

Mr Tom Hatfield
Environmental Assessment Manager - Infrastructure Development
APA Transmission Pty Limited

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18/05/2022

Dear Mr Hatfield

Kurri Kurri Lateral Pipeline Project (SSI-22338205)
Request for Additional Information

I refer to the public exhibition of the proposed Kurri Kurri Lateral Pipeline Project application and Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), which concluded on Tuesday 10 May 2022 and the Department's letter dated 11 May 2022 requesting that you prepare a Submissions Report detailing your responses to issues raised in the submissions and agency advice.

The Department has received a representation from Ausgrid outside of the exhibition period that must be considered in the Submissions Report (see **Attachment 1**).

If you have any questions, please contact Mandana Mazaheri on 02 9995 5093.

Yours sincerely



Stephen O'Donoghue
Director
Resource Assessments
as delegate for the Planning Secretary

Attachment 1: Ausgrid representation – EIS comments



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REFERENCE: Notification No. 1900114049

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Re: SSI-22338205 - Kurri Kurri - Kurri Kurri Lateral Pipeline Project (SSI-22338205).

I refer to Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Kurri Kurri Lateral Pipeline Project (SSI-22338205).

This letter is Ausgrid's response under clause 45(2) of the State Environmental planning Policy (Infrastructure) 2007.

The assessment and evaluation of environmental impacts for a new development consent (or where a development consent is modified) is undertaken in accordance with requirements of Section 79C of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979. One of the obligations upon consent authorities is to consider the suitability of the site for the development which can include a consideration of whether the proposal is compatible with the surrounding land uses and the existing environment.

In this regard, Ausgrid requires that due consideration be given to the compatibility of proposed development with existing Ausgrid infrastructure, particularly in relation to risks of electrocution, fire risks, Electric & Magnetic Fields (EMFs), noise, visual amenity and other matters that may impact on Ausgrid or the development.

With Regard to: Kurri Kurri Lateral Pipeline Project (SSI-22338205)

Ausgrid requests ongoing consultation throughout the design process to ensure there will be no impact to Ausgrid's transmission and distribution infrastructure.
Compliance must be achieved across all disciplines from an entire design perspective.

Proposed encroachment over multiple easement sites

The proposed works will encroach into existing Ausgrid easements.
Under the terms of Ausgrid's easement works cannot be undertaken within the easement site without Ausgrid's consent.

In assessing this proposal comment was sort from Ausgrid's internal stakeholders

Ausgrid's major concern relates to the proposals close proximity to poles/structures and the associated safety implications particularly in the event of a fault on any of the distribution or transmission lines.

Ausgrid will require a copy of detailed designs where shared easement use is proposed for assessment.

Ausgrid wishes to provide the following design recommendations;

- The pipeline infrastructure is to utilise the edge of the easement to create as much distance as possible from existing Ausgrid assets.
- Any easement crossings are to cross as perpendicular as possible whilst maintaining a minimum of 20m from Ausgrid poles/structures.
- Any proposed Main Line Valve infrastructure will need to be assessed on a case by case basis.
- All Earthing related hazards to be assessed and mitigated. Consultation with Ausgrid earthing engineers required.
- Any surface fittings associated with the pipeline installation should be installed as close to midway along any span of overhead mains as possible.

Proximity to Existing Network Assets

Overhead Powerlines

There are existing overhead electricity network assets along the proposed gas pipeline route .

Safework NSW Document – Work Near Overhead Powerlines: Code of Practice, outlines the minimum safety separation requirements between these mains/poles to structures within the development throughout the construction process. It is a statutory requirement that these distances be maintained throughout construction. Special consideration should be given to the positioning and operating of cranes and the location of any scaffolding.

The “as constructed” minimum clearances to the mains should also be considered. These distances are outlined in the Ausgrid Network Standard, NS220 Overhead Design Manual. This document can be sourced from Ausgrid’s website, www.ausgrid.com.au

Should the existing overhead mains require relocating due to the minimum safety clearances being compromised in either of the above scenarios, this relocation work is generally at the developers cost.

It is also the responsibility of the developer to ensure that the existing overhead mains have sufficient clearance from all types of vehicles that are expected be entering and leaving the site.

Underground Cables

There are existing underground electricity network assets along the proposed gas pipeline route.

Special care should also be taken to ensure that driveways and any other construction activities within the footpath area do not interfere with the existing cables in the footpath. Ausgrid cannot guarantee the depth of cables due to possible changes in ground levels from previous activities after the cables were installed. Hence it is recommended that the developer locate and record the depth of all known underground services prior to any excavation in the area.

Safework Australia – Excavation Code of Practice, and Ausgrid’s Network Standard NS156 outlines the minimum requirements for working around Ausgrid’s underground cables.

