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TOWN PLANNING REPORT: REMOVAL OF VEGETATION

SUPPLY TO DIAPUR WIND FARM
APRIL 2021

PREPARED FOR POWERCOR AUSTRALIA

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Acknowledgements and Recognition

Diapur Site Assessment, EcoAerial Environmental Services (19 April 2021)

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1. INTRODUCTION

This report has been prepared by Spiire Australia Pty Ltd on behalf of Powercor Australia Ltd in support of a planning permit application for the removal of vegetation associated with powerline upgrade works required to connect the Diapur Wind Farm to the existing electricity network.

The project will comprise approximately 17 kilometres of new and upgraded powerlines between the Diapur Wind Farm and Nhill. The works will result in the consequential removal of native and non-native vegetation to facilitate the installation of new poles.

Powercor is committed to providing an electricity network that is safe and reliable while minimising any impact on the environment. Powercor has undertaken numerous infrastructure projects across Victoria with minimal or no vegetation, environmental or community impact.

The purpose of this report is to:

- ▶ Provide an overview of the subject site and surrounding area;
- ▶ Outline a written description of the proposal;
- ▶ Identify the relevant planning controls, policies and decision guidelines within the Hindmarsh Planning Scheme; and
- ▶ Provide an analysis of the proposal against all relevant planning requirements.

This report is accompanied by and should be read in conjunction with the following documents:

- ▶ Town Planning Drawings prepared by Spiire (dated 19 April 2021) at Appendix A;
- ▶ Ecological Assessment Report prepared by EcoAerial Environmental Services (dated 19 April 2021) at Appendix B;
- ▶ Construction Plans prepared by Powercor Australia (PCA80 6042539) at Appendix C; and
- ▶ Pre-Application Advice from the DELWP Grampians Region (dated 9 April 2021) at Appendix D.

1.1 PROJECT SYNOPSIS

The following table provides an overview of the proposed development.

Table 1: Development Overview

Project Synopsis		
Property Address	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Nhill-Diapur Road (Road Reserve) ▶ Allotment 172 on PP3554 ▶ Allotment 27B on PP3554 	
Planning Controls	Planning Scheme	Hindmarsh Planning Scheme
	Zones	Road Zone, Category 1 (RDZ1)
		Farming Zone (FZ)

Project Synopsis

	Overlays	Environmental Significance Overlay – Schedules 5 & 6 (ESO5 & ES6)
		Vegetation Protection Overlay – Schedules 1 & 2 (VPO1 & VPO2)
		Bushfire Management Overlay (BMO)
Proposal		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Removal of 5.2m² of native vegetation (including 0.4m² in the ESO6 and 1.2m² in the VPO2) ▶ Removal of 6m² of dead native vegetation in the ESO5 & DELWP Wetland Overlay ▶ Removal of 0.8m² of non-native vegetation in the ESO6
Permit Triggers	Clause 42.01-2	To remove, destroy or lop any vegetation, including dead vegetation within the ESO5 & ESO6
	Clause 42.02-1	To remove, destroy or lop native vegetation within the VPO2
	Clause 52.17-1	To remove, destroy or lop native vegetation, including dead native vegetation
Area of Cultural Heritage Sensitivity		Yes – CHMP not required

1.2 PROJECT OVERVIEW

The project involves new and replacement powerline works between the Diapur Wind Farm and Nhill. The proposed works will increase the carrying capacity of the existing electrical alignment and provide new infrastructure to accommodate the additional energy supply generated by the Diapur Wind Farm.

Planning approval is required for the removal of native and non-native vegetation associated with the powerline works. The overall impact to vegetation comprises 5.2m² of native vegetation (including 0.4m² in the ESO6 and 1.2m² in the VPO2), 6m² of dead native vegetation in the ESO5 and DELWP Wetland Overlay and 0.8m² of non-native vegetation in the ESO6.

The remainder of the works associated with the project are exempt from planning permission pursuant to Clause 62.01 and Clause 62.02-1 of the Hindmarsh Planning Scheme.

1.3 AMENDMENT VC157 AND PERMIT EXEMPTIONS

It is acknowledged that the project is associated with an 'Energy Generation Facility' (being the Diapur Wind Farm). In accordance with Amendment VC157, which was gazetted on 15 March 2019, powerlines associated with 'Energy Generation Facilities' are defined as a 'Utility Installation' and typically require planning approval.

Pursuant to Clause 62.01 and Clause 62.02-1, the following exemptions apply:

- ▶ *The use of land for power lines and electrical sub-stations associated with an energy generation facility or geothermal energy extraction if a permit was issued for such use or development prior to the approval date of Amendment VC157; and*
- ▶ *Power lines and electrical sub-stations associated with an Energy generation facility or Geothermal energy extraction if a permit was issued for such use or development prior to the approval date of Amendment VC157 (construction or carrying out of works).*

Planning Permit PA1700251 was issued for the Diapur Wind Farm on 21 August 2018 and preceded the approval of Amendment VC157. Accordingly, a planning permit is not required for the use or development of the land for a Utility Installation.

It is further noted that advice has been obtained from the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) confirming that subsequent amendments to the Planning Permit on 20 April 2020 and 6 October 2020 do not impact on the ability for the above exemptions to be utilised.

It is acknowledged that the above exemptions do not apply to any vegetation removal associated with the project. Accordingly, this application seeks approval for the vegetation removal required to facilitate the upgrade works.

2. APPLICATION AREA

The project comprises approximately 17 kilometres of new and replacement powerline works required to connect the Diapur Wind Farm to the existing electricity network.

The works comprise:

- ▶ Replacement of approximately 13 kilometres of overhead conductor, including new and replacement poles, along Nhill-Yanac Road and Nhill-Diapur Road; and
- ▶ Installation of approximately 3.5 kilometres of new overhead conductor and new poles between Nhill-Diapur Road and the Diapur Wind Farm at 219 Lawloit-Diapur Road.

The alignment is located wholly within Hindmarsh Shire and is subject to the requirements of the Hindmarsh Planning Scheme.

The location of the project alignment is illustrated in Figure 1. The replacement works are shown as a solid red line and the section of new works is shown as a dashed red line.



Figure 1: Locality Plan

The proposed vegetation removal is located within Nhill-Diapur Road and Allotments 27B and 172 on Parish Plan 3554. This is illustrated in the attached Town Planning Drawings (Appendix A) and Ecological Assessment Report (Appendix B).

3. PROPOSAL

This planning permit application seeks approval for the removal of vegetation to facilitate works associated with the Diapur Wind Farm connection. The works will require the consequential removal of native and non-native vegetation to facilitate the installation of new power poles.

This description of the proposal should be read in conjunction with the following documents:

- ▶ Town Planning Drawings prepared by Spiire (dated 19 April 2021) at Appendix A;
- ▶ Ecological Assessment Report prepared by EcoAerial Environmental Services (dated 19 April 2021) at Appendix B;
- ▶ Construction Plans prepared by Powercor Australia (PCA80 6042539) at Appendix C; and
- ▶ Pre-Application Advice from the DELWP Grampians Region (dated 9 April 2021) at Appendix D.

The proposal involves the removal of native and non-native vegetation comprising:

- ▶ Removal of 5.2m² of native vegetation for the installation of 13 new poles (Pole 41A, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 65A, 66 and 135). This includes:
 - Removal of 0.4m² of native vegetation in the ESO6 (Pole 135); and
 - Removal of 1.2m² of native vegetation in the VPO2 (Pole 65A, 66 and 135).
- ▶ Removal of 6m² of dead native vegetation (regrowth) in the ESO5 & DELWP Wetland Overlay for access to Pole 124.
- ▶ Removal of 0.8m² of non-native vegetation in the ESO6 for the installation of 2 new poles (Pole 110A and 115).

The specific details of the proposed vegetation removal are set out in Table 2 below.

Table 2: Proposed Vegetation Removal

Type	Species	Removal Amount	Associated Works	Permit Requirements
Native Vegetation	Native Grasses	5.2m ²	Installation of 13 poles (Poles 41A, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 65A, 66 & 135)	Yes – Clause 52.17, ESO6 (Pole 135 only) & VPO2 (Poles 65A, 66 & 135 only)
Dead Native Vegetation	Dead Lignum	6m ²	Access to Pole 124	Yes – Clause 52.17 & ESO5
Non-Native Vegetation	Oats, Quacking Grass and Veldt Grass	0.8m ²	Installation of 2 poles (Poles 110A & 115)	Yes – ESO6
Non-Native Vegetation	Crop Stubble	11.6m ²	Installation of 29 Poles (Poles 1-29)	Exempt under ESO6 (Planted Vegetation)

This planning permit application relates only to the removal of vegetation. The remainder of the works associated with the project are exempt from planning permission pursuant to Clause 62.01 and Clause 62.02-1 of the Hindmarsh Planning Scheme.

A detailed design process was undertaken to avoid impacts to vegetation within the project alignment. This involved an ecologist assessing the proposed pole locations and access requirements and making recommendations to avoid and minimise impacts where possible. The proposed removal of vegetation is required for sections of the alignment where the micro-siting of poles was not possible.

Mitigation strategies will be implemented during construction to ensure the project works do not require the removal or destruction of any additional vegetation. A discussion of the construction technique/methodology is provided at Section 3.1 below.

3.1 CONSTRUCTION TECHNIQUE/METHODOLOGY

Powercor's construction technique/methodology enables works to occur with minimum disturbance to existing biodiversity. A description of the proposed methodology and examples of previous works conducted by Powercor is provided below:

- ▶ Poles will be accessed via trucks parked on the existing road easement pavement / verge or existing access tracks. The construction methodology will then involve an arm reaching from the parked truck to the pole location to auger a hole. Another arm will then put the pole into place (refer to Photographs 1, 2, 3 and 4 below which illustrate the typical construction methodology).
- ▶ Where the trucks need to get closer, or drive off the road pavement, bog mats will be used to ensure any vegetation is not impacted.

It is noted that Powercor will utilise existing access tracks along Nhill-Diapur Road which are located under the existing electrical alignment. Some native grasses have re-established on these access tracks during periods of limited use. Pre-application advice was sought from the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) Grampians Region which confirmed the use of these existing tracks will not impact on native grasses (refer to Appendix D). Accordingly, it was determined the required vehicle access is exempt from planning approval.

Further recommendations to minimise impacts during construction activities are contained within the Ecological Assessment Report attached at Appendix B. These recommendations include:

- ▶ *Vehicles are to remain on existing access tracks or roads.*
- ▶ *Avoid working in wet conditions to minimise disturbance.*
- ▶ *If required to work in wet conditions, bog mats are to be used.*
- ▶ *Pole 61 to be accessed from the west i.e., from Pole 62.*
- ▶ *Vehicles should not be parked on existing access track for long periods.*
- ▶ *A map provided by the ecologist showing access tracks and laydown areas is to be included in Construction Management Plan.*
- ▶ *Use of access track should be limited to the minimum vehicle movements required.*

Provided these construction techniques are implemented, it is considered the proposed works will have minimal impact to vegetation. The above procedures will be outlined in the Construction Environment Management Plan (CEMP) for the project to ensure compliance.



Photograph 1 – Example of a hole being augured via an arm from truck (note in this example the roadside vegetation was deemed to be non-native, hence the truck parking slightly on the verge and the other truck in the background)



Photograph 2 – Example of a hole being augured via an arm from truck (note in this example the roadside vegetation was deemed to be native in places and fencing was erected to prevent the truck from entering the road shoulder)



Photograph 3 – Example of a pole being installed via truck crane



Photograph 4 – Example of contractors working on a new or replacement installation (note the truck is still in the road carriageway)

4. PLANNING POLICY FRAMEWORK

The purpose of this section is to provide a summary of the relevant planning controls and provisions contained within the Hindmarsh Planning Scheme.

The proposal triggers the requirement for a planning permit for the following:

- ▶ To remove, destroy or lop any vegetation, including dead vegetation, within the ESO5 & ESO6 pursuant to Clause 42.01-2;
- ▶ To remove, destroy or lop native vegetation within the VPO2 pursuant to Clause 42.02-1; and
- ▶ To remove, destroy or lop native vegetation, including dead native vegetation, pursuant to Clause 52.17-1.

4.1 STATE AND LOCAL PLANNING POLICY

The following State and Local planning policies contained within the Hindmarsh Planning Scheme are considered relevant to the proposal:

- ▶ Clause 12.01 – Biodiversity
- ▶ Clause 12.03 – Water Bodies and Wetlands
- ▶ Clause 12.05 – Significant Environments and Landscapes
- ▶ Clause 15.02-1S – Energy and Resource Efficiency
- ▶ Clause 15.03-2S – Aboriginal Cultural Heritage
- ▶ Clause 19.01-1S – Energy Supply
- ▶ Clause 19.01-2S – Renewable Energy
- ▶ Clause 19.01-2R – Renewable Energy – Wimmera Southern Mallee
- ▶ Clause 21.03-4 – Environment
- ▶ Clause 21.03-9 – Infrastructure
- ▶ Clause 21.03-10 – Flora & Fauna

The components of these policies relevant to the project are summarised as follows:

- ▶ *To assist the protection and conservation of Victoria's biodiversity (Clause 12.01-1S);*
- ▶ *To ensure that there is no net loss to biodiversity as a result of the removal, destruction or lopping of native vegetation (Clause 12.01-2S);*
- ▶ *Protect the environmental, cultural and landscape values of all water bodies and wetlands (Clause 12.03-1S);*
- ▶ *To protect and enhance significant landscapes and open spaces that contribute to character, identity and sustainable environments (Clause 12.05-2S);*
- ▶ *To encourage land use and development that is energy and resource efficient, supports a cooler environment and minimises greenhouse gas emissions (Clause 15.02-1S);*
- ▶ *To ensure the protection and conservation of places of Aboriginal cultural heritage significance (Clause 15.03-2S);*
- ▶ *To facilitate appropriate development of energy supply infrastructure (Clause 19.01-1S);*

- ▶ *To promote the provision of renewable energy in a manner that ensures appropriate siting and design considerations are met (Clause 19.01-2S).*
- ▶ *Support the development of locally generated renewable energy, including bioenergy clusters (Clause 19.01-2R).*
- ▶ *To facilitate the sustainable development of the Shire through careful management of its physiographic features (Clause 21.03-4).*
- ▶ *To provide infrastructure services to meet the needs of the community in a cost-effective manner (Clause 21.03-9).*
- ▶ *To identify, protect, conserve and enhance significant ecological communities hosting native flora and fauna (Clause 21.03-10).*

4.2 ZONING

The project alignment is located within the following zones:

- ▶ Farming Zone (FZ); and
- ▶ Road Zone, Category 1 (RDZ1).

