



DDG EPP

ED EPC

For approval action
please.

27 November 2012

Director General
Department of Environment and Heritage Protection (Central office)
GPO Box 2454
BRISBANE QLD 4001

Our ref: 42/16677/11
Your ref: 110181

Dear Sir/Madam

Transmission Network Extension in North West Surat Basin Blythdale, Fairview and Fairview South Substations Project

Draft Environmental Impact Statement Available for Public Comment

Powerlink Queensland has been requested by Santos GLNG to establish direct connections into the high voltage transmission network to supply power to Santos GLNG's future gas processing facilities in the area west of Wandoan and east of Injune. To meet this request, Powerlink is proposing to extend its transmission network in the North West Surat Basin via three projects:

- Blythdale, Fairview and Fairview South Substations Project (the subject of this letter);
- Yuleba North to Blythdale Transmission Line Project; and
- Eurombah to Fairview Transmission Line Project.

The proposed network extension has been divided into three projects to ensure landowners and other important stakeholders receive information, and can provide comment on matters that are relevant to them.

GHD Pty Ltd (GHD), an independent environmental consultant, has been appointed by Powerlink to undertake the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process for the Blythdale, Fairview and Fairview South Substations Project. As part of the EIA process, GHD has prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for these substations. This document provides information about aspects of the proposed substations (including environmental, social and cultural matters). The Draft EIS also includes a Draft Environmental Management Plan (EMP) which identifies ways to manage and/or mitigate any potential impacts.

Making a submission

The Draft EIS is now available for public comment and is included on the CD Rom provided. Hard copies of the Draft EIS can be viewed at the following libraries from 30 November 2012:

- Maranoa Regional Council libraries in Roma and Injune;
- Western Downs Regional Council library in Wandoan; and
- Banana Shire Council library in Taroom.

18442/12

Rec'd - ODG
30 NOV 2012



Written submissions on the Draft EIS are invited from landowners, stakeholders and the general public. Submissions must be received by GHD before **5pm on 11 January 2013**. All submissions will be reviewed, considered and addressed in the Final EIS document.

Written submissions are to be sent to:

Blythdale, Fairview and Fairview South Substations Project
Ms Amanda Smedley
GHD Pty Ltd
PO Box 819
Cairns Qld 4870

Fax: (07) 4044 2288

Email: amanda.smedley@ghd.com

A Fact Sheet which provides further details about the Draft EIS and how to make a submission is enclosed. If you have any further questions about the Draft EIS or making a submission, please contact myself on the contact details provided or FREECALL Powerlink on 1800 635 369.

Please note, Draft EIS documents are being prepared for the Yuleba North to Blythdale Transmission Line Project and the Eurombah to Fairview Transmission Line Project. These documents are expected to be released for public comment in early 2013.

Sincerely
GHD Pty Ltd

sch4p4(6) Personal information

Amanda Smedley
Environmental Scientist
61 7 4044 2216

Attachment: Powerlink Fact Sheet – 'How to make a submission'
Attachment: GHD Draft EIS (on CD-Rom)



Department of
Environment and
Heritage Protection

Your Ref: 42/16677/11

2 January 2013

Ms Amanda Smedley
GHD Pty Ltd
PO Box 819
Cairns Qld 4870

Dear Madam,

**Transmission Network Extension in North West Surat Basin
Blythdale, Fairview and Fairview South Substations Project
Ministerial Designation of Land for Community Infrastructure
Comments on Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)**

I refer to your letter of 27 November 2012 providing notice of the proposed Ministerial Designation of land for community infrastructure (under the *Sustainable Planning Act 2009* (SPA) for the above project), Powerlink Queensland, requesting comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the project.

The Department of Environmental and Heritage Protection (EHP) has reviewed the draft EIS (including a Draft Environmental Management Plan, EMP). The Department is generally satisfied that due consideration has been given to the relevant State interests.

Although there are no issues that would preclude the Ministerial Designation process from proceeding, EHP requests that considerations be given to the following matters identified in the relevant sections of the final EIS. The issues raised pertain to Environmental Services and Healthy Waters Policy. The comments can be found in Attachment 1: Comments and Recommendations.

Should you require further assistance with response, please contact Clare Davies on 07 4529 1248 or Wes Davidson on 07 4529 1247.

Yours sincerely,

sch4p4(6) Personal Information

Dr Geoff Zundie-Jenkins
Manager, Biodiversity Services
Department of Environment & Heritage Protection

Attachment 1: Comments and Recommendations

PO Box 318 TOOWOOMBA
Queensland 4350 Australia
203 Tor St, TOOWOOMBA

Telephone: 07 4529 1248
Facsimile 07 4529 1562

Website www.chp.qld.gov.au

Attachment 1: Comments and Recommendations

Review of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Ministerial Community Infrastructure designation for the Blythdale, Fairview and Fairview South Substations Project

Review of environmentally relevant activities; air, noise and hazardous materials; total water cycle management; and waste management and recycling (Environmental Services) issues

Issue:

Section 4.7.3: Hydrology – potential impacts (p.40)

The draft EIS indicates that there will be no direct construction impacts (relating to hydrology), with the only issues to be considered being the potential for accidental spills and erosion/sedimentation risks during construction at Blythdale and Fairview.

