
6. send your completed form, accompanying documentation and payment to your nearest **DPIE regional office**.

Transgrid should ensure they are involved with all the steps of the AHIP and ensure the final outcome of the AHIP is satisfactory to the ongoing management of its infrastructure. This includes:

- ensuring (if possible) there are no sites remaining that can impede access or maintenance works,
- remaining site boundaries are clearly defined,
- site information is captured on Transgrid's GIS system (TSS).

Appendix D - Unexpected Finds Protocol

Aboriginal Artefacts can occur in most locations, especially within sensitive landscapes, even if there has been no previously recorded site. An Aboriginal artefact is anything which is the result of past Aboriginal activity. This includes stone artefacts, rock engravings and culturally scarred trees. Human bone (skeletal) remains may also be uncovered while onsite.

Cultural heritage significance is assessed by the Aboriginal community and is typically based on traditional and contemporary lore, spiritual values, and oral history, and may also take into account scientific and educational value.

Protocol to be followed in the event that previously unrecorded or unanticipated Aboriginal object(s) are encountered:

1. All ground surface disturbance in the area of the finds should cease immediately when the finds are uncovered, and advise all machinery operators and Transgrid's Site Manager/Supervisor.
2. If the find is suspected to be human skeletal material, the NSW police should be contacted immediately.
3. If there is substantial doubt regarding an Aboriginal origin for the finds, then gain a qualified opinion from an archaeologist as soon as possible. This can circumvent proceeding further along the protocol for items which turn out not to be archaeological. If a quick opinion cannot be gained, or the identification is positive, then proceed to the next step.
4. Immediately notify the following authorities or personnel of the discovery:
    a. DPIE (Environment Line: 131 555); and
    b. Relevant Aboriginal Community Representatives.
5. Facilitate, in co-operation with the appropriate authorities and relevant Aboriginal community representatives:
    a. The recording and assessment of the finds;
    b. Fulfilling any legal constraints arising from the find(s). This will include complying with DPIE directions; and
    c. The development and conduct of appropriate management strategies. Strategies will depend on consultation with stakeholders and the assessment of the significance of the find(s).
    d. Where the find(s) are determined to be Aboriginal Objects, any re-commencement of construction related ground surface disturbance may only resume in the area of the find(s) following the issuing of an AHIP from DPIE.

Appendix E - Desktop Risk Assessment Template

Aboriginal Heritage Aspects Summary (for details refer to Attachment 1 – Due Diligence Assessment and TL 973 Assessment spreadsheet)			Consider: Will any works disturb the ground surface? Does any known aboriginal heritage TLF / FLF flag
A	Will the works disturb the ground or culturally modified tree?	Y ☒ N ☒	Examples of Ground disturbing activities include: • Maintenance of existing access tracks, • Grading of short section of eroded unformed tracks • Set up of mobile plant for OPGW stringing, • Construction benches / brake / winch benches.
IF NO TO SECTION A, NO FURTHER CULTURAL HERITAGE ASESSMENT IS REQUIRED. WORK IN ACCORDANCE WITH CHANCE FINDS PROTOCOL. IF YES CONTINUE TABLE			
B	Do any Cultural Heritage Sites flag on TSS / GSA / AHIMS Report. \Note: if Y further assessment may be required unless potential 'harm' can be avoided.	Y ☒ N ☐	A number of cultural heritage sites are flagged in proximity to the proposed works (refer to Maps Attachment 1 for further information).
COMPLETE SECTION C			
C	Where there is no known heritage will ground disturbing work be undertaken on ***disturbed land?***	Y ☒ N ☐	Where there is no known heritage all works areas are located on land classed as *disturbed*. Levels of disturbance vary from moderately to highly disturbed (refer to TransGrid AHDDA).
	Will ground disturbing work be undertaken on disturbed land that is identified as TLF: > Within a mapped sand dune systems including lunettes > On ridgelines in areas with sandstone geology or areas where rock platforms exist in proximity to water sources > Within 200m of lower slopes/flats/terraces associated with major watercourses Note: if Y further assessment may be required.	Y ☒ N ☐	A number of locations are in proximity to TLF, including protected watercourses and existing cultural heritage sites that indicate the potential for unknown heritage objects in the landscape. Many works locations are located on hilltops characterised by rocky outcrops, however, there is no known occurrences of sandstone geology along the transmission line; highly weathered granite geology predominates. There are no known dune systems in the area. Refer to Maps and Attachment 1 for details.
COMPLETE SECTION D			
Will any ground disturbing activities be undertaken on undisturbed land? Yes ☐ No ☒ If Yes, provide details of Full Landscape Features (FLF). If No check NA.			
D	Will ground disturbing work be undertaken on undisturbed land that is: > Within 200m of waters (river, stream, lake, lagoon, swamps, wetland, natural watercourse). > Within a sand dune system. > On a ridge top, ridge line, or headland. > Within 200m below or above a cliff face. > Within 20m of a cave, rock shelter, or a cave mouth. Note: if Y further assessment may be required.	Y ☐ N ☐ NA ☒	

Attachment 1: Cultural Heritage Due Diligence Assessment Desktop Results for known sites and landscape features (refer to TransGrid's AHDDA).

LIA: Low Impact Activity NFAR: No further Assessment Required TLF: Truncated Landscape Feature LoD: Level of Disturbance (caused by works activity).

St	Site LoD	Work Activity LoD	Known Heritage (100m)	Known heritage details	TLF (200m)	TLF details	Matrix Risk Rating	Details / Comments
973-GTRY	Highly Disturbed	Minimal	Yes	S-AB-2389/51-4-0052, Artefact scatter. >100m. Can be avoided. NFAR	Yes	NA	Low	The known Site (artefact scatter) has been well documented and the location is outside the footprint of the access to and location of St 2 and proposed Brake and Winch bench (site is >100m from St 2). Site 51-4-0052 has been duplicated in TSS and AHIMS site location is incorrect. 51-4-0052 and S-AB2389 are the same Site. A REVIEW OF THE SITE CARD INDICATES HARM TO THE KNOWN SITE CAN BE AVOIDED. INSTALL SIGN AGE TO DIRECT CONSTRUCTION TRAFFIC. IDENTYIFY SITE LOCATION ON MAPS AND MARK AS NO GO ZONE. NFA REQUIRED.
973-2	Highly Disturbed	High	Yes	S-AB-2389/51-4-0052, Artefact scatter. >100m. Can be avoided. NFAR	Yes	NA	Medium	
973-15	Highly Disturbed	Moderate	No	NA	YASS River	St located above River terrace / floodplain	Medium	Bench required at St 15. St 15 located on land above river terraces / floodplain. NFA REQUIRED..
973-16	Highly Disturbed	High	No	NA	YASS River	St located above River terrace / floodplain	Medium	Bench required at St 16. St 16 located on steeper land above river terraces / floodplain. Rocky / stony (granite). NFA REQUIRED.
973-17	Highly Disturbed	High	No	NA	YASS River	St located above River terrace / floodplain	Medium	Bench required at St 16. St 16 located on steeper land above river terraces / floodplain. Rocky / stony (granite). NFA REQUIRED.

Structure Reference	Const Bench	CB details	Site LoD	Work Activity LoD	Known Hertiage (100m)	Known heritage details	TLF (200m)	TLF details	Matrix Risk Rating	TLF FAR details
973-GTRY	No bench	N	Highly Disturbed	Minimal	Yes	S-AB-2389/51-4-0052, Artefact scatter. >100m. Can be avoided. NFAR	Yes	NA	Low	NA
973-2	Bench req	Major earth works for bench due to step transverse slope	Highly Disturbed	High	Yes	S-AB-2389/51-4-0052, Artefact scatter. >100m. Can be avoided. NFAR	Yes	NA	Medium	NA
973-15	Bench req	Minor	Highly Disturbed	Moderate	No	NA	YASS River	St located above River terrace / floodplain	Medium	NFAR
973-16	Bench req	Major 2m cut	Highly Disturbed	High	No	NA	YASS River	St located above River terrace / floodplain	Medium	NFAR
973-17	Bench req	Major	Highly Disturbed	High	No	NA	YASS River	St located above River terrace / floodplain	Medium	NFAR
973-23	Bench req	Minor	Highly Disturbed	Moderate	No	NA	HATTONS	St located well above Hattons Creek terrace / floodplain	Medium	NFAR
973-33	No bench	NA	Highly Disturbed	Low	No	NA	DERRINGULLEN	No earthwork proposed. St located in cultivated paddock	Low	NFAR

Appendix E Incident notification and reporting requirements – SSI 10040

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.

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.

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.

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.