The zones affecting the project alignment are illustrated in Figure 2.

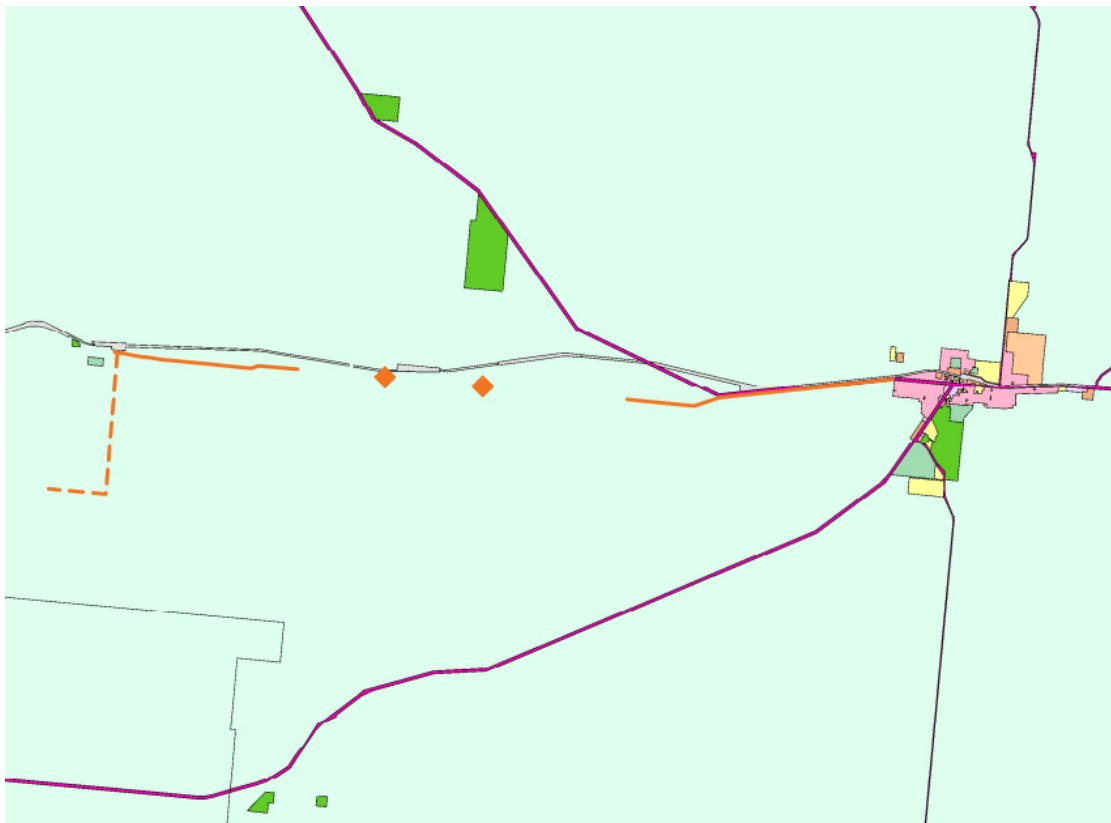


Figure 2: Zoning Map

A description of each zone is outlined on the following page.

4.2.1 FARMING ZONE (FZ)

The purpose of the FZ is:

- ▶ *To implement the Municipal Planning Strategy and the Planning Policy Framework.*
- ▶ *To provide for the use of land for agriculture.*
- ▶ *To encourage the retention of productive agricultural land.*
- ▶ *To ensure that non-agricultural uses, including dwellings, do not adversely affect the use of land for agriculture.*
- ▶ *To encourage the retention of employment and population to support rural communities.*
- ▶ *To encourage use and development of land based on comprehensive and sustainable land management practices and infrastructure provision.*
- ▶ *To provide for the use and development of land for the specific purposes identified in a schedule to this zone.*

Pursuant to Clause 62.01 and Clause 62.02-1 of the Hindmarsh Planning Scheme, a planning permit is not required to use the land or construct or carry out works associated with a 'Utility Installation' within the FZ, when directly associated with an 'Energy Generation Facility' which was approved prior to the 15 March 2019.

Accordingly, a planning permit is not required for the use or development of the project within the FZ. The relevant exemption provisions are explained in further detail at Section 4.5.1 of this report.

4.2.2 ROAD ZONE CATEGORY 1 (RDZ1)

The purpose of the RDZ1 is:

- ▶ *To implement the Municipal Planning Strategy and the Planning Policy Framework.*
- ▶ *To identify significant existing roads.*
- ▶ *To identify land which has been acquired for a significant proposed road.*

Pursuant to Clause 62.01 and Clause 62.02-1 of the Hindmarsh Planning Scheme, a planning permit is not required to use the land or construct or carry out works associated with a 'Utility Installation' within the RDZ1, where directly associated with an 'Energy Generation Facility' which was approved prior to the 15 March 2019.

Accordingly, a planning permit is not required for the use or development of the project within the RDZ1. The relevant exemption provisions are explained in further detail at Section 4.5.1 of this report.

4.3 OVERLAYS

The project alignment is affected by the following overlays:

- ▶ Environmental Significance Overlay – Schedules 5 and 6 (ESO5 and ESO6);
- ▶ Vegetation Protection Overlay – Schedules 1 and 2 (VPO1 and VPO2); and
- ▶ Bushfire Management Overlay.

A description of each overlay is outlined on the following pages.

4.3.1 ENVIRONMENTAL SIGNIFICANCE OVERLAY – SCHEDULES 5 & 6 (ESO5 & ESO6)

The purpose of the ESO is:

- ▶ *To implement the Municipal Planning Strategy and the Planning Policy Framework.*
- ▶ *To identify areas where the development of land may be affected by environmental constraints.*
- ▶ *To ensure that development is compatible with identified environmental values.*

A small section of the works located on Nhill-Diapur Road (between Rogers Road and Pikers Road) is located within the Environmental Significance Overlay – Schedule 5 (ESO5). A large portion of the works are located within the Environmental Significance Overlay – Schedule 6 (ESO6).

The location of the works in relation to the ESO is shown in Figure 3.

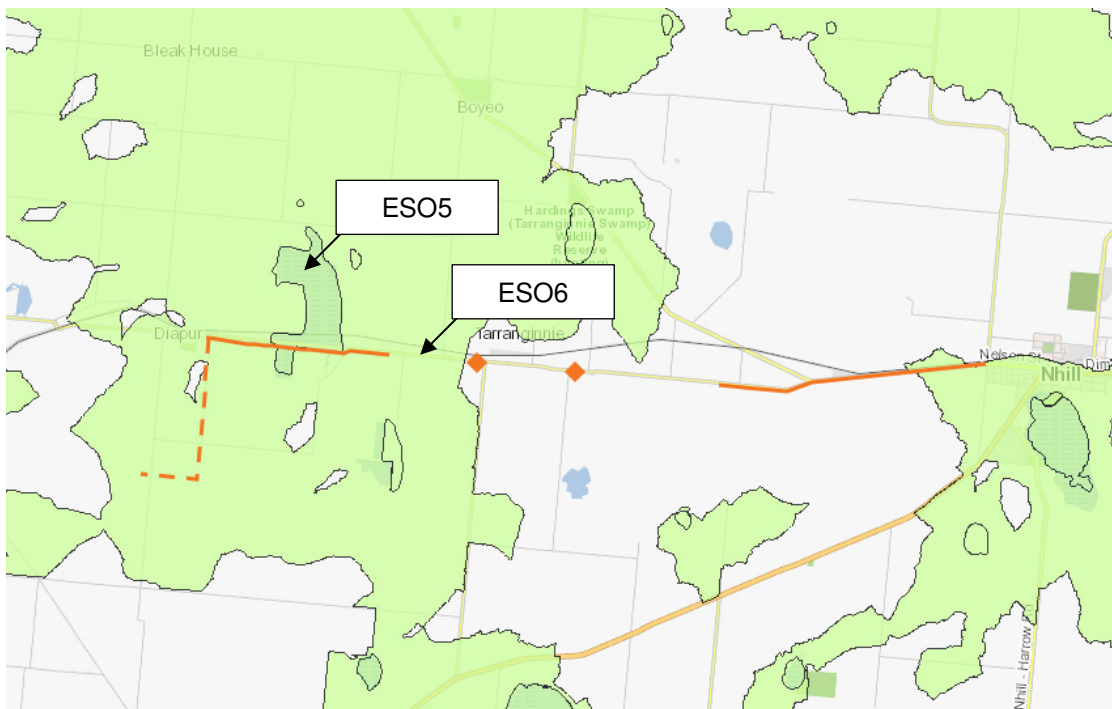


Figure 3: Environmental Significance Overlay

The use and development of the land does not require a planning permit under the provisions of the ESO, pursuant to the exemption provisions set out in Clauses 62.01 and 62.02-1.

Pursuant to Clause 42.01-2, a planning permit is required to remove, destroy or lop any vegetation, including dead vegetation within the ESO, unless otherwise specified in a schedule to the overlay.

A description of the relevant schedules and permit triggers are provided as follows:

4.3.1.1 Schedule 5 to the ESO

Schedule 5 to the ESO relates to 'Wetlands of Conservation Value'.

A planning permit is required to remove, destroy or lop any vegetation within the ESO5.

The proposal involves the removal of 6m² of dead native vegetation within the ESO5 and will therefore trigger a planning permit under the provisions of this overlay.

Council must consider the Decision Guidelines contained in Clause 42.01 and the Incorporated Document '*Shire of Hindmarsh, Wetlands and Catchments of Conservation Value (WCMA 2007)*' Decision Guidelines. An assessment against these decision guidelines is provided at Section 5.2.2 of this report.

Pursuant to Clause 66.04, the application must be referred to the Wimmera Catchment Management Authority as a recommending referral authority.

4.3.1.2 Schedule 6 to the ESO

Schedule 6 to the ESO relates to '*Catchments of Wetlands of Conservation Value*'.

A planning permit is required to remove, destroy or lop any vegetation within the ESO6.

The proposal involves the removal of 0.4m² of native vegetation and 0.8m² of non-native vegetation within the ESO6 and will therefore trigger a planning permit under the provisions of this overlay.

Council must consider the Decision Guidelines contained in Clause 42.01 and the Incorporated Document '*Shire of Hindmarsh, Wetlands and Catchments of Conservation Value (WCMA 2007)*' Decision Guidelines. An assessment against these decision guidelines is provided at Section 5.2.2 of this report.

Pursuant to Clause 66.04, the application must be referred to the Wimmera Catchment Management Authority as a recommending referral authority.

It is acknowledged that Table of Exemptions set out at Clause 42.01-3 includes an exemption for 'Planted Vegetation' comprising '*Vegetation that is to be removed, destroyed or lopped that was either planted or grown as a result of direct seeding for crop raising or grazing animal production*'. The works involve the removal of crop stubble within pastured paddocks which fall within this exemption. Further details are contained within the Ecological Assessment Report at Appendix B.

4.3.2 VEGETATION PROTECTION OVERLAY – SCHEDULES 1 & 2 (VPO1 & VPO2)

The purpose of the VPO is:

- ▶ *To implement the Municipal Planning Strategy and the Planning Policy Framework.*
- ▶ *To protect areas of significant vegetation.*
- ▶ *To ensure that development minimises loss of vegetation. To preserve existing trees and other vegetation.*
- ▶ *To recognise vegetation protection areas as locations of special significance, natural beauty, interest and importance.*
- ▶ *To maintain and enhance habitat and habitat corridors for indigenous fauna.*
- ▶ *To encourage the regeneration of native vegetation.*

A small section of the works on Lawloit-Diapur Road are located within the Vegetation Protection Overlay – Schedule 1 (VPO1). The works along Nhill-Diapur Road are located within the Vegetation Protection Overlay – Schedule 2 (VPO2).

The location of the works in relation to the VPO is shown in Figure 4.

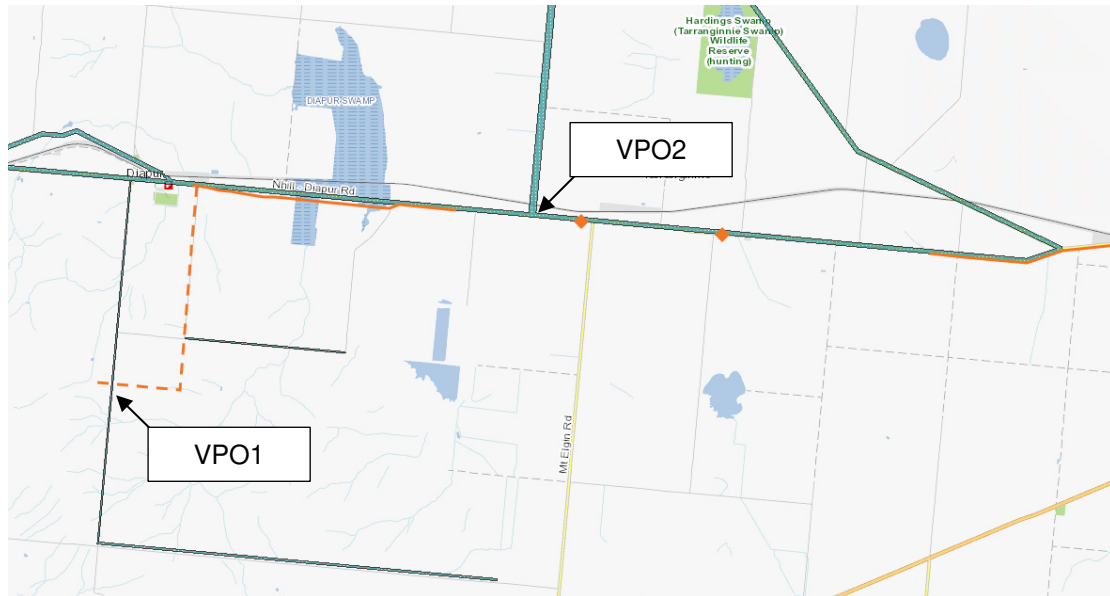


Figure 4: Vegetation Protection Overlay

The use and development of the land does not require a planning permit under the provisions of the VPO, pursuant to the exemption provisions set out in Clauses 62.01 and 62.02-1.

Pursuant to Clause 42.02-2, a planning permit is required to remove, destroy or lop any vegetation specified in a schedule to the VPO.