Recommendation:

The EIS should include information regarding mitigation strategies for stormwater management around each site to ensure that potentially contaminated stormwater does not report off site.

Issue:

6.3.1: Noise and Vibration - description of environmental values (p.90)

The draft EIS states that audible noise from corona is dependent on weather and distance from the conductor and is typically below 55 dB(A).

Recommendation:

The EIS should state what noise level is expected at the boundary of each of the substations, in particular what the anticipated impact will be on the nearest resident at Blythdale which is 600m from the substation. The department's guideline "*Planning for noise control*" should also be considered when identifying appropriate noise levels and discuss if mitigation strategies will be necessary at any site.

Issue:

6.4.2 Electric and Magnetic Fields (EMF) (p.92)

The draft EIS indicates the typical field strength electric and magnetic field (EMF) experienced at the edge of a substation is usually in the range of measurements between 2 – 50mG.

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Recommendation:

The EIS should state what EMF is anticipated at the nearest resident at Blythdale which is 600m from the substation.

Review of Healthy Waters Policy issues**Issue:**

The Healthy Waters Policy unit within DEHP has considered the "Powerlink Queensland Blythdale, Fairview and Fairview South substations draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)" by GHD on behalf of Powerlink dated November 2012. The documents have been reviewed with respect to the state interests of water quality and ecosystem health, total water cycle management and urban stormwater management, particularly the State Planning Policy 4/10 for Healthy Waters.

Healthy Waters Policy:

- Notes that the provisions of *State Planning Policy 4/10 - Healthy Waters* (SPP 4/10) do apply to the proposed ministerial designation of land for community infrastructure as Electricity substations meet the definition of 'urban purposes' as defined in the SPP 4/10 and the Sustainable Planning Regulation 2009.
- The recently reviewed Wandoan South to Wandoan Coal Connection Environmental Impact Statement (also prepared by GHD for Powerlink) it was identified that the SPP 4/10 was applicable.
- The three proposed substation sites have been identified as containing areas of "highly dispersive soils" (Executive summary – Overview of the Study alignment, and Appendix D EMP 5.7.1.4 Construction Phase) that are more susceptible to erosion and potential impacts on water quality within the watercourses that are to be traversed by the proposed transmission line;
- The Fairview substation - is proposed for Lambing Gully (800m to the east) that drains to Baffle Creek (3.7km to the north) which forms the southern boundary to the western section of the Expedition (limited depth) National Park that is identified as HEV maintain (HEVm2141) on WQ1308 – Upper Dawson River Sub-basin Plan. Construction activities, if not managed appropriately could have to potential to impact on Baffle Creek (see Figure 1 below).
- The proposed Environmental Management Plan (EMP) (Appendix D) includes provisions that would minimise potential impacts on water quality from the project if fully implemented.

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Recommendation:

To assist in achieving the outcomes of the SPP 4/10, and ensure development undertaken as a result of community infrastructure development designations is planned, designed, constructed and operated to protect the water environmental values specified in the *Environmental Protection (Water) Policy 2009* the following recommendations are provided:

Recommendation 1 – Demonstrate compliance with SPP4/10

- Undertake construction activities in accordance with the "Appendix D Environmental Management Plan Blythdale, Fairview and Fairview South Substations Environmental Management Plan" (the EMP) of the document "*Powerlink Queensland Blythdale, Fairview and Fairview South Substations Draft Environmental Impact Statement November 2012* prepared by GHD for Powerlink or as modified for the final EIS.
- Where required by the EMP (e.g. Part 5.8 Erosion and sediment control), Erosion and Sediment Control Plans (ESCPs) are to be prepared by suitably qualified person as defined in the SPP 4/10 for Healthy Waters and are to be implemented under the supervision of suitable qualified persons as defined in the SPP 4/10 for Healthy Waters.
- In area of identified highly dispersive soils, the use of appropriately designed sediment detention basins must be included unless it can be demonstrated by a suitably qualified person, that discharge criteria can be met through alternative means.

Recommendation 2 - Ongoing compliance with Environmental Protection (Water) Policy 2009

- Provide a mechanism for ensuring future works for the designated community purpose(s) on the designated site is planned, designed, constructed and operated in accordance with the SPP 4/10.

19th December 2012

State Significant Biodiversity Values for QBOP
Ministerial Designation for Blythdale, Fairview and Fairview South
Substations

Details of project:

- Ministerial Designation for Electrical Infrastructure
- Powerlink
- 3 substations for supplying Santos GLNG

QBOP Assessment:

Assessment was based on 3 points supplied in the EIS, and maps associated with EIS. Each point was investigated for surrounding SSBVs. None were triggered. One point came close to a RE however this was a "Not of Concern" RE.

