

Our ref: SSI-9406-PA-64

Your ref: 6-0000-220-EEC-00-LT-0057

Inland Rail Pty Ltd  
via Major Projects Portal

11 December 2025

Attention: Conrad Strachan – Project Director

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**Inland Rail – Illabo to Stockinbingal (SSI-9406) – extension agreement regarding final fauna Connectivity Strategy**

Dear Mr Strachan,

I refer to your request, lodged 5 December 2025, requesting the Planning Secretary's agreement to extend the timeframe for submission of the final Connectivity Strategy required under condition E44 of the Inland Rail Illabo to Stockinbingal infrastructure approval (SSI-9406) by an additional 4 months. I also note your follow up letter lodged on 9 December 2025.

I note that:

- the Planning Secretary has previously extended the submission date to the 9 December 2025 (PA-47) and this request is for a 4 month extension from the end of the previous extension
- detailed design has been delayed by changes associated with the Flood Design Verification Report
- consultation regarding operational requirements continues with the Australian Rail Track Corporation and landowners
- consultation required with the Regional Delivery Division (previously BCS) and Fisheries is targeted to commence this year
- early construction activities, including clearing and fauna fencing, will be managed under the approved Biodiversity Management Sub-plan (PA-45). The Department expects best practice measures using all available tools are implemented when clearing threatened species habitat.

The Connectivity Strategy is required to mitigate the impacts of the project and aim to maintain or improve threatened species connectivity. As nominee of the Planning secretary, I agree under condition A9 to an extension until **28 February 2026**, with the possibility to consider further extension requests subject to IR being able to demonstrate genuine progress in:

- finalising the detailed design and the location and design of fauna connectivity structures and devices; and

## Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure

- outcomes of discussions with ARTC, landowners, Regional Delivery Division (previously BCS) and Fisheries.

If you wish to discuss this, please contact Belinda Scott, Team Leader, or myself.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "A. Scott", with a large, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Alexander Scott

Director

Freight Assessment and Management

*As nominee of the Planning Secretary*