A description of the relevant schedules and permit triggers are provided as follows:

4.3.2.1 Schedule 1 to the VPO

Schedule 1 to the VPO relates to '*Jumping Jack Wattle – Roadside Protection and Conservation*'.

A planning permit is required to remove, destroy or lop Jumping Jack Wattle and other indigenous vegetation where such vegetation occurs along roadsides within the VPO1.

The proposal does not involve the removal of any vegetation specified under the VPO1 and therefore will not trigger a planning permit under the provisions of this overlay.

4.3.2.2 Schedule 2 to the VPO

Schedule 2 to the VPO relates to '*Biolink Corridor – Roadside Protection and Conservation*'.

A planning permit is required to remove, destroy or lop native vegetation in the VPO2.

The proposal involves the removal of 1.2m² of native vegetation within the VPO2 and will therefore trigger a planning permit under the provisions of this overlay.

An application for this purpose should:

- ▶ *Specify the reason why the vegetation concerned should be removed, destroyed or lopped.*
- ▶ *Demonstrate that the need for removal, destruction or lopping of the vegetation concerned has been reduced to the maximum extent that is reasonable and practicable.*
- ▶ *Specify revegetation proposals.*

A response to the above permit requirements has been provided at Section 5.2.3 of this report.

4.3.3 BUSHFIRE MANAGEMENT OVERLAY

The purpose of the BMO is:

- ▶ *To implement the Municipal Planning Strategy and the Planning Policy Framework.*
- ▶ *To ensure that the development of land prioritises the protection of human life and strengthens community resilience to bushfire.*
- ▶ *To identify areas where the bushfire hazard warrants bushfire protection measures to be implemented.*
- ▶ *To ensure development is only permitted where the risk to life and property from bushfire can be reduced to an acceptable level.*

The use and development of the land does not require a planning permit under the provisions of the BMO, pursuant to the exemption provisions set out in Clauses 62.01 and 62.02-1.

The location of the works in relation to the BMO is illustrated in Figure 5.

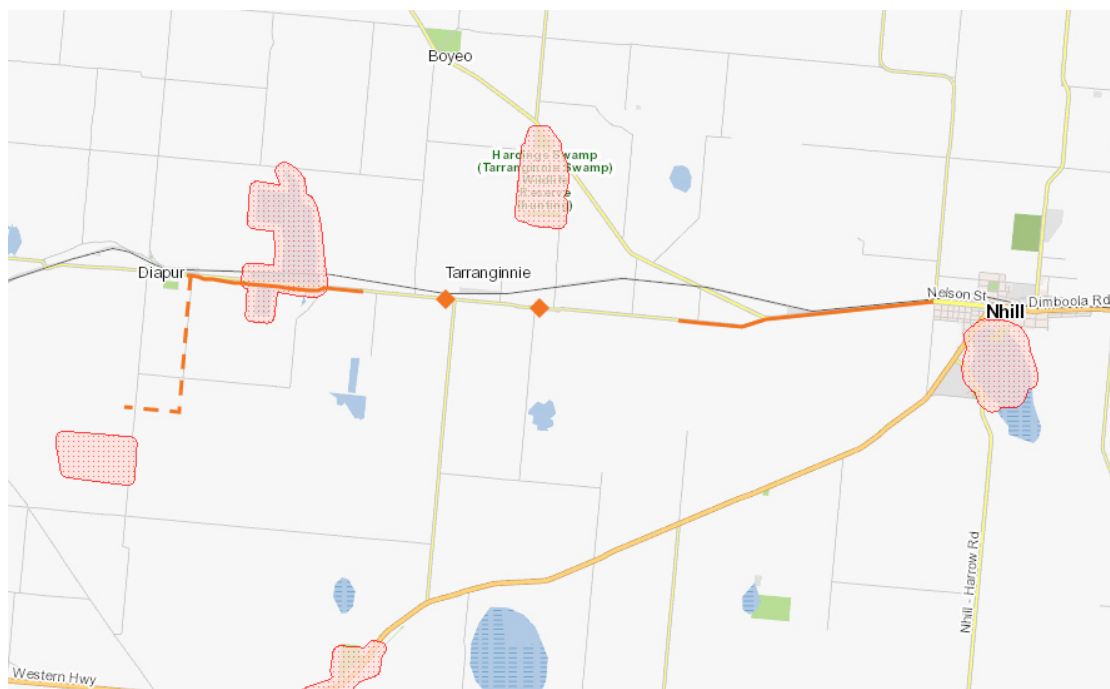


Figure 5: Bushfire Management Overlay

4.4 PARTICULAR AND GENERAL PROVISIONS

4.4.1 CLAUSE 52.17 – NATIVE VEGETATION

The purpose of Clause 52.17 is:

- ▶ *To ensure that there is no net loss to biodiversity as a result of the removal, destruction or lopping of native vegetation. This is achieved by applying the following three step approach in accordance with the Guidelines for the removal, destruction or lopping of native vegetation (Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning, 2017) (the Guidelines):*
 1. *Avoid the removal, destruction or lopping of native vegetation.*
 2. *Minimise impacts from the removal, destruction or lopping of native vegetation that cannot be avoided.*
 3. *Provide an offset to compensate for the biodiversity impact if a permit is granted to remove, destroy or lop native vegetation; and*
- ▶ *To manage the removal, destruction or lopping of native vegetation to minimise land and water degradation.*

Pursuant to Clause 52.17-1 of the Hindmarsh Planning Scheme, a planning permit is required to remove, destroy or lop native vegetation, including dead native vegetation.

The Ecological Assessment Report prepared by EcoAerial (refer to Appendix B) confirms that the proposed works will require the removal of 5.2m² of native vegetation and 6m² of dead native vegetation (within the DELWP Wetlands Overlay) to allow for the installation of new poles. Accordingly, a planning permit is required under the provisions of Clause 52.17-1.

It is noted that the Table of Exemptions at Clause 52.17-7 includes an exemption for the following:

Regrowth

- ▶ An exemption applies to the removal of native vegetation that has naturally established or regenerated on land lawfully cleared of naturally established native vegetation and is less than 10 years old.
- ▶ Powercor will utilise existing access tracks along Nhill-Diapur Road which are located under the existing electrical alignment. Some native grasses have re-established on these access tracks during periods of limited use.
- ▶ Pre-application advice from DELWP has confirmed that the use of these existing tracks for access to undertake the works falls within the regrowth exemption and will not require planning approval (refer to Appendix D).
- ▶ The exemption provisions for regrowth do not apply to the installation of new poles along this section of existing alignment, where this vegetation will need to be permanently removed.

On the basis of the above, the approval requirements under Clause 52.17-1 are limited to the removal of 5.2m² of native vegetation and 6m² of dead native vegetation (within the DELWP Wetlands Overlay).

4.5 GENERAL PROVISIONS

4.5.1 CLAUSE 62 – GENERAL EXEMPTIONS

Clause 62 sets out general exemptions for specific uses and development which does not typically require a planning permit.

Pursuant to Clause 62.01 and Clause 62.02-1 of the Hindmarsh Planning Scheme, a planning permit is not required for:

- ▶ *The use of land for power lines and electrical sub-stations associated with an energy generation facility or geothermal energy extraction if a permit was issued for such use or development prior to the approval date of Amendment VC157; and*
- ▶ *Power lines and electrical sub-stations associated with an Energy generation facility or Geothermal energy extraction if a permit was issued for such use or development prior to the approval date of Amendment VC157 (construction or carrying out of works).*

The proposed works are directly associated with an 'Energy Generation Facility' (Diapur Wind Farm) and are therefore defined as a 'Utility Installation' pursuant to Clause 73.03.

A planning permit was issued for the Diapur Wind Farm (Permit No: PA1700251) on 21 August 2018, prior to the gazettal of Amendment VC157 on 15 March 2019. It is acknowledged that the permit was subsequently amended on 20 April 2020 and 6 October 2020, however advice from DELWP has confirmed the exemption provisions relate to the date of the original permit. Accordingly, the use and development of the land for the purposes of a 'Utility Installation' can rely on the exemption provisions contained within Clause 62.01 and Clause 62.02-1.

On the above basis, this application relates only to the removal of vegetation pursuant to the requirements of the ESO5, ESO6, VPO2 and Clause 52.17-1.

4.6 OPERATIONAL PROVISIONS

4.6.1 CLAUSE 72.01 – RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITY FOR THIS PLANNING SCHEME

Pursuant to Clause 72.01-1, the Minister for Planning is the responsible authority for planning permit applications relating to the use and development of the land for a:

- ▶ *Utility installation used to store, transmit or distribute electricity generated by a renewable energy facility with an installed capacity of 1 megawatt or greater.*

This application will be submitted to the Minister for Planning (via DELWP) as the relevant responsible authority.

4.7 CULTURAL HERITAGE

The project is located within an area of Aboriginal cultural heritage sensitivity (see Figure 6).

Pursuant to the *Aboriginal Heritage Regulations 2018*, the construction or carrying out of works on land is not a high impact activity if it is for, or associated with, a purpose listed under sub regulation (1)(b) for which the land was being lawfully used immediately before 28 May 2007.

In this instance, the works within mapped areas of Aboriginal cultural heritage sensitivity comprise upgrades to an existing electrical alignment which was established prior to 28 May 200y (approximate age 56 years).

Accordingly, the preparation of a mandatory Cultural Heritage Management Plan (CHMP) is not required in this instance.

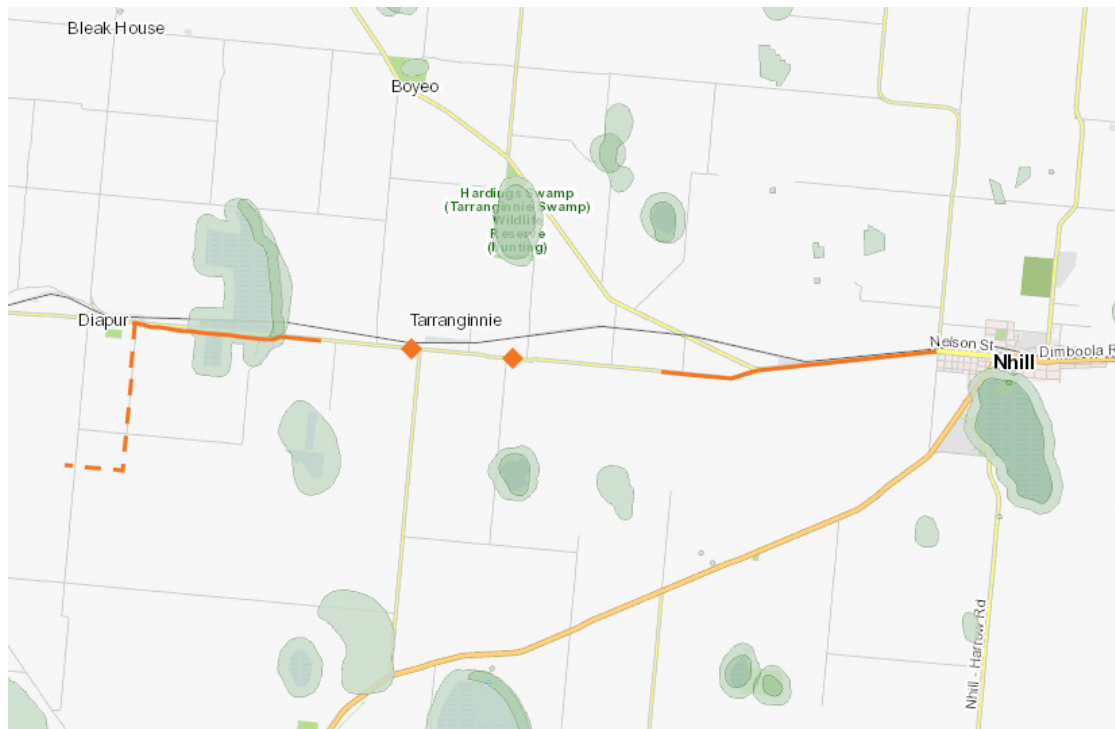


Figure 6: Areas of Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Sensitivity

5. PLANNING ASSESSMENT

5.1 STATE AND LOCAL PLANNING POLICY

The State Planning Policy Framework (PPF) and Local Planning Policy Framework (LPPF), specifically Clauses 12, 15, 19 and 21 identify the need to ensure the efficient and sustainable provision of services and infrastructure while considering potential environmental and cultural heritage impacts.

This project will provide necessary electrical infrastructure upgrades within Hindmarsh Shire and will directly support the renewable energy industry. The project is required to ensure the existing electricity network can accommodate the increased power supply generated by the Diapur Wind Farm and will allow for the distribution of this power to the region. This is expected to provide a net community benefit to the surrounding community and promote sustainable development outcomes.

Where possible, the project has utilised an existing electrical alignment to minimise the visual impact of the infrastructure within the surrounding farmland. In addition, existing pole locations have been utilised where possible to avoid and minimise impacts to vegetation.

A detailed design process was undertaken to minimise impacts to vegetation within the project alignment. This involved an ecologist assessing the proposed pole locations and access requirements and making recommendations to avoid impacts where possible. The proposed removal of vegetation is required for sections of the alignment where the micro-siting of poles was not possible. Any environmental and cultural heritage impacts have been appropriately considered and minimised through the strategic siting of the works and mitigation strategies which will be implemented during construction.

Overall, it is considered that this proposal complies with the PPF and LPPF by delivering sensitively designed electrical upgrades that provide a net community benefit.

5.2 REMOVAL OF VEGETATION

The proposal involves the removal of native and non-native vegetation to facilitate works associated with a 'Utility Installation'.

An Ecological Assessment Report has been prepared by EcoAerial (Appendix B). This assessment confirms the proposal will require the removal of native and non-native vegetation. The total impact to vegetation comprises 5.2m² of native vegetation (including 0.4m² in the ESO6 and 1.2m² in the VPO2), 6m² of dead native vegetation in the ESO5 and DELWP Wetland Overlay and 0.8m² of non-native vegetation in the ESO6. The overall impact is considered to be extremely minor and will not impact on the ecological condition of the wider landscape.

The design process for the alignment included site assessments with the project engineers and ecologist to determine the most appropriate location for new poles and vehicle access to minimise the impact on the environment. During this process, recommendations were made to micro-site poles and plan construction activities to avoid areas of native vegetation. The resulting alignment has avoided and minimised impacts to vegetation where possible.

