

ESSENTIAL ENERGY REVIEW OF ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS WORKSHEET

Refer to CECM1000.70 SSHE Manual: EIA - NSW Section for assistance with completing this form

This REF Worksheet is for proposed activities or development (that can be carried out without development consent) that requires a Part 5 assessment (including development that falls under the Transport and Infrastructure SEPP 2021) under the EP&A Act 1979 and that are considered to be unlikely to significantly affect the environment. This assessment is to be carried out in accordance with CECM1000.70 Environmental Impact Assessment NSW.

CONSTRUCTION WORK MUST NOT COMMENCE UNLESS THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS ARE MET:

- Evidence of all checks, enquiries, investigations and searches carried out and evidence of these are attached together with the results, **AND**
- The **person completing the REF Worksheet** has signed the completed **REF Worksheet**, verifying that each of the steps have been satisfied and no further assessment or investigation is required, **AND**
- The **Determining Officer** has signed the completed **REF Worksheet**, verified that the environmental assessment has been completed and that the conclusion as to the likely environmental impacts of the project are minor and predictable and permits the project to proceed subject to relevant mitigation measures and/or conditions in any approvals, licences or permits, **AND**
- The **required notifications** have been made and all relevant approvals, licences and permits as well as any stakeholder and landholder requirements have been attached to the REF Worksheet and fulfilled as outlined in TABLES 2 and 3, **AND**
- All relevant **construction personnel** are aware of:
 - Their responsibilities as detailed in relevant Essential Energy policies
 - The project's Environmental Impacts as documented in TABLE 4
 - The project's specific Mitigation Measures as documented in TABLE 4
 - The project's environmental impact issues and any Environmentally Sensitive Areas as documented in TABLE 3
 - The conditions outlined in any approvals, licences or permits as documented in TABLE 2
 - The project details and likely environmental and other impacts on the community as documented in TABLE 1.

IF ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES ARE IDENTIFIED

In the event that environmental issues are identified (refer to TABLES 1 and 4) then the following actions must be taken:

- Where a construction drawing is prepared as part of the construction work pack, the environmental control measures and other relevant requirements must be listed in the schedule of that construction drawing
- Copies of the determined REF Worksheet, all approvals, licences or permits or relevant conditions under those required (refer TABLES 2 and 3) and landholder and stakeholder agreements or requirements **MUST** be included in the construction work pack (refer TABLE 4)
- Projects which require Part 4 planning approval must be referred to the relevant consent authority
- Projects which require a more detailed environmental assessment (with a MODERATE or HIGH community impact or HIGH Environmental Score >10) must be escalated to the next level of Determining Officer (refer to CECM1000.70 Attachment D).

STEP 1**Describing the proposed works, site characteristics and assessing community impact****TABLE 1 – PROPOSED WORK/PROJECT DETAILS**

This step is intended to raise possible issues that may impact on the surrounding community, whether environmental or otherwise. Any such issues identified should be included in the Environmental Impact Assessment in Table 4 below.

Project Number	ECN-048239
Project Name	Asset Relocation – EAST WAGGA WAGGA

Item	Project justification	Response
1.1	Description of the proposed works/activities being assessed under Part 5 of the EP&A Act 1979 (and includes mitigation measures as detailed in Table 4).	The design to underground existing HV between CE117372 and CE116342 on Lot 1&2 DP 1268849 for the purposes of a solar farm has been assessed. The project will require 1.Underground HV cable between CE117372 and CE116342 around the perimeter of the solar farm so remove existing Overhead HV cable. 2. Create an easement over the HV cable. 3. Where an easement has been established on a private property the distribution cable shall be installed a minimum of 300mm from the parallel boundary. 4.Replace pole CE117372 with 12.5m UGOH pole and install another 12.5m pole near the Sub-pole CE116342. Heavy Plant & Equipment will be required to complete the planned works- -A crane, pole hole borer & an elevated work platform(EWP) will be required. -Light Vehicles (utilities) will be used to travel to and from site and to bring hand tools and equipment. -Heavy vehicles (trucks)-used to deliver & install pole, conductors & other large equipment required.
1.2	Description of future maintenance activities	Future maintenance activities may include: Pole replacement, cross arm & insulator replacement, stay replacement, field switching activities & vegetation clearing. Inspection and emergency works will be associated with the proposed Pole Substation. Vegetation maintenance will be in accordance with CEOP8008 Vegetation Management Plan. Routine maintenance of assets and vegetation within Essential Energy's footprint will continue to be required into the future. Pesticide and/or herbicide application will be in accordance with CECM 1000.10j Pesticides Management Plan Refer to policy CEOP8007 - Mains & Distribution: Field Equipment Maintenance. CEOP8010 - Electricity Network Asset Inspection. CEOM7005 - Asset Inspection Manual. Regular operator inspections will be undertaken associated with transformer maintenance such as meter reading and tap changing.
1.3	Description of project timings, phasing and schedules	Planned target construction start date is set for 23/24 Financial Year. Construction may also vary in duration depending on weather conditions, technical parameters, environmental issues, resources and availability. Working hours are restricted to Monday to Friday 7 am to 6 pm and Saturdays 8 am to 1 pm, with no work on Sundays and public holidays. Construction work will be carried out outside of school bus times to avoid street congestion.

Item	Project justification	Response
1.4	Ownership of the relevant land (note whether: Essential Energy owns the land; easements will be required for works; access will be required)	1. Land along 63 Koorringal Road is public road controlled by Wagga Wagga City Council 2. The land is owned by Christopher Mossbrugger (Riverina water county council). 3. The proposed works will not take place within Road reserve (Essential Energy) 4. For Undergrounding Existing OH HV Conductor a easement has been created over LOT 1&2 DP 1268849.
1.5	Description of the site characteristics (include drainage systems, waterways, flora and fauna, visual/scenic quality, transportation routes, land use (including any sensitive receivers such as schools), traffic flow, land contamination, meteorological, topography, surrounding land uses and soil types/properties etc.– relevant to the potential impacts)	The land is located at LOT 1&2, DP 1268849 in the Wagga Wagga City Council Local Government area and is currently zoned as RU1: Primary Production and RE1: Public Recreation The proposed Lot will be accessed through 63 Koorringal Road, East Wagga Wagga NSW 2650. No vegetation is required to be cleared or trimmed for this installation. An EPBC act 1999 protected matters report indicated that threatened species both flora and fauna are known to occur in the wider geographic area. In this instance however the work is restricted to a previously extensively cleared and disturbed area. No vegetation trimming or removal is required for this work. It is not envisaged that existing flora and fauna whether threatened or otherwise will be impacted by this work. No new access tracks will be required as adequate access is available via existing road. According to the Australian Soil Resource Information System at http://www.asris.csiro.au/mapping/viewer.htm there is a "very low probability" of acid sulphate soil occurring.
1.6	In proximity to the proposal, are there any threatened species or ecological communities protected under the <i>Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 (NSW)</i> , <i>Fisheries Management Act 1994 (NSW)</i> , or Matters of National Environmental Significance under the <i>Environment Protection Biodiversity Conservation Act 1991 (Cth)</i> ?	In proximity to the proposal, there are no threatened species or ecological communities protected under the Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 (NSW), Fisheries Management Act 1994 (NSW), or Matters Of National Environmental Significance under the Environment Protection Biodiversity Conservation Act 1991 (Cth).
1.7	Are there any known items of Aboriginal or European heritage in vicinity of the proposal?	There are Aboriginal Sites found in the proposed work area and shown on the design plan. Aboriginal site permit allows for a 5 m buffer to be disturbed along the fence line in the North West corner and the work will be done in the allotted area. The work will not impact No go zone and will not impact Aboriginal items. Detailed AHIP impact study report is attached with submission.
1.8	Description of types and quantities of waste material likely to be generated during construction and operation	Pole, OH conductors, Minor cable off cuts- to be removed from site, excess spoil from the trenching to be mounded to allow for footing subsidence. Excess waste to be transported back to the depot or licensed facility for classification and correct disposal. Essential Energy Guidelines as per CECM1000.70 to be implemented.
1.9	Description of relevant Environmental Planning Instruments - LEPs or SEPPs and details of zoning, clause, provision or schedule	All work is within a zoned RU1 & RE1 as per the Wagga Wagga City Council Local Environmental Plan 2010. A notification letter has been sent to Wagga Wagga City Council as part of Electricity Supply Act 1995 and Infrastructure SEPP 2007 (copy attached) giving notification of the proposed works .