No response was required for Biodiversity offsets for this assessment.

Assessment completed: 3/12/2012

Assessor: Wes Davidson

RTI DL RELEASE - EHP

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EHP comments on the Powerlink Queensland Blythdale, Fairview and Fairview South Substations Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

Section 4.7.3: Hydrology – potential impacts (p.40)

Issue

The draft EIS indicates that there will be no direct construction impacts (relating to hydrology), with the only issues to be considered being the potential for accidental spills and erosion/sedimentation risks during construction at Blythdale and Fairview.

Recommendation

The EIS should include information regarding mitigation strategies for stormwater management around each site to ensure that potentially contaminated stormwater does not report off site.

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Issue

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Recommendation

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6.4.2 Electric and Magnetic Fields (EMF) (p.92)

Issue

The draft EIS indicates the typical field strength electric and magnetic field (EMF) experienced at the edge of a substation is usually in the range of measurements between 2 – 50mG.

Recommendation

The EIS should state what EMF is anticipated at the nearest resident at Blythdale which is 600m from the substation.

Memorandum

Department of Environment
and Heritage Protection

Enquiries Brad Dines
Telephone 3330 5324
Your reference Job Request - Review of the Blythdale, Fairview and Fairview South draft EIS for MCID
Our reference N/A

03 January 2013

To: Wes Davidson
Team Leader (Biodiversity)
Environmental Standards and Compliance Branch
Environmental Services and Regulation - Southern Region
(sent via email: Wes.Davidson@ehp.qld.gov.au)

From: Brad Dines, Policy Officer, Healthy Waters Policy, Environmental Planning and Water Quality, Environmental Policy and Planning

Cc: Clare Davies, Senior Biodiversity Officer, Environmental Standards and Compliance Southern Region (Toowoomba)
Jim Fewings, Team Leader, Healthy Waters
Stephen Fisher, Senior Policy Officer, Healthy Waters

Subject: **Advice on draft Environmental Impact Statement for:
Ministerial Community Infrastructure designation proposed by Powerlink
Queensland for Blythdale, Fairview and Fairview South substations.**

Issues:

The Healthy Waters Policy unit within DEHP has considered the "Powerlink Queensland Blythdale, Fairview and Fairview South substations draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)" by GHD on behalf of Powerlink dated November 2012. The documents have been reviewed with respect to the state interests of water quality and ecosystem health, total water cycle management and urban stormwater management, particularly the State Planning Policy 4/10 for Healthy Waters.

Healthy Waters Policy.

- notes that the provisions of *State Planning Policy 4/10 - Healthy Waters* (SPP 4/10) do apply to the proposed ministerial designation of land for community infrastructure as Electricity substations meet the definition of 'urban purposes' as defined in the SPP 4/10 and the Sustainable Planning Regulation 2009. his proposed Ministerial designation, as they are the subject of other approval.
- The recently reviewed Wandoan South to Wandoan Coal Connection Environmental Impact Statement (also prepared by GHD for Powerlink) it was identified that the SPP 4/10 was applicable.
- The three proposed substation sites have been identified as containing areas of "highly dispersive soils" (Executive summary – Overview of the Study alignment, and Appendix D EMP 5.7.1.4 Construction Phase) that are more susceptible to erosion and potential impacts on water quality within the watercourses that are to be traversed by the proposed transmission line;
- The Fairview substation - is proposed for Lambing Gully (800m to the east) that drains to Baffle Creek (3.7km to the north) which forms the southern boundary to the western section of the Expedition (limited depth) National Park that is identified as HEV maintain (HEVm2141) on WQ1308 – Upper Dawson River Sub-basin Plan. Construction activities, if not managed appropriately could have to potential to impact on Baffle Creek (see Figure 1 below).

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- The proposed Environmental Management Plan (EMP) (Appendix D) includes provisions that would minimise potential impacts on water quality from the project if fully implemented.

Response:

To assist in achieving the outcomes of the SPP 4/10, and ensure development undertaken as a result of community infrastructure development designations is planned, designed, constructed and operated to protect the water environmental values specified in the *Environmental Protection (Water) Policy 2009* the following conditions are recommended:

Condition 1 – Demonstrate compliance with SPP4/10

- Undertake construction activities in accordance with the "Appendix D Environmental Management Plan Blythdale, Fairview and Fairview South Substations Environmental Management Plan" (the EMP) of the document *"Powerlink Queensland Blythdale, Fairview and Fairview South Substations Draft Environmental Impact Statement November 2012* prepared by GHD for Powerlink or as modified for the final EIS.
- Where required by the EMP (e.g. Part 5.8 Erosion and sediment control), Erosion and Sediment Control Plans (ESCPs) are to be prepared by suitably qualified person as defined in the SPP 4/10 for Healthy Waters and are to be implemented under the supervision of suitable qualified persons as defined in the SPP 4/10 for Healthy Waters.
- In area of identified highly dispersive soils, the use of appropriately designed sediment detention basins must be included unless it can be demonstrated by a suitably qualified person, that discharge criteria can be met through alternative means.