For Activities Within or Near to the Electricity Easements:

Purpose Of Easements

The easements were acquired for the transmission and distribution assets currently owned and operated by Ausgrid. The purpose of the easements is to protect the transmission and distribution assets and to provide adequate working space along the route of the lines for construction and maintenance work. The easements also assists Ausgrid in controlling works or other activities under or near the transmission lines which could either by accident or otherwise create an unsafe situation for workers or the public, or reduce the security and reliability of Ausgrid’s network.

The Following Conditions Apply for any Activities Within the Electricity Easement:

1. All construction works on or near the easement and/or powerlines must adhere to the Safework NSW – Work Near Overhead Powerlines: Code of Practice, 2006
2. Safework Australia – Excavation Code of Practice, and Ausgrid’s Network Standard NS156 outlines the minimum requirements for working around Ausgrid’s underground cables.
3. Ausgrid is not responsible for the reinstatement of any finished surface within the easement site.
4. Ausgrid requires 24 hour access along the easement for plant and personnel. For the purpose of exercising its rights under the easement, Ausgrid may cut fences and/or walls and install gates in them. Where the easements on a site do not provide practical access to all of Ausgrid’s infrastructure, a suitable right of access at least 5m wide must be provided to each asset.
5. For shared easements the developer will need to provide evidence to show that the owners of the properties consent to the proposed installation of the gas pipeline on their property the subject of Ausgrid’s easement.
6. Ausgrid’s review and approval of the proposed property tenure to be granted by each owner of a property over the gas pipeline. Please provide us with a copy of the proposed property tenure document for our review.
7. Access driveways shall withstand the weight of a heavy rigid truck when fully laden weighing 30 tonne.
8. Access gates, minimum 4.5 metres wide, may be required in all fences crossing the transmission line easement.

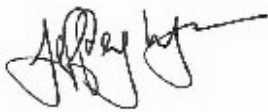
9. No vehicles, plant or equipment having a height exceeding 4.6 metres are to be brought into the easement site without written approval from Ausgrid.
10. Vehicles brought into the easement, with a height less than 4.6m but having an extension capable of extending greater than 4.6m above ground, must not have that extension operated at all whilst within the easement.
11. Adequate removable protection must be installed to prevent vehicles inadvertently colliding with the transmission tower. This proposed form of protection must be forwarded to Ausgrid for review and consent.
12. Driveways and other vehicle access must be capable of supporting the heaviest vehicle likely to traverse the driveway without damaging Ausgrid's assets.
13. No machine excavation is permitted within the easement without Ausgrid's express permission.

14. No obstruction of any type shall be placed within 10 metres of any part of a transmission line structure except where installed to protect transmission structure from vehicle impacts when Ausgrid has approved such structures.
15. Care must be taken to prevent any damage to underground metalwork which can extend up to 15 metres away from the transmission line structure.
16. During building construction, adequate controls must be put in place to prevent vehicles and machinery from damaging the Ausgrid assets.
17. Bulk solids (e.g sand and gravels) are not to be stored within the easement area.
18. The storage of non-flammable materials is allowable provided access is maintained along the easement and subject to height limitations of 2.5 metres if climbable or 4.6 metres if not climbable. Lifting of materials within the easement area must consider the clearance requirements given in Safework NSW Code of Practice.
19. Any change to ground levels must be submitted to Ausgrid for approval.
20. The proposed finished ground levels within the easement must provide a minimum of 750mm cover to the Transmission Cables.
21. The proposed finished ground levels within the easement must provide a minimum of 600mm cover to the 11kV Distribution Cables.
22. The proposed finished ground levels within the easement must provide a minimum of 500mm cover to the Low Voltage Cables.
23. No fill material or retaining walls are to be placed within the easement without Ausgrid's written approval.
24. Any excavation adjacent to the easement must utilise adequate shoring to prevent destabilisation or subsidence of the ground around the LV cable.
25. Trees, shrubs, or plants which have root systems likely to grow greater than 250mm below ground level are not permitted within the easement or close to the cable infrastructure. The planting of other vegetation is to ensure Ausgrid's access and maintenance requirements are maintained.

26. Trees, shrubs, or plants which have a mature height of greater than 3.0m, or climbable portions greater than 2.5m above ground, are not permitted within the easement. The planting of other vegetation is to ensure Ausgrid's access and maintenance requirements are maintained.
27. Electric power should not be connected to the easement site without permission from Ausgrid.

Please do not hesitate to contact Jeffrey Lyons on Ph: (02) 4910 1719 (please quote our ref: Trim 2017/12/313) should you require any further information.

Regards, Jeff



Jeffrey Lyons
Engineering Officer - Design Hunter
Ausgrid - Asset Management
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