Item	Project justification	Response
1.10	Does the project require other environmental and planning authorisations?	No. The SEPP(Infrastructure) 2007 applies and no further authorisations are required provided that the work complies with Part 5 of the EP&A Act.This form satisfies that condition provided the outcomes shows low impact.
1.11	Project route & site selection justification including any alternatives considered (It may be necessary to revisit this step after identifying any project specific Mitigation Measures in STEP 11)	No other possible options for route/site. The proposed new route utilises existing utility and transport corridors where practical to minimise any possible environmental impacts. This is also provide ease of access for future maintainace activities while minimising disruption to local property owners.
1.12	Where applicable, what EMF prudent avoidance measures have been implemented?	EMF levels will be well within the guidelines of CECM1000.7. All work constructed to EE standards with Clearances maintained. New works located away from sensitive areas-schools, hospitals, other frequented areas ETC. Works will be underground to avoid sensitive areas. Existing Maintained power line.
1.13	Outline how you have considered the principles of ecologically sustainable development: precautionary principle, inter-generational equity, conservation of biological diversity, valuing environmental factors.	ESD is considered in all aspects of design and construction work. All work will be undertaken in accordance with EE procedures (referCECM1000.90 and CECM1000.70)and all measures identified in this assessment worksheet to mitigate environmental impacts to a level that is assessed as minor and sustainable will implemented. No clearing of threatened species is being undertaken, this is an existing pole site. Proposed route is most direct route to lessen any extra impact. The design is the most cost effective to meet the works required.
1.14	State the level of interest of the local community regarding the site selection or route selection and any issues raised by the local community.	Negligible. A response has been received from council - with council's requirements prior to construction. Residence adjacent to the worksite have been notified by letter box drop.

Item	Project justification	Response
1.15	Brief description of community consultation (Consultation methods should be added to Project Controls in Table 4)	
1.16	Considering 1.1 – 1.15 above, what is the likely overall impact of the project on the community from environmental and other issues?	☒ LOW ☐ MODERATE ☐ HIGH

STEP 2**Determining what approvals, licences or permits are required****TABLE 2 – NOTIFICATIONS, APPROVALS, LICENCES and PERMITS**

This step is intended to identify any issues which may require approvals, licences or permits from another public authority, and notification that may be required. If it has not already been done so as part of Step 3 in EIA Screening [CEOF1070.01], attach evidence of all checks, enquiries and investigations carried out to determine whether these are required.

Item	Notification Requirements:	Answer	
2.1	Notification requirements under:		
	Electricity Supply Act 1995 s45 – 40 days prior to the erection, installation, extension, alteration, maintenance and removal of electricity works other than routine maintenance or emergency repairs – notify Council.	☒ Yes	☐ No
	- Transport and Infrastructure SEPP 2021 – 21 days prior to development of: 'new' or existing electricity substation of any voltage (including any associated yard, control building or building for housing plant) - notify council and occupiers of adjoining land. - any works which trigger notification to Council, DPE, Marine Estate Management Authority, Department of Industry, Property NSW, RMS, NSW Rural Fire Service, Director of the Siding Spring Observatory, Secretary of the Commonwealth Department of Defence, and/or Mine Subsidence Board under sections 3.8 – 3.12 of the Transport and Infrastructure SEPP.	☒ Yes	☐ No
		☐ Yes	☒ No
		Specify:	
	Fisheries Management Act 1994 – 21 days prior to the proposed dredging or reclamation work, or works to construct, alter or modify a dam, weir or reservoir on a waterway - Notify Minister for Primary Industries.	☐ Yes	☒ No
	Hunter Water Act 1991 s. 55 - 28 days notice for works in a special area (Chichester and Williams River Catchment areas) – notify Hunter Water Corporation.	☐ Yes	☒ No
2.2	Native Title Act 1993 (Cth) s24KA - notify native title holders or registered claimants or NTS Corp notice of proposed works (future act) and take into consideration comments received.	☐ Yes	☒ No
	Water NSW Act 2014 s50 - 28 days notice outlining the scope of the proposed works in relation to special areas regulated by Water NSW.	☐ Yes	☒ No
Item	Possible External Authorisation Requirements	Answer	
2.2	Clearing native vegetation or impacting on threatened species:		
	Will the activity impact on a critically endangered species, habitat for a critically endangered species, or part of a critically endangered ecological community?	☐ Yes	☒ No
	Will the activity impact on an endangered species, habitat for an endangered species, or part of an endangered ecological community?	☐ Yes	☒ No
	Will the activity impact on a threatened population or habitat to a threatened population?	☐ Yes	☒ No
	Will the activity impact on a vulnerable species, habitat for a vulnerable species, or part of a vulnerable ecological community?	☐ Yes	☒ No
	Will the activity impact on hollow bearing trees?	☐ Yes	☒ No
	Is the activity to be carried out in a declared area of outstanding biodiversity value?	☐ Yes	☒ No

