

Mr John Fisher  
Environmental Manager, Project EnergyConnect  
Transgrid  
180 Thomas Street  
Haymarket NSW 2000

20/01/2023

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Subject: Project EnergyConnect (NSW - Eastern Section) – Staging Report

Dear Mr Fisher

I refer to the Staging Report (Rev D, 17 October 2022) submitted to the Department of Planning and Environment (the Department) requesting the Secretary's approval to prepare and submit any strategy, plan or program required by the Infrastructure Approval for Project EnergyConnect (NSW - Eastern Section) (SSI-9172452) on a staged basis, in accordance with condition A8 of Schedule 2 of the Approval.

The Department notes that the development will be undertaken in the following three stages:

- Stage 1 – establishing and using accommodation camps and construction compounds, commencing construction of a new substation and upgrading of an existing substation, establishing and using water supply points to support the works, and installing and using associated site access points;
- Stage 2 – continuation of Stage 1 activities, all remaining construction activities and the rehabilitation and restoration of disturbance caused during construction; and
- Stage 3 – all activities associated with the post-construction period, including operating and maintaining the infrastructure, any future upgrading and decommissioning.

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 - Eastern Section).

The Staging Report provides a clear description of the three stages and identifies which strategy, plan or program applies to stages 1 and 2 (Table 4.2 of Staging Report Rev No. D).

Please ensure:

- the relevant EMP Sub-plans are revised / updated for subsequent stages (i.e. not separate management plans for each stage) and would supersede the previous versions;
- relevant management plans and Environmental Management System are prepared and submitted for Stage 3.

Accordingly, as nominee of the Planning Secretary, I approve the submission of the relevant strategy, plan or program required by the Infrastructure Approval on a staged basis as set out in the Staging Report (Rev D, 17 October 2022).

You are reminded that if there are any inconsistencies between any strategy, plan or program and the conditions of approval, the conditions prevail.

Please ensure you make the document publicly available on the project website at the earliest convenience.

If you wish to discuss the matter further, please contact Iwan Davies on 02 9274 6296 [iwan.davies@planning.nsw.gov.au](mailto:iwan.davies@planning.nsw.gov.au).

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Iwan Davies', with a stylized, cursive script.

Iwan Davies  
A/Director  
Energy Assessments

As nominee of the Planning Secretary