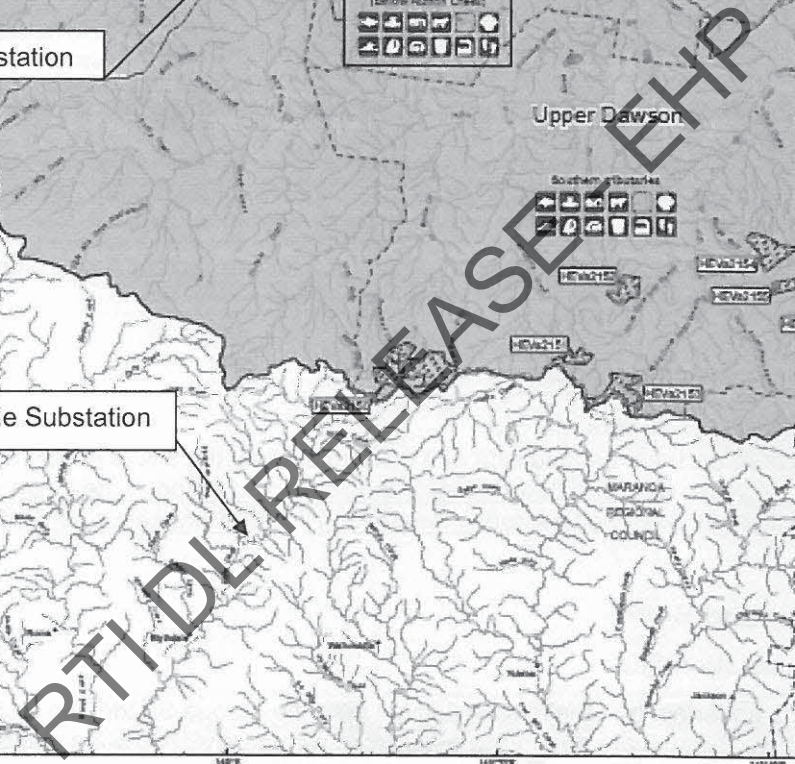
Condition 2 - Ongoing compliance with Environmental Protection (Water) Policy 2009

- Provide a mechanism for ensuring future works for the designated community purpose(s) on the designated site is planned, designed, constructed and operated in accordance with the SPP 4/10

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Release

Fairview Substation



11³ of 26

Appendix 1 – relevant matters raised within the draft EIS (not for inclusion with response to DSDIP)

1.3.3 Environmental Impact Statement Key Issues

The key issues addressed in this EIS are:

Environmental:

- Presence of biodiversity values and identification of impacts and mitigation measures. In particular the requirements for clearing of native vegetation and impacts on habitat of fauna and flora species of conservation significance.
- Weed identification and management measures for construction and maintenance. Particular reference is made to weed hygiene measures to be implemented to: a) minimise the risk for spread of the noxious weed parthenium into clean properties and, b) minimise the risk for creation of conditions favourable to the growth of existing weed infestations.
- Erosion potential risk assessment and mitigation measures, with particular consideration to the location of access tracks in areas of steep topography, and construction of substation footprint in areas of undulating terrain where earthworks would be required.

Physical:

- Suitability of existing tracks to support the heavy machinery required for construction purposes and assessment for any new tracks required.
- Erosion potential of access tracks, rehabilitation requirements (if necessary) and mitigation measures (in the Environmental Management Plan).
- The potential impact of vegetation clearing on erosion potential and identification of mitigation measures (in the Environmental Management Plan).

4.2 Topography and Landform

4.2.2 Fairview South Substation Site

- Being located on the crest and side of a moderate ridge, the site is not at risk from flooding, however overland flow on highly erodible soils has been identified as a potential risk, and this has been considered in the Environmental Management Plan for this site.

4.3 Geology and Soils

Blythdale Substation Site

- The site is underlain by arenite rock derived from the Mooga Sandstone unit. Soils derived from this unit are commonly associated with gently undulating plains and comprise hard alkaline brown soils with potential for deeper soils to be extremely acidic. A gilgai microrelief and cracking clays are commonly associated with these soils. These soils are of high cultivation value and more freely drained soils of this type are often intensively cropped in the local area.

Fairview South Substation Site

- The underlying geology of the Fairview South substation site is Evergreen Formation and Precipice Sandstone which have dominant rock types of arenite and mudrock. This geology has resulted in shallow sandy or loamy duplex soils with potential deep-surfaced sandy duplex soils in valley areas.
- The soils are vulnerable to erosion, and when disturbed may be moderately to highly dispersive with the degree of dispersivity related to slope. The substation site is primarily on Precipice sandstone formation, with shallow sandy soils with a high percentage of exchangeable sodium. Subsequently these soils are highly dispersive when disturbed.