	Note: if the answer to any question in 2.2 is “yes”, then proposal will need to be reviewed by Environmental Services to assess whether the impact is likely to be “significant” under the <i>Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016</i>.	
2.3	Are the works on a biodiversity stewardship site? – Obtain consent from the Minister for Environment (NSW).	☐ Yes ☒ No
2.4	Are the works within an area that is subject to any conservation agreement entered into under the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 – DPE.	☐ Yes ☒ No
2.5	Working within a national park, nature reserve, Aboriginal area, wilderness area, conservation area or wild river – DPE.	☒ Yes ☐ No
2.6	Does the work include: - any dredging work or reclamation work; - harm to mangroves, seagrasses, or other declared marine vegetation on any public water land, or any area that is the subject of an aquaculture lease, and includes the foreshore¹; - damage to gravel beds where salmon or trout spawn; - constructing or altering a dam, floodgate, causeway or weir, or otherwise create an obstruction that would obstruct the passage of fish; - interference with fish of a threatened species²; - Permit from DPI.	☐ Yes ☒ No
2.7	If an activity in or around a marine environment is likely to significantly affect threatened species, populations or ecological communities protected under the FM Act - Concurrence is required from the Fisheries Agency Head and supported by an SIS. Note: where there is considered to be potential for impacts on threatened species, etc, consult with Environmental Services as to whether it is appropriate to instead obtain a Permit from DPI to minimise legal risks.	☐ Yes ☒ No
2.8	Working within or near a matter (or place) of National Environmental Significance (RAMSAR Wetlands, threatened species, migratory birds, World Heritage, National Heritage, nature reserve etc.) or on Commonwealth land or marine area – Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment (DAWE).	☐ Yes ☒ No
2.9	Does the activity require a Part 13 Permit to kill, harm, move, take, or clear a Commonwealth protected species or habitat located in a Commonwealth area (eg RAAF bases, airports, Defence sites) - Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment (DAWE).	☐ Yes ☒ No
2.10	Working within or near areas identified as “coastal wetlands” or “littoral rainforest” as per the Coastal Management SEPP, or proximity areas to those areas, or development which is coastal protection works – Council consent is required.	☐ Yes ☒ No
2.11	Working within an area that is subject to any plan of management under the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 DPE.	☐ Yes ☒ No
2.12	Working within an area that is subject to any joint management agreement under the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 – DPE.	☐ Yes ☒ No
2.13	Working within or near an aquatic reserve or marine park – DPI.	☐ Yes ☒ No
2.14	Working within the ‘place’ of a ‘Heritage Item’ identified under the Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conversation Act 1999 (Commonwealth), listed on the State Heritage Register or the subject of an interim heritage order under the NSW Heritage Act, or an environmental planning instrument – DAWE (Cth.), Heritage Council, Local Council.	☐ Yes ☒ No

2.15	Working within the 'place' of a 'Heritage Item' as defined in other registers including Essential Energy's Heritage and Conservation Register– Heritage Council .	☐ Yes	☒ No
2.16	Activities with potential to excavate or disturb a relic under the <i>Heritage Act 1977</i> – DPE .	☐ Yes	☒ No
2.17	State Forest or area subject to Forest Agreement or flora reserve – Forestry Corporation .	☐ Yes	☒ No
2.18	Has Due Diligence been carried out as required under the <i>Due Diligence Code of Practice for the Protection of Aboriginal Objects in NSW</i> ? Please include details in the due diligence process below.	☒ Yes	☐ No
2.19	Working at sites at which asbestos or asbestos containing materials exist (determine if a licence or exemption will be required – refer CECM1000.10a SSHE Manual: Hazardous Materials – Asbestos Removal) – WorkCover .	☐ Yes	☒ No
2.20	Will the works require the transport or disposal of waste? EPA transport and disposal records .	☒ Yes	☒ No
2.21	Generating, handling, storing, transporting or disposing of hazardous, industrial or 'controlled waste' – NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA) and Local Council (eg wastes such as pesticides, lead, radioactive relays, contaminated soil etc.).	☐ Yes	☒ No
2.22	Handling, storing, transporting or disposing of Dangerous Goods – EPA and WorkCover .	☐ Yes	☒ No
2.23	Handling, transporting or disposing of 'Controlled Chemicals' such as PCBs, OCPs etc – EPA and WorkCover .	☐ Yes	☒ No
2.24	Discharging anything to a waterway or stormwater drain – EPA and Local Council .	☐ Yes	☒ No
2.25	Discharging 'Trade Waste' to the sewer – Relevant water authority, Local Council .	☐ Yes	☒ No
2.26	Working on a classified road or Crown road including freeway, highway, main road, tourist road– Public road reserve etc. – Transport for NSW (TfNSW) or Appropriate Roads Authority .	☐ Yes	☒ No
2.27	Works on a local road that may impact traffic flow on a state or regional road - a Road Occupancy Licence may be required by TfNSW .	☐ Yes	☒ No
2.28	Works be expected to impact on the traffic lights – TfNSW .	☐ Yes	☒ No
2.29	Removing or lopping trees from "Crown-timber lands" – Forestry Corporation .	☐ Yes	☒ No
2.30	Working within a Mine Subsidence District – Chief executive of Subsidence Advisory NSW .	☐ Yes	☒ No
2.31	Approval is required for: - Water management works, including extraction of ground water via any type of bore, well or excavation, use of water from a water source; - Water supply work, drainage work or floor work; and - Controlled activities in or under waterfront land¹ which: - would cause a change in the course of a river, or - are in or on the bed, shore or bank of the river, lake or estuary – Local Council and NSW Office of Water (NOW) .	☐ Yes	☒ No
2.32	Using flames during a Total Fire Ban or working within bushfire protected lands – NSW Rural Fire Service .	☐ Yes	☒ No
2.33	Working on Crown Lands – Crown Lands . <i>Note – an easement may be required under s. 2.18 of the Crown Land Management Act 2016 where a 'relevant interest' (i.e. lease, licence, permit, easement or right of way) is required over a Crown Reserve for new works.</i>	☐ Yes	☒ No

2.34	Creation of property tenure on land subject to an Aboriginal land claim under the <i>Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983</i> – Local Aboriginal Land Council.		☐ Yes	☒ No
2.35	Is the land owned by Essential Energy and contaminated (as per CLM Act – i.e., material harm to human health or the environment)? – Duty to notify EPA as soon as practicable after they become aware of the contamination.		☐ Yes	☒ No
2.36	Other – please specify:		☐ Yes	☒ No

¹ Harm includes to gather, cut, pull up, destroy, poison, dig up, remove, injure, prevent light from reaching marine vegetation.

² Interference includes harass, chase, tag or mark the fish or engage in any activity for the purposes of attracting or repelling the fish.

Description of area/issue identified above:	2.1- Electricity Supply Act 1995, Infrastructure SEPP 2007. Council has been notified on 10 August, 2023. 2.2- A protected matters search has been conducted on the site, other than existing road side grass, no vegetation will be disturbed with the proposed installation. 2.5 Aboriginal sites are identified in the work area, The detailed Report of Aboriginal Impact study and permit is attached with the submission. 2.18- Due diligence, AHIMS Search conducted.
Date Council was notified:	Wagga Wagga City Council notification sent 27/02/2023

¹ Waterfront land means 40 metres from the bed, highest bank, shore, or mean high water mark of a river, lake, estuary or coastal waters.

