

29 August 2025

Attention: Mr Anthony Ko
Contact Planner – VNI West Project
The Department of Planning, House and Infrastructure

Electronically via the NSW Major Projects Planning Portal

Dear Mr Ko,

Origin Submission - VNI West Project SSI 72887208

A wholly owned subsidiary (Yanco Delta WF Project Pty Ltd as trustee for the Yanco Delta WF Project Trust) of Origin Energy Power Limited (Origin) is the proponent of the Yanco Delta Wind Farm (**Approved YDWF**), which is approved under the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (NSW) by State significant development consent SSD 41743746, granted by a delegate of the Minister for Planning on 21 December 2023. A modification to the Approved YDWF to amend the wind turbine coordinates and development layout mapping detailed in Appendix 1 of the Instrument of Consent was approved on 11 June 2024 (Modification 1).

The Approved YDWF is a 208 turbine, 1.5 GW wind farm located north-west of Jerilderie, within the designated South West Renewable Energy Zone.

Origin has reviewed the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) prepared by Transgrid in support of its Critical State Significant Infrastructure application (SSI-72887208) for the Victoria to NSW Interconnector Project (VNI West), which remains under assessment, and makes the following comments.

1 Historical Consultation

Prior to the lodgement of the EIS, Transgrid released a Preferred Route Report in March 2024 (released in draft in January 2024), and a Preferred Corridor Report in October 2023 (released in draft in June 2023).

The previous owner of the Approved YDWF, Virya Energy Pty Ltd made submissions in respect of the preferred alignment for VNI West, and the potential impacts arising from a route selection which overlaps the Approved YDWF project footprint.

2 VNI West Preferred Route – Interactions with Approved YDWF

The EIS shows a preferred route for VNI West which overlaps with the Approved YDWF. As shown in **Annexure 1**, the VNI West preferred route alignment bisects the Approved YDWF project area and overlaps Approved YDWF infrastructure.

Origin and Transgrid are working to resolve potential interactions between the Approved YDWF and the preferred route for VNI West, which, if selected, may have substantial impacts on Origin when constructing and operating the Approved YDWF, including (but not limited to):

- the redesign and/or relocation of wind turbine generators and ancillary infrastructure such as access roads, internal cabling (overhead and buried electrical reticulation, optical fibre) and the proposed transmission line connecting the Approved YDWF to the Dinawan Substation;

- increases to construction costs and timeframes arising from potentially overlapping construction schedules (for example, competing access for oversize and over mass vehicles), or the need to accommodate existing VNI West infrastructure during construction of the Approved YDWF (for example, the de-rigging of cranes to safely pass under high voltage powerlines);
- increases to maintenance costs for wind turbine generators and ancillary infrastructure arising from the construction and operation of VNI West infrastructure (for example, as a result of overhead line clearance restrictions when carrying out maintenance or repowering); and
- increases to design and consultant costs incurred by Origin arising from the matters outlined above.

Origin remains committed to working with Transgrid to resolve the potential interface issues outlined above, on the basis that any potential adverse impacts on the Approved YDWF are minimised to the greatest extent possible. In that respect, Origin notes that sections 3.4.8 and 5.5.7 of the EIS broadly describe the engagement between Transgrid and various unnamed renewable energy projects that has occurred to date.

However, the EIS does not directly address the potential interface issues with the Approved YDWF identified above, which will require further technical investigation by Transgrid and coordination with Origin.

Origin is therefore of the view that a detailed assessment of the potential impact of the preferred route of the VNI West on the Approved YDWF, and options to mitigate these potential impacts should be fully assessed and included in the response to submissions.

3 General Comments

Origin has further general comments on the VNI West EIS which can be found in **Annexure 2**.

Please contact *Lauren Barnaby* (lauren.barnaby@originenergy.com.au) should you have any questions on the matters raised above.