Fairview Substation Site

- Geology and soils of the Fairview substation site are similar to the Fairview South substation, comprising underlying Evergreen Formation and Precipice Sandstone with dominant rock types of arenite and mudrock. The substation site is located on duplex soils derived from mudrock and appears to have moderate clay content. Observational field evidence suggests that the majority of the substation site contains soils that do not have high percentages of exchangeable sodium and are subsequently not as erosive as soils elsewhere in the locality. However, the soils associated with the unnamed drainage line to the south of the site are sodic/dispersive, therefore there is potential that soils in the south of the substation site could be dispersive and susceptible to erosion.

4.3.3 Mitigation Measures

- An Erosion and Sediment Control Plan (ESCP) will be prepared and implemented following site inspections of existing access infrastructure and erosion control measures and discussions with landholders/Santos GLNG by the Powerlink Construction Manager. This ESCP will be applicable throughout the design, construction, operation and maintenance phases of the project as outlined in the EMP (refer to Appendix D). Maintenance and repair of the existing erosion and sediment control measures and implementation of any additional measures will minimise the potential for erosion and sedimentation impacts.
- At the Blythdale substation site the presence of cracking clay and acidic soils on site will need to be specifically investigated as part of any geotechnical investigation prior to construction. If cracking clay and acidic soils are present, structure foundations will be designed accordingly.
- At Fairview South the soils are sodic soils derived from Precipice sandstone with a high percentage of exchangeable sodium present. These are highly dispersive soils and require specific consideration in the planning and design phase for the substation in this locality. The ESCP will be explicit in terms of the requirements to be implemented to minimise the risk for erosion and sediment for each of the substation sites.
- Access tracks that are no longer required for construction or maintenance will be rehabilitated according to the requirements of Santos GLNG.

4.7 Hydrology

4.7.1 Legislation, Environmental Values and Water Quality Objectives

Blythdale

- The Blythdale substation site is located within the Balonne-Condamine Catchment
- The Balonne-Condamine Catchment is identified as the Queensland Murray-Darling Basin and the Bulloo River Basin for the purpose of EV's and WQO's. DEHP has scheduled the Queensland Murray- Darling Basin and the Bulloo River Basin EV's and WQO's to be drafted by December 2013 (DEHP 2011).
- Alluvial soils on the banks and approaches to the watercourses of Blyth Creek (Blythdale) and unnamed drainage line/Lambing Gully (Fairview) are generally of a clay nature with a moderate erosion risk. Risks are minimised through locating the substations away from floodplains, areas of overland flow and by the requirement to ensure that substation sites are flood free.

Fairview South and Fairview Substations

- Fairview South and Fairview substation sites are located within the Fitzroy Basin Catchment and the use of water resources (both surface and subartesian) is subject

to the Water Resource (Fitzroy Basin) Plan 2011. The sites are also within the Dawson River sub-basin catchment.

- In September 2011, the EV's and water quality objectives WQO's for Fitzroy Basin waters were finalised by the former DERM and are now included in schedule 1 of the EPP (Water). The document outlining the EV's and WQO's applicable to the substation sites are the Dawson River Sub-basin Environmental Values and Water Quality Objectives, Basin No. 130 (part), including all water of the Dawson River Sub basin (DERM (now DEHP) 2011).
- Fairview substation - is proposed for Lambing Gully (800m to the east) that drains to Baffle Creek (3.7km to the north) which forms the southern boundary to the western section of the Expedition (limited depth) National Park that is identified as HEV maintain (HEVm2141) on WQ1308 – Upper Dawson River Sub-basin Plan. Construction activities, if not managed appropriately could have to potential to impact on Baffle Creek.
- Coals seam gas field works have already occurred on the mesa plateau closer to the Baffle Creek (Google Earth EC).
- The Fairview South substation is proposed on the watershed of Western upland tributaries and the ands southern tributaries not far above Upper Dawson main channel where it is joined by Hutton Creek.

4.7.3 Potential Impacts

- Fuel and oil spills from construction machinery to watercourse represent a minimal potential risk. This is due to the distance of the substations from watercourses and the drainage and erosion and sediment control mitigation measures to be implemented. Any such spills will be removed and disposed of in accordance with DNRM requirements and those as outlined in the EMP (refer Appendix D)

4.7.4 Mitigation Measures

All the substations will be built on level pads which will incorporate drainage works and erosion and sediment control measures during construction.

Where practical and time frames allow, most construction will occur during the drier times of the year with lesser activity during the wet season (December to March), further minimising the potential for impact.

In accordance with the provisions of the EMP, no machinery refuelling or maintenance will be undertaken within 50m of the riparian margin of any drainage line, thereby minimising the potential impact of any fuel/oil spill on water quality. In the event of an accident with machinery, an emergency oil spill cleanup kit will be available at the construction site for immediate remediation and treatment of the spill.

Should a significant contamination event occur (the risk of which is very low), procedures will be implemented to ensure that the EVs and WQOs of the Dawson River Sub-basin are monitored and achieved (where applicable).