Mitigation strategies will be implemented to ensure the project works do not require the removal or destruction of any additional native vegetation. The proposed works will comply with the recommendations set out in the Ecological Assessment Report (Appendix B) and these requirements will be outlined in the Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) for the project.

5.2.1 CLAUSE 52.17

The works require the removal of 5.2m² of native vegetation and 6m² of dead native vegetation (in the DELWP Wetlands Overlay) under the provisions of Clause 52.17. This is considered to be to the minimum extent necessary to undertake the works.

In accordance with the attached Ecological Assessment Report (Appendix B), it is considered the proposal accords with the provisions of Clause 52.17 as follows:

- ▶ The works have been designed and located to avoid and minimise impacts to native vegetation within the project area;
- ▶ The project area is predominantly located within the road reserve and is highly modified as a result of weeds, cultivation and planting of crops;
- ▶ The proposed works will minimise impacts to any threatened or protected ecological communities and flora and fauna species;
- ▶ The alignment has been designed based on the recommendations from EcoAerial and there are no feasible opportunities to further avoid or minimise impacts to vegetation; and
- ▶ The proposed loss of native vegetation triggers the need for offsets which will be secured as a condition on the planning permit.

On the basis of the above, it is considered that the proposal will appropriately avoid and minimise any impacts to native vegetation. It is therefore considered that the proposed removal of vegetation accords with the provisions of Clause 52.17-1.

5.2.2 ENVIRONMENTAL SIGNIFICANCE OVERLAY – SCHEDULE 5 & 6

The works require the removal of 6m² of dead native vegetation in ESO5, and the removal 0.4m² of native vegetation and 0.8m² of non-native vegetation in the ESO6. This is considered to be to the minimum extent necessary to undertake the works.

In accordance with the attached Ecological Assessment Report (Appendix B), it is considered the proposal accords with the provisions of the ESO5 and ESO6 as follows:

- ▶ The works have been designed and located to avoid and minimise impacts to vegetation which contribute to the conservation value of the wetlands;
- ▶ The extent of removal of native and non-native vegetation is extremely minor and does not include any significant species;
- ▶ The extent of removal of dead native vegetation is extremely minor and comprises regrowth on an existing access track;
- ▶ The application aligns with the Decision Guidelines of the Incorporated Document *Shire of Hindmarsh, Wetlands and Catchments of Conservation Value (WCMA 2007)*; and
- ▶ The application will be referred to the WCMA as part of the assessment process for comment.

The proposal has been assessed against the relevant Decision Guidelines of the Incorporated Document as follows:

Table 3: Decision Guidelines *Shire of Hindmarsh, Wetlands and Catchments of Conservation Value*

Number	Criteria	Response
ESO5 Criteria		
33	There should be no removal of indigenous flora. Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act (1988) objectives and Action Statements for species recorded on the site must be met by any proposal for use and development.	Complies: The proposal will not result in the removal of any flora species listed under the FFG Act 1988. Buloke is not present in the sections of the alignment where works are proposed.
34	There should be no removal of habitat for native fauna. Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act (1988) objectives and Action Statements for species recorded on the site must be met by any proposal for use and development.	Complies: The proposal will not result in the removal of any species listed under the FFG Act 1988. This includes habitat for native fauna.
35	There should be no removal native vegetation within a Ramsar site.	Complies: No vegetation removal is proposed within a Ramsar site.
36	The removal of native vegetation from the wetland should not degrade the ecological condition of the wetland.	Complies: The removal 6m ² of dead native vegetation will not degrade the ecological condition of the wetland.
37	There should be no removal of native vegetation from areas listed on the Directory of Important Wetlands.	Complies: No significant vegetation will be removed from areas listed on the Directory of Important Wetlands.
38	The removal of native vegetation from the wetland should not degrade the ecological condition of the wetland.	<i>Duplication of Criteria No. 36 above.</i>
39	There should be no removal of native vegetation from a Wildlife Reserve.	Complies: No vegetation removal is proposed within a Wildlife Reserve.
40	The removal of native vegetation from the wetland should not degrade the ecological condition of the wetland.	Complies: The vegetation removal comprises dead regrowth on an existing access track which does not contribute to the ecological condition of the wetland).
ESO6 Criteria		
87 – 93	Vegetation removal should not degrade the ecological condition of areas covered by ESO 5. Vegetation within ESO 6 plays a number of different roles depending on the proximity of the vegetated land to the high value wetland.	Complies: The removal of 0.4m ² of native vegetation and 0.8m ² of non-native vegetation is not considered to have the potential to degrade the ecological condition of the land or impact on the role of the ESO6 in the function of the wetland.

On the basis of the above, it is considered that the proposal will appropriately avoid and minimise any impacts to vegetation which contributes to the ecological significance of wetlands. It is therefore considered that the proposed removal of vegetation accords with the provisions of the ESO5 and ESO6.

5.2.3 VEGETATION PROTECTION OVERLAY – SCHEDULE 2

The works require the removal of 1.2m² of native vegetation under the provisions of the VPO2, which is considered to be to the minimum extent necessary to undertake the works.

In accordance with the attached Ecological Assessment Report (Appendix B), it is considered the proposal accords with the provisions of the VPO2 as follows:

- ▶ The works have been designed and located to avoid and minimise impacts to native roadside vegetation within the project area;
- ▶ The proposed works will minimise impacts to any rare, threatened or locally uncommon plants within the Biolink Corridor between Big and Little Deserts. This includes any areas of revegetation associated with the Biolink Project;
- ▶ The proposed works will maintain the significance and connectivity of the Biolink Corridor;
- ▶ The alignment has been designed based on the recommendations from EcoAerial and there are no feasible opportunities to further avoid or minimise impacts to vegetation; and
- ▶ The minor extent of vegetation removal is not considered to trigger the need for replacement planting.

On the basis of the above, it is considered that the proposal will appropriately avoid and minimise any impacts to native vegetation contributing to the significance of the Biolink Corridor. It is therefore considered that the proposed removal of vegetation accords with the provisions of the VPO2.

6. CONCLUSION

This application seeks planning approval for the removal of native and non-native vegetation required to connect the Diapur Wind Farm to the existing electricity network.

The vegetation removal is required as a consequence of new and replacement powerline works between the Diapur Wind Farm and Nhill. The proposed works will increase the carrying capacity of the existing electrical alignment and provide new infrastructure to accommodate the additional supply generated by the Wind Farm.

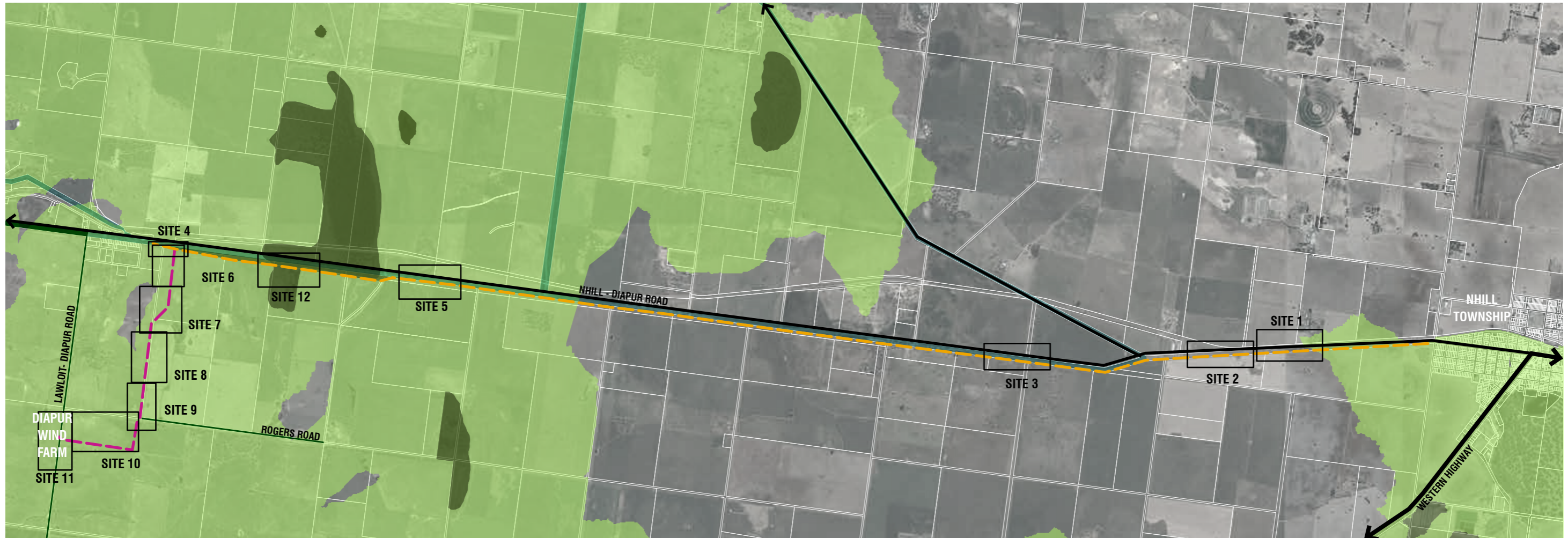
In summary, the proposal is appropriate for the following reasons:

- ▶ The proposal is consistent with the PPF and LPPF and will provide necessary electrical infrastructure upgrades to facilitate the development of the Diapur Wind Farm;
- ▶ This project will directly support the renewable energy industry within Hindmarsh Shire and will allow for the distribution of this power to the surrounding region;
- ▶ The proposed works have been designed and located to avoid and minimise the impact on the environment and the removal of native vegetation;
- ▶ The proposal will not impact on any vegetation which contributes to the ecological significance of wetlands in accordance the provisions of the ESO5 and ESO6;
- ▶ The proposal will not impact on any native vegetation contributing to the significance of the Biolink Corridor in accordance with the provisions of the VPO2;
- ▶ Powercor's construction methodology allows for minimal disturbance to biodiversity and mitigation strategies will be implemented to ensure no additional vegetation will be impacted;
- ▶ Native vegetation offsets will be obtained as a condition of the planning permit; and
- ▶ The proposed works will not impact on an areas of Aboriginal cultural heritage sensitivity.

Based on the details set out in this report, it is considered that a planning permit should be issued for this proposal.



APPENDIX A
TOWN PLANNING DRAWINGS



LEGEND

- Site Area Locations
- Major Roads Backbone Works Upgrade Existing Line (New And Replacement Poles)
- New Overhead Works
- Vegetation Protection Overlay - Schedule 1
- Vegetation Protection Overlay - Schedule 2
- Environmental Significant Overlay - Schedule 5
- Environmental Significant Overlay - Schedule 6

LIMITATION OF PLAN

This document is indicative only and not for marketing purposes without permission. Data has been collated from <https://www.data.vic.gov.au/> and other publicly accessible information.

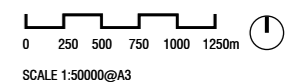
This plan has been based on MGA 1994 Zone54 Co-ordinates.

Layout is based on City Power Drawing No. PCA80 5126918 1-5. Aerial imagery is sourced from Autocad Civil 3D maps and is approximate in location.






Vegetation removal is based on Eco Aerial Environmental Services 'Diapur site Assessment' Report.

**DIAPUR WIND FARM PROJECT
OVERALL PROJECT PLAN**

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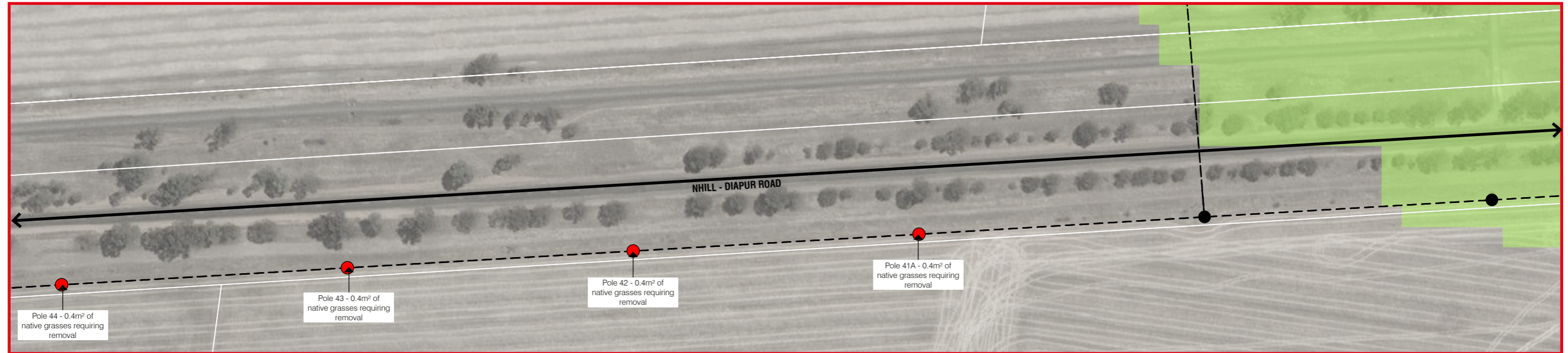


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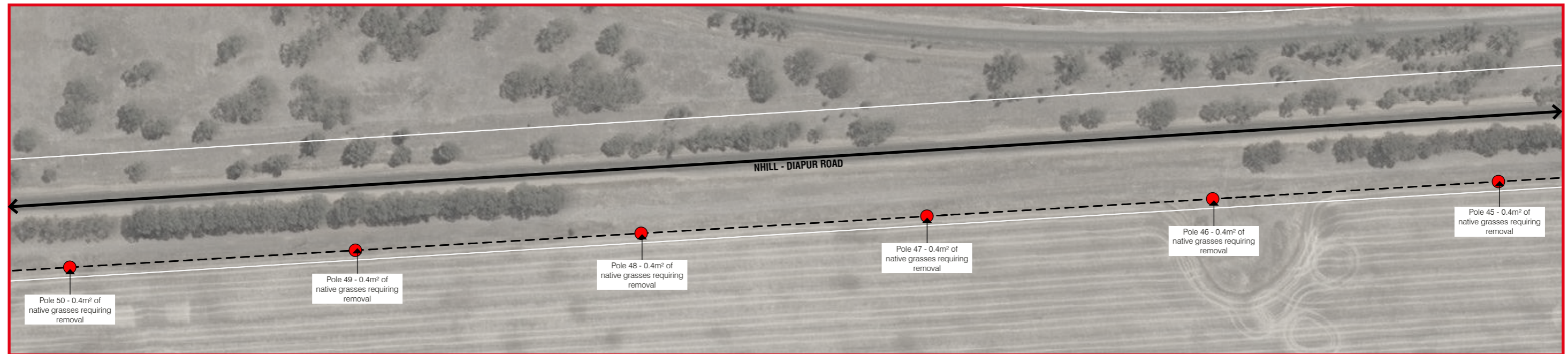
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-  Overhead Works
-  Power Poles
-  Power Poles Triggering Vegetation Removal
-  Environmental Significant Overlay - Schedule 6



