



Dept of Natural
Resources & Mines

04 APR 2013

TOOWOOMBA

02 April 2013

Dr Geoff Lundie-Jenkins
Manager - Southern Region
Department of Environment & Heritage Protection
PO Box 318
TOOWOOMBA QLD 4350

Our ref: 42/16677/05

Your ref:

Dear Dr Lundie-Jenkins

**Proposed Wandoan South to Eurombah Transmission Network Project –
Wandoan South to Yuleba North Transmission Line**

Draft Environmental Impact Statement Available for Public Comment

Powerlink Queensland has been requested by Australia Pacific LNG Pty Limited (APLNG) to provide high voltage connections from Powerlink's transmission network to APLNG's future gas processing facilities in the area west of Wandoan. To meet this request, Powerlink is proposing to extend its transmission network in the area via three sections:

- Section 1:
 - Yuleba North Substation Project
 - Wandoan South to Yuleba North Transmission Line Project (the subject of this letter)
- Section 2:
 - Clifford Creek and Dinoun South Substations Project
 - Yuleba North to Clifford Creek and Yuleba North to Dinoun South Transmission Lines Project
- Section 3:
 - Eurombah Substation Project
 - Yuleba North to Eurombah Transmission Line Project

Powerlink divided the project into three sections to ensure landowners and other stakeholders receive information and can provide comment on matters that are relevant to them.

GHD Pty Ltd (GHD), an environmental specialist, has been appointed by Powerlink to undertake the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process for the Wandoan South to Yuleba North Transmission Line Project. As part of the EIA process, GHD has prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed transmission line. This document provides information about aspects of the proposed transmission line (including social, environmental, cultural and economic matters). The Draft EIS also includes a Draft Environmental Management Plan (EMP) which identifies ways to manage and/or mitigate any potential impacts during the design, construction or maintenance of the proposed transmission line.

Release



Making a submission

The Draft EIS is now available for public comment and is included on the enclosed CD. Hard copies of the Draft EIS can be viewed at the following libraries from Thursday 4 April 2013:

- Western Downs Regional Council library in Wandoan; and
- Maranoa Regional Council library in Roma.

Written submissions on the Draft EIS are invited from landowners, stakeholders and the general public. Submissions must be received by GHD **before 5pm on Friday 10 May 2013**.

Written submissions are to be sent to:

Wandoan South to Yuleba North Transmission Line Project
Ms Amanda Smedley
GHD Pty Ltd
PO Box 819
Cairns Qld 4870

Fax: (07) 4044 2288

Email: amanda.smedley@ghd.com

A Newsletter and Fact Sheet are enclosed to provide further details about the project, the Draft EIS and how to make a submission.

If you have any further questions about the Draft EIS or making a submission, please contact myself on the contact details provided or phone Powerlink on FREECALL 1800 635 369 (during business hours).

Following the submission period, GHD will review and consider the submissions received. If appropriate, additional research will be conducted, with the results provided in the Final EIS. GHD will provide submitters with a response to the comments made which are included as part of the Final EIS.

We would also like to advise that Draft EIS documents are currently being prepared for the other projects mentioned in this letter. If you would like further details about the timing of those documents, please visit the Powerlink website (www.powerlink.com.au – go to 'Projects/Southern/Wandoan South to Eurombah').

Sincerely
GHD Pty Ltd

sch4p4(6) Personal information

Amanda Smedley
Environmental Scientist
61 7 4044 2216

Attachment: Newsletter with Fact Sheet
Attachment: GHD Draft EIS (on CD)



Dept of Natural
Resources & Mines

30 OCT 2013

TOOWOOMBA

28 October 2013

Dr Geoff Lundie-Jenkins
Manager, State Interest Assessment Team
Department of Environment & Heritage Protection
PO Box 318
Toowoomba QLD 4350

Our ref: 42/16677/05

Your ref:

Dear Dr Lundie-Jenkins

Proposed Wandoan South to Eurombah Transmission Network Project - Wandoan South to Yuleba North Transmission Line Project (Wandoan South to Dinoun South) Final Environmental Impact Statement

The Project

Powerlink Queensland has been requested by Australia Pacific LNG Pty Limited (APLNG) to provide direct connections into the high voltage transmission network to supply power to APLNG's future gas processing facilities in the area west of Wandoan. To meet this request, Powerlink is proposing to extend its transmission network in the area via three sections:

- Section 1
 - Yuleba North Substation Project
 - **Wandoan South to Yuleba North Transmission Line Project (the subject of this letter)**
- Section 2
 - Clifford Creek and Dinoun South Substations Project
 - Yuleba North to Clifford Creek and Yuleba North to Dinoun South Transmission Lines Project
- Section 3
 - Eurombah Substation Project
 - Yuleba North to Eurombah Transmission Line Project

Powerlink divided the proposed network extension into three sections to ensure landowners and other stakeholders receive information in a manageable way and can provide comment on matters that are relevant to them.

