

Public record pursuant to s. 39 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*

Proposal title: Burrup Common User Transmission Infrastructure

Proposal location: Murujuga (Burrup Peninsula), east of the Dampier township, Western Australia

EO number: APP-0000116

Date referral received: 10-11-2022

Date more information received: 7-8-2023

Referrer: Regional Power Corporation (Trading as Horizon Power)

Proponent: Regional Power Corporation (Trading as Horizon Power)

Potential significant effects:

There are potential impacts on: flora and vegetation from the clearing of up to 14.41 ha of native vegetation (including up to 2.50 ha of riparian vegetation and up to 1.5 ha of vegetation located within tidal inlet); terrestrial fauna from the clearing of habitat and disturbance; social surroundings from potential direct and indirect impacts to aboriginal cultural heritage.

Public comment on referral information:

Do not assess: 0

Assess: Public environmental review 4

Total submissions: 4

Decision: s. 38G(1) – Not Assess

Referral Examined, preliminary investigations and inquiries conducted. Proposal not to be assessed under Part IV of the EP Act – Public advice given.

Explanation of decision:

The EPA considers that the likely environmental effects of the proposal are not so significant as to warrant formal assessment.

Potential impacts to social surroundings, known and unknown Aboriginal cultural heritage, within and outside the development envelope will be avoided. The proponent has designated ‘avoidance zones’ which are informed by Aboriginal cultural heritage surveys and there will be engagement of aboriginal heritage monitors, through the Murujuga Aboriginal Corporation (MAC), during clearing activities. The development envelope is partly impacted by historical disturbance and clearing, and largely situated adjacent to existing services and linear infrastructure. A Construction Environmental Management Plan and Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management Plan (developed in consultation with the MAC), will be employed during construction phases of the proposal.

There are also potential impacts from clearing and construction on flora and vegetation and terrestrial fauna. The potential impacts have been minimised by locating the proposal in close proximity to existing linear infrastructure and designating ‘avoidance zones’ in the development envelope. The EPA notes there are other statutory processes relevant to this proposal that can mitigate potential impacts from the Proposal, including a clearing permit under Part V Division 2 (Clearing) of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*.

It is noted that Matters of national significance, including listed threatened species and communities, listed migratory species and national heritage places by Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water, are being assessed as a controlled

action under section 75 of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*.

Appeals: This decision is appealable. Appeals close 4-9-2023. Appeals are administered by the Office of the Appeals Convenor.

Public advice:

The EPA notes the proponent's early development of the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management Plan and supports the ongoing development and finalisation of the plan in consultation with the MAC to ensure that there are no adverse impacts to Aboriginal culture and heritage.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'MAT TONTS', with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

Prof. Matthew Tonts

CHAIR

Delegate of the Environmental Protection Authority

Date:9 August 2023