SITE 1



SITE 2



DIAPUR WIND FARM PROJECT
NATIVE VEGETATION REMOVAL

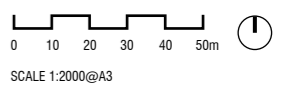
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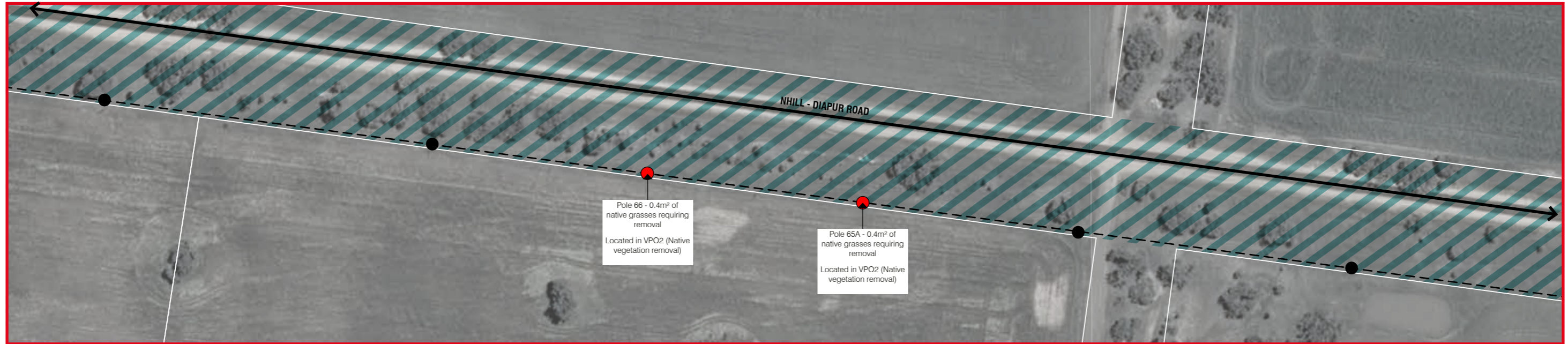


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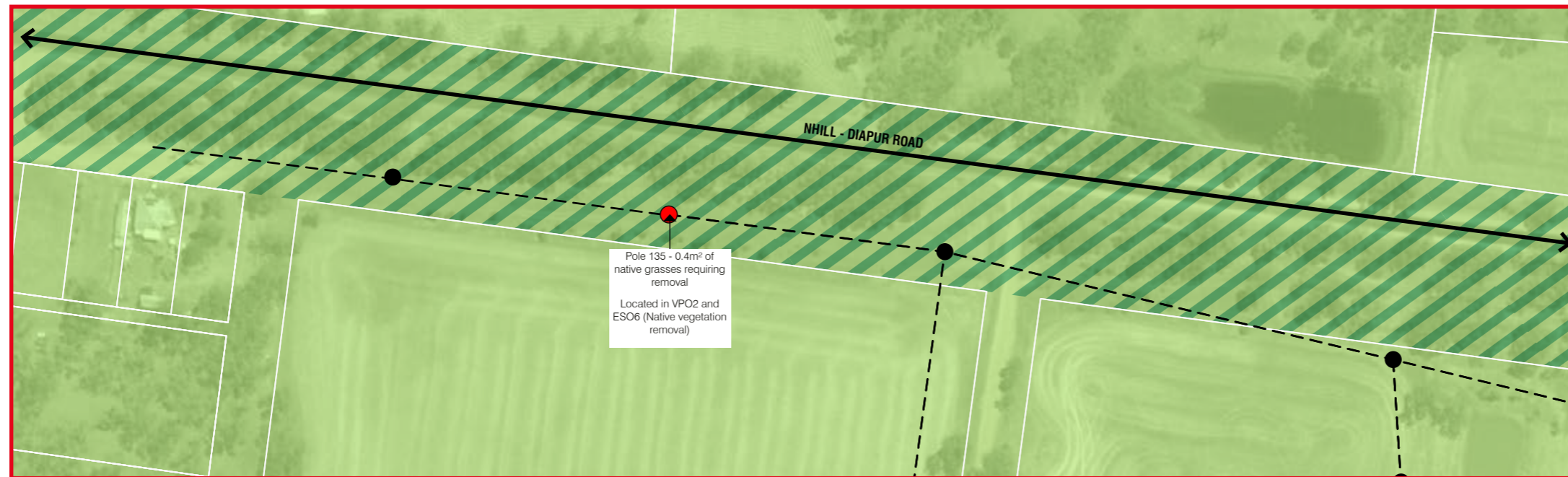
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-  Power Poles
-  Power Poles Triggering Vegetation Removal
-  Vegetation Protection Overlay - Schedule 2
-  Environmental Significant Overlay - Schedule 6



SITE 3

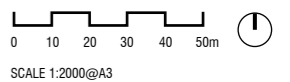


SITE 4



DIAPUR WIND FARM PROJECT
NATIVE VEGETATION REMOVAL

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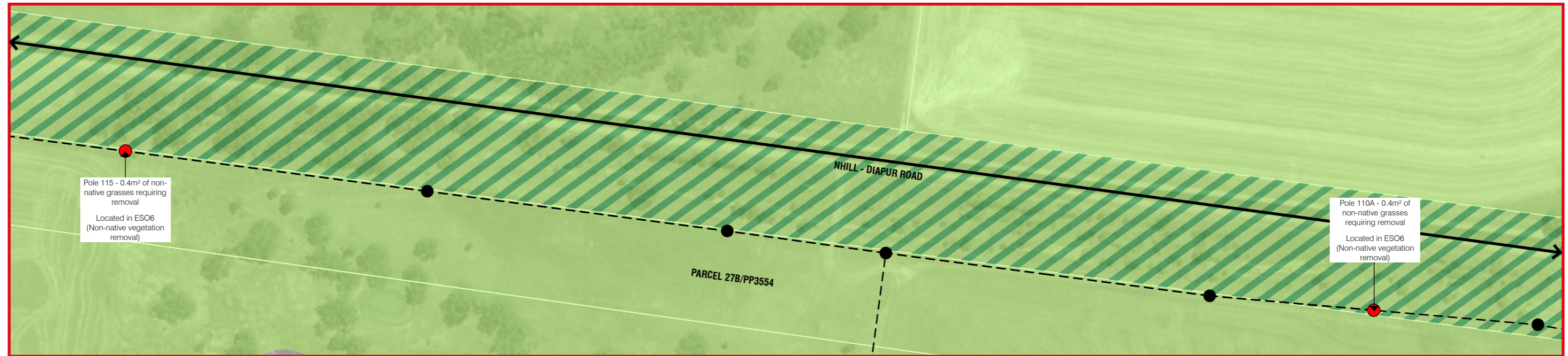


LEGEND

-  Major Roads
-  Overhead Works
-  Power Poles
-  Power Poles Triggering Vegetation Removal
-  Vegetation Protection Overlay - Schedule 2
-  Environmental Significant Overlay - Schedule 6



SITE 5



DIAPUR WIND FARM PROJECT
NON-NATIVE VEGETATION REMOVAL

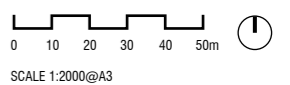
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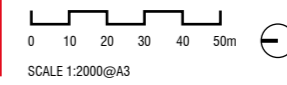
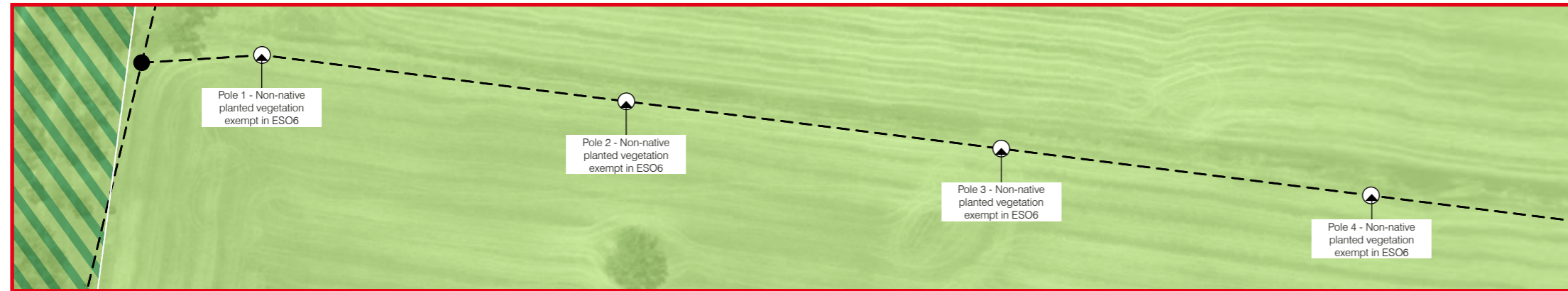


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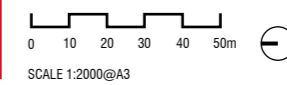
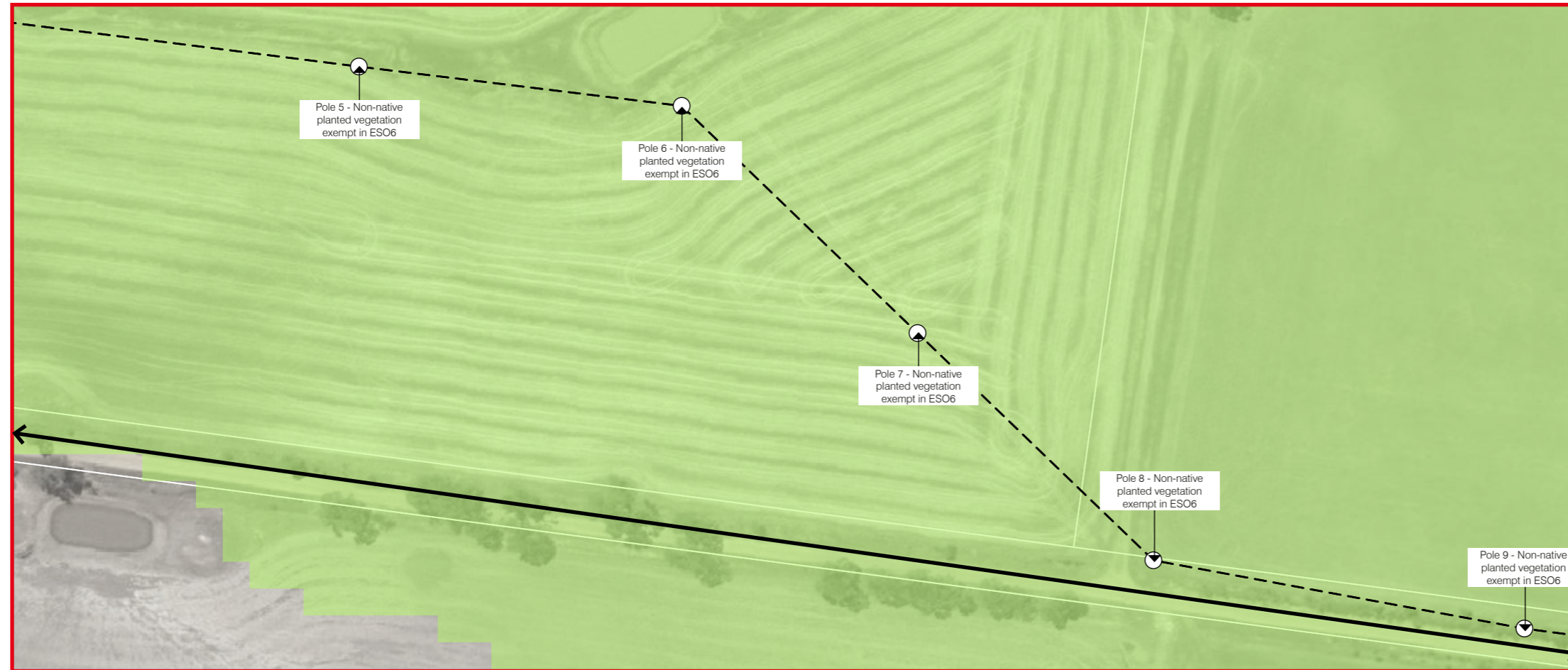
-  Major Roads
-  Overhead Works
-  Power Poles Triggering Vegetation Removal (Exempt From Planning Permit)
-  Vegetation Protection Overlay - Schedule 2
-  Environmental Significant Overlay - Schedule 6



SITE 6



SITE 7







**DIAPUR WIND FARM PROJECT
NON-NATIVE VEGETATION REMOVAL**

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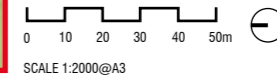
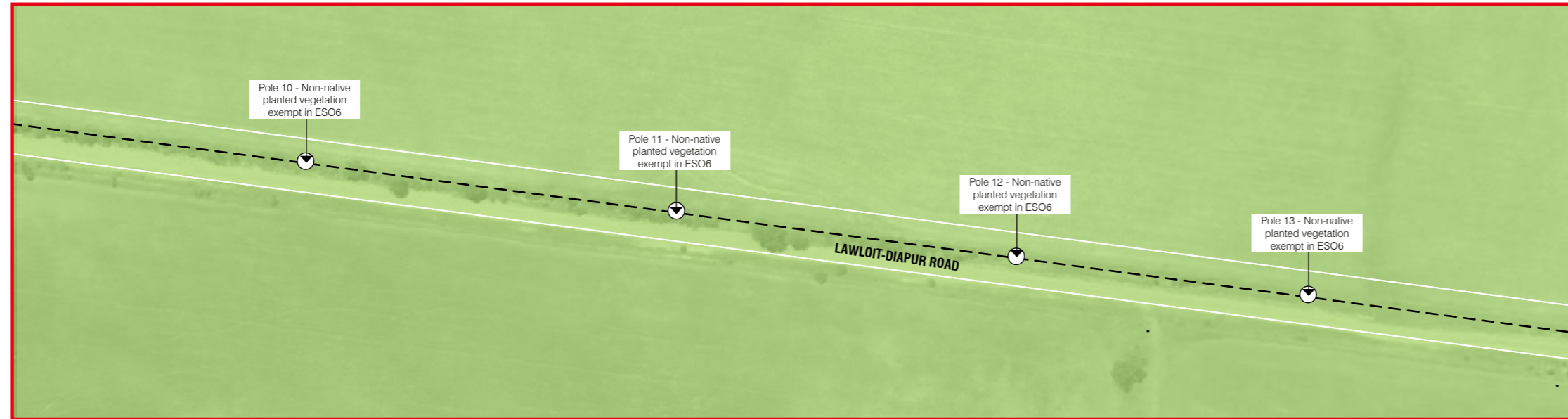
LEGEND

