

Hunter Transmission Project

The Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure – Crown Lands has reviewed the proposal and provides the following comments.

Lineal Infrastructure (e.g. Pipelines and/or Electricity Transmission lines) traversing Crown land/roads

It is recommended that the proponent undertake detailed land ownership investigations to determine Crown land that will be used or occupied for the construction and ongoing maintenance of the infrastructure. As lineal infrastructure (such as pipelines and/or electricity transmission lines) are expected to traverse Crown land, roads and/or waterways, an easement over impacted Crown land, roads and/or waterways will be required for protection of the infrastructure.

If the proponent is an acquiring authority, they may be eligible to acquire easements for the proposal under the *Land Acquisition (Just Terms Compensation) Act 1991* (LATJC Act). Further information regarding Crown land and the LATJC Act is located at the following link: <https://www.crownland.nsw.gov.au/resources/purchase-crown-lands/compulsory-acquisition>

To discuss easement requirements, please contact the Acquisitions team at the earliest opportunity at: cl.acquisitions@crownland.nsw.gov.au.

As the easement process may be lengthy, it is recommended that the proponent apply for a licence for each impacted Crown road and Crown land lot as soon as possible. A licence will temporarily authorise use and access for the infrastructure to traverse Crown roads and Crown land whilst the easement applications are being processed.

It is important to note that licences or easements must be in place before infrastructure can traverse Crown land or roads. Details on how to apply for a licence are available at the below link: <https://www.crownland.nsw.gov.au/licences-leases-and-permits/apply-or-manage-licence>

Crown roads

Where Crown roads are proposed to be used to construct and / or maintain infrastructure, the Department will need to consider the transfer of the affected Crown roads to the local Council.

Travelling Stock Reserves/ Reserves/Commons/Aboriginal Land Claims/Native Title

If the route uses/occupies a Travelling Stock Reserve (TSR), it should be noted that TSRs may be managed by Local Land Services and as such consultation with LLS will be required to determine any required approvals.

Where impacted Crown land is the subject of an undetermined Aboriginal Land Claim (ALC), concurrence with the claimant Aboriginal Land Council will be required. Further information regarding Aboriginal Land Claims can be found at the following link: <https://www.crownland.nsw.gov.au/protection-and-management/aboriginal-land-rights-and-native-title/aboriginal-land-claims>.

Any proposed use of Crown land, including a tenure to authorise use/occupation of Crown land, will also be subject to assessment under the *Native Title Act 1993*. Information regarding Native Title can be found at the below link: <https://www.crownland.nsw.gov.au/protection-and-management/aboriginal-land-rights-and-native-title/native-title>

Where Crown land is under the care, control and management of a Crown Land Manager, e.g. Council or community organisation, the proponent is encouraged to consult with the relevant Crown Land Manager regarding the use of, or access to, the Crown land. Crown Lands should be contacted as early as possible if Crown Lands' involvement is required to assist.

If the proponent requires further information, or has any questions, please contact Stuart Dayman, Natural Resource Management Project Officer in Crown Lands, at stuart.dayman@crownland.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'P. Draper', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Peter Draper

Group Leader Land Management - Hunter

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