For each approval, licence, notification or permit required: If not already obtained, who has the responsibility to obtain it? Alternatively, why is it not required?	Designer- Level 3 ASP Constructor- Level 1 ASP
---	--

Aboriginal heritage due diligence process			
Step	Question	Answer	
1.	Are you disturbing the ground surface or culturally modified tree? <i>If yes proceed to step 2, if no, Aboriginal heritage considerations not required proceed with caution</i>	☒ Yes	☐ No
2.	Are you working near known Aboriginal sites – check the Aboriginal heritage information management system (AHIMS)? (http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/awssapp/Login.aspx?ReturnUrl=%2fawssapp). Attach results from search. <i>If no, proceed to step 3. If yes, must obtain site cards/information and proceed to step 4.</i>	☒ Yes	☐ No
3.	Are you carrying out development on disturbed land? Land is disturbed if it has been the subject of a human activity that has changed the land's surface, being changes that remain clear and observable. Examples include ploughing, construction of rural infrastructure (such as dams and fences), construction of roads, trails and tracks (including fire trails and tracks and walking tracks), clearing vegetation, construction of buildings and the erection of other structures, construction or installation of utilities and other similar services (such as above or below ground electrical infrastructure, water or sewerage pipelines, stormwater drainage and other similar infrastructure) and construction of earthworks.)? <i>If yes, Aboriginal heritage considerations not required proceed with caution and no further consideration required. If no proceed to step 4.</i>	☐ Yes	☒ No
4.	Is there any other information which suggests an Aboriginal object or place at or near where the works will be carried out?	☒ Yes	☐ No
5.	Are there any landscape features which may indicate the presence of Aboriginal objects? This includes proposed activities: a. Within 200m of waters, b. Below within 200m below or above a cliff face, c. located within a sand dune system, d. within 20m of, or in, a cave, rock shelter or a cave mouth; e. land not disturbed <i>Note: "waters" and "sand dune system" are defined in the due diligence code of practice) and/or</i>	☒ Yes	☐ No

6.	Are you unable to avoid harm to any known object or disturbance of the landscape feature with potential for an Aboriginal heritage find?	☒ Yes	☐ No
7.	Has there been a visual inspection by a person with expertise in locating and identifying Aboriginal objects?	☒ Yes	☐ No
<i>If yes to 4, 5, or 6 above, then further Aboriginal archaeological investigations are required prior to works.</i> <i>If no, describe why harm to Aboriginal objects is not likely.</i>			
<u>Additional information or justification:</u> The detailed AHIP study has been conducted and report and permit is attached with the submission.			

If you have ticked any ☐ Yes above then you must either:

- Attach a copy of the notification, approval, licence or permit to the final REF Worksheet, OR
- Detail who is responsible for issuing the notification or obtaining the approval, licence or permit above, OR
- Explain why the relevant approval, licence, permit or notification is not required above
- Any identified notification or external authorisation requirements must be included in Table 4.

STEP 3

Identifying other environmental impact issues

TABLE 3 – OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ISSUES

Item	Other Environmental Impact Issues for Consideration:	Tick one	
3.1	Wildlife corridors/refuges, native forests, Wildlife Management Areas, Significant Tree Registers (Local Council), Koala Habitat (>1 hectare of bushland).	☐ Yes	☒ No
3.2	Siting oil filled equipment within 40m of a sensitive area (waterways, National parks etc.) or 5m upstream of a drain.	☐ Yes	☒ No
3.3	Decommissioning substations (may require a contaminated site assessment).	☐ Yes	☒ No
3.4	Installation of SF ₆ equipment.	☐ Yes	☒ No
3.5	Areas with contaminated soil or water (ground or surface) or historical nearby use which carries risk of contamination (eg petrol station or dry cleaning premises) or degraded air quality or Unhealthy Building Land Notice.	☐ Yes	☒ No
3.6	Areas subject to land rights claims or Registered Native Title or Register of Indigenous Land Use Agreements.	☐ Yes	☒ No
3.7	Development is proposed in a “coastal vulnerability area”, “coastal environment area”, or “coastal use area” under the <i>State Environmental Planning Policy (Coastal Management) 2018</i>	☐ Yes	☒ No
3.8	Involving harm to threatened species, populations, ecological communities or damage to the habitat of marine species protected under the <i>Fisheries Management Act 1994</i>	☐ Yes	☒ No
3.9	Information to suggest that disturbance or excavation will or is likely to result in a relic (ie European archaeological finds) being discovered, exposed, moved, damaged or destroyed	☐ Yes	☒ No
3.10	Proximity to local or state heritage listed items, including sandstone gutters, sandstone walls, buildings, roads, or trees.	☐ Yes	☒ No
3.11	Located on Commonwealth Land, including Airport Sites, defence facilities, or Commonwealth reserves.	☐ Yes	☒ No
3.12	Clearing of Category 2 regulated land, vulnerable regulated land, or sensitive regulated land under the <i>Local Land Services Act 2013</i> .	☐ Yes	☒ No
3.13	Controlled activities in or under waterfront land (being within 40m from the bed of a river, lake estuary, or mean high water mark) that would not cause any change in the course of the river.	☒ Yes	☐ No

If you have **ticked any ☐ Yes** above then you must complete Table 4 and if the Project has any HIGH Environmental Scores (>10) or MODERATE or HIGH community impacts (Table 1) you must escalate the assessment to the next level of Determining Officer within Essential Energy.

Item	Other Environmental Impact Issues for consideration:		
3.14	Areas or items of high architectural, historical, environmental protection or scientific value.	☒ Yes	☐ No
3.15	Environmental Protection Zones as defined by environmental planning instruments (eg foreshore scenic protection areas, conservation areas, scenic protection areas, beachfront scenic protection areas etc.).	☐ Yes	☒ No
3.16	Coastline and dune fields, alpine areas, deserts, caves, wetlands (not state significant) or other unique landforms.	☐ Yes	☒ No
3.17	Areas or items of high aesthetic or scenic value.	☒ Yes	☐ No
3.18	Recreational areas (beaches, foreshores, parks, picnic areas, lookouts, national features, tourist areas, tourist roads/routes etc.).	☐ Yes	☒ No

3.19	Excavating within 40m of a river, lake, lagoon, wetland, drinking water catchment or flood prone area	☒ Yes	☐ No
3.20	Excavating within 40m of a gutter, stormwater channel, drain or inlet	☒ Yes	☐ No
3.21	Use of pile drivers, hydraulic hammers, machine-mounted rock breakers, sand blasters, steam cleaners, mole borers or similar equipment in an urban area.	☐ Yes	☒ No
3.22	Erosion prone areas.	☐ Yes	☒ No
3.23	Areas containing acid sulphate soils.	☐ Yes	☒ No
3.24	Cafes, restaurants, shops, outdoor dining, pubs, places of worship etc.	☐ Yes	☒ No
3.25	Bush regeneration areas, dune regeneration areas etc.	☐ Yes	☒ No
3.26	Areas of high bushfire risk.	☐ Yes	☒ No
3.27	Biosecurity risks (weeds, pests and diseases)	☐ Yes	☒ No
3.28	Urban bushland or remnant roadside vegetation.	☐ Yes	☒ No
3.29	Major transport corridors (highways, freeways, railways, shipping channels, airports).	☐ Yes	☒ No
3.30	Major pedestrian routes (eg foreshore walks, around sporting venues etc.).	☐ Yes	☒ No
3.31	Schools, childcare centres, playgrounds etc.	☐ Yes	☒ No
3.32	Other - please specify:		

Description of area/issue identified above:

Excavation works including new UG conductor installation will be carried out within 40m of stormwater drains and gutters. Reuse as much removed spoil in pole holes, excess spoil to be transported back to depot for testing and disposal as required. Trenching excavation within 40m of river. Care will be taken to ensure no contamination will occur, temporary barriers set up to ensure spoil does not enter gutter.

TABLE 4 – ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

This step comprises the assessment of the potential impacts of the project, based on the issues identified in the previous steps, as well as any other relevant issues. In obtaining the environmental score of the impact, consider the likelihood of that impact occurring, extent of the impact (which includes size, scope, intensity and duration) and sensitivity of the site. Ensure that any evidence of an assessment of these issues is attached. Note: If any control measures, procedures or commitments identified in Step 11 below are required to be implemented but no PSEMP is required, either this Table must be attached to the Construction Work Pack or incorporate the measures identified in step 11 below into the Work Pack itself.

The Environmental Score is determined by multiplying the Likelihood x Extent x Sensitivity

$E = L \times E \times S$ (with 1 being low, 3 being high).

Item	Issue	Possible impacts (include all issues identified in Tables 2 and 3)	Description of impacts and causes OR state applicability of issue	List control measures, procedures and commitments required to be in Project Safety and Environment Management Plan (PSEMP) (CECM1000.16 and CEOF1016.01)	STEP 5 STEP 6 STEP 7 STEP 8 STEP 9 STEP 10			
					Likelihood	Extent	Sensitivity	Environmental Score
4.1	AIR	Dust generation during construction and operation (e.g. from excavating, disturbing soil, stockpiling, trenching, erosion prone sites, clearing of vegetation, transporting soil etc.).	Some dust will be generated during construction works from vehicle movements and trenching. Dust generation may also occur from transportation of excess fill from pole footings. Vehicle emissions is likely during construction works.	If possible avoid driving in dusty areas especially around domestic housing. Avoid excavation of pole footings / trenching in windy conditions. Dampen soil as it is excavated to suppress dust. Cover loads if excess fill needs to be transported from site or use Hazibags. Switch vehicles off when not in use to limit vehicle emissions. Carry out work in accordance with CECM1000.72: Air Section 5 - Suppression of dust CECM1000.90: Section 3 – Air.	2	1	2	4
4.2		Fumes, odours and other air pollution or emissions from vehicles, equipment, machinery or other activities during construction and operation (eg. Spray booths, mobile oil processors, incinerators, waste storage areas, SF6, oxy acetylene, confined spaces gases, etc.).						

Item	Issue	Possible impacts (include all issues identified in Tables 2 and 3)	Description of impacts and causes OR state applicability of issue	List control measures, procedures and commitments required to be in Project Safety and Environment Management Plan (PSEMP) (CECM1000.16 and CEOF1016.01)	Likelihood	Extent	Sensitivity	Environmental Score
4.3	WATER	Polluting waterways, wetlands, stormwater drains or groundwater (eg storing, transporting, handling or disposing of oils, PCBs, fuels, pesticides, chemicals, pit/trench water or other liquids, discharges to sewer system).	Be aware of nearby water courses and stormwater drains and the potential flows to these waterways. Sediment spillage into waterways is possible as a result of pole installation, vehicle movements, trenching works, vacuum excavation. Unavoidable sediment run off may occur via surface water run off during wet weather. Trucks, EWP, crane borers contain oil and in the event of a failure this could run into the waterway. Failure of oil filled equipment may have the potential to enter waterways, gutters / drains.	Ensure adequate erosion and sediment control measures are put in place so that sediment does not enter waterways or stormwater drains. Ensure a single, clean entry and exit point from worksites to avoid tracking mud and dirt where it could be washed into drainage lines. Restrict the amount of time that hole and trenches are open and Divert overland flow away from trenches, to prevent sediment erosion from stormwater. Excess soil is to be reinstated and compacted well to limit sedimentation of surrounding areas. Remove excess soil from around pole foundations. Position vehicles in such a way if there is a failure and oil leak it would have the least impact. Ensure all vehicles contain oil spill kits. Equipment surrounds to be grassed to slow the flow in the unlikely event of any oil leak not being contained by bunding. That will allow time for emergency response staff to make the site safe and control oil spills. EE reference documents : CECM1000.90 Section 4 – Water & Section 7 – Land Use CECM1000.73 – Section 5 – Water	2	1	2	4
4.4		Sedimentation of waterways, wetlands, stormwater drains or groundwater (eg excavating, disturbing soil, stockpiling, trenching, concrete cutting, access tracks, erosion prone sites, dredging or reclamation works etc.).						
4.5		Impacts on hydrology and groundwater during construction and operation, including dewatering, de-vegetation, any changes to local drainage flows, flood risk management, etc						
4.6		Stormwater management.						
4.7		Impact on coastal processes, coastal hazards, or coastal environments protected under the Coastal Management SEPP.						
4.8		Any effect on a waterbody or its banks, marine vegetation, threatened marine species.						

Item	Issue	Possible impacts (include all issues identified in Tables 2 and 3)	Description of impacts and causes OR state applicability of issue	List control measures, procedures and commitments required to be in Project Safety and Environment Management Plan (PSEMP) (CECM1000.16 and CEOF1016.01)	Likelihood	Extent	Sensitivity	Environmental Score
4.9	SOIL	Erosion and sediment control during construction and operation.	Trenching is in an area of Class 3 Acid Sulphate Soils. (Data from ASS Risk and Planning Maps – LEP) Excavation works will occur at the site, the slope of the area leads to the natural water courses.	Excavation works including new pole installation/pole replacement will be carried out within 40m of Wombeyan Creek. Reuse as much removed spoil in pole holes, excess spoil to be transported back to depot for testing and disposal as required. Care will be taken to ensure no contamination will occur, temporary barriers set up to ensure spoil does not enter water way. Spill kits to be carried and regular inspections of machinery to ensure no contamination. Re-use as much soil as possible for installation of new poles. Excess soil to be stored, tested and classified before disposal. All waste is to be disposed of at appropriate waste management facilities and recycling plants. Volume of excavated ASS material will be of an amount that means sampling and testing will be required to confirm the existence and depths of potential ASS. (EIA cannot be determined until testing is complete and if necessary, an ASS Management Plan is prepared by a specialist in this area). For single pole holes where soil volume approximates one tonne, follow the mitigation measures indicated in CECM1000.76 Section 4.3.2 CECM1000.90 (SSHE Manual : Handbook). Sections 6, 7 and 8 CECM1000.76 (SSH&E Manual – Land Use). Section 4.3 CECM1000.75 (SSH&E Manual – Waste). Sections 7 and 8 Essential Energy Guidelines as per CECM1000.70 to be implemented.	1	1	2	2
4.10		Potential for Acid Sulfate Soils						
4.11		Impact on soil quality or land stability, such as discharges from underboring, vacuum extraction works, works in mine subsidence districts, etc.						
4.12	NOISE AND VIBRATION	Construction noise/vibration (eg rockbreakers, concrete cutters, jackhammers, chainsaws, compressors, excavators, backhoes, trucks, vehicles, AH work, cranes, steel plates movements, generator etc.).	Minor construction noise generated by the works is not foreseen to cause any annoyance. Any noise generated will be no more than allowable levels. The works will be undertaken within the NSW EPA recommended construction times. All equipment will be fitted with appropriate noise mitigation measures. The nearby residents will be notified prior to work commencing. Thus,	Construction limited to normal working hours. In accordance with the Department of Environmental & Climate Change NSW, Interim Construction Noise Guideline. Working hours are restricted to Monday to Friday 7 am to 6 pm and Saturdays 8 am to 1 pm, with no work on Sundays and public holidays. Noise can be minimised by regular maintenance and correct tap setting	2	1	2	4
4.13		Operational noise/vibration (eg transformers, circuit breakers, powerline corona, tap changers, CLCs etc).						

