

Our ref: SSI-36656827-PA-155

Jeremy Roberts
Major Project Delivery Director
NSW Electricity Networks Operations Pty Limited (t/a Transgrid)
Via Email

5 December 2025

Subject: Timing Amendment for the updated Biodiversity Assessment Verification Report

Dear Mr Roberts

I refer to your letter dated 26 November 2025 requesting the Planning Secretary's agreement to amend the timeframe of providing the updated HumeLink Biodiversity Assessment Verification Report (BAVR), for the HumeLink project (SSI-36656827; Approval).

I note Condition B29 required the Project prepare a Biodiversity Assessment Verification Report prior to carrying out any development that would impact on the relevant biodiversity values, and on 5 September 2025 the Planning Secretary conditionally approved Revision 5.1 dated 29 August 2025 of the BAVR subject to the following requirements (our ref: PA-107):

- 1. unless otherwise agreed by the Planning Secretary, a revised BAVR addressing the requirements of points 2 and 3 of this letter must be provided to the Department for the approval of the Planning Secretary within 3 months of the date of this letter*
- 2. revisions to the BAVR must have regard to the final layout plans as required by Condition B29(c) including an analysis of the approved BAVR (Rev 5.1) and any new information reported in future versions of the BAVR against the final layout plans, including the location of final access routes within each clearing zone and stockpile locations;*
- 3. revisions to the BAVR must be submitted in accordance with Section 1.4 of BAVR Rev 5.1;*
- 4. Transgrid must supply the Department with a list of lot and DPs that were not accessed for survey, either entirely or for certain times of the day prior to the lodgement of a revised BAVR.*

As required by Condition B29(c) and the additional requirements of PA-107 the revised BAVR must have regard to the Final Layout Plans (FLPs). Transgrid have requested to amend the timing of providing the revised HumeLink BAVR (required by 5 December 2025), as HumeLink East's (HLE) Final Layout Plans (FLPs) are continuing to be finalised, which the updated BAVR is dependent on.

I note that:

- The Department received the information required under point 4 of the additional requirements (PA-107) on 4 December 2025.
- The Department granted approval on 11 August 2025 for HLE to stage their Final Layout Plans (PA-111).

- HLW FLPs are not staged and were submitted to the Department for information on 30 September 2025 (PA-132)
- HLE FLPs are being staged on a progressive basis in line with design deliverables and landowner consultation, as outlined below
 - Stage 3A-A-a: FLPs within Stage 3A, not including partial clearing limit information except those within 450 metres of the residences specified in Condition B42 and within 1000 metres of the receiver specified in Condition B43
 - Stage 3A-A-b: FLPs for areas within Stage 3A and within 450 metres of the residences specified in Condition B42 and within 1000 metres of the receiver specified in Condition B43, not including easement clearing zone and hazard tree zone information
 - Stage 3A-B: FLPs for areas within Stage 3A easement clearing zone and hazard tree zone information.
- Stage 3A-A-a and Stage 3A-A-b HLE FLPs were submitted to the Department for Information on 24 September 2025 (PA-124)
- Stage 3A-B HLE FLPs are currently anticipated to be finalised in early December 2025, as HLE continues to review and microsite tower and crane locations, aiming to reduce impacts on total clearing zone vegetation. The updated BAVR is dependent on the timing of these HLE FLPs.
- Once HLE Stage 3A-B FLPs are finalised and received in early December 2025, the BAVR will be updated by Transgrid and consultation with Conservation Programs, Heritage and Regulation Group (CPHR), DCCEEW (previously known as BCT) will be required.
- The current timeframe would not meet the requirements of point 1 of the Department's additional requirements (PA-107), which requires the BAVR be updated to have regard to the updated FLPs by 5 December 2025, which is three months from the date of its approval.

The Department sought feedback from Conservation Program, Heritage and Regulation Group (CPHR), (previously known as BCT) regarding Transgrid's request. As required under Condition 29, CPHR must be consulted during the preparation of the BAVR. CPHR confirmed they have no concerns regarding the timing amendment request and understood the request is to account for HLE's efforts in aiming to minimising their impacts on biodiversity through design refinements in the FLPs.

Accordingly, as nominee of the Planning Secretary, I agree that 30 April 2026 will be the alternate date for the Project to provide the updated BAVR, subject to the following:

1. Transgrid must supply the Department with an updated list of lot and DPs that were not accessed for survey, either entirely or for certain times of the day prior to the lodgement of a revised BAVR, beyond that required by 30 April 2026.

You are reminded that if there are any inconsistencies between the letter and the conditions of approval, the conditions prevail.

If you wish to discuss the matter further, please contact Erin O'Mara on erin.omara@dpie.nsw.gov.au

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'RE', with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

Rebecca Eddington
Director Transmission Post Approval

As nominee of the Planning Secretary