Australian Capital Territory

Planning and Development (Upper and Lower Tumut 330 kV Transmission Line Realignment) Scoping Document 2023

Notifiable instrument NI2023-473

made under the

Planning and Development Act 2007, s 212 (Scoping of EIS)

1 Name of instrument

This instrument is the *Planning and Development (Upper and Lower Tumut 330 kV Transmission Line Realignment) Scoping Document 2023.*

2 Commencement

This instrument commences on the day after its notification day.

3 Scoping of EIS

The planning and land authority has prepared the scoping document in the schedule.

Craig Weller Delegate of the planning and land authority 4 August 2023





Schedule (see section 3)

Scoping Document

Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development

Under Division 8.2.2 of the Planning and Development Act 2007

APPLICATION NUMBER: 2023000	DATE OF THIS N	OTICE:	13 July 2023			
DATE LODGED: 30 May 2023						
PROJECT: Proposed Upper and Lo	wer Tumut 330 k	V Transmission Lir	ne realign	ment		
IMPACT TRACK TRIGGER: Planning and Development Act, Schedule 4, Part 4.2 Item 2; and Part 4.3 Items 1(a), 1(b), 1(c), 2(a), 3 and 6						
BLOCK: 10, 33, 47, 63, 64, 72, 85, 87 and 88	SECTION: 0		DISTRICT: Coree			
BLOCK: 452, 480, 481, 487 and 488	SECTION: 0		DISTRIC	T: Stromlo		
BLOCK: 1559, 1461, 1462, 1578, 1586, 1602, 1614, 1634, 1635, 1640, 1641, 1648	SECTION: 0		DISTRIC	T: Belconnen		
BLOCK: Part Block 1	SECTION: 3		DISTRIC	T: Macnamara		
BLOCK: Part Block 5	SECTION: 37		DISTRICT: Strathnairn			
ADDRESS: Various						
PROPONENT: Riverview Projects (ACT) Pty Ltd						
APPLICANT: Keira Banks, Umwelt (Australia) Pty Limited						
LESSEE/LAND CUSTODIAN: Various ACT Government Agencies and Private Lessees/Land Custodian						

SCOPING DOCUMENT

details provided in Attachment A.

The planning and land authority (the Authority) within the Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate received your application under section 212(1) of the *Planning and Development Act 2007* (the PD Act) for Scoping of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the above proposed development. Pursuant to section 212(2) of the PD Act, the Authority has:

- a) Identified the matters that are to be addressed by an EIS in the relation to the development proposal; and
- b) Prepared a written notice (the *scoping document*) of the matters.

NB: The EIS <u>must</u> conform to the requirements of this scoping document. This document does not indicate approval or support in any way, nor does it indicate approval in principle.

TERM OF SCOPING DOCUMENT

Pursuant to section 213(2) of the PD Act, the proponent must give the draft EIS to the Authority by

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Under Division 8.2.2 of the Planning and Development Act 2007

the end of the period of 18 months starting on the day the Authority gives the scoping document for the development proposal to the applicant.

FORM AND FORMAT OF EIS

The Authority requires that the proponent engage a suitably qualified independent consultant to prepare an EIS, OR the proponent submits, with the draft EIS, an independent review of the draft EIS undertaken by a suitably qualified consultant. The EIS must be in the following form and format:

- The EIS must be prepared in accordance with section 50 of the *Planning and Development Regulation 2008.*
- The EIS must be written in plain English and avoid the use of jargon as much as possible.
- The EIS is required to be provided in the same structure as described in this Scoping Document as closely as possible (e.g. executive summary, introduction, proposal details, legislative context, risk assessment, assessment of impacts, consultation, recommendations/mitigation, conclusion).
- A table that cross-references the EIS to the scoping document must be included in the EIS submission.
- The report must reference any figures or supporting information such as appendix and page number, table or figure.
- Additional technical detail, including relevant data, technical reports and other sources of the EIS analysis must be provided in appendices.
- A redacted version (in addition to the full version) of any reports, drawings containing restricted or sensitive information must be provided for public notification, such as a Cultural Heritage Assessment report.
- Maps, diagrams and other illustrative material should be included in the EIS to assist readers to interpret information.
- The EIS document sized A4 with maps and drawings in A4 or A3 format.
- The proponent must supply all draft EIS and revised EIS documents in electronic formats for circulation and web posting. These are to be supplied by email, USB, or another agreed method.
- Digital files must not exceed 20 MB each.

COST OF PREPARATION OF EIS

The proponent is responsible for the preparation of the draft and any subsequent revised EIS and any related applications and associated costs.

NEXT STEPS

The proponent is now required to prepare a document (a *draft EIS*) that addresses each matter raised in the scoping document for the proposal within the timeframe specified above. Once the draft EIS has been accepted for lodgement, a public notification fee is payable in order for notification, referrals and assessment to commence. After the notification period has closed, the Authority will provide comments and any public representations received for the proponent to address in preparing a *revised EIS*, and any further instructions on the application.

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Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development

Scoping Document

Under Division 8.2.2 of the Planning and Development Act 2007

If you have any queries about the requirements outlined in this scoping document, please contact Jesmin Abdullah to arrange a suitable time to discuss.

5 phillis

Delegate of the planning and land authority George Cilliers Executive Group Manager Statutory Planning Division Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate (EPSDD)

Contact Jesmin Abdullah Assessment Officer Impact Assessment and Business Improvement Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate E: EPDImpact@act.gov.au T: (02) 6205 2235

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Authorised by the ACT Parliamentary Counsel-also accessible at www.legislation.act.gov.au

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR THE EIS

1. Cover Page

The cover page must clearly display the following:

- The name of the proposal (project title)
- The block identifier(s) and street address for the proposal
- The date of the preparation of the document
- Full name and postal address of the designated proponent
- Full name and postal address of the designated applicant
- Name and contact details of the person/organisation who prepared the documents (if different to the above).

2. Glossary

Provide a glossary of technical terms, acronyms and abbreviations used in the EIS.

3. Executive Summary

Provide a non-technical summary of the EIS including a description of the proposal, key findings and recommendations.

4. Introduction

Summarise the proposal background and justification for the proposal.