Section 1 of the proposed network extension involves developing a 275kV transmission line (about 37km in length) between the existing Wandoan South Substation and the proposed Yuleba North Substation, which passes adjacent to the proposed Dinoun South Substation.

Our company, GHD Pty Ltd (GHD) has been appointed by Powerlink to undertake the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process for this project. As part of the EIA, GHD prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and Environmental Management Plan (EMP) which were released for public comment over a five week period during April and May 2013. All submissions on the Draft EIS, where applicable to this project, have now been considered.

The Final EIS

GHD has now released the Final EIS for the proposed Wandoan South to Yuleba North (Wandoan South to Dinoun South) transmission line.

Consultation and investigations relating to the section of transmission line between the existing Wandoan South Substation and the proposed Dinoun South Substation (about 28km of the total 37km) have been completed. The EIS is considered finalised for this section. Consultation and investigations on the proposed Yuleba North Substation are ongoing with the separate EIS for this substation project expected to be finalised in late 2013. As the end point for this proposed transmission line, the finalisation of the Yuleba North Substation EIS will likely result in alignment changes between Yuleba North and Dinoun South (about 9km). When this occurs, an addendum to this EIS will be released. Finalising the location of Yuleba North Substation will not impact on the location of the transmission line between Wandoan South and Dinoun South.

The Final EIS identifies the final alignment for the transmission line between Wandoan South and Dinoun South and concludes that, provided Powerlink implements the recommendations outlined in the report and the associated Final EMP, there is no social, environmental, or economic factors that would prevent the project from proceeding.

Your submission

I would like to personally thank you for your submission on the Draft EIS and can assure you we have considered each matter raised and made amendments to the Final EIS where appropriate. In addition, I would like to highlight the importance of your feedback in this process in helping ensure the best outcomes are achieved for landowners, the community, and other stakeholders. For ease of reference, attached to this letter is your full Draft EIS submission and our response to the matters raised.

Please note, should changes be required to the response to your submission as a result of finalising the location of the proposed Yuleba North Substation, you will receive an updated response. Any updated responses will also be included in the subsequent addendum to the EIS.

A copy of the Final EIS is included with this letter. Please refer to Appendix G of the report for a complete list of the submissions received, the responses provided to each submission, and details about any necessary amendments made to the report.

As a result of the feedback received on the Draft EIS several changes have been incorporated into the Final EIS. Some of these changes include:

- Weed management measures for the dispersion and establishment of weed species including details on the use of herbicides.
- Fire management measures including details relating to smoking.
- Further assessment of flora species listed under the *Nature Conservation (Administration) Regulation 2006* and Matters of National Environmental Significance.
- A range of other amendments as detailed in the Final EIS.

For further details on the Final EIS please see the enclosed Newsletter prepared by Powerlink.



Accessing the Final EIS

A copy of the Final EIS is enclosed, and also available for viewing from **14 November 2013** at:

- Powerlink Queensland, 33 Harold Street Virginia (Brisbane) QLD 4014;
- Roma library, 38-44 Hawthorne Street Roma QLD 4455; and
- Wandoan library, 6 Henderson Road Wandoan QLD 4419.

The Final EIS is also available on the GHD and Powerlink websites:

GHD website – www.ghd.com/global/projects/wandoan-south-to-yuleba-north/

Powerlink website – www.powerlink.com.au (go to Projects/Southern/Wandoan South to Eurombah Transmission Network Project/Section 1).

For details on the next steps of the project please refer to the enclosed newsletter prepared by Powerlink. This newsletter also outlines additional opportunities for landowners and other interested members of the community to formerly comment on the proposed project.

If you have any further questions about the Powerlink project, please refer them to Mr Michael Brown, Powerlink's Project Manager, on FREECALL 1800 635 369.

Sincerely
GHD Pty Ltd

sch4p4(6) Personal information

Amanda Smedley
Environmental Scientist
61 7 4044 2216

Attachment: Final EIS
Attachment: Newsletter and Fact Sheet

QBOP assessment:

A preliminary assessment was carried out to identify State Significant Biodiversity Values (SSBVs) under the Queensland Biodiversity Offset Policy (QBOP) for this project. The assessment was carried out using the combination of the whole of below Lot/Plans as the 'potential impact area' taken from Table 3. These include:

- 1CP908592
- 1FT87
- 21SP243383
- 25AB130
- 26AB131
- 2AB132
- 2AB78
- 3FT87
- 4AB50
- 4FT87
- 56FT264
- 5AB50
- 5SP186409
- 6AB78

A line to demonstrate the general process was georeferenced using the coordinates from Table 8 in Appendix C- Corridor Selection Report.