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-  Overhead Works
-  Power Poles Triggering Vegetation Removal (Exempt From Planning Permit)
-  Vegetation Protection Overlay - Schedule 1
-  Environmental Significant Overlay - Schedule 6

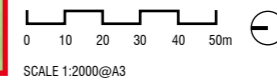


KEY PLAN

SITE 8



SITE 9







DIAPUR WIND FARM PROJECT
NON-NATIVE VEGETATION REMOVAL

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LEGEND

-  Major Roads
-  Overhead Works
-  Power Poles Triggering Vegetation Removal (Exempt From Planning Permit)
-  Environmental Significant Overlay - Schedule 6



KEY PLAN

SITE 10



DIAPUR WIND FARM PROJECT
NON-NATIVE VEGETATION REMOVAL

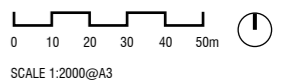
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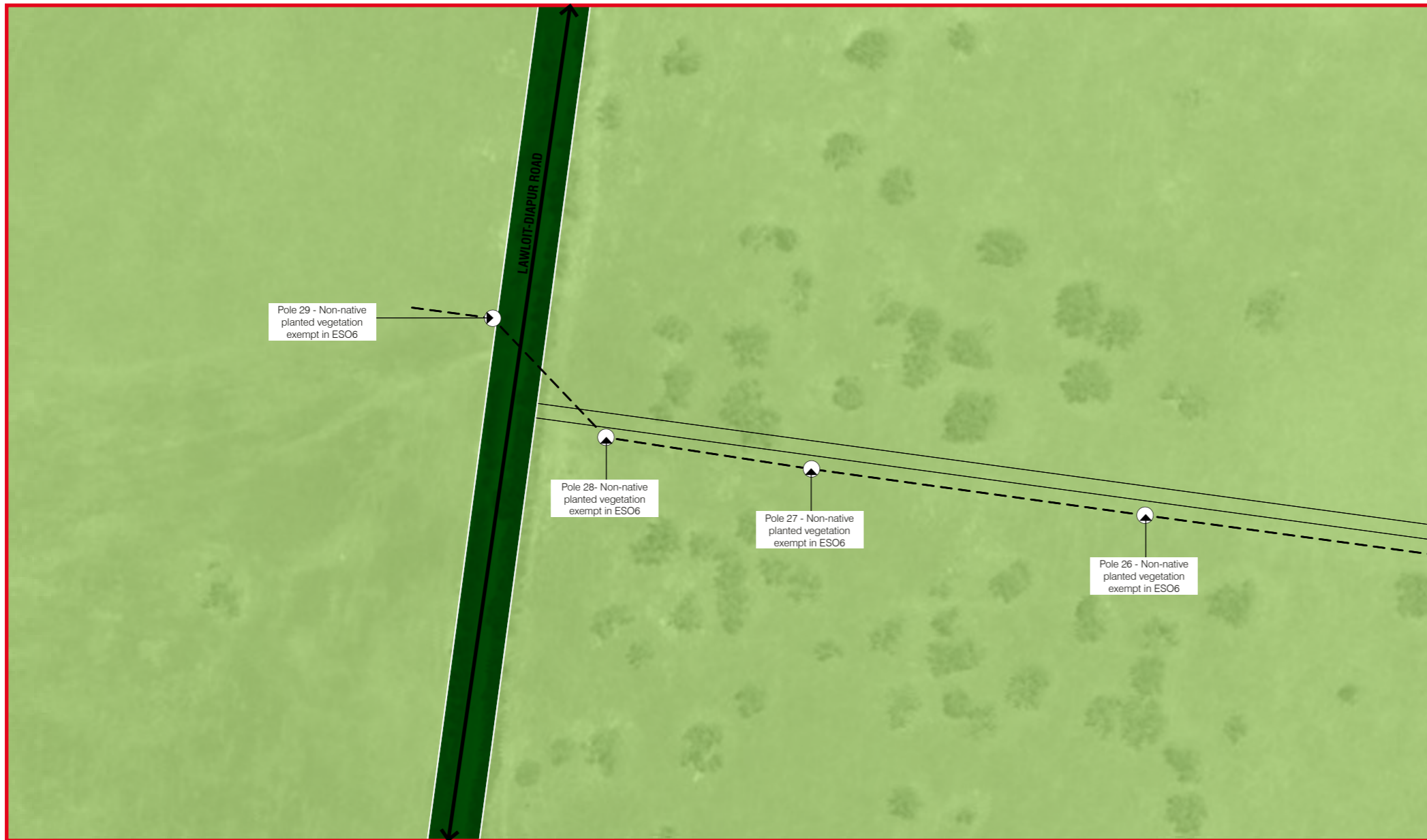
LEGEND

-  Major Roads
-  Overhead Works
-  Power Poles Triggering Vegetation Removal (Exempt From Planning Permit)
-  Vegetation Protection Overlay - Schedule 1
-  Environmental Significant Overlay - Schedule 6



KEY PLAN

SITE 11



DIAPUR WIND FARM PROJECT
NON-NATIVE VEGETATION REMOVAL

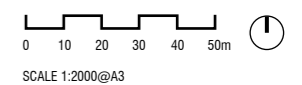
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19/04/2021

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LEGEND

-  Major Roads
-  Overhead Works
-  Power Poles
-  Power Poles Triggering Vegetation Removal
-  Vegetation Protection Overlay - Schedule 2
-  Environmental Significant Overlay - Schedule 5
-  Environmental Significant Overlay - Schedule 6



KEY PLAN

SITE 12



DIAPUR WIND FARM PROJECT
VEGETATION REMOVAL FOR ACCESS

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APPENDIX B
ECOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT REPORT

Diapur Site Assessment

STUDY AREA NAME: Diapur Wind Farm		Date: 19/4/2021
BIOREGION	Wimmera	
LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA	Hindmarsh Shire	
Catchment Management Area	Wimmera CMA	
SUMMARY / COMMENTS		
Summary of findings and recommendations	<p>Summary</p> <p>The proposal involves upgrade powerline works to connect the Diapur Wind Farm, located on Lawloit-Diapur Road, to the existing electricity network. The works entails the upgrade of approximately 13 kilometres of overhead conductor, including new and replacement poles, along Nhill-Yanac Road and Nhill-Diapur Road and, installation of approximately 3.5 kilometres of new overhead conductor and 30 new poles between Nhill-Diapur Road and the Diapur Wind Farm (refer to Figures 1~6).</p> <p>The works require access to approx. 7.1km of the existing distribution line on the Nhill-Diapur road reserve. The works will entail the replacement of 25 existing poles and installation of 14 new poles within the powerline easement of the road reserve. The remainder of the works are located on private land in paddocks.</p> <p>Ten ecological vegetation classes (EVCs) were modelled to occur within 1km of the proposed alignment (refer to Figures 1~6). The modelled distribution is for the main part correct however the modelled extent shown was greater than that observed during the site assessment.</p> <p>The works along the Nhill – Diapur Road reserve are within an existing powerline easement and along a maintenance access track where native grasses have re-established. It was deemed that the native grasses have naturally established or regenerated on land lawfully cleared of naturally established vegetation and is less than 10-years old, and that the proposed vehicle access will not impact on the existing grasses. This is based on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Native grasses are typically perennial, (living 2-years or more) they form a dry tussock over autumn after dropping their seeds before re-establishing again over the spring/ summer.</i> • <i>Native grasses are known to establish on disturbed areas quickly due to an existing seed bank and can be blown in from adjacent remnant patches. This scenario is evident on many of the Rural Roads Victoria road base laydown areas where native grasses are colonising when there has been no activity for a year or two.</i> • <i>Native grasses such as spear grass and wallaby grass are known to colonise disturbed areas very quickly on tracks where vehicles drive to perform line inspections, maintenance and line upgrades every few years.</i> • <i>The timing and site conditions of the proposed works can minimise disturbance. A powerline project I was involved with in western Victoria in 2016 were undertaken in Autumn during dry ground</i> 	

conditions. There was no sign of vehicle movements the following spring / summer.

- *It's my view that the naturalisation of native grasses on powerlines access tracks and easements does not constitute the removal or destruction of native vegetation as defined under 52.17. My experience is that native grasses establish again very quickly after powerline works are completed.*

On this basis, the works are exempt from requiring a planning permit under Clause 52.17. Further advice was sought from DELWP's Natural Environment Programs – Grampians Office (Falk, B. 2012, pers comm., 9 April) who confirmed that the regrowth clause could be applied in this instance.

Whilst the native grasses present on the maintenance track are considered regrowth and not subject to Clause 52.17, a precautionary approach has been undertaken for native grasses located between the property fenceline and the maintenance track where new poles are to be installed. The new poles; 41A, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 65A, 66 and 135 will remove approx. 5.2^{2m}, of native grasses triggering a planning permit under Clause 52.17.

The removal 1.2^{2m} of native vegetation for new poles at Pole 65A and 66, 135 are also within the Vegetation Protection Overlay Schedule 2.

The installation of new poles will also trigger a planning permit in the Environmental Significance Overlay Schedule 6 (ESO) for Poles 110A, Pole 115 and Pole 135. Poles 110A and 115 entails the removal of 0.8^{2m} of non-native vegetation. Pole 135 will entail the removal 0.4^{2m} of native vegetation. Poles P1~P29 will entail the removal of crop stubble / pasture, there is an exemption under the ESO for the removal of sown / planted crops.

A planning permit is also required under the ESO 5 and Clause 52.17, where the DELWP Wetlands layer corresponds with ESO 5 at Pole 124 where, approx. 6^{2m} of dead lignum on the powerline easement will need to be removed to get access to the pole.

The NVIM tool was run based on the removal of 5.2^{2m} of native grasses including the 6^{2m} of dead lignum considered regrowth but covered under the DELWP Wetlands layer. Due to the difficulties inputting the exact area due to the small scale of loss with drilling for a pole, the NVIM tool was based on 12^{2m} within ESO5. The NVIM requires offsets of 0.012 General Habitat Units. The NVIM report is provided in Appendix 4.

Providing the following recommendations are implemented, impacts to native vegetation can be minimised.

Recommendations:

- Vehicles are to remain on existing access tracks or roads.
- Avoid working in wet conditions to minimise disturbance.
- If required to work in wet conditions, bog mats are to be used.
- Pole 61 to be accessed from the west i.e., from Pole 62.
- Vehicles should not be parked on existing access track for long periods.
- A map provided by the ecologist showing access tracks and laydown areas is to be included in Construction Management Plan.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use of access track should be limited to the minimum vehicle movements required.
DESKTOP REVIEW RESULTS	
<p>* EPBC Act Protected Matters Search (DoEE)</p> <p><i>Source: Protected Matters Search Tool (PMST) 1km buffer</i></p> <p><i>Results include terrestrial species / communities only</i></p>	<p>Threatened Ecological Communities: 4</p> <p>Listed Threatened Species: 21</p> <p>Migratory Species: 9</p>
<p>Proximity to significant wetlands/ waterways</p> <p><i>Source: Google Earth</i></p>	<p>Alignment crosses Tarranginnie Swamp and is within 2km of Nhill Swamp.</p>
Habitat Corridors	N/A
Surrounding land use	Agriculture
<p>EVC's & Significant flora and fauna records</p> <p><i>Source: NatureKit & VBA (DELWP).</i></p> <p><i>Refer to Figure 1</i></p>	<p>Ecological Vegetation Class: 10</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Low Rises Woodland EVC_66 (Endangered) Lowan Sands Mallee EVC_87 (Least Concern) Sandstone Ridge Shrubland EVC_93 (Vulnerable) Ridged Plains Mallee EVC_96 (Endangered) Plains Grassland EVC_132 (Endangered) Plains Woodland EVC_803 (Endangered) Lignum Swampy Woodland EVC_823 (Endangered) Plains Savannah EVC_826 (Endangered) Cane Grass Wetland/Lignum Swampy Woodland Mosaic EVC_833 (Endangered) Shallow Sands Woodland EVC_882 (Vulnerable) <p>Threatened Flora:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Buloke <i>Allocasuarina luehmannii</i> (FFG) Hairy-pod Wattle <i>Acacia glandulicarpa</i> (FFG, EPBC) Jumping-jack Wattle <i>Acacia enterocarpa</i> (FFG, EPBC) <p>Threatened Fauna: N/A</p>
Reviewed report/s	N/A
LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS	
EPBC Act 1999	<p>No EPBC listed ecological communities are present within the alignment.</p> <p><i>The two listed flora species were not present within the alignment.</i></p>

	<i>There are no obligations under the EPBC Act.</i>
EES Act 1978	An EES would be required if the impacts were deemed to potentially have a detrimental effect for species / communities of regional or state significance. <i>An EES is <u>not required</u> as there is not a 'trigger' of any referral criterion (refer to Appendix 2 for trigger criteria).</i>
FFG Act 1988	<i>No species will be impacted by the proposed works. Buloke is not present in the sections where the works are proposed.</i>
Permitted clearing of native vegetation Clause 52.17	Applies to native vegetation when there is a need to remove and / or impact native vegetation is unavoidable. Refer to Appendix 3 for the assessment pathway. <i>The site assessment established that the works as proposed trigger Clause 52.17 due to the removal of approximately 12.2^m of native vegetation.</i>
Catchment Management Authority Regional Strategies	Wimmera Catchment Strategy 2013-2019.
Local Government Environmental Planning Overlays	Environmental Significance Overlay Schedule 5 & 6. Vegetation Protection Overlays Schedule 1 & 2.

* Search results for EPBC Act threatened species is based on the likelihood of suitable habitat to occur in the search area only. It does not imply that there has been a definite record for the species.