5. Proposal Details

5.1. Project Description

Provide a description of the proposal, including:

- a) The objectives and justification, with supportive evidence, for the proposal;
- b) The location of the land to which the proposal relates, including detailed maps;
- c) The division and/or district names and block and/or section numbers of the land under the *Districts Act 2002;*
- d) If the land is leased the lessee's name;
- e) If the land is unleased or public land the custodian of the land;
- f) The purposes for which the land may be used;
- g) A clear identification of all lands subject to direct disturbance from the proposal and associated infrastructure and geomorphic features such as waterways and wetlands. This is to be supported by a map showing all affected lands;
- h) An outline of any developments that have been, or are being, undertaken by the proponent, or other person(s) or entities, within the proposal area and broadly in the region. Describe how the proposal relates to these developments;
- i) A description of all the components of the proposal, including the proposal specifications, the predicted timescale for implementation (design, approvals, construction and decommissioning) and project life;
- j) A plan/description of the precise location of any works to be undertaken, structures to be built or elements of the proposal that may have relevant impacts; and

k) A description of the construction methodologies for the proposal.

5.2. Alternatives to the proposal

Provide details of any alternatives to the proposal considered in developing the proposal including a description of:

- a) Any design and location alternatives to the proposal and provide reasons for selecting the preferred option with an analysis of site selection as an attachment to the EIS;
- b) The criteria used for assessing the performance of any alternative to the proposal considered;
- c) Any matters considered to avoid or reduce potential impacts prior to the selection of the preferred option; and
- d) Details of the consequences of not proceeding with the proposal.

6. Legislative and Strategic Context

A description of the EIS process including any statutory approvals obtained or required for the proposal, and how the proposal is aligned with strategic priorities for the ACT.

6.1. Statutory requirements

The description must include information on statutory requirements for the preparation of an EIS:

- Planning and Development Act 2007 (including confirmation of relevant Schedule 4 triggers based on impacts identified in the scoping document and any studies undertaken in preparing the draft EIS)
- Planning and Development Regulation 2008
- Heritage Act 2004
- Nature Conservation Act 2014
- Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Commonwealth)
- Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Regulations 2000 (Commonwealth)
- Related statutory approvals.

6.2. Other requirements

The description must also include information on how the proposal is consistent with each of the following:

- Territory Plan 2008, including the Statement of Strategic Directions (Section 2.1)
- ACT Planning Strategy
- National Capital Plan
- Climate Change and Greenhouse Gas Reduction Act 2010
- The ACT Climate Change Strategy 2019-2025
- Relevant Environment Protection Policies and Separation Distance Guidelines for Air Emissions (<u>https://www.environment.act.gov.au/environment/legislation_and_policies</u>)
- Environment Protection Act 1997
- Environment Protection Regulation 2005
- Plans of Management for any public land
- Any relevant Master Plan
- Other relevant planning and environmental guidelines and management plans.

6.2.1 Ecologically sustainable development (ESD)

Provide a description of how the proposed development demonstrates ESD. This is to include long-term and short-term considerations related to economic development, social development, and environmental protection at local, regional, and national scales. The proponent should ensure that the EIS adequately addresses the ESD principles as defined by section 9 of the PD Act.

6.2.2 Territory Plan strategic directions

A statement must be provided regarding the proposal's consistency with the principles in the Statement of Strategic Directions in the Territory Plan 2008 (Section 2.1 - Strategic Direction).

REQUIREMENTS FOR ADDRESSING IMPACTS IN THE EIS

7. Risk Assessment

7.1. Risk Assessment Methodology

Provide a risk assessment in accordance with the Australian and New Zealand Standard for risk management AS/NZS ISO 31000:2009 *Risk Management – Principles and guidelines*. The proposed criteria for determining which risks are potentially significant impacts must be described.

-Assessment guide-				
Provide a table with the headings below to describe the risks identified and the original risk rating without any mitigation strategies in place. This table format is one option, however alternative formats can be used provided the methodology is clearly described and in accordance with AS/NZS ISO 31000:2009 <i>Risk Management – Principles and guidelines</i>				
Risk	Likelihood	Consequence	Risk rating	

The Preliminary Risk Assessment (PRA) submitted as part of the request for a scoping document must be revised to include, but not be limited to, the risks identified by the Authority in Table 1.

The risks identified in Table 1 are based on the scoping document application and comments received from entities on the application. All of these risks are considered potentially significant (i.e. medium risk level or above) and must be addressed in the EIS. Should any risk levels change during the preparation of the EIS or any new risks become apparent, these must be assessed and included with a justification in the EIS, and where relevant, the residual risk assessment.

Table 1 – Identified impacts and requirements to be addressed in the EIS

Environmental Theme	Risk identified	See section/s below for further detail
Ecology and natural environment	 Impacts on fauna (including aquatic and arboreal species and threatened species such as Pinktailed Worm-Lizard, Superb Parrot and Golden Sun Moth) Impacts on flora and ecological communities, including critically endangered Box Gum Woodland (BGW) and Natural Temperate Grassland (NTG) Removal of tree species suitable for Superb Parrot nesting 	8.2.1

Environmental Theme	Risk identified	See section/s below for further detail
	 Clearance of native vegetation Spread of invasive species/weeds off-site during construction 	
Heritage items and places	 Impact on heritage sites and objects Impact on the heritage significance of the Huntly Heritage Homestead 	8.2.2
Hazard and risk	 Impact of bushfire on the transmission line and associated infrastructure Risk of the substation causing a fire or being damaged by fire Safety hazards during demolition, construction and operation Safety impact of an electrical fault in relation to the substation of the substation o	8.2.3
	 Safety impact of an electrical fault in relation to buried water and/or sewer pipes Unauthorised access to site and associated risk of contact with electrical equipment Potential flooding from rain or dam failure impacting the transmission lines 	
Planning and land status	 Incompatibility with current and known future land uses on adjacent sites 	8.2.4
Traffic and transport	 Traffic impacts during demolition/construction/operation Traffic damage to sensitive environmental and heritage items/areas 	8.2.5
Materials and waste	 Increased waste to landfill during demolition and construction Impacts from storage and disposal of materials 	8.2.6
Soils and geology	 Sediment and erosion during demolition and construction phases Impact from previously unknown soil contamination being exposed 	8.2.7
Utilities and services	 Impact on existing power infrastructure during demolition, construction and operation Impacts of removal of existing transmission lines and towers 	8.2.8
Landscape and visual	Visual impact on landscape character	8.2.9
Water and hydrology	 Impact on water quality in local waterways from run-off during demolition/construction Impact from potential flooding 	8.2.10
Health	 Impact of exposure to electro-magnetic fields (EMF) and frequencies associated with high voltage powerlines 	8.2.11

8. Assessment of Impacts

8.1. Standard requirements

Sufficient information is required to provide the Authority with an adequate understanding of the environmental impacts associated with the proposal.