Regional Ecosystems	Trigger	Approximate Ha
Remnant Endangered regional ecosystems	Yes – identified in EIS	4.43
Remnant Of Concern regional ecosystems	Yes – identified in Table 14, but is not referenced in the dot point list of SSBVs on page 102 in Section 5.6 Offsets	2.09
High Value Regrowth Endangered regional ecosystems	Exempt under the Biodiversity Offset Policy (BOP), reference page 19	N/a
High Value Regrowth Of Concern regional ecosystems	Exempt under the Biodiversity Offset Policy, reference page 19	N/a
Threshold regional ecosystems	Nil	N/a
Critically limited regional ecosystems	Nil	N/a
Remnant Endangered or Of Concern Grassland regional ecosystems	Nil	N/a
Essential Habitat		
Essential habitat	Nil	N/a
Essential regrowth habitat	Nil	N/a
Wetlands		
Wetland (<i>Vegetation Management Act 1999</i>)	Nil	N/a
Significant wetland (<i>Vegetation Management Act 1999</i>)	Nil	N/a
Watercourses		
Watercourses	Yes – not specifically identified in the EIS. There	multiple

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	are multiple watercourse crossings associated with the proposed line. These are defined as a part of the BOP, Appendix 1, page 47.	
Connectivity		
Connectivity	Section 5.6 (p102) identifies riparian corridors as an SSBV. The Connectivity values identified as fauna are supported. However – work should be done to confirm	
Protected Animals		
Protected animals	<p>A species list obtained from each of the local State Forest in proximity to this proposal (Dinoun SF, Emu SF, Mount Organ SF, Hinchley SF, Juandah SF and Comabula SF) identifies the Golden-Tail Gecko (<i>Strophurus taenicauda</i>) as part of their species lists for the SF. The Golden-tail Gecko is listed as Near Threatened under the Nature Conservation Act.</p> <p>Due to this species present in all surrounding areas, there is evidence to suggest that the habitats between these State Forest are viable habitat for this species.</p> <p>This was not a recognised SSBV value.</p>	
Protected Plants		
Protected plants	Table 9 identifies the presence of Ooline - <i>Cadellia pentasytlis</i> within the Study Area. Any impacts on this species will require an offset. Please note that there are also special rules for flora offsets under BOP, please see page 33 for more information.	
Notes		
State Forest Species Lists can be generated from publically assessable site http://www.ehp.qld.gov.au/wildlife/wildlife-online/index.html		

Assessment completed: 010/05/2013

Assessor: Wes Davidson

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Wandoan South to Yuleba Transmission Line

Draft EIS review and QBOP assessment

Draft EIS report:

The Department of Environment and Heritage Protection notes the work done for this draft EIS. There are several key elements that are required to be addressed for a greater ability to ensure EHP state interests regarding Biodiversity and Offsets are addressed.

Flora

- 1) Table 9 references Ooline – *Cadellia pentastylis* as Vulnerable under EBPC but not under the Qld Nature Conservation Act.
Action – Update table.
- 2) Inconsistencies between the last paragraph on page 75(also in section 5.3.6) and Comment section in Table 9 regarding the Ooline occurrence. The paragraph states “only one species was recorded” while the comments states “The species was recorded on hillsides and escarpments within the Study Area. In some instances it was the dominant species in the tree layer”.
Action – reconcile the actual abundance and impact on Ooline trees within the study area.
- 3) Any impacts on NCA species are subject to offsets under the Biodiversity Offset Policy. Please note that there are special rules regarding NCA flora offsets which limit offset options

Fauna

- 4) The Desktop request for the Wildlife Online was limited to two points for the start and finish of the line. This was limited to 10 km radius, leaving 15km of the line not covered by this request. This missed the Essential Habitat record and point record of the Golden-tail Gecko (*Strophurus taenicauda*) 5km south-south west of the last bend of the line (approx. 149.559, -26.238). A species search of all surrounding State Forest all record the Golden-tail Gecko in their forest species list. Table 13 does not include this record at all.
Action – Revisit the species list and redo a Desktop analysis for the whole area of the transmission line. Include the Golden-tail Gecko in Table 13.

Offsets

- 5) Section 5.6 did not outline sufficient information to allow an offset strategy to be assessed by the Department. The Biodiversity Offset Policy on page 25 provides an overview of what information is required. This strategy should outline the offsets

policy will be met and through which mechanisms this will be achieved. As this is a draft EIS and EHP recognises that there are still potential movements on the actual impacts on ground,. EHP recognises the commitment of the proponent to delivering offsets as outlined in Section5.6. However due to the lack of information regarding offsets, eg how offsets are to be delivered and the condition of the areas that will be impacts, EHP would welcome the opportunity to further discuss the requirements of the BOP and come to an agreement on what information is required in terms of offsets, prior the final EIS so that EHP can inform the appropriate Minister that EHP interests have been covered.

If you can contact Wes Davidson on 45 291 247 or wes.davidson@ehp.qld.gov.au to arrange a meeting

RTI DL RELEASE - EHP