Site Assessment
<p>A site assessment was undertaken over 2-days (8 & 9 March 2021). The works proposed entail the upgrade of the existing power distribution line to service the Diapur Wind Farm. The works involve the replacement of 25 existing poles and 14 new poles within the Nhill-Diapur road reserve and 29 new poles on private property. There is evidence of a maintenance track adjacent to the fenceline and within the powerline alignment where the works are proposed.</p> <p>Canopy trees are restricted to approx. 15 metres proximity of the powerlines (refer to photograph IMG_20210309_093622, in Appendix 1). Canopy trees adjacent to the powerlines were for the main part confined to one species and did not represent the full species normally associated with the relevant EVC. The canopy trees adjacent to Poles 31~40 are sugar gums <i>Eucalyptus cladocalyx</i>, an introduced South Australian native species. There was a lack of the midstorey and understorey component of the EVC's adjacent to the powerlines. Ground cover was for the main part confined to native grasses.</p> <p>There were areas where native grasses e.g., Spear grass <i>Austrostipa sp</i> and Wallaby grass <i>Rytidosperma sp</i> have established under the powerlines and on the maintenance track however, most of the alignment where the works are to be undertaken consisted of introduced species such as oats <i>Avena sp</i>, perennial veldt grass <i>Ehrharta calycina</i>, Bromus sp and Quacking grass <i>Briza sp</i> (refer to photographs in Appendix 1).</p> <p>There are 3 regrowth Black mallee-box <i>Eucalyptus porosa</i> trees located within the alignment near Pole 61 (refer to Photograph IMG_20210309_095818 in Appendix 1). The need to remove these 3 trees can be avoided by accessing Pole 61 from Pole 62.</p>

The EPBC Act listed Jumping-jack Wattle *Acacia enterocarpa* is confined to the west of the alignment and will not be impacted by the works. The EPBC Act FFG Act listed Hairy-pod Wattle *Acacia glandulicarpa* was not found within the alignment. The FFG Act listed Buloke *Allocasuarina luehmannii* is present adjacent to the powerlines where works are not proposed.

Whilst the vegetation within the powerline easement where works are proposed is considered regrowth and not subject to Clause 52.17, a precautionary approach has been undertaken for native grasses between the property fenceline and maintenance track where new poles are to be installed. The alignment is also located within several Planning Overlays that trigger a planning permit when native and non-native vegetation is removed: Environmental Significant Overlay (ESO) Schedule 5 and / or Schedule 6 and Vegetation Protection Overlay (VPO) Schedule 1 and / or Schedule 2.

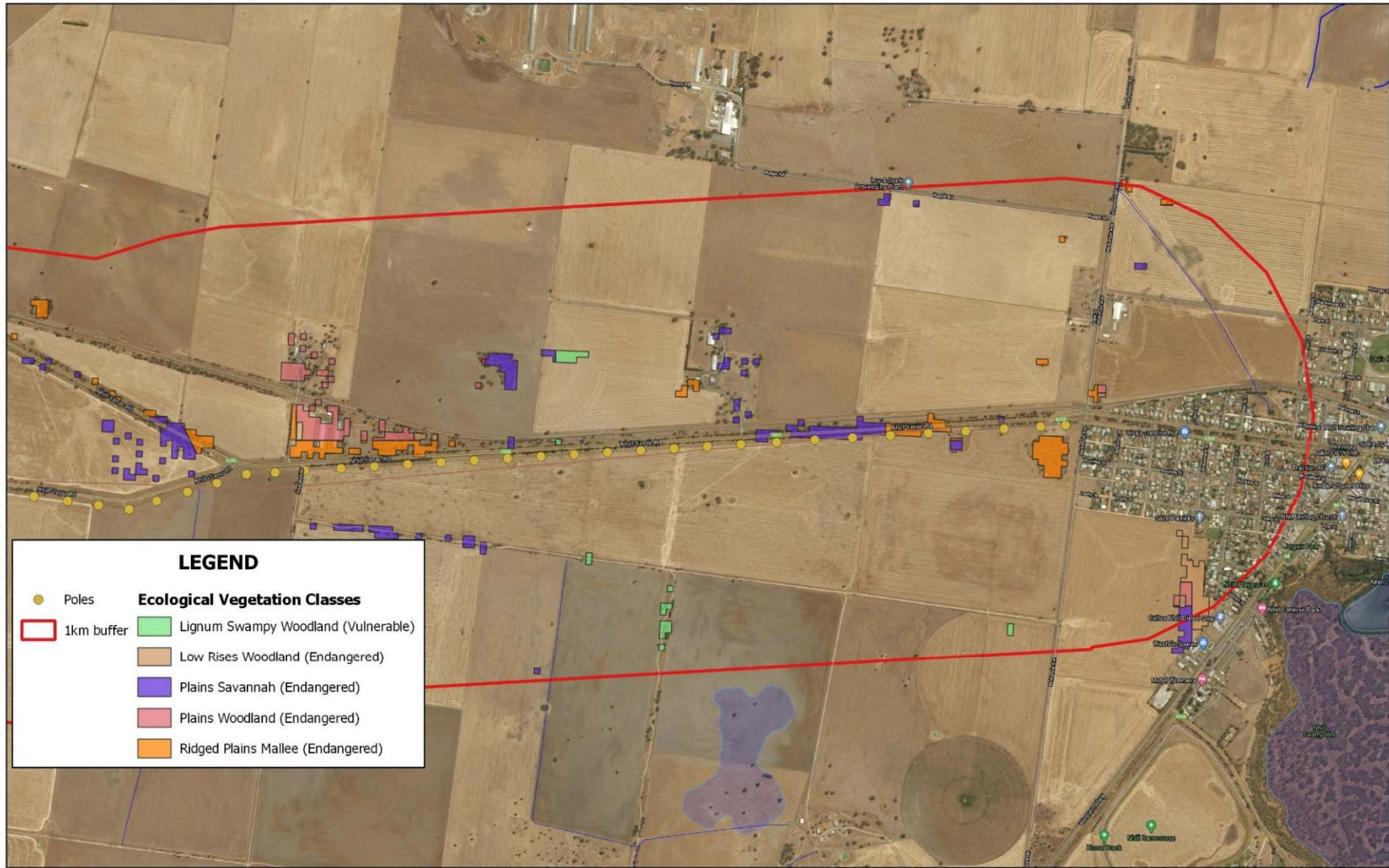
The installation of new poles; 41A, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 65A, 66 and 135 will remove approx. 5.2^m, of native grasses triggering a planning permit application under Clause 52.17.

Poles 65A, 66 and 135 will remove 1.2^m of native vegetation and will require a permit under the VPO Schedule 2.

The installation of new poles will trigger a planning permit in ESO 6 for Poles 110A, Pole 115 and Pole 135. Poles 110A and 115 entail the removal of 0.8^m of non-native vegetation. Pole 135 will entail the removal of 0.4^m of native vegetation i.e., spear grass and wallaby grass. Poles P1~P29 will entail the removal of stubble, there is an exemption under the ESO for the removal of sown / planted crops.

A planning permit under ESO 5 and Clause 52.17 is also required for Pole 124 (DEWLP Wetlands Layer) where approx. 6^m of dead lignum regrowth on the powerline easement will need to be removed to gain clear access to the pole.

The NVIM tool was run based on the removal of 5.2^m of native grasses and included the 6^m of dead lignum covered under ESO Schedule 5 and the DELWP Wetlands Layer. The NVIM requires offsets of 0.012 General Habitat Units.



LEGEND

- Poles
- ▭ 1km buffer

Ecological Vegetation Classes

- ▭ Lignum Swampy Woodland (Vulnerable)
- ▭ Low Rises Woodland (Endangered)
- ▭ Plains Savannah (Endangered)
- ▭ Plains Woodland (Endangered)
- ▭ Ridged Plains Mallee (Endangered)

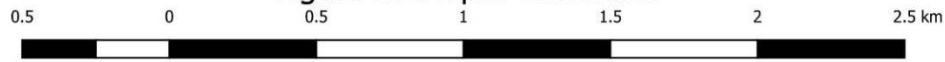
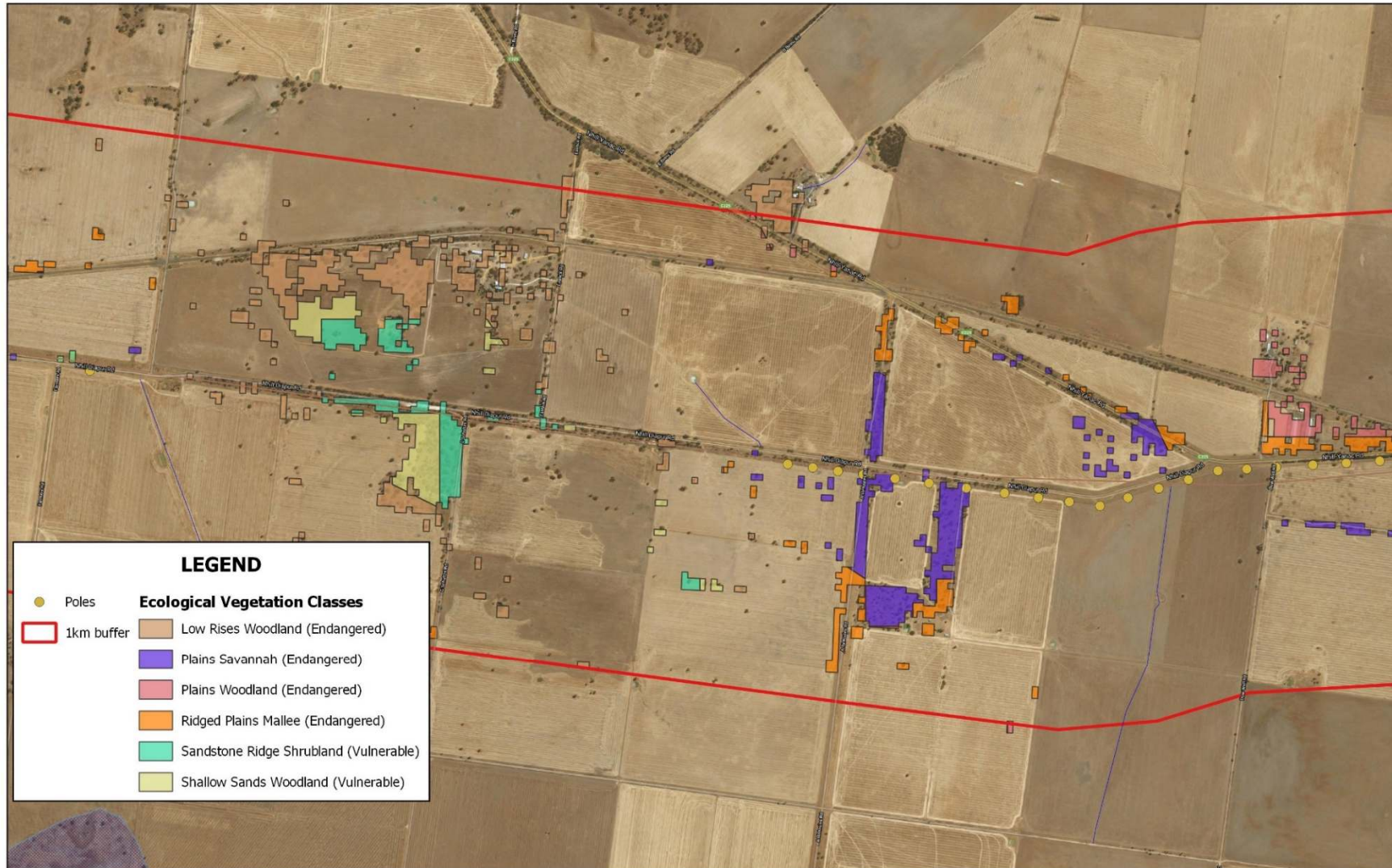


Figure 1. Diapur Windfarm

Drawn by: Robert Gratton
Date: 3/3/2021
Version 1.0

QGIS 3.16
GDA94 / MGA zone 54



LEGEND

- Poles
- 1km buffer

Ecological Vegetation Classes

- Low Rises Woodland (Endangered)
- Plains Savannah (Endangered)
- Plains Woodland (Endangered)
- Ridged Plains Mallee (Endangered)
- Sandstone Ridge Shrubland (Vulnerable)
- Shallow Sands Woodland (Vulnerable)

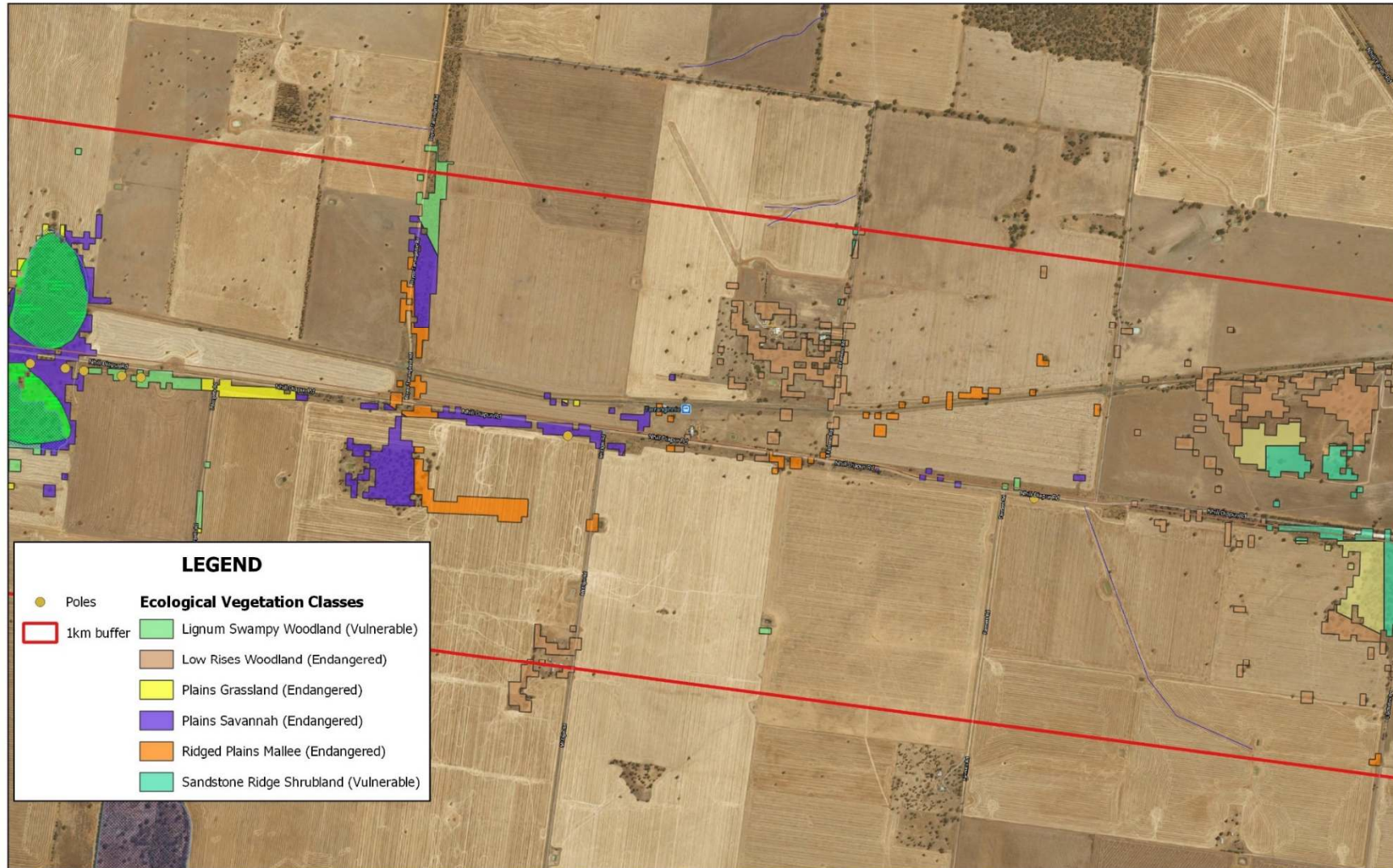
ECO AERIAL ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

