



Our ref: DOC20/883996-7

Natasha Homsey
Resource Assessments
4 Parramatta Square
12 Darcy Street
Parramatta NSW 2150

By email: natasha.homsey@planning.nsw.gov.au

Dear Ms Homsey

Notice of Exhibition of application for EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section) (SSI-10040)

Thank you for your referral dated 27 October 2020 inviting comments from the Heritage Council of NSW on the above State Significant Infrastructure (SSI) proposal.

The proposal would involve:

- Construction and operation of new 330kV transmission lines between the SA and NSW border and Buronga
- Upgrade and expansion of the existing Buronga substation from an operating capacity of 22kV to 330kV; and
- Upgrade to the existing transmission line between Buronga substation and the border of NSW and VIC.

The following report was considered in our assessment:

- *EnergyConnect (NSW – Western Section) Non-Aboriginal and Aboriginal cultural heritage assessment*, Navin Officer, October 2020.

As delegate of the Heritage Council of NSW, I provide the following comments:

- The proposal passes through the curtilage of three heritage items of local significance: Nulla Nulla Woolshed (I81), Nulla Nulla Homestead (I82) and Sturts Billabong (I27). The heritage items are not identified as having archaeological potential. No ground disturbance is proposed within the curtilage of the heritage items.
- The assessment provides a series of predictive statements in relation to non-Aboriginal archaeological potential. The assessment concludes, based on an archaeological survey, that there is little to no potential for unrecorded non-Aboriginal heritage within the area of the proposal; however, no further analysis of documentary or archaeological resources is provided. The assessment does not further address the predictive statements made in Section 7.3 in the analysis of the results of the archaeological survey, the significance or impact assessment. Further research and assessment is required to inform appropriate management recommendations in relation to archaeological relics.
- The assessment is not adequate to address the following Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirement (SEARS) for heritage:
 - an assessment of the Aboriginal and historic heritage (cultural and archaeological) impacts of the project.

It is recommended that the archaeological assessment be revised to fully address the matters noted and is submitted to Heritage NSW for comment. This can be conditioned or resolved at Response to Submissions stage to enable Heritage NSW to provide appropriate comment to the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment on historical archaeological potential and significance.

As the proposal passes through the curtilage of several local heritage items, and other local heritage items are in the vicinity, advice should be sought from the relevant local council.

If you have any questions regarding the above advice, please contact Georgia Wright, Senior Historical Archaeology Officer at Heritage NSW on 02 9995 6298 or georgia.wright@environment.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



18 November 2020

Dr Siobhan Lavelle OAM
Senior Team Leader
Specialist Services
Heritage NSW
Department of Premier and Cabinet
As Delegate of the Heritage Council of NSW