Each risk identified in Table 1, and in the proponent's PRA, must be addressed and structured as set out in sections 8.1.1 - 8.1.5 below.

8.1.1. Environmental conditions and values

Describe the environmental conditions and identify the environmental values for the environmental themes identified in Table 1. This section should discuss the baseline conditions for the area.

8.1.2. Investigations

Identify the findings and results of any environmental investigation in relation to the land to which the proposal relates.

8.1.3. Impacts

Describe the effects of the environmental impact as a result of construction and operation for the environmental themes identified in Table 1 and in the proponent's risk assessment (including cumulative, consequential and indirect effects) on physical and ecological systems and human communities. Particular emphasis should be placed on the potentially significant impacts identified in the risk assessment and this scoping document. Include a discussion of the timeframes of impacts i.e. short or long term, their nature and extent and whether they are reversible or irreversible, unknown or unpredictable. Include an analysis of the significance of the relevant impacts. Information must include any technical data and other information used or needed to make a detailed assessment of the relevant impacts.

8.1.4. Mitigation and offsets

Discuss the proposed safeguards and mitigation measures proposed to be taken for the environmental management of the land to which the proposal relates for the environmental themes identified in Table 1 and the proponent's risk assessment. This is to include:

- a) A description and an assessment of the proposed impact prevention, mitigation or offsetting measures to deal with the environmental impact of the proposal, along with which stage the mitigation measures will be adopted
- b) Any statutory or policy basis for the mitigation measures
- c) An outline of an environmental management plan (EMP) that sets out the framework for continuing management, mitigation and monitoring programs for the relevant impacts of the action, including any provisions for independent environmental auditing
- d) The frequency, duration and objectives of monitoring proposed
- e) The name of the agency responsible for endorsing or approving each mitigation measure or monitoring program
- f) A description of the cost effectiveness of environmental mitigation or rehabilitation measures proposed and the expected or predicted effectiveness of those measures.

Proposed Offsets

If any offsets are required, the offset package must provide compensation for any unavoidable impacts arising from the proposal on listed threatened species and communities. The offset package must include, but not be limited to, measures to address the long-term protection and management of relevant listed threatened species and communities at offset sites in the ACT (or surrounding area) and may also include management measures to improve the ecological values. Further information on the provision of Commonwealth offsets is detailed in the *EPBC Offsets Policy (2012)* available

from: http://www.environment.gov.au/epbc/publications/epbc-act-environmental-offsets-policy

Offsets should directly contribute to the ongoing viability of protected matters impacted by the project and deliver an overall conservation outcome that improves or maintains the viability of protected matters as compared to what is likely to have occurred under the status quo, that is if neither the action nor the offset had taken place.

8.1.5. Residual risk

Provide a table that details the residual risk for the potentially significant impacts identified for the environmental themes in Table 1 and the proponent's risk assessment. A residual risk assessment is only required where the significance of impact is determined as medium or above. The calculation of the residual risk should take into account the influence of implementation of mitigation or offsetting measures on the impacts identified by the risk assessment. A discussion of how the calculations were determined should also be included, including the expected or predicted effectiveness of the mitigation measures.

-Assessment Guide-				
Provide the residual risk assessment as set out in the table below.				
Risk identified in Section 7.1	Original risk rating from items identified in 7.1	Residual likelihood	Residual consequence	Residual risk rating

8.2. Detailed requirements

The following items (sections 8.2.1 - 8.2.11), relate to the potentially significant environmental impacts identified in Table 1. They must be addressed in detail in the EIS.

NOTE: The information provided under the following headings is not an exhaustive list of matters that may be required to accurately detail the assessment scenarios.

8.2.1. Ecology and natural environment

- Provide a description of the ecological values (including native vegetation, endangered ecological communities and threatened species) and their habitat on, and adjacent to the site, including but not limited to:
 - Yellow Box Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland (BGW)
 - Natural Temperate Grassland (NTG)
 - Pink-tailed Worm-lizard (Aprasia parapulchella, PTWL)
 - Superb Parrot (Polytelis swainsonii, SP)
 - Little Eagle (*Hieraaetus morphnoides*)
 - Perunga Grasshopper (Perunga ochracea)
 - Hoary Sunray (*Leucochrysum albicans*)
 - Gang-gang Cockatoo (Callocephalon fimbriatum)
 - Diamond Firetail (*Stagonopleura guttata*)
 - Scarlet Robin (*Petroica boodang*)
 - Southern White-face (*Aphelocephala leucopsis*)
 - Golden Sun Moth (Synemon plana)
 - o Groundcovers including hemeda australis or Microlaena stipoides.
- Ecological surveys must be undertaken by a qualified ecologist for each impacted species and their habitats.

- Provide maps showing the location of all habitat and overlay all aspects of the proposed development to show the extent of any impact.
- Describe the direct and indirect impacts on ecological values. The description must include all areas that may be impacted by the decommissioning, construction and installation of the transmission lines, including pole placement, laydown, access arrangements and any areas that will be impacted by maintenance works following completion of construction.
- Consider the indirect impacts of the development on fauna species in relation to:
 - \circ $\,$ increased predation efficiency and predator abundance due to the erection of poles and lines adjacent to grasslands; and
 - increased mortality of birds due to collisions with power lines, with particular consideration for Superb Parrot and other avian species known to occur in the area.
- Consider impacts of removal of tree species (*Eucalyptus rossii* or *Eucalyptus blakelyi*) suitable for Superb Parrot nesting and provide detailed assessment of the possible impacts on their breeding habitat.
- Consider the impact of removing mature, hollow-bearing trees on connectivity for arboreal species.
- Consider impacts on migratory species.
- Consider the impact of weed spread due to soil disturbance and any key habitat that is at risk of being affected.
- Detail any potential cross border impacts.
- Describe measures for avoidance and mitigation of the impacts identified and, if proposed, any offset measures.
- Outline alternative design options that have been explored to avoid or reduce the impact.

8.2.2. Heritage items and places

- Provide an in-depth heritage assessment of the site:
 - Consider direct and indirect impacts on known heritage values and any historical archaeological features and deposits identified through further research; and
 - Consider the impact of the realignment on the heritage character / significance of the Huntly Heritage Homestead.
- If testing or archaeological excavation is required to assess the heritage significance of the proposed development area, this investigation must be undertaken to inform the EIS. Where the application relates to Aboriginal places and objects, consultation with Representative Aboriginal Organisations (RAOs) regarding the proposed investigation should occur.
- A Cultural Heritage Assessment (CHA) must be prepared by a suitably qualified heritage practitioner, and in consultation with RAOs covering the whole project footprint including any access roads and cabling infrastructure, in line with ACT Heritage Council requirements.
- If Aboriginal places or objects are identified on site, design changes and/or management controls to avoid heritage impacts should be considered.
- Develop a Conservation Management Plan that considers the impact of the proposed development on heritage items:
 - Survey and locate each item of heritage significance.
 - Describe the measures to be taken to prevent damage during construction.
 - Include a monitoring and evaluation framework to ensure that all items of heritage significance are protected during construction and operation and where impacts cannot be avoided present ways to minimise and mitigate heritage impacts.
 - Include an Unexpected Finds protocol for any additional items of heritage significance that may be identified during construction.

8.2.3. Hazard and risk

- Consider the risk of a bushfire starting from malfunction of the project infrastructure (substation, faults in cable connections, weather impacts etc).
- Consider the risk of bushfire during construction, including the cessation of construction works during periods of escalated fire danger.
- Provide a detailed bushfire assessment report that considers the bushfire attack level of the project span and protection measures to be implemented in proximity to the infrastructure, including asset protection zones, vegetation management/fuel load reduction strategies.
- Consider the safety impacts of an electrical fault in relation to buried water and/or sewer pipes.
- Consider how separation to overhead conductors will be achieved for any firefighters undertaking asset protection in the event of a fire.
- Consider potential safety hazards during the demolition, construction and operation of the proposal including:
 - Impacts of any hazards on residents, workers and the community;
 - o impacts of unauthorised access to site and associated risk of contact with electrical equipment;
 - excessive step & touch potential due to Earth potential rise (EPR) or Electromagnetic Induction (EMI) on both in-service and abandoned metallic/conductive infrastructure such as pipelines, rural and urban fences, streetlight poles, telecommunication cables/cable pits;
 - the potential severity of hazards, with consideration given to current magnitude, time duration of current flow, soil electrical resistivity, earthing systems installed on both the impacted assets and the transmission line/substation infrastructure, proximity of metallic conductors (pipelines, unearthed fences, telecommunications lines as examples);
 - Electromagnetic Field (EMF) limits and any impacts on human health.
- Provide details of mitigation and safety measures and evidence of compliance with Australian Standards AS 7000 and AS/NZS 4853, and other relevant Standards.
- Consider possible Aircraft collision hazard due to the proposed heights of the poles.

8.2.4. Planning and land status

- Include a description of planning context of the area where the project will be located.
- Describe planning and development status of any land or project relevant to the proposal.
- Describe land use of the proposed land and any land to be affected (including, but not limited to, zoning, lessee(s) or custodian of the land, the permissibility of the proposed use defined in the Territory Plan).

8.2.5. Traffic and transport

- Consider damage to sensitive environmental and heritage items caused by construction vehicles accessing the site.
- Describe arrangements for the transport of construction materials, equipment, products, wastes and personnel during demolition, construction and operation.
- Include a description of the volume of traffic generated during demolition/construction and operation.
- Include details of vehicle transit routes and transport of heavy and oversize loads (including types and composition).
- Investigate the impact the development will have on traffic congestion and road safety and describe any mitigation measures that will be implemented.
- A comprehensive Traffic Impact Assessment (TIA) must be prepared in accordance with the TCCS TIA Guidelines.

8.2.6. Materials and waste

- Describe all materials to be stockpiled on site.
- Investigate potential impacts of stockpiling materials, including any contaminated materials, and provide mitigation measures to reduce any impacts.
- Provide detailed waste disposal procedure for the decommissioning of the existing poles and construction of the new infrastructure.

8.2.7. Soil and geology

- Describe the soil and geology features of the impacted area.
- Describe the controls required to prevent spillage or runoff of soil into surrounding water bodies.
- Describe how the site will be remediated if contaminated materials are found on site.
- Describe impacts from clearing of vegetation in relation to erosion and sedimentation and measures to reduce the impacts.
- Describe the composition and source of all fill intended for use at the site.
- Provide a Sediment and Erosion Control Plan (SECP) that details measures to reduce the impacts of sediment and erosion, including dust suppression.
- Provide an Unexpected Finds Protocol (UFP) for all earthworks and construction activities on site.

8.2.8. Utilities and services

- Describe all existing utilities located on all land parcels subject to this proposal.
- Describe any new utilities, removal or realignments required as a result of this development.
- Investigate potential impacts to existing utilities and infrastructure and provide mitigation measures to reduce the impacts.
- Consider impacts of decommissioning existing power infrastructure during demolition and construction phases.
- Describe how the proposal will be designed, constructed, and maintained in accordance with the relevant Australian and International Standards.

8.2.9. Landscape and visual impact

- Provide a visual impact assessment that analyses the visual impacts of the development on surrounding residents, including residents in NSW. The visual impact assessment must:
 - provide perspectives of the development from residential viewpoints and approach routes and provide a comparative assessment of existing and proposed views upon immediate surrounds and residential areas;
 - identify impacts on important viewsheds, significant views and vistas to and from the site, and on residents surrounding the development;
 - o identify any measures to be adopted to reduce visual impacts.

8.2.10. Water quality and hydrology

- Provide an assessment of potential impacts to waterways (Murrumbidgee River/Molonglo River/ Uriarra Creek / Swamp Creek) that may arise during demolition, construction and operation.
- Describe any mitigation measures required to prevent sediment and erosion from impacting on water quality.
- Describe current water flow across the proposal site and impacts from the proposal on water flow both on site and in the surrounding area/catchment.
- Describe the current surface water and groundwater quality and measures proposed to maintain and monitor water quality.
- Consider any potential flood risks and describe any mitigation measures to reduce the

impact on the infrastructure.

- Provide information on stormwater/wastewater management both during construction and operation including any on site detention, treatment systems and water quality protection measures. This should include consideration of any chemicals into the receiving environment.
- Include the controls required to prevent spillage or leakage of hazardous materials into the surrounding groundwater and the mitigation measures to prevent the contamination of stormwater systems.

8.2.11. Health

• Consider any impact upon human health and safety as a result of exposure to electromagnetic fields (EMF) and frequencies associated with high-voltage powerlines, and compare this risk with national and international standards.

