

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



General information	
Item	Detail
Ecologist / Fauna Spotter(s) completing Pre-Clearance Survey	Name: Hannah Roberts Qualification: Ecologist(s)
Date of Pre-Clearance Survey	08/08/2025
Specific Pre-Clearance Survey location (Line No./ Tower / Span No.)	L5 Easement between Towers 205-236
Scope methodology	Desktop review of vegetation mapping for nominated area informed by previous in field visual inspections (across multiple dates) by ecologists for the proposed disturbance area(s).

Pre-clearance Survey details					
Infrastructure surveyed					
Tower footprint	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Centreline			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Break and winch site, OPGW, EPZ, hurdle and/or crane pad site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Parking areas			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Access track (existing)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Access track (new)			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Disturbance Area B	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other			<input type="checkbox"/>
Any other details:					
Protected Matters					
Item	Presence identified		Quantum surveyed (Ha)	Quantum which will be disturbed (Ha)	Comments
	Yes	No			
White Box-Yellow Box-Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland <sup>1,2</sup>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	3.26	0.11 (mapped within easement)	EPBC Act Threatened Ecological Community
Grey Box ( <i>Eucalyptus microcarpa</i> ) Grassy Woodlands and Derived Native Grasslands of South-eastern Australia <sup>1,2</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
Weeping Myall Woodlands <sup>1,2</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
Natural Grasslands of the Murray Valley Plains <sup>1,2</sup>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	43.77	13.36 (mapped within easement)	EPBC Act Threatened Ecological Community
Habitat for Mossgiel Daisy <sup>1,2</sup>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	34.3	4.86 (mapped within easement)	Mapped vegetation
Habitat for Chariot Wheels <sup>1,2</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
Habitat for Slender Darling Pea <sup>1,2</sup>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	11.08	8.73 (mapped	Mapped vegetation

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## Pre-clearance Survey details

				within easement)	
Notes:					
1 Protected matter listed within the Notification of Approval EnergyConnect NSW - Eastern Section (EPBC 2020/8766)					
2 Protected matter listed within the Revised Biodiversity Development Assessment Report (August 2022)					
<b>Management measures required to avoid or minimise impacts to Protected Matters:</b>					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 0.53 Ha of critically endangered BC Act-listed TEC 'White Box Yellow Box Blakely's Red Gum grassy woodland and derived native grassland' mapped within easement.</li> <li>- 0.15 Ha of endangered BC Act-listed TEC 'Inland Grey Box Woodland in the Riverina, NSW South Western Slopes, Cobar Penneplain, Nandewar and Brigalow Belt South Bioregions' mapped within easement.</li> <li>- 6.04 Ha of critically endangered BC Act-listed TEC 'Natural Grasslands of the Murray Valley Plains' mapped within easement.</li> <li>- Squirrel Glider (<i>Petaurus nofrolcensis</i>) habitat mapped within the impact area.</li> <li>- Superb Parrot (<i>Polytelis swainsonii</i>) habitat mapped within the impact area.</li> <li>- Lanky Button (<i>Leptorhynchus orientalis</i>) habitat mapped within the impact area.</li> <li>- Plains Wanderer habitat identified within the project boundary, however due to construction methodology will not be impacted.</li> <li>- All works within mapped Plains Wanderer habitat are to be undertaken in accordance with the Plains Wanderer Protocol and in consultation with the project ecologist.</li> <li>- During clearing an ecologist shall be on site at all times to monitor activities within special biodiversity protection zones as per Biodiversity Management Plan.</li> <li>- Exclusion zones to be installed to restrict access to protected matters outside the construction footprint.</li> <li>- No additional mitigation measures required. Clearing works to be managed in accordance with the approved Biodiversity Management Plan.</li> </ul>					
<b>Hollow Bearing / Habitat Trees</b>					
Habitat trees and habitat features identified & marked?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Comments: Habitat identified. Hollow-bearing trees and stick nests.		
GPS coordinates and habitat trees recorded?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Comments: Waypoint ID 001B, 216, 217, 219-255, 285-296 (previously cleared or to be retained)		
Nest boxes required?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Comments:		
Fauna spotter required to be present during clearing activities?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Comments: Required for any additional tree removal. Pre-inspection of grassland, HBTs, and Plains Wanderer habitat in adjoining grassland recommended before any ground disturbance.		
<b>Weeds</b>					
Were any Weeds of National Significance or Priority Weeds identified?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Details: African Boxthorn ( <i>Lycium ferocissimum</i> )		
<b>Environmental exclusion zones</b>					
Threatened Species Identified within Disturbance Area B?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Details: White-fronted Chat ( <i>Epthianura albifrons</i> ) and Grey-crowned Babbler ( <i>Pomatostomus temporalis</i> ) previously observed.		

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**Pre-clearance Survey details**

Environmental exclusion zones required?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Details: EPBC and BC Act Threatened Ecological Communities and threatened species habitat.
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**Unexpected Finds**



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

**Additional comments:**

- Flocks of Grey-crowned Babblers (*Pomatostomus temporalis*) and White-fronted Chat (*Epthianura albifrons*) (both vulnerable under the BC Act) previously observed actively foraging in habitat.
- Hollow-bearing logs to be retained and moved outside the construction boundary for future use as fauna habitat.
- Ecologist required for any tree removal and ground clearing activities (including clearance of grassland areas).
- Weeds to be managed in accordance with the Biosecurity Management Plan.
- Additional weeds: Flaxleaf Fleabane (*Erigeron bonariensis*), Paterson's Curse (*Echium plantagineum*), Spear Thistle (*Cirsium vulgare*), Paddy Melon (*Cucumis myriocarpus*), Black Nightshade (*Solanum nigrum*), Galvanized Burr (*Sclerolaena birchii*), Bathurst Burr (*Xanthium spinosum*), Common Dock (*Rumex* sp.), Horehound (*Marrubium vulgare*), Canadian Fleabane (*Erigeron canadensis*), African Lovegrass (*Eragrostis curvula*), Knotweed (*Polygonum aviculare*), Horseweed (*Erigeron canadensis*), Stinking Lovegrass (*Eragrostis cilianensis*), Sow Thistle (*Sonchus oleraceus*), *Oxalis* sp., *Avena* sp., Small-flowered Mallow (*Malva parviflora*), Prickly Lettuce (*Lactuca serriola*), Witchgrass (*Panicum capillare*), *Physalis hederifolia*, Hare's-foot Clover (*Trifolium arvense*), *Lepidium* sp., *Bromus* sp..

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Pre-clearance Approval	
Ecologist	
Name	Hannah Roberts
Signature	
Date	08/08/2025
Elecnor	
Name	Frank Team
Position	Environmental Coordinator
Signature	
Date	09/08/2025

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