



12 July 2016

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Dear Murray

**Proposed Development – Birdwood Park – Senior Housing Development at King St,
Newcastle
Development Application No. 2016/00654**

I refer to your letter dated 1 July 2016 concerning the above development. This letter is Ausgrid's response under clause 45(2) of the *State Environmental planning Policy (Infrastructure) 2007*.

As you would be aware, the assessment and evaluation of environmental impacts for a new development consent (or where a development consent is modified) is undertaken in accordance with requirements of Section 79C of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*. One of the obligations upon consent authorities, such as local councils, is to consider the suitability of the site for the development which can include a consideration of whether the proposal is compatible with the surrounding land uses and the existing environment.

In this regard, Ausgrid requires that due consideration be given to the compatibility of proposed development with existing Ausgrid's infrastructure, particularly in relation to risks of electrocution, fire risks, Electric & Magnetic Fields (EMFs), noise, visual amenity and other matters that may impact on Ausgrid or the development.

Please note the following information in relation to the construction of the development:

Supply of Electricity

It is recommended for the nominated electrical consultant/contractor to provide a Preliminary Enquiry to Ausgrid to obtain advice for the connection of the proposed development to the adjacent electricity network infrastructure. An assessment will be carried out based on the enquiry which may include whether or not: the existing network can support the expected electrical load of the development; a substation may be required on-site, either a pad mount kiosk or chamber; and site conditions or other issues. Please direct the developer to Ausgrid's website, www.ausgrid.com.au about how to connect to Ausgrid's network.

Proximity to Existing Network Assets

Underground Mains

The works described in your notification are in the vicinity of underground electricity assets. In addition to DBYD searches I recommend that you conduct a ground search to locate electricity assets immediately prior to commencing work to check for updates of installed utilities.

Please refer to Ausgrid's Network Standard 156 - Working near or around underground cables which can be found on Ausgrid's website at www.ausgrid.com.au and *Workcover Document – 'Work Near Underground Assets'*

Any alterations to Ausgrid's underground electricity mains will be Contestable Works and funded by Developer.

Method of Electricity Connection

The method of connection will be in line with Ausgrid's Electrical Standard (ES)1 – *'Premise Connection Requirements'*.

Conduit Installation

The need for additional electricity conduits in the footway adjacent to the development will be assessed and documented in Ausgrid's Design Information, used to prepare the connection project design.

Existing Electricity Easements

A title search of the development site should be completed to check for existing electricity easements. If easements are present, Ausgrid must assess the proposed activity within the easement. Please direct the developer to Ausgrid's website, www.ausgrid.com.au to download our "Living with Electricity Easements" brochure.

Depending on the development and its location in relation to existing electrical infrastructure, the timeframe between the initial application for electricity supply and energising assets will vary and may involve months. The developer's earliest advice that the development is to proceed to construction will allow us to begin planning and processing of the connection project and hopefully minimise any delays.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require any further information or assistance.

Yours sincerely

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