8.3 Entity requirements

The EIS must address the entities comments provided in <u>Attachment B</u>. If the issues raised by entities have been addressed in other sections of the EIS, this must be cross referenced.

9. Community and stakeholder consultation

The intention of the consultation in this scoping document is to ensure significant proposals include meaningful engagement with the community in the early stages of the project and provide clear expectations and an understanding of the actual development proposed. Consultation also provides an opportunity for the community to contribute to the design of the proposal and to resolve any major concerns early in the planning stages.

9.1. Consultation must be undertaken with:

- Lease holders and land managers of land potentially impacted by the proposal;
- Any recreational groups which may be affected by the proposal;
- Any volunteer conservation, landscape management or land care groups active in the area to be affected by the proposal;
- The local community; and businesses owners and employees.

9.2. Provide a consultation report that includes:

- A description of the methodology and criteria for identifying stakeholders and how they were identified. Details and plans must be provided showing potential impacts on the local and wider community to justify how stakeholders were identified.
- An outline of the communication methods used. A variety of communication methods must be adopted to ensure all stakeholders are engaged appropriately, such as face to face, email/letters, community meetings and information sessions and website notifications.
- Details on the information provided during the community consultation process. Note: A plain English statement explaining the proposal and conceptual drawings must be made available to the community and stakeholders.
- A summary of the responses and the main comments raised by the stakeholders and the community.
- Evidence must be provided demonstrating that consultation has been undertaken with each relevant group/person including specific detail on how these concerns were addressed.
- A description on how any concerns have been considered and identify any changes that have been made to the proposal.

Consultation must occur as early as possible and avoid, or make allowances for public holidays,

school holidays and the summer holiday (Christmas) shutdown period. The level of engagement must be comparable with the size, location and nature of the development and potential impact on the wider community.

9.3. Consideration of public representations from Draft EIS notification

• The revised EIS must include a consultation report outlining the representations received, issues raised in the representations and a response to the issues and values identified. The summary response must clearly identify the representation(s) to which the responses relate.

10. Recommendations

Provide a summary of any commitments to impact prevention, mitigation measures, offsetting measures and other actions within the EIS.

Describe the monitoring parameters, monitoring points, frequency, data interpretation and reporting proposals.

11. Other relevant information

The proponent may wish to include issues outside the scope of the EIS as a separate section of the EIS. This allows the proponent to identify matters not required to be addressed in the EIS, but that would be subject to development assessment consideration and notification. This can provide additional context for members of the public regarding management of environmental issues, by ensuring that the public is aware that these issues will be addressed in the detailed design of the proposal.

12. References

A reference list using standard referencing systems must be included.

13. Required Appendices

13.1. Scoping document for the EIS

A copy of the scoping document should be included in the EIS. Where it is intended to bind appendices in a separate volume from the main body of the EIS, the scoping document should be bound with the main body of the EIS for ease of cross-referencing.

13.2. Scoping Document Reference

Include a table that cross-references the EIS to the scoping document. If the EIS addresses the scoping document in multiple places then this must be also referenced.

13.3. Proponent's Environmental History

Provide details of any proceedings under a Commonwealth or Territory law for the protection of the environment or the conservation and sustainable use of natural resources against:

- The person proposing to take the action
- For an action for which a person has applied for a permit, the person making the application.

If the person proposing to take the action is a corporation, then provide details of the corporation's environmental policy and planning framework. Enough information is required to satisfy s136(4) of the EPBC Act.

13.4. Information Sources

For information given the following must be stated:

- The author or any reports or studies
- The publication date
- The source of the information
- How recent the information is (i.e. when a study was conducted or when primary sources were produced)
- How the reliability of the information was tested
- What uncertainties (if any) are in the information.

13.5. Study team

The qualifications and experience of the study team and specialist sub-consultants and expert reviewers must be provided.

13.6. Specialist studies

All reports generated based on specialist studies undertaken as part of the EIS are to be included as appendices.

13.7. Research

Any proposals for researching alternative environmental management strategies or for obtaining any further necessary information should be outlined in an appendix.

Attachment A: LESSEE/LAND CUSTODIAN

The list of blocks and Lessee/Land Custodian details as per the application for scoping document.

Block / section	District	Block lifecycle stage	Land use zone	Landholder
10	Coree	Registered Rural	NI 172 Rural: NI 174 River Corridor	PCS
10	Coree			
33	Coree	Approved Rural	NUZ4 River Corridor	PCS
47	Coree	Registered Rural	NUC2 Rural	Retallack
63	Coree	Approved Rural	NUZ2 Rural; NUZ4 River Corridor	PCS
64	Coree	Approved Rural	NUZ4 River Corridor	PCS
72	Coree	Registered Rural	NUZ2 Rural; NUZ4 River Corridor	Retallack
85	Coree	Proposed Rural	NUZ4 River Corridor	Parks and Conservation Service (PCS)
87	Coree	Approved Rural	NUZ4 River Corridor; NUZ2 Rural	PCS
88	Coree	Registered Rural	NUZ4 River Corridor; NUZ2 Rural	Retallack
452	Stromlo	Approved Rural	NUZ4 River Corridor	PCS
480	Stromlo	Proposed Rural	NUZ4 River Corridor	PCS
481	Stromlo	Proposed Rural	NUZ4 River Corridor	PCS
487	Stromlo	Registered Rural	NUZ4 River Corridor; NUZ2 Rural	SLA
488	Stromlo	Proposed Rural	NUZ4 River Corridor	PCS
1559	Belconnen	Registered Rural	NUZ1 Broadacre	SLA
1461	Belconnen	Registered Rural	NUZ3 Hills, Ridges and Buffer Areas	TCCS
1462	Belconnen	Registered Rural	NUZ3 Hills, Ridges and Buffer Areas	PCS
1578	Belconnen	Proposed Rural	NUZ4 River Corridor	PCS
1586	Belconnen	Registered Rural	NUZ3 Hills, Ridges and Buffer Areas	SLA

1602	Belconnen	Registered Rural	NUZ4 River Corridor	Trevaskis
1614	Belconnen	Approved Rural	NUZ4 River Corridor	PCS
1634	Belconnen	Registered Rural	NUZ3 Hills, Ridges and Buffer Areas	Trevaskis
1635	Belconnen	Registered Rural	NUZ3 Hills, Ridges and Buffer Areas	Transgrid
1640	Belconnen	Approved Rural	NUZ4 River Corridor	PCS
1641	Belconnen	Approved Rural	NUZ4 River Corridor	PCS
1648	Belconnen	Approved Rural	CZ5 Mixed Use; CZ1 Core Zone; CF Community Facilities	SLA
Part Block 1 Section 3	Macnamara	Approved Rural	RZ3 Urban Residential; CZ5 Mixed Use; NUZ3 Hills, Ridges and Buffer Areas; PRZ1 Urban Open Space; RZ1 Suburban; CF Community Facilities; NUZ4 River Corridor	Ginninderry Conservation Trust
Part Block 5 Section 37	Strathnairn	Approved Rural	RZ3 Urban Residential; NUZ3 Hills, Ridges and Buffer Areas; PRZ1 Urban Open Space; RZ1 Suburban; CF Community Facilities; NUZ4 River Corridor	Ginninderry Conservation Trust

Attachment B: ENTITY REQUIREMENTS

A1. ACT Emergency Services (ESA)

ACT Fire & Rescue (ACTF&R)

Bushfire Threat Assessment and Compliance Report:

This development is located inside the area declared by the ESA to be subject to the threat of bushfire. Although not essential for this type of development, it is classified as critical infrastructure and the application of appropriate bushfire protection measures (BPM's) are advised.

BPM's can be sourced within the CFA document 'Design Guidelines and Model Requirements -Renewable Energy Facilities Version 3 – Section 6.2.3 Landscape Screening and On-Site Vegetation, which refers to document 'The Electricity Safety (Electric Line Clearance) Regulations 2020. This Regulation prescribes the vegetation clearance requirements for electric lines based on the assigned fire hazard rating for land established under Section 80 of the Electricity Safety Act 1998. Essential Energy Bushfire Risk Management Plan CEOP8022 should also be referenced.

Further information regarding these comments can be obtained by emailing <u>actf&rrisk&planning@act.gov.au</u>.

ACT Rural Fire Services (ACTRFS)

Bushfire Protection Requirements:

While specific bushfire protection requirements will not be required for this development, ACTRFS requests that when submitting the development application, the proponent considers that any highrisk works, such as hot works, undertaken during the declared bushfire season, be undertaken with an approved fire permit and associated conditions to address bushfire risk. A fire permit to undertake a high-risk activity within the Rural Area can be obtained by contacting ACTRFS via email: rfs@act.gov.au.

ACTESA Further Information:

Further information regarding Development Applications can be obtained by emailing ACTESA <u>*Emergency Management EmergencyManagement@act.gov.au.*</u>

ACT State Emergency Service (SES)

Identified Flood Zone {1% AEP}:

The proposed site is an area of land that may be inundated by a 1%AEP flood, through the Murrumbidgee River and the Molonglo River running through multiple blocks.

ACTSES note that potential flooding may present a public safety risk due to the proximity of public access areas to land that may be subject to flooding. It is recommended that the project risk assessment consider flood risk, and that specific flood risk control measures are detailed in the Emergency Plan for this development.

Identified Dam Infrastructure Failure Flood Zone:

A portion of the proposed site is in an area that may become inundated should a dam infrastructure failure occur at Googong and Cotter dams.

While an incident of this type is rated by the ACT Government as RARE and of MEDIUM risk, it is recommended that the project risk assessment consider this risk and that specific risk control measures are detailed in the Emergency Plan for this development.



Further information regarding ACTSES requirements for Development Applications can be obtained by emailing <u>ses@act.gov.au</u>.

A2. ACT Health

The Health Protection Service (HPS) notes that the scoping document should address the potential for creation of inhalable dust particulates and advises that dust suppression strategies be implemented throughout the construction phase.

A3. <u>ACT Heritage</u>

The application for the EIS Scoping document states that a revised CHA will be completed as part of the EIS. The Council supports this, as an updated CHA will ensure that all cultural heritage places or objects within the Proposal Area are identified, and the Proposal is able to avoid impacts in the first instance, and mitigate and manage any impacts that cannot be avoided, including any impacts on areas of Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD).

The following requirements are identified for the EIS:

1. The CHA must be updated as per the EIS Scoping application, and the updated CHA must also:

- a. Be undertaken by a suitably qualified heritage practitioner;
- b. Include the information as required by the Council's Cultural Heritage Reporting policy available at https://www.environment.act.gov.au/heritage/publications-and-resources. This must include detailed assessment of previous heritage studies undertaken, as a number of assessments undertaken in and near the footprint have not been considered in the initial CHA;
- c. Include field survey of the revised project footprint, and provide more details on survey

transects and any relevant factors affecting survey coverage;

- d. Include consultation with Representative Aboriginal Organisations about the cultural values of the project area, the heritage significance of any identified Aboriginal places and objects, and the impacts of proposed development or activity on identified Aboriginal values;
- e. Include an assessment of potential heritage impacts to Huntly.
- 2. If testing or archaeological excavation is required to assess the heritage significance of the proposed development area, this investigation must be undertaken to inform the EIS. The investigation must include:
 - a. Preparation of an Excavation Permit application by suitability qualified specialists, and including a Research Design and Methodology;
 - b. Where the application relates to Aboriginal places and objects, consultation with RAOs regarding the proposed investigation, its methods and the management of any objects recovered;
 - c. Following approval of the application under Section 61F of the Heritage Act 2004, completion of the investigation in accordance with the conditions of that approval; and
- 3. If the CHA and any archaeological investigation identifies that proposed works will cause damage to or diminish the significance of heritage places, recommendations must be presented to comply with Heritage Act 2004 provisions. This must include consideration of alternatives to avoid heritage impacts, and if these alternatives are not reasonably practicable, measures that could be adopted to minimise heritage impacts;
- 4. A redacted version of the CHA must be prepared, and only the redacted CHA is to be included in any future public notifications for the project; and
- 5. The EIS must redact information on some heritage places and objects, including in attached heritage reports.

The Council also notes that, in accordance with Heritage Act 2004 provisions, approval from the Council will be required where the proposal may diminish the heritage significance of Huntly or damage Aboriginal places and objects; in addition to any planning approvals required.

Such approval is sought by making a Statement of Heritage Effect (SHE) application under Section 61G of the Heritage Act 2004, which are approved by the Council where it is satisfied on reasonable grounds that: the proposed activity is justifiable; and that there are no other reasonably practicable alternatives to heritage impacts; and that measures to minimise the heritage impacts of the proposal have been adopted.