Item	Issue	Possible impacts (include all issues identified in Tables 2 and 3)	Description of impacts and causes OR state applicability of issue	List control measures, procedures and commitments required to be in Project Safety and Environment Management Plan (PSEMP) (CECM1000.16 and CEOF1016.01)	Likelihood	Extent	Sensitivity	Environmental Score
4.14	CONTAMINATION AND WASTE	Disturbing contaminated soil (eg known contamination, ASS, old industrial site, previous landfill etc.).	Minor waste – cable and conduit cut offs, packaging. Potential contaminated soil. Material waste associated with the project will include old pole, crossarms, stays, conductor, packaging.	Re-use as much soil as possible during reinstatement of trenching. Excess soil to be stored, tested and classified before disposal. All waste is to be disposed of at appropriate waste management facilities and recycling plants. Old poles to be returned to Essential Energy depot for disposal. Existing pole may be treated with creosote, correct handling and transporting procedures to be implemented for transporting existing pole and redundant transformer. Liquid waste is to be contained and tested for possible contaminants and waste receipts kept. Ensure that all waste is correctly disposed off. CECM1000.90 (SSHE Manual : Handbook). Sections 6, 7 and 8 CECM1000.76 (SSH&E Manual – Land Use). Section 4.3 CECM1000.75 (SSH&E Manual – Waste). Sections 7 and 8 Essential Energy Guidelines as per CECM1000.70 to be implemented.	2	1	2	4
4.15		Contaminating or polluting land (eg storing, handling or disposing of oils, PCBs, fuels, pesticides, chemicals, pit/trench water or other liquids, etc.) as a consequence of spills or other pollution incidents during construction or operation.						
4.16		Management of asbestos in soil or existing buildings, including where being refurbished or demolished.						
4.17		Management of waste to maximise potential for recycling and reuse of waste, including management of stockpiles to prevent cross-contamination of waste streams.						
4.18		Environmental problems caused by generating, storing, handling, transporting or disposing of waste (eg soils, building materials, power poles, oils, solvents, streetlights etc.), during construction and operation						
4.19		Management of hazardous goods or dangerous substances during storage or transportation						

Item	Issue	Possible impacts (include all issues identified in Tables 2 and 3)	Description of impacts and causes OR state applicability of issue	List control measures, procedures and commitments required to be in Project Safety and Environment Management Plan (PSEMP) (CECM1000.16 and CEOF1016.01)	Likelihood	Extent	Sensitivity	Environmental Score
4.20	LAND USE AND TRANSPORT	Restricting current and potential activities associated with the land (eg amenity, buildings, parking, interference with radios, TVs or VDUs etc.).	Possible short term delays to traffic and pedestrians during construction for the delivery of materials and equipment. This is a low traffic road, it should be possible to string conductors without stopping any vehicles. All works are on private property away from the common access road. There will be no impact on the potential activities of the land.	Traffic management plan to be implemented during construction. Alternate route for pedestrians to be provided. Maintain good relations with residents. Consult affected residence prior to restricting access to their property. Stage works to minimise interference with affected properties.	2	1	2	4
4.21		Restricting or affecting transport during construction or operation (eg pedestrian, car, bus, train, airports, boats, river crossings, bus stops, public transport corridors and infrastructure, construction related disturbances, property access, parking restrictions, roadworks, works around traffic lights, changes to traffic flows, safety management, etc.).	Possible short term delays to traffic during construction for the delivery of materials and equipment. This is a low traffic road, it should be possible to deliver materials without stopping any vehicles.					
4.22	FLORA AND FAUNA	Displacing, disturbing or damaging terrestrial or aquatic fauna (eg creating a barrier to fauna movement, clearing remnant vegetation or wildlife corridors, electrocution, collisions, etc.).	No native vegetation will be displaced. The site has been cleared for previously for agricultural use and clearances have been maintained for the existing power line.	Ensure planned work activities do not include any threatening processes to threatened species or their habitat. Carry out all work in accordance with EE policy CECM1000.77-Flora & Fauna. Minimise the movement of vehicles near native or sensitive areas. All vehicles are to use established tracks. All vehicles are to employ noxious weed control measures as per CECM1000.77 to prevent spread of noxious weeds. A protected matters search has been conducted on the property. 11 Critically Endangered Species 8 Endangered Species and 14 Vulnerable Species or species habitat likely to occur within the area but Proposed works will have no adverse impact on the ecosystem. Existing maintained power line.	1	1	1	1
4.23		Clearing or modifying native vegetation (including trees, shrubs, grasses, roots, herbs or aquatic species).	The proposed clearing for the proposed new spur line are permitted under the Local Land services Act 2013 No 51.					
4.24		Introducing or spreading weeds (including noxious) or vermin, biosecurity risks or other prohibited matters under the <i>Biosecurity Act 2015</i> and <i>Biosecurity Regulation 2017</i> .						

Item	Issue	Possible impacts (include all issues identified in Tables 2 and 3)	Description of impacts and causes OR state applicability of issue	List control measures, procedures and commitments required to be in Project Safety and Environment Management Plan (PSEMP) (CECM1000.16 and CEOF1016.01)	Likelihood	Extent	Sensitivity	Environmental Score
4.25		Introducing bushfire risk factors, including during construction works (eg hot works), and through operation (including maintenance activities).	No activity will introduce a bushfire risk hazard.	Ensure planned work activities do not include any hot works. Carry out all work in accordance with EE policy CECM1000.13-Bushfire Prevention Ensure planned work activities do not include any threatening processes to threatened species or their habitat. Carry out all work in accordance with EE policy CECM1000.77-Flora & Fauna.				
4.26		Harming any protected species of animal, plant or other form of life, whether living on land, in water or in the air. Harming threatened species, populations or communities or <u>their habitats</u> (if necessary full <i>Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016</i> test to be carried out). (see Section 9 of CECM1000.70)	There will be no activity that will harm any protected species of plant, animal. The proposed clearing for the proposed new spur line are permitted under the local land services Act 2013 No.51. The proposed works will not impact on any Ramsar wetlands, SEPP coastal management, Aquatic reserves, Marine park areas etc.					
4.27		Impact on any areas protected under NSW or Cth legislation, including: Ramsar wetlands, SEPP Coastal Management, Aquatic reserves, Marine park areas, critical habitat, Shorebird Habitat, Northern Key Habitats, Nandewar Key Habitats, HNCMA Potential Priority Habitat, declared wilderness, NPWS Estate, flora reserves						
4.28		Any other environmental impacts on the ecosystems of the locality or to biological diversity or ecological integrity of an ecological community.						

Item	Issue	Possible impacts (include all issues identified in Tables 2 and 3)	Description of impacts and causes OR state applicability of issue	List control measures, procedures and commitments required to be in Project Safety and Environment Management Plan (PSEMP) (CECM1000.16 and CEOF1016.01)	Likelihood	Extent	Sensitivity	Environmental Score
4.29	SOCIAL	Creating a risk to people (eg. electrocution, trenches, fires, dangerous goods, service outages, noise, EMF guidelines etc.).	The site is located within a rural environment. There are minimal number of neighbour surrounding the site, however they will not be in close proximity to the proposed works. Notifications prior to works commencing is required to minimise disruption to existing residence. Possible fire/ explosion risk from electrical equipment. Possible service outage required to connect new work into existing infrastructure. Possible life support customers in the outage area. Use of trucks, excavators, in residential area will create noise. Minor traffic disruption during construction works, affected residences to be notified if access to their properties will be limited. NRCF procedures and obligations need to be adhered too.	All equipment and installation methods are essential energy standard constructions and will be maintained in accordance with network management plan. They carry a low risk that is acceptable terms of fire risk and EMF exposures, Effected residents to be notified prior to works commencing as per CECM1000.78-Community Consultation and interaction and essential Energy's NECF procedures. Notify property owners of intent to access their property and obtain approval. Site noise and vibration to be managed in accordance with Essential Energy policy CECM1000.74. Noise and local council requirements for work hours. All open trenches will be marked whilst open (safety bollards, witches hats etc) and backfilled as soon as reasonably practical to ensure safety to workers and public. Barricades and fencing will be in place to prevent pedestrian access during proposed works. Traffic and pedestrian control to be in place by RMS Certified Contractor and in accordance with Essential energy policy CECM1000.24- Traffic control	2	1	2	4
4.30		Traffic impacts, including both during and after construction/works.						
4.31		Creating a nuisance to the community (eg. perceived risk of fires, explosions, property value devaluation etc.).						
4.32		Creating financial or other loss to members of the community (eg. restricting access to commercial premises, changing land use etc.), change to demographics, loss of cohesion of community, loss of facilities, or increased use/consumption of local facilities, services and infrastructure.						
4.33		Any other environmental impact on a community including a reduction of aesthetic, recreational, scientific or other environmental quality or value of locality.						
4.34	VISUAL AND HERITAGE	Affecting a locality, item, place or building having aesthetic, anthropological, archaeological, architectural, historical, scientific, cultural or social significance or other special value (eg. visual effect on adjoining heritage buildings or items, disturb, move excavate Aboriginal object) or working where heritage items could be found (eg. Archaeological Zoning Plans).	An AHIMS search & state Heritage search has been conducted and there are known Aboriginal or state heritage places of cultural significance near the work site, The detailed Aboriginal impact assessment has been done and report and permit is attached	Exercise due diligence during the works and be aware of the possibility of the presence of Aboriginal and/or non Aboriginal Heritage Items. If during construction the constructor or developer becomes aware of any previously identified/ unidentified aboriginal or heritage objects, work is to cease immediately and the office of environment and heritage shall be notified immediately.	2	2	2	8

22 June 2022 – Issue 7

Approved By: Environmental Services Manager

Page 22 of 28

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCONTROLLED COPY IF PRINTED



Item	Issue	Possible impacts (include all issues identified in Tables 2 and 3)	Description of impacts and causes OR state applicability of issue	List control measures, procedures and commitments required to be in Project Safety and Environment Management Plan (PSEMP) (CECM1000.16 and CEOF1016.01)	Likelihood	Extent	Sensitivity	Environmental Score
4.35		Affecting any Aboriginal heritage including Aboriginal Objects or Places (eg. engravings, middens, carved trees, grinding grooves, paintings, burial sites, etc.).	There are items of Aboriginal heritage identified within the subject site.	Constructor to exercise due diligence and access the site for potential items of aboriginal and European heritage Carry out all work in accordance with EE policy CECM1000.79-Culture & heritage.				
4.36		Affecting any European heritage, including disturbing a local or state heritage listed item or place, or carrying out works which inadvertently disturb archaeological relics.	There are no items of European heritage identified within the subject site.					
4.37		Changing the visual or scenic landscape during construction and operation (eg restricting views, removing trees, installing OH powerlines, installing substations, causing obtrusive lighting, creating shadows etc.).	The scenic landscape will not be altered greatly.					
4.38		Transforming a locality (eg. significant earthworks).						

Item	Issue	Possible impacts (include all issues identified in Tables 2 and 3)	Description of impacts and causes OR state applicability of issue	List control measures, procedures and commitments required to be in Project Safety and Environment Management Plan (PSEMP) (CECM1000.16 and CEOF1016.01)	Likelihood	Extent	Sensitivity	Environmental Score
4.39	OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	Long-term effects on the environment (e.g. as a result of waste emissions).	All these are usually considered Minor. Waste soil is required to be stored, tested and classified before disposal.	Any excess or contaminated soil is to be removed and classified in accordance with Essential Energy's Waste Policy and NSW Waste Classification Guidelines. Ensure that all waste is correctly identified (store, test and classify) before being disposed of at a waste in accordance with Essential Energy's Relevant Policy/Guideline: Waste-CECM1000.75 Water-CECM1000.73 Land Use-CECM1000.76 Hazardous Materials-CECM1000.10	2	2	2	8
4.40		Degrading of the quality of the environment (e.g. effect on surrounding bushland, contamination, erosion).						
4.41		Any other risk to the safety of the environment (e.g. from exceeding the relevant EMF guidelines and having regard to "principles of prudent avoidance").						
4.42		Reducing the range of beneficial uses of the environment (e.g. effect on surrounding land-uses and considering response of affected landowners).						
4.43		Increasing demands on resources (natural or otherwise) that are, or are likely to become, in short supply (e.g. demand on water use).						
4.44		Any cumulative environmental effect with other existing or likely future activities (e.g. context within electricity grid, nearby development in that area).						
4.45		Contribution to climate change and greenhouse gas emissions (including any NGERs reporting obligations e.g., fuel use, electricity usage)						
4.46		Release of any emissions whether gaseous, liquid or solid.						
4.47		Include any relevant issues identified in Tables 2 & 3 above not yet dealt with.						