7.4 State Policy, Regulatory Provisions and Planning Policy Summary

State Policy or Plan	Applicability to the Project	Comment
SPP 4/10 – Healthy Waterways	Not Applicable	It is determined that the proposed substations are not for 'urban purposes' as defined under the <i>Sustainable Planning Regulation 2009</i> and therefore this SPP does not need to be considered further in relation to this project.

Disagree

Release

State Policy or Plan	Applicability to the Project	Comment
Other State and Regional Planning		
Environmental Protection (Water) Policy 2009	Applicable	Powerlink endeavour to avoid impacts on waterways where practical through procedures and the EMP.

Appendix A - Schedule 2 of the DLGP Guidelines

Matter	Is this matter relevant for the proposed development?	EIS item number that addresses the matter	EMP item number that addresses any mitigation action	Is a Permit Required?
1.3 Does any part of the Study Alignment have erosion potential or does the Study Alignment have potential hillslope stability problems?	Applicable All three substations have high erosion potential. Blythdale due to the proximity of watercourses (although the main watercourse, Blyth Creek is protected by a land rise), Fairview South due to the potential amount of bulk earthworks required, and Fairview as it is located adjacent to a watercourse (Lambing Gully). For all three sites EMP measures will be adhered to. Relevant stakeholders/agencies: BSC, MRC and DNRM	Item 4.3.2	Item 5.8.1	Not applicable

- DEHP should be included in relevant agencies.

Appendix D

Environmental Management Plan

5.8 Erosion and Sediment Control

5.8.1 Erosion and Sediment Control

5.8.1.1 Policy:

- o Meet the requirements of SPP 4/10: Healthy Waterways (consultation with the Urban Stormwater Quality Planning Guidelines 2010 and the Queensland Water Quality Guidelines 2009).
- o Ensure erosion and sediment control are consistent with IECA Best Practice Erosion and Sediment Control Guidelines 2008.
- o To comply with the Environmental Protection Act 1994, Environmental Protection (Water) Policy 2009 and Water Act 2000.
- o To comply with the Procedural Guide: Compliance Notes: Standard Work Method for the Assessment of the Lawfulness of Release to Waters From Construction Sites – SEQ.

Calls up SPP 4/10, USQPG and QWQG 2009, and IECA 2008 all current references.

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Please note the following in providing your comments:

If a section of the draft EIS does not contain enough information or is incorrectly or ambiguously worded, it is important to state specifically what the document should say. While reading an EIS, focus on whether potential impacts can be managed and, if so, what an acceptable level of impact would be. Consider how a proposed activity will be conditioned, and where possible develop draft conditions for approval.

By considering how an activity might be conditioned, it should become apparent whether the draft EIS has provided sufficient information to allow auditable conditions to be developed and, if not, your comments should include a specific request for the proponents to provide the information in the final EIS.

Each comment should be on one issue only and should be broken into separate parts:

- *Section* – Describe the Section no., Title and Page no.
- *Issue* - a concise explanation of the problem, including identification of the relevant section and page
- *Recommendation* - a statement containing the specific words that should be included in the text of the ToR and where it should be included.
- If necessary, a section can be included under "Background Information" to provide supporting information regarding the recommendation

Example 1

Section 5.1.1.5 - Soils (p.67)

Issue

The draft EIS indicates that only a desk-top study has been undertaken to determine soil types in the project area. The draft EIS states that the most likely soil type is a *Weranga*, that is, a texture contrast Sodosol characterised by a slightly acidic surface soil and neutral to alkaline subsoils that can be strongly sodic and highly saline.

Prior to construction works a more detailed survey should be carried out to determine potential land-based environmental risks, particularly related to exposure of the subsoils and management of spoil material. The depth of soil sampling should be at least to the depth of excavation of any works associated with the substation and transmission line. This would enable an accurate assessment of the soil material that may be exposed during construction, and to inform remedial action such as application of gypsum, and measures required for the management of spoil.

Recommendation

That the EIS include the following:

"Prior to any construction works being undertaken, soils will be assessed to the depth of the proposed excavation/disturbance and appropriate mitigation measures defined to mitigate against environmental risks of exposed sodic subsoil material."

Example 2

Section 5.4.2.6 - Project water requirements (p.83)

Issue

The draft EIS indicates that a water supply will be required for activities such as concrete production and dust mitigation. While the EIS states that, where required, necessary permits will be sought from DERM under provisions of the *Water Act 2000*, no information is provided as to the source and quantities on such of water requirements for construction purposes.

Recommendation

That the EIS establish the water requirements and source of the water for the project; and the proponent ensures that the relevant approvals are obtained.

RTI DL RELEASE - EHP

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ID	Name	Lat	Long
1	Blythdale Substation	-26.46950	149.02800
2	Fairview South Substation	-25.75520	149.07260
3	Fairview Substation	-25.62165	148.93982

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2nd August 2013

Phoned Stephen Fisher – he stated verbally that there were no HW comments on the Min Des FINAL EIS - Blythdale Fairview & Fairview S.