A4. The Conservator of Flora and Fauna

Impacts to flora and fauna

- 1. The Consequence rating for most of the identified risks to Ecology and Natural Environment appear too low, particularly given the significance of the threatened species and communities impacted. At a minimum most of the scores should be increased to major and the unmitigated risk scores updated to reflect this correction.
- 2. According to section 2.5.2 of the report, impacts to the habitats of the Pink-tailed Worm-Lizard (Aprasia parapulchella, PTWL) and Superb Parrot (Polytelis swainsonii, SP), and to the critically endangered Box Gum Woodland (BGW) and Natural Temperate Grasslands (NTG) are deemed to be considered 'not significant'.

It is unclear how the removal of a minimum of 0.8 ha of PTWL habitat, 1.5 ha of BGW, 0.2ha of NTG and the removal of at least eight potential SP nesting trees is not considered a significant

adverse impact. The works will lead to a long-term decrease in the size of an important population of the PTWL and reduce the area of occupancy of an important population of PTWL. The works will also reduce the extent and fragment, or increase fragmentation of, two threatened ecological communities.

- 3. The EIS should consider the impacts of the development on the following species that have been recorded on the alignment of the proposed and existing powerlines:
 - a. Little Eagle (Hieraaetus morphnoides)
 - b. Perunga Grasshopper (Perunga ochracea)
 - c. Hoary Sunray (Leucochrysum albicans)
 - d. Gang-gang Cockatoo (Callocephalon fimbriatum)
 - e. Diamond Firetail (Stagonopleura guttata)
 - f. Scarlet Robin (Petroica boodang)
 - g. Southern White-face (Aphelocephala leucopsis).
- Areas of groundcover dominated (most abundant species) by either Themeda australis or Microlaena stipoides must be mapped and additional survey for Thesium australis undertaken.
 2023 was a poor season for this species in the local region and even large populations could not be found. Therefore, the results of the one-off survey cannot be taken as proof of absence.
- 5. Each impact area must be clearly mapped, especially around towers sites and access tracks (new and old). Existing towers in McNamara and Strathnairn are located within NTG and PTWL habitat and detailed maps must be available to accurately assess these impacts.
- 6. Impacts of removal of the existing lines must also be identified and assessed, including impacts to vegetation, especially trees.
- 7. Impacts on migratory species, including Rainbow Bee-eater (Merops ornatus) must also be considered.
- 8. Important connectivity pathways must be mapped and the impacts of the proposal on these pathways assessed.
- 9. Consideration and mitigation of impacts to native burrowing animals must also be included.
- 10. Superb Parrot (SP)

ACT Government research has shown that there is > 50 % likelihood that a tree is suitable for SP nesting if the tree has the following attributes:

- tree species is Eucalyptus rossii or Eucalyptus blakelyi; and
- trunk diameter at breast height > 70 cm; and
- >9 tree hollows (with entrance size > 4 cm) are visible from the ground.

If any trees within the impact zone fit these criteria their removal would be classified as significant, given that the transmission line is only 2.5 km from a highly productive SP breeding colony.

Further, it is because SPs have high breeding site fidelity (as Umwelt notes) that opportunities to restore and extend SP breeding habitat are limited to landscapes that contain extant breeding colonies (as this one does). Therefore, piecemeal reduction of this potential habitat area is an important threat to avoid. The EIS must include an assessment of the area circled in red overleaf for trees that meet criteria underlined above and any impacts to any identified suitable trees if avoidance is not possible.

Finally, due to the Parkwood development area, landscape connectivity between the breeding colony and critical SP foraging habitat (circled purple below) through the southern boundary of Woodstock Nature Reserve is important. Research shows that trees 10 - 15 m in height support SP movement, so their removal should be avoided within the area circled red overleaf. The EIS must include a tree assessment of this area and identification and assessment of any impacts to trees that contribute to SP movement.

It needs to be clearly noted that finding offsets for SP breeding trees is incredibly difficult, so any impacts to these breeding trees should be avoided. Impacts to the species must also be assessed against the ACT Action Plan for this species to determine if any buffers area required around identified habitat.



Cumulative impacts on biodiversity values is also important for SP. **The EIS will need to provide** an explicit description around cumulative impacts for this species. The risk mitigation measures identified in B1 in the risk are insufficient to address B3, as per the Risk Assessment provided.

11. Golden Sun Moth

A more robust assessment of significant impact is required for the Golden Sun Moth (Synemon plana). Preliminary distribution models for the species that focus on dispersal limited females, indicate that the area may hold moderate to high quality habitat for Golden Sun Moth (based on a combination of abiotic and landscape features identified at good condition sites across the ACT). The comments of the consultants appear to be at odds with the modelling ACT Government have been developing. More rigorous assessment of Golden Sun Moth habitat and population, during suitable survey periods should be included in an assessment of impact.

<u>Bushfire risk</u>

12. There is precedent for powerline operations to cause fire ignitions, especially on days of elevated fire danger due to hot and windy conditions. The design, specification, construction, and operational procedures all need to consider the risks posed by fire caused by powerlines.

The following risks must be considered in the EIS:

- *Risk of bushfire from the operation of the project, including from infrastructure failure or clash of conductors.*
- Bushfire safety in design. How has the project been designed and specified, and how will the project be maintained, to reduce the risk of failure or other incident causing fire?
- *Risk to health of firefighters. Please consider the risk of injury/death to firefighters performing fire suppression under or near overhead conductors (including in conditions of thick smoke).*
- How will the lines be inspected and maintained to reduce the risk of line failure of conductor clash causing a fire?

General comments

- 13. Site investigations prior to construction (and ideally during approval process) should include surveys for Matters of National Environmental Significance during appropriate survey periods, relative to the values being surveyed.
- 14. The EIS will need to make a commitment to regular checking and reporting on compliance measures as well as compliance with PCS and EPSDD best practice standards and immediate rectification of breaches.
- 15. The proponent must consider impacts from the removal of the existing powerlines. The report currently considers the removal of the existing powerlines as a positive environmental outcome and partly uses it to justify the realignment of the powerlines outside one conservation area and into another that arguably contains more values. This justification is not support by evidence.
- 16. The original impacts to the environment caused by the construction of the current alignment have already largely occurred. The works involved in the removal of the infrastructure will only contribute further to the whole of life impacts of the current alignment. The proponent must present all realignment options, including keeping the existing alignment or undergrounding the alignment though the future development area. This could be presented in a cost benefit analysis, which considers environmental, heritage, social and financial cost and benefits etc.
- 17. The EIS should also outline any commitments to the long-term rehabilitation of the decommissioned powerlines.