Projects with any HIGH Environmental Scores (>10) must be escalated to the [insert relevant title of appropriate Determining Officer] within Essential Energy.

Note: For further guidance on each of the issues above refer to CECM1000.90 **HSE** Manual: Handbook. The handbook can be used by non-Essential Energy employees; however non-Essential Energy employees must not rely solely on the handbook, but rather should satisfy themselves that their specific work practices are adequately managed in accordance with environmental legislative requirements.

Essential Energy employees should also refer to CECM1000 **HSE** Manual - Environmental sections.

CECM1000.16 Safety: Project Safety and Environment Plan and CEOF1016.01 to be used as EMP template (non-Essential Energy employees may use it too)

STEP 11

Determining the overall environmental impact of the proposed works

TABLE 5 – DECISION

Person who prepares the EIA			
I certify to the best of my knowledge that:			
- I am suitably qualified and competent to complete this EIA REF Worksheet: - having completed Essential Energy's EIA training, Course No ENV-003 (for Essential Energy officers), or - can otherwise demonstrate that I have a suitable alternative qualification (provide details and evidence) AND - I have completed this EIA REF Worksheet in accordance with CECM1000.70 Essential Energy's HSE Manual: Environmental Impact Assessment - NSW AND - The EIA meets the requirements of sections 1.3, 1.7 and 5.5 – 5.7 of the EP&A Act, clause 228 of the EP&A Regulation and other relevant legislation and guidelines discussed in CECM1000.70, AND - I have either (<i>select one</i>): ☒ Visited the site prior to the commencement of the proposed works or activities, OR ☐ As the proposed scope of works: - does not involve removal or clearing of native vegetation, and - involves limited ground disturbance, which is minor in scope and intensity (e.g., trench excavations less than 20m, refurbishment of existing powerlines, minor upgrades, new overhead powerlines less than 1km in length), and - the land does not contain any known Aboriginal objects, and - the land has undergone a degree of change and is considered disturbed land (e.g., urban, industrial, cropping, agriculture) as per the Aboriginal heritage due diligence process, I have determined that Aboriginal objects are not likely to be impacted. On the basis of the proposed limited scope of impacts, and existing disturbed landscape, a site visit has been deemed not necessary. <i>Note: It is not permissible for accredited service providers to select this option.</i> - The information contained in the EIA REF Worksheet is not materially misleading, AND - My assessment has been adequately completed, AND - I am confident that my conclusion as to the likely environmental impact of the project is reasonable and that it is unlikely to significantly affect the environment, AND - The community impacts are likely to be ☒ LOW ☐ MODERATE ☐ HIGH (tick one), and having regard to any responses to any notifications issued by Essential Energy AND - There are HIGH Environmental Scores (rating>10) ☒ NO ☐ YES (tick one), AND - I have verified that agreed requirements from landowners or other stakeholders are incorporated into the mitigation and management procedures for the proposal, and will be carried out, AND - I am satisfied that any construction or operational impacts of the works are able to be appropriately managed through the measures outlined in the REF, and through Essential Energy's HSE Handbook (CECM1000.90) and other operational guidelines.			
Signature		Date	22-12-2023
Name	Durgeshan Naiker	Company	iEngineering Australia PTY LTD

STEP 12

Official Sign Off —REF Worksheet

TABLE 6 – DETERMINATION

Determining Officer - Essential Energy officer who verifies the EIA where (tick one) [CF Delegations once finalised, should be clearer who has authority to Determine this]:

- ☐ that officer has completed the REF Worksheet and is also authorised as a Determining Officer;
- ☐ the Essential Energy officer who completed the REF Worksheet does not have the authority to verify the REF Worksheet; or
- ☒ the REF Worksheet has been completed by an Accredited Service Provider, Level 3.

I certify to the best of my knowledge and on behalf of Essential Energy that:

- I have successfully completed Essential Energy's EIA training Course No ENV01 and I am suitably qualified and competent to verify the completion of this REF Worksheet **AND**
 - The person who completed this REF Worksheet is suitably qualified and competent, **AND**
 - I consulted my immediate supervisor(s) if I was uncertain with respect to any aspect of this assessment, **AND**
 - I have verified that all checks, enquiries, investigations and consultations that needed to be carried out have been carried out, **AND**
 - I am aware that all required approvals, permits and licences either have or already have been obtained, or I am confident that the relevant person will be made aware of their responsibility to obtain them, **AND**
 - I have verified that all relevant documents have been attached. **AND**
 - I have verified that agreed requirements from landowners or other stakeholders are incorporated into the mitigation and management procedures for the proposal, and will be carried out.
- ☒ Based on the completed REF Worksheet and my knowledge of the project, the assessment has been adequately completed, the project is unlikely to significantly affect the environment, no SIS or EIS is required, the conclusion as to the likely environmental impact of the project is reasonable **and the project can proceed** subject to the relevant control measures and conditions in any approvals, licences or permits and having regard to responses provided to Essential Energy where notification is required.

OR

- ☐ The REF Worksheet will be escalated to the next level of Determining Officer or the Safety and Environment Committee because:
- There are MODERATE or HIGH community impacts **TABLE 1**
 - There are any HIGH Environmental Scores (rating>10) **TABLE 4**

Signature		Date	15/01/2025
Name	Ben Saxon	Company	Essential Energy

Further information pertaining to EIA determination is available at:

- 1 EP&A Act and EP&A Regulation: www.legislation.nsw.gov.au/maintop/scanact/inforce/NONE/0
Refer sections 1.3, 1.7, 5.5, 5.6, 5.7 of the EP&A Act, clause 171 of the EP&A Regulation
- 2 DPE's "Aboriginal cultural heritage consultation requirements for proponents 2010"
Error! Hyperlink reference not valid. <https://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/resources/cultureheritage/commconsultation/09781ACHconsultreq.pdf>
- 3 DPE's "Guidelines for preparing a Review of Environmental Factors"
<https://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/-/media/OEH/Corporate-Site/Documents/Parks-reserves-and-protected-areas/Development-guidelines/guidelines-for-preparing-review-of-environmental-factors-160447.pdf>
- 4 CECM1000.70 Essential Energy's HSE Manual: Environmental Impact Assessment – NSW

This review of environmental factors must be published on Essential Energy's website or the NSW Planning Portal if:

- a) the activity has a capital investment value of more than \$5 million, or
- b) the activity requires an approval or permit as referred to in any of the following provisions before it may be carried out—
 - i. *Fisheries Management Act 1994*
 - ii. *Heritage Act 1977*
 - iii. *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974*
 - iv. *Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997*, or
- c) Essential Energy considers that it is in the public interest to publish the review.