



Mr John Fisher
Environmental Delivery Manager
Transgrid
180 Thomas Street
Haymarket NSW 2000

24/12/2021

Dear Mr Fisher

**Project EnergyConnect (NSW - Western Section)
Staging Request Stage 1 (SSI-10040-PA-8)**

I refer to your letter dated 26 November 2021, advising the Department that Transgrid intends to stage construction of the project and seeking the Secretary's approval to prepare and submit any strategy, plan or program required by the Infrastructure Approval for Project EnergyConnect (NSW - Western Section) (SSI-10040) on a staged basis.

The Department notes that construction will be undertaken in two stages:

- Stage 1 – upgrade of the existing substation at Buronga, establishment of the Buronga accommodation camp and construction compound, and use and access of two water supply points off Corbett Avenue, Buronga to supply raw water for construction and potable water for the accommodation camp;
- Stage 2 – all other construction activities.

The Department notes that construction of Stage 1 would occur ahead of the main transmission line works and would expedite the overall delivery program for Project EnergyConnect (NSW - Western Section).

The Staging Report provides a clear description of the two stages and identifies which strategy, plan or program applies to each stage.

Accordingly, under condition E2 of Schedule 2 of the Infrastructure Approval SSI-10040 the Planning Secretary approves the submission of the relevant strategy, plan or program required by the Infrastructure Approval on a staged basis.

While the Staging Report considered the applicability of every condition of approval and revised mitigation measures, these will be considered during the review of the relevant strategy, plan or program where a more detailed justification of applicability can be provided in the context of the specific plan, and during compliance investigations.

As such, for clarity the Department has not considered (or approved) Transgrid's consideration of the applicability of every condition of approval and revised mitigation measure (including the information presented at section 4.1 and Appendices A and B of the Staging Report).

If you wish to discuss the matter further, please contact me on (02) 9274 6296 or iwan.davies@planning.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Iwan Davies'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letter 'I' being particularly large and stylized.

Iwan Davies
A/Director
Energy Assessments

As nominee of the Secretary