A5. Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water

The department has considered the information and the following comments:

- The department understands the proposal area traverses the NSW and ACT border and the Application is for the ACT portion only, as the land in NSW is not subject to the ACT planning framework. The department notes that the NSW portion will be assessed under the NSW Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 (EP&A Act) and the applicant intends to refer the proposal to the Commonwealth under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Act 1999 (EPBC Act) following consideration under the ACT and NSW processes. The department recommends the applicant ensures they are aware of their obligations under the EPBC Act prior to making a referral under the EPBC Act.
- The department notes the Application does not consider potential impacts that may arise from the removal of the existing transmission lines and towers. The department requests that these potential impacts, including temporary impacts, are identified and discussed in the Environment

Impact Statement.

A6. Icon Water

- 1. These works shall require Building Approval from Icon Water, this approval is separate to and additional to, approval of the Environmental Impact Statement.
- 2. Reference to the risk of induced currents or earth rise potential risks has not been detailed in the submitted documents, please update the documents to include this. The new route appears to cross buried water and/or sewer mains, as a result the safety impact of an electrical fault on the lines to personnel working at Icon Water's nearby Lower Molonglo Water Control Centre (LMWCC) need to be quantified and mitigated if necessary. The safety impact of an electrical fault in relation to buried water and/or sewer pipes needs to be assessed along the entire length of the new transmission line, not just around LMWCC.

Please note, Icon Water is aware of work done previously by TransGrid when they constructed the new 330kV substation near the LMWCC which resulted in some changes to the infrastructure at LMWCC at the time to address the electric shock risk. This work may provide some assistance in fulfilling the above requirements.

A7. Transport Canberra and City Services

The EIS scoping document has been reviewed by TCCS and following are comments for consideration:

- The proposal spans across TCCS assets including road networks. Appropriate measures and clearance requirements will need to be demonstrated during any Development Application (DA) or post DA process.
- Any impacts to existing Trees within road reserves must be discussed with TCCS prior to or during the DA proposal.
- Given access would be required from the existing road network including Stockdill Drive, Uriarra Road and Fairlight Road, a traffic management plan will be required during the DA.
- A construction management plan will be requested during the DA process to ensure there are no adverse impacts to TCCS assets, public assets or their operation.
- Any asset handover to TCCS will need to be discussed with TCCS prior to any DA lodgement for the proposal.

A8. Utilities Technical Regulation

- 1. The Utilities Technical Regulation (UTR) charter under the UTR Act includes:
 - ensure the safe, reliable, and efficient delivery of regulated utility services
 - promote the long-term serviceability of regulated utility networks and services
 - promote design integrity and functionality of regulated utility networks
 - ensure the safe and reliable operation and maintenance of regulated utility networks.

Although the proposed project has only been described as "330 kV Transmission Line Realignment", the project in fact also includes a change of electrical network configuration due to the reconnection of one of the transmission lines to a different TransGrid Substation, and may also include other connection changes within substations. This change can potentially affect the long-term electrical supply capacity available to the ACT under certain contingency event situations, and must therefore be included in the EIS Scoping Document for impact assessment.

Accordingly, the following information is required for a loss of substation contingency event:

- (a) For Loss of Canberra substation event, what is the electrical supply capacity immediately available to the ACT
 - I. Before the proposed Line reconfiguration

- *II.* After the proposed Line reconfiguration
- (b) For Loss of Stockdill substation event, what is the electrical supply capacity immediately available to the ACT
 - *I.* Before the proposed Line reconfiguration
 - *II.* After the proposed Line reconfiguration
- (c) For Loss of Williamsdale substation event, what is the electrical supply capacity immediately available to the ACT
 - I. Before the proposed Line reconfiguration
 - *II. After the proposed Line reconfiguration*
- 2. Provide the electrical rating for each of the two relocated lines.
- 3. The Umwelt project outline report does not include the removal of existing buried earth conductors associated with Towers that will be removed.
- 4. EMF assessment to be undertaken for Normal & Maximum load conditions, and for Maximum Line rating, for compliance with ARPANSA limits.
- 5. Sound level and electrical interference assessment to be undertaken for Corona discharge, and the line designed so that ACT noise level requirements and electrical interference limits are met at edge of easement.
- 6. Detailed assessment to be undertaken for possible excessive voltages due to Electromagnetic Induction/Low Frequency Induction (EMI/LFI) and Earth Potential Rise (EPR) and associated Step & Touch voltages, on nearby metallic infrastructure such as fences, telecommunication infrastructure, pipelines, streetlight poles due to transferred voltages from the MEN earthing system, etc. Some relevant standards would include AS/NZS 4853, AS EG0 and AS EG1. Mitigation measures to be identified if allowable limits are exceeded.

Upon completion of the construction phase, the line commissioning phase should include overall verification of design hazard mitigation for EMI and EPR of nearby metallic infrastructure through low voltage current injection testing as undertaken on other similar projects as this has revealed hazard locations not identified during the design phase.

Attachment B

GLOSSARY

Development application (DA): Application for development as defined under the PD Act.

Environment: As defined under the *Planning and Development Act 2007* (the PD Act), each of the following is part of the environment:

- (a) the soil, atmosphere, water and other parts of the earth;
- (b) organic and inorganic matter;
- (c) living organisms;
- (d) structures, and areas, that are manufactured or modified;
- (e) ecosystems and parts of ecosystems, including people and communities;
- (f) qualities and characteristics of areas that contribute to their biological diversity, ecological integrity, scientific value, heritage value and amenity;
- (g) interactions and interdependencies within and between the things mentioned in paragraphs (a) to (f);
- (h) social, aesthetic, cultural and economic characteristics that affect, or are affected by, the things mentioned in paragraphs (a) to (f).

Environmental Impact Statement (EIS): As defined under the PD Act.

EPBC Act: Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Commonwealth)

Impact Track: An assessment track that applies to a development proposal defined under the PD Act, section 123.

Long term: Greater than 15 years duration.

PD Act: Planning and Development Act 2007 (ACT)

Scoping: The process of identifying the matters that are to be addressed by an EIS in relation to the development proposal - see the PD Act, Section 212 (2).

short term: Zero to three (3) years duration.