

MDBA REF: D20/47372  
YOUR REF: EnergyConnect West

24 November 2020

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Dear Maylynn

**Subject: EnergyConnect West**

In response to your 11 November 2020 email (MDBA ref: D20/46261) requesting agency advice on the EnergyConnect West proposal, please find below comments and acknowledgments from the Murray-Darling Basin Authority (MDBA):

1. The proposed works are for significant infrastructure and are therefore considered under Clause 49 Schedule 1 (Murray-Darling Basin Agreement) *Water Act 2007*, being the effect of a proposal on the flow, use, control or quality of water in the upper River Murray and the River Murray in South Australia. The MDBA ensures water quality is maintained or improved, contributing to the protection of the riverine and floodplain environment, and that there is no impact on the flow carrying capacity of the River Murray.
2. Works involve construction of transmission lines over land located north of the River Murray and to upgrade existing infrastructure that spans across the River Murray near Redcliffs in Victoria. Based on the information provided, the proposal is not considered to have a detrimental effect on the flow, use, control or quality of water in the River Murray.
3. We acknowledge the proposed transmission line corridor has been located to the north of Renmark Road to minimise biodiversity, Aboriginal heritage (Lake Victoria) and visual impacts (Lake Victoria). The alignment avoids important landscape features, such as Lake Victoria, with impacts to views during construction and operation predominantly ranging from negligible to low, with moderate impacts to views within the vicinity of Lake Victoria due to the construction of new transmission lines, and visual sensitivity of these areas.
4. We anticipate that any risks to water quality including, but not limited to, sedimentation, potential contaminants and stormwater management will be adequately addressed through the development of construction and operational management plans that detail mitigations to potential risks to water quality from this proposal.

5. We wish to highlight that Lake Victoria is of significant Aboriginal Cultural Heritage value and, though the alignment of works has been positioned to the north of Renmark Road, the proximity of works to Lake Victoria means an abundance of cultural heritage can reasonably be expected.

Thank you for the opportunity of providing advice that we trust will be of assistance in progressing the proposal.

Should you have any further queries, please direct them to [RiverMurrayHealth@mdba.gov.au](mailto:RiverMurrayHealth@mdba.gov.au).

Yours sincerely,



Dr Janet Pritchard  
Senior Director  
Environmental Management