Figure 2. Diapur Windfarm

0.5 0 0.5 1 1.5 2 2.5 km

Drawn by: Robert Gratton
Date: 3/3/2021
Version 1.0

QGIS 3.16
GDA94 / MGA zone 54



LEGEND

- Poles
- 1km buffer

Ecological Vegetation Classes

- Lignum Swampy Woodland (Vulnerable)
- Low Rises Woodland (Endangered)
- Plains Grassland (Endangered)
- Plains Savannah (Endangered)
- Ridged Plains Mallee (Endangered)
- Sandstone Ridge Shrubland (Vulnerable)

ECO AERIAL ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

Figure 3. Diapur Windfarm

0.5 0 0.5 1 1.5 2 2.5 km

Drawn by: Robert Gratton
Date: 3/3/2021
Version 1.0

QGIS 3.16
GDA94 / MGA zone 54

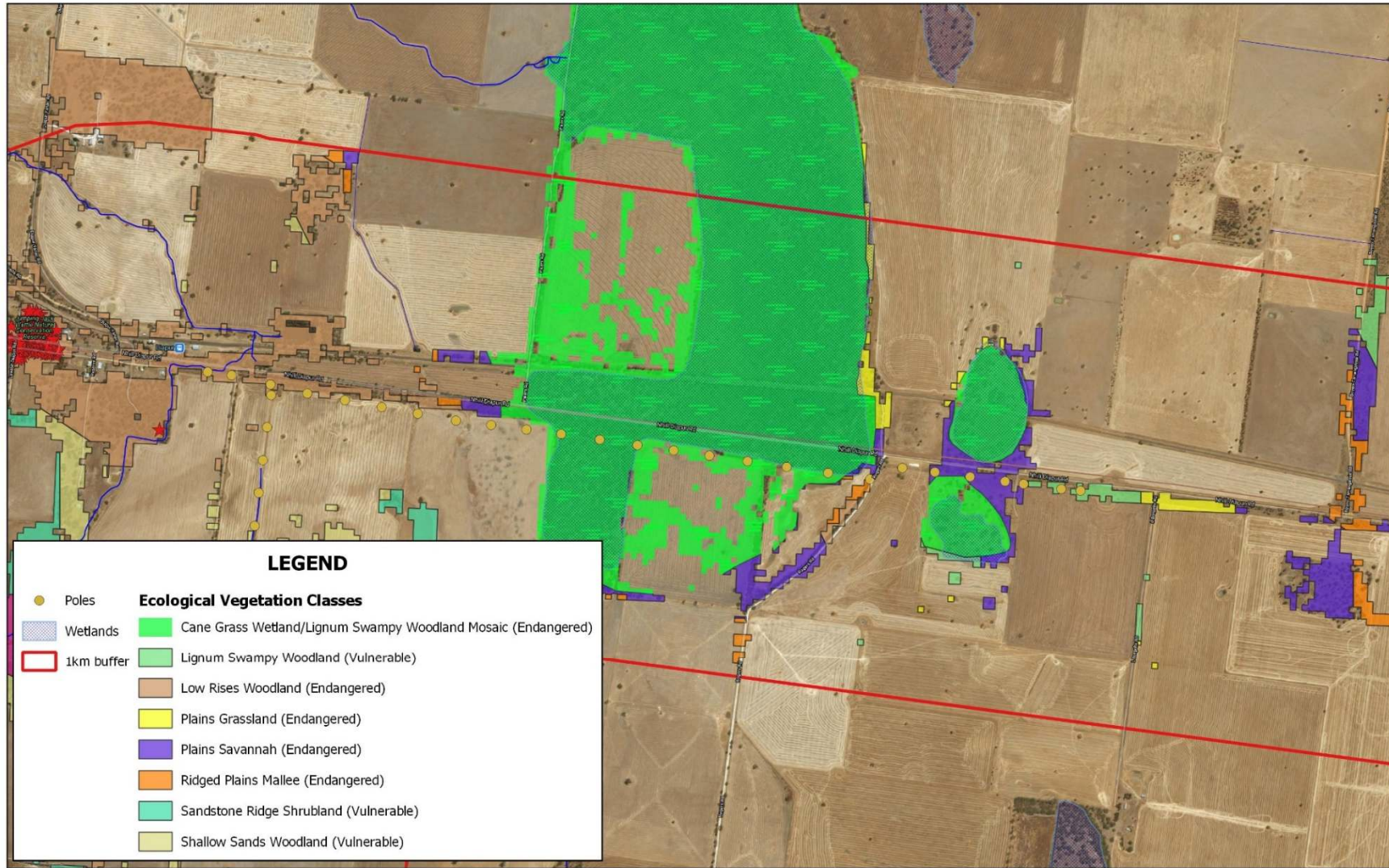


Figure 4. Diapur Windfarm

Drawn by: Robert Gratton
Date: 3/3/2021
Version 1.0

QGIS 3.16
GDA94 / MGA zone 54

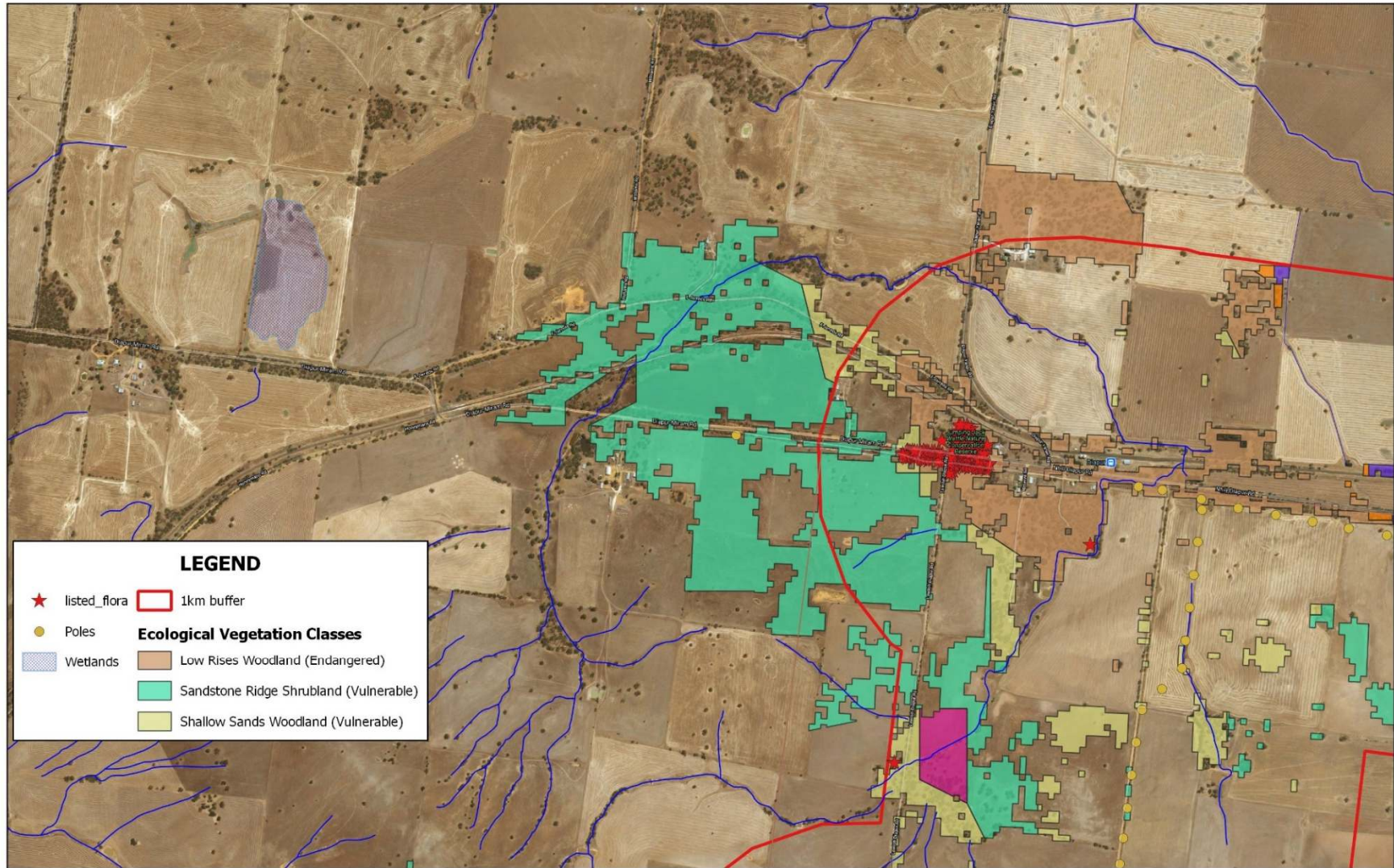


Figure 5. Diapur Windfarm

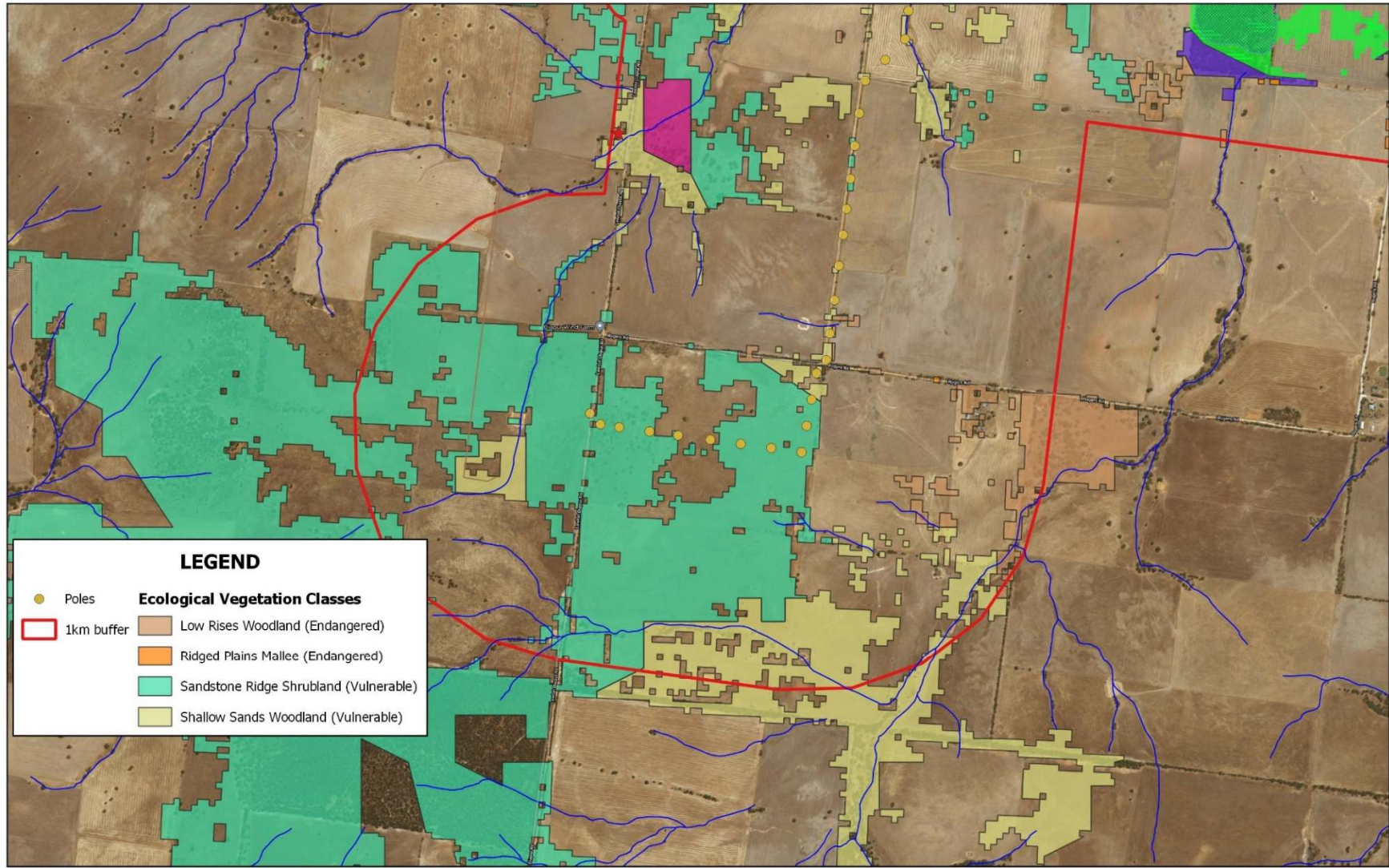


Figure 6. Diapur Windfarm

Database Searches

Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation (EPBC) Act Protected Matters Search – An online tool, provided by the Commonwealth Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts which identifies matters of national environmental significance that *may* occur in, or *may* relate to the area nominated.

Ecological Vegetation Classes (EVCs) – A vegetation classification system developed by DSE for Victoria. EVCs are groupings of vegetation communities based on floristic, structural and ecological features. It should be noted that this database is incomplete and used only as a guide.

Victorian Biodiversity Atlas - data provided from the DELