

WDRC Min Des Yuleba North to Eurombah Transmission Line

Draft EIS review and QBOP assessment

Draft EIS report - review:

5.6 Biodiversity Offsets (page 99) states that there are potentially 3 SSBVs triggered. These are:

- Riparian corridors (riparian bioregional corridors)
- Habitat koalas
- Endangered Brigalow vegetation

Rough notes on the report: - It is evident veg clearing has been minimised, but info on BOP is scanty. There is recognition of it – but the details are not there. There is no BOS at all. Nothing has been quantified. Only the fact that there will have to be BOP considerations has been recognised and the relevant legislation taken note of, and suggesting as to which 3 SSBVs are likely to be impacted (listed above), but there is no more detail than this given.

What exemptions apply to this project for vegetation clearing and BOP? – Report states that BOP does apply to this project.

The report states mitigation measures have been applied and presented in this report to limit the policy requirements (page iii). The report states that there will be some clearing of veg and HVR, but that the area is largely cleared – 90% (page iii).

QBOP assessment:

There are six potential SSBVs identified for the impact area for the proposed transmission line. These are:

- Remnant Endangered regional ecosystems
- Remnant Of Concern regional ecosystems
- High Value Regrowth Endangered regional ecosystems
- High Value Regrowth Of Concern regional ecosystems
- Connectivity - State significance corridor vegetation in the Brigalow Belt BPA – riparian bioregional corridors off the northern end of the transmission line alignment
- Springs – numerous – near the northern end of the transmission line alignment

State Significant Biodiversity Values for QBOP

WDRC Min Des Yuleba North to Eurombah Transmission Line

QBOP Assessment:

A QBOP 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 a shapefile created by Wes Davidson from the coordinates provided with the application. This is therefore only a draft assessment, as shape files for the actual impact area/s were not available.

There are six potential SSBVs identified for the impact area. These are:

- Remnant Endangered regional ecosystems
- Remnant Of Concern regional ecosystems
- High Value Regrowth Endangered regional ecosystems
- High Value Regrowth Of Concern regional ecosystems
- Springs – numerous – near the northern end of the transmission line alignment
- Connectivity - State significance corridor vegetation in the Brigalow Belt BPA – riparian bioregional corridors off the northern end of the transmission line alignment

Potentially any of these above listed SSBVs could be impacted by the proposed development. The amounts of each SSBV impacted will depend on the details of where the exact impacts will be.

Regional Ecosystems	Trigger	Approximate Ha
Remnant Endangered regional ecosystems	Yes	-
Remnant Of Concern regional ecosystems	Yes	-
High Value Regrowth Endangered regional ecosystems	Yes	-
High Value Regrowth Of Concern regional ecosystems	Yes	-
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>)	Numerous springs near the northern end of the alignment.	-

Significant wetland (<i>Vegetation Management Act 1999</i>)	Nil	N/a
Watercourses		
Watercourses	Nil	N/a
Connectivity		
Connectivity	Nil	N/a
Protected Animals		
Protected animals	Nil	N/a
Protected Plants		
Protected plants	Nil	N/a
Notes		

Assessment completed: 03/07/2013

Assessor: Clare Davies

RTI DL RELEASE - EHP



Department of
**Environment and
Heritage Protection**

Your Ref: 42/16677/07

12 July 2013

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

Dear Ms Smedley,

**Ministerial Designation of land for Community Infrastructure
Proposed Wandoan South to Eurombah Transmission Network Project
Yuleba North to Eurombah Transmission Line Project – Powerlink Queensland
Draft Environmental Impact Statement**

I refer to your letters of 5 June 2013 requesting comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for Powerlink Queensland's Yuleba North to Eurombah Transmission Line Project.

The Department of Environmental and Heritage Protection (EHP) has reviewed the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for this project. The Department is generally satisfied that due consideration has been given to the relevant State interests, however requests further information regarding the Biodiversity assessment undertaken including the way the proponent will meet the requirements of the Qld Biodiversity Offset Policy. This includes an understanding of the final impacts and any mitigation measures proposed for impacts on State Significant Biodiversity Values once the route selection has been finalised.

EHP would welcome an opportunity to discuss the requirements of the Biodiversity Offset Policy requirements for assessment to fulfil the State interest check. Through this discussion an arrangement can be reached on required information for inclusion in the final EIS process, while recognising the alignment is not finalised and not all information can be finalised.

We appreciate the extension that you gave for the submission of our response.

Should you have any queries with our response, please contact Wes Davidson on 07 4529 1247.

Release

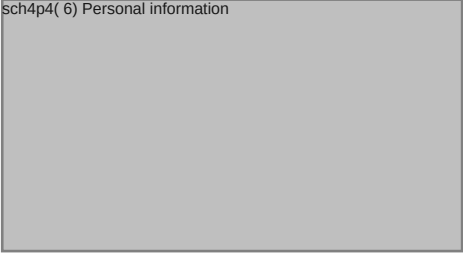
PO Box 318 **TOOWOOMBA**
Queensland 4350 Australia
203 Tor St, **TOOWOOMBA**

Telephone: 07 4529 1248
Facsimile 07 4529 1562

Website www.ehp.qld.gov.au 4 of 7

Yours sincerely,

sch4p4(6) Personal information

A large rectangular grey box redacting the signature of Ms Carole Rayner.

Ms Carole Rayner,
A/Manager, State Interest Assessment Team
Environmental Standards & Compliance
Environmental Services & Regulation (Southern)
Department of Environment & Heritage Protection

RTI DL RELEASE - EHP



Dept of Natural
Resources & Mines
06 JUN 2013

TOOWOOMBA

05 June 2013

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

Our ref: 42/16677/07

Your ref:

Dear Dr Lundie-Jenkins

Proposed Wandoan South to Eurombah Transmission Network Project – Yuleba North to Eurombah 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
- 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 (the subject of this letter)

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) has been appointed by Powerlink to undertake the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process for the Yuleba North to Eurombah 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 13 June 2013:

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

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 19 July 2013**.

Written submissions are to be sent to:

Yuleba North to Eurombah 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 with Fact Sheet is 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 have been prepared and released for the related projects mentioned in this letter. If you would like further details about the timing and status 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 and Fact Sheet
Attachment: GHD Draft EIS (on CD)