Clare Davies

RTI DL RELEASE - EHP

Release



Dept of Natural
Resources & Mines

- 8 JUL 2013

TOOWOOMBA

04 July 2013

Dr Geoff Lundie-Jenkins
Department of Environment & Heritage Protection
Manager, Biodiversity Services
PO Box 318
TOOWOOMBA QLD 4350

Our ref: 42/16677/11

Your ref:

Dear Dr Lundie-Jenkins

**Transmission Network Extension in North West Surat Basin - Blythdale, Fairview and Fairview South Substations Project
Final Environmental Impact Statement**

As you are aware, Powerlink Queensland has been requested by Santos GLNG to provide direct connections into the high voltage transmission network to supply power to Santos GLNG's future gas processing facilities in the west of Wandoan and east of Injune. To meet this request, Powerlink is proposing to extend its transmission network in the area via three projects:

- Blythdale, Fairview and Fairview South Substations Project (the subject of this letter)
- Yuleba North to Blythdale Transmission Line Project
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Powerlink divided the proposed network extension into three projects to ensure landowners and other stakeholders receive information and can provide comment on matters that are relevant to them.

Our company, GHD Pty Ltd (GHD) has been appointed by Powerlink to undertake the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process for the Blythdale, Fairview and Fairview South Substations Project.

As part of the EIA for this project, GHD prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and Environmental Management Plan (EMP) which were released for public comment during November 2012. Your submissions on the Draft EIS, where applicable to this project, have now been considered.

GHD has now completed the assessment and preparation of the Final EIS for the proposed Blythdale, Fairview and Fairview South Substations Project.

Please find enclosed a copy of the Final EIS with your submissions and the responses/details about necessary amendments made to the report. Please refer to Appendix H of the report for a complete list of the submissions received.

A copy of the Final EIS is also available for viewing from **11 July 2013 until 07 August 2013** at:

- Powerlink Queensland, 33 Harold Street Virginia (Brisbane) QLD 4014;
- Roma library, 38-44 Hawthorne Street Roma QLD 4455;
- Injune library, Hutton Street Injune QLD 4454;
- Wandoan library, 6 Henderson Road Wandoan QLD 4419; and

- Taroom library, 24 Yaldwyn Street Taroom QLD 4420.

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

GHD website – <http://www.ghd.com/australia/> (go to Projects/Transmission Network Extension in North West Surat Basin – Blythdale, Fairview and Fairview South Substations Project)

Powerlink website – www.powerlink.com.au (go to 'Projects/Southern/Transmission network extension in North West Surat').

If you have any questions about the Final EIS please contact me on the details provided below.

The next step of the project is for Powerlink to apply for Ministerial 'community infrastructure' designation, which is a planning approval process under the *Sustainable Planning Act 2009*. Powerlink will also soon begin the process of land resumption in accordance with the *Acquisition of Land Act 1967*. Detailed information on these phases is provided in the enclosed newsletter.

If you have any further questions about the Powerlink project, please refer them to Nicole Boulton, 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: Draft EIS submission and responses/details
Attachment: Final Environmental Impact Statement

Blythdale, Fairview and Fairview South Substations Draft EIS Submissions

Agency/Stakeholder	EIS Section	Comments Received	Responses	EIS Altered	
Department of Environment and Heritage Protection (DEHP)	Section 4.7.3: Hydrology – potential impacts (p.40)	<p>Issues:</p> <p>The draft EIS indicates that there will be no direct construction impacts (relating to hydrology), with the only issues to be considered being the potential for accidental spills and erosions / sedimentation risks during construction at Blythdale and Fairview.</p> <p>Recommendation:</p> <p>The EIS should include information regarding mitigation strategies for stormwater management around each site to ensure that potentially contaminated stormwater does not report off site.</p>	<p>DEHP's comments are acknowledged.</p> <p>Stormwater mitigation measures are developed during the detailed design phase of the substation. Reference to the management of stormwater systems is included within EMP (Section 5.8.1).</p>	Not required	EMP Section 5.8.1
DEHP continued	6.3.1: Noise and Vibration – description of environmental values (p.90)	<p>Issue:</p> <p>The draft EIS states that audible noise from corona is dependent on weather and distance from the conductor and is typically below 55 dB(QA).</p> <p>Recommendation:</p> <p>The EIS should state what noise level is expected at the boundary of each of the substations, in particular what the anticipated impact will be on the nearest resident at Blythdale which is 600m from the substation. The department's guideline "Planning for noise control" should also be considered when identifying appropriate noise levels and discuss if mitigation strategies will be necessary at any site.</p>	<p>DEHP's comments are acknowledged.</p> <p>Section 6.3.1 of the EIS has been amended to include the following:</p> <p>"The source of corona noise within a substation can be approximated as a point source. At a distance the sound power will decrease as the square of the distance. At 600m from the substation the corona power and the resulting audible noise level will be negligible. Additionally, the strength of the corona is weather dependant, being worse in wet weather. Under these conditions the sound level, even near the source, will be masked by the sound environment itself. The nearby gas compressor facilities will also be louder than the substation."</p>	Yes	EIS Section 6.3.1
DEHP continued	6.4.2 Electronic and Magnetic Fields (EMF) (p.92)	<p>Issue:</p> <p>The draft EIS indicates the typical field strength electric and magnetic field (EMF) experienced at the edge of a substation is usually in the range of measurements between 2 – 50mG.</p> <p>Recommendation:</p> <p>The EIS should state what EMF is anticipated at the</p>	<p>DEHP's comments are acknowledged.</p> <p>Section 6.4.2 of the EIS has been amended to include the following:</p> <p>"The strength of power frequency electric and magnetic fields falls off rapidly with distance. At a distance of 100m the field strengths will be at background levels. At</p>	Yes	EIS Section 6.4.2

