



Department of
**Environment and
Heritage Protection**

Your Ref: 42/16677/08

30 May 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 Clifford Creek and Yuleba North to Dinoun South Transmission Lines –
Powerlink Queensland Draft Environmental Impact Statement**

I refer to your letters of 22nd of April 2013 requesting comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for Powerlink Queensland's Yuleba North to Clifford Creek and Yuleba North to Dinoun South Transmission Lines.

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 review is attached to this letter.

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.

To set up a meeting time to discuss these issues, please contact Wes Davidson on 07 4529 1247.

Yours sincerely,

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

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

Biodiversity Assessment Information Review
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.

Fauna

- 1) This missed the Essential Habitat record and point record of the Golden-tail Gecko (*Strophurus taenicauda*) was recorded in the Wildnet online species search, but not included within Table 13 – Fauna species of Conservation Significances. A species search of all surrounding State Forest all record the Golden-tail Gecko in their forest species list.

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

- 2) Section 5.6 did not outline sufficient information to allow an offset strategy to be assessed by the Department. The Biodiversity Offset Policy provides an overview of what information is required on page 25. This Offset Strategy should outline the offsets policy will be met and through which mechanisms this will be achieved. The offset strategy should also include the any Glossy Black Cockatoo (*Calyptrorhynchus lathami*) habitat. 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 Section 5.6. However due to the lack of information regarding offsets, e.g. how offsets are to be delivered and the condition of the areas that will be impacted, 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 email wes.davidson@ehp.qld.gov.au to arrange a meeting at your convenience.

RTI DL RELEASE - EHP

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Dept of Natural
Resources & Mines
22 APR 2013

TOOWOOMBA

17 April 2013

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

Our ref: 42/16677/08

Your ref:

Dear Dr Lundie-Jenkins

**Proposed Wandoan South to Eurombah Transmission Network Project –
Yuleba North to Clifford Creek and Yuleba North to Dinoun South Transmission
Lines**

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 (the subject of this letter)
- 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 Yuleba North to Clifford Creek and Yuleba North to Dinoun South Transmission Lines Project. As part of the EIA process, GHD has prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed transmission lines. This document provides information about aspects of the proposed transmission lines (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 lines.

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 Friday 26 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 31 May 2013.**

Written submissions are to be sent to:

Yuleba North to Clifford Creek and Yuleba North to Dinoun South Transmission Lines 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 are also being prepared, or have been prepared, for the related 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)

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

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

It should be noted that the Wandoan South to Yuleba North power line runs parallel with the Yuleba North to Dinoun SF substation connection

Regional Ecosystems	Trigger	Approximate Ha
Remnant Endangered regional ecosystems	Yes – identified in EIS – duplicated with the Wandoan South to Yuleba North powerline	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	4.7
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 are multiple watercourse crossings associated with the proposed line. These are defined as a part of the BOP, Appendix 1, page 47.	multiple
Connectivity		
Connectivity		

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> <p>Koala Habitat was recorded in the report .</p>	
Protected Plants		
Protected plants		
Notes		
<p>State Forest Species Lists can be generated from publically assessable site http://www.ehp.qld.gov.au/wildlife/wildlife-online/index.html</p>		

Assessment completed: 010/05/2013

Assessor: Wes Davidson

Release



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- Powerlink Queensland; Draft Environmental Impact Statement**

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The Department of Environment and Heritage Protection (EHP) has reviewed the Draft EIS for this project. To ensure that due consideration has been given to the relevant State interests, EHP requests further information relating to the requirements of the Qld Biodiversity Offset Policy (QBOP). EHP's review is attached.

EHP welcomes an opportunity to discuss the requirements of the Biodiversity Offset Policy to fulfil the State interest check. This discussion can assist in clarifying the information required in the final EIS, while recognising the alignment is not finalised and not all information can be finalised at this point in the project.

Please contact Wes Davidson on 07 4529 1247 wes.davidson@ehp.qld.gov.au to make suitable arrangements.

Yours sincerely,

sch4p4(6) Personal Information

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

ATTACHED: EHP Draft EIS Review and QBOP Assessment; Wandoan South to Yuleba Transmission Line

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EHP Draft EIS Review and QBOP Assessment

Wandoan South to Yuleba Transmission Line

Draft EIS report:

The Department of Environment and Heritage Protection (EHP) notes the work done for this draft EIS. More information is required to ensure EHP state interests in Biodiversity and Offsets are addressed.

Fauna

- 1) The Essential Habitat record and point record of the Golden-tail Gecko (*Strophurus taenicauda*) was recorded in the Wildnet online species search, but not included within Table 13 – Fauna species of Conservation Significances. A desktop search of surrounding State Forest species records shows the Golden-tail Gecko in their forest species list.

Action – Revisit the species list and redo a desktop analysis for the whole area of the transmission line to identify any species that need to be considered. Include the Golden-tail Gecko in Table 13.

Offsets

- 2) Section 5.6 did not provide sufficient information to allow an offset strategy to be assessed by EHP. The Biodiversity Offset Policy provides an overview of what information is required on page 25. This Offset Strategy should outline how the offsets policy will be met and through which mechanisms this will be achieved. The offset strategy should also include offsets for Glossy Black Cockatoo (*Calyptrorhynchus lathami*) habitat. As this is a draft EIS, EHP recognises that there are still potential changes to the alignment and location of the impact area. EHP notes that the proponent is committed to delivering offsets as outlined in Section 5.6, however, due to the lack of information provided regarding the extent of the areas that will be impacted and how offsets are to be delivered, EHP requires further discussion and information prior to the final EIS.

Action – Develop an offsets Strategy to meet the requirements of the QBOP and in particular provide additional information regarding the extent of the areas that will be impacted and how offsets are to be delivered.