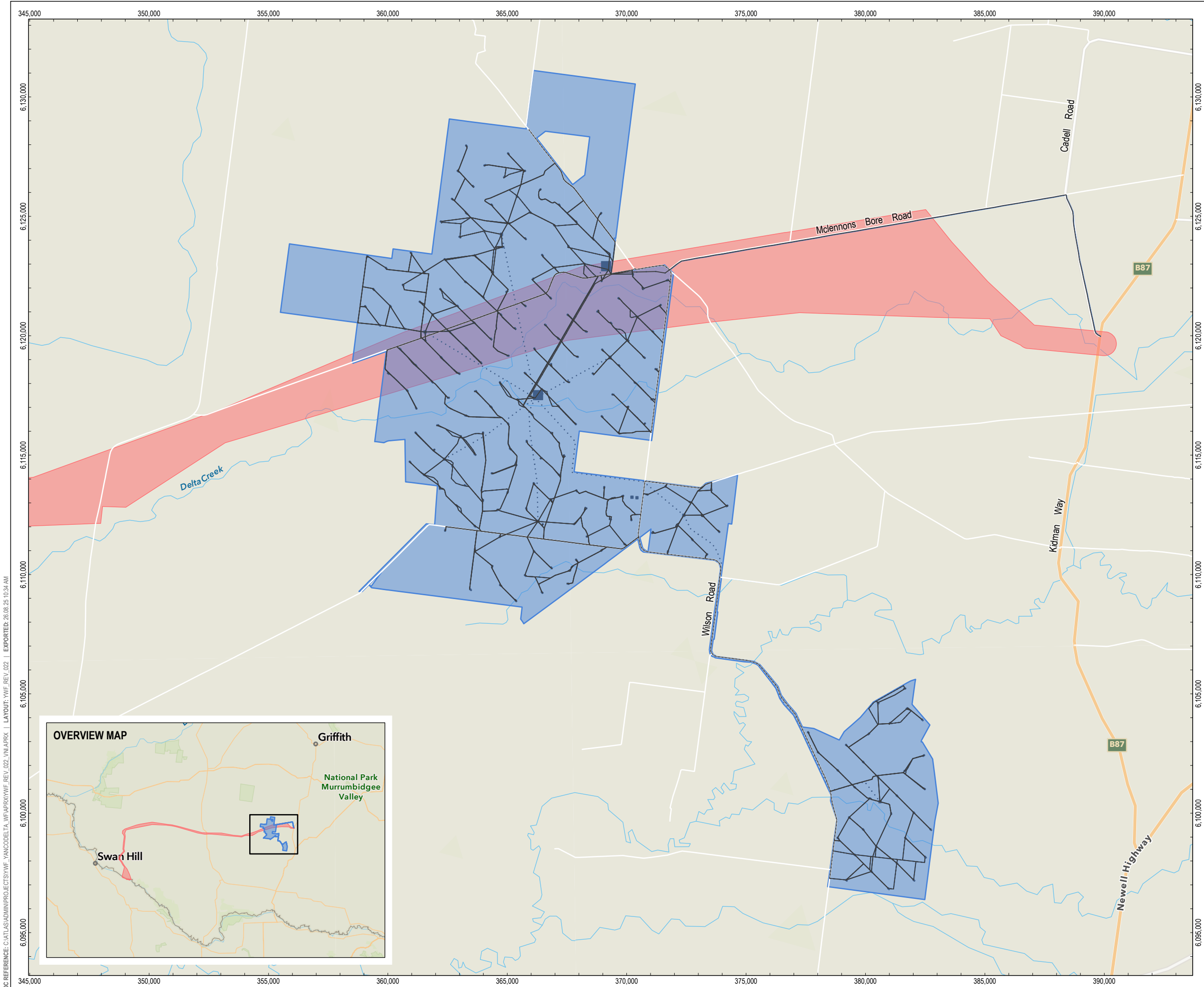
Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Conal McCullough'.

Conal McCullough
General Manager – Development and Construction
Origin Energy Power Limited

Annexure 1 Figures

VNI West EIS preferred route and Approved YDWF interaction



- LEGEND
- VNI Preferred Route (25 March 2024)
 - Yanco Delta Wind Farm: Project Area
 - Yanco Delta Wind Farm: Development Layout

YANCO DELTA WIND FARM INTERFACE
WITH VNI WEST (PREFERRED ROUTE)
YANCO DELTA WIND FARM



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PROJECTION: GDA2020 MGA Zone 55

SOURCE NOTE(S):
Yanco Delta Wind Farm project area and development layout from schedule 1 of the existing Development Consent, Origin Energy.
VNI West Preferred Route from Transgrid 'Victoria to New South Wales Interconnector West (VNI West) (NSW) Preferred Route Report - NSW, March 2024'.
Topographic base map and feature labels from ArcGIS Online.

DOC REFERENCE: C:\ATLAS\ADMIN\PROJECTS\YWF_YANCODELTA_WF\APR\YWF_REV_022_VNI\APR_X | LAYOUT: YWF_REV_022_VNI | EXPORTED: 26.08.25 10:34 AM

DISCLAIMER: THE MAP IS A COMPILATION OF INFORMATION SOURCED FROM MULTIPLE DATASETS, WHICH MAY INCLUDE PROPRIETARY, THIRD-PARTY, OR PUBLIC DATA. WHILE EVERY EFFORT HAS BEEN MADE TO ENSURE THE ACCURACY OF THE INFORMATION DISPLAYED, THE RELIABILITY OF THE DATA IS SUBJECT TO THE QUALITY AND ACCURACY OF THE SOURCE DATA. AS SUCH, WE CANNOT GUARANTEE THE COMPLETENESS, ACCURACY, OR TIMELINESS OF THE INFORMATION PRESENTED. USERS ARE ADVISED TO EXERCISE CAUTION WHEN INTERPRETING THE MAP AND ITS DATA. THE INFORMATION PROVIDED IS NOT INTENDED FOR EXTERNAL DISTRIBUTION OR PUBLICATION WITHOUT APPROPRIATE AUTHORISATION. BY ACCESSING AND USING THIS MAP, YOU ACKNOWLEDGE AND AGREE TO THESE TERMS AND CONDITIONS.

Annexure 2 Additional Comments

TOPIC	COMMENTS
Traffic (and access)	The EIS at Table 14.4 identifies a number of intersection improvements and site access points which are located adjacent to, and in some cases within the Approved YDWF project footprint. The potential impacts of these upgraded intersections and access points on the Approved YDWF have not been assessed.
EMF	Whilst Origin acknowledges the effort made to assess the potential cumulative EMF impacts arising from interactions between VNI West and YDWF, transmission line designs are often subject to change during the detailed design phase and this has the potential to impact on the ability of the Approved YDWF to comply with Condition B46 of its SSD consent, which requires that <i>'[t]he Applicant must ensure that the design, construction and operation of the development is managed to comply with the applicable electric and magnetic fields (EMF) limits in the International Commission on NonIonizing Radiation Protection (ICNIRP) Guidelines for limiting exposure to time-varying electric and magnetic fields (1Hz – 100kHz) (ICNIRP, 2010)'</i> . Origin has recently identified a requirement to increase the voltage of internal overhead reticulation to 330 kV, and considers that cumulative EMF impacts should be assessed on that basis.