Agency/Stakeholder	EIS Section	Comments Received	Responses	EIS Altered	Where addressed in EIS
		nearest resident at Blythdale which is 600m from the substation.	a distance of 600m from the substation the fields would be non-existent. There will be no EMF attributable to the substation at the residence 600m distant from the substation."		

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Takehold	EIS Section	Comments Received	Responses	EIS Altered	Where addressed in EIS
DEHP continued	Review of Healthy Waters Policy Issues	<p>Issue:</p> <p>The Healthy Waters Policy unit within DEHP has considered the "Powerlink Queensland Blythdale, Fairview and Fairview South substations draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)" by GHD on behalf of Powerlink dated November 2012. The documents have been reviewed with respect to the state interests of water quality and ecosystem health, total water cycle management and urbane stormwater management, particularly the State Planning Policy 4/10 for Healthy Waters.</p> <p>Healthy Waters Policy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Notes that the provisions of <i>State Planning Policy 410 – Healthy Waters (SPP 4/10)</i> do apply to the proposed ministerial designation of land for community infrastructure as Electricity substations meet the definition of "urban purposes" as defined in the SPP 4/10 and the Sustainable Planning Regulation 2009. The recently reviewed Wandoan South to Wandoan Coal Connection Environmental Impact Statement (also prepared by GHD for Powerlink) it was identified that the SPP 4/10 was applicable. The three proposed substation sites have been identified as containing areas of "highly dispersive soils" (Executive summary – Overview of Study alignment, and Appendix DEMP 6.7.1.4 Construction Phase) that are more susceptible to erosion and potential impacts on water quality within the watercourses that are to be traversed by the proposed transmission line; The Fairview substation – is proposed for Lambing Gully (800m to the east) that drains to Baffle Creek (3.7km to the north) which forms that southern boundary to the western section of the Expedition (limited depth) National Park that is identified as HEV 	<p>DEHP's comments and review of the Healthy Waters Policy are acknowledged.</p> <p>It is confirmed that construction activities will be undertaken in accordance with the EMP. SPP 4/10 will be reviewed as required throughout the life of the substations.</p>	Not required	EIS Section 7.3.1

Agency/State/holder	EIS Section	Comments Received	Response	EIS Altered	Where addressed in EIS
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maintain (HEVm2141) on WQ1308 – Upper Dawson River Sub-basin Plan. Construction activities, if not managed appropriately could have the potential to impact on Baffle Creek (see Figure 1 below).

- The proposed Environmental Management Plan (EMP) (Appendix D) includes provisions that would minimise potential impacts on water quality from the project if fully implemented.

Recommendation:

To assist in achieving the outcomes of the SPP 4/10, and ensure development undertaken as a result of community infrastructure development designations is planned, designed, constructed and operated to protect the water environmental value specified in the Environmental Protection (Water) Policy 2009 the following recommendations are provided:

Recommendation 1 – Demonstrate compliance with SPP 4/10

- Undertake construction activities in accordance with the "Appendix D Environmental Management Plan Blythdale, Fairview and Fairview South Substations Environmental Management Plan" (the EMP) of the document "*Powerlink Queensland Blythdale, Fairview and Fairview South Substations Draft Environmental Impact Statement November 2012* prepared by GHD for Powerlink or as modified for the final EIS.
- Where required by the EMP (e.g. Part 5.8 Erosion and sediment control), Erosion and Sediment Control Plans (ESCPs) are to be prepared by suitably qualified person as defined in the SPP 4/10 for Healthy Waters and are to be implemented under the supervision of suitable qualified persons as defined in the SPP 4/10 for Healthy Waters.

Agency/Stakeholder	EIS Section	Comments Received	Responses	EIS Altered	Water Action in EIS
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In area of identified highly dispersive soils, the use of appropriately designed sediment detention basins must be included unless it can be demonstrated by a suitably qualified person, that discharge criteria can be met through alternative means. <p>Recommendation 2 – Ongoing compliance with Environmental Protection (Water) Policy 2009 purpose (s) on the designated site is planned, designed, constructed and operated in accordance with the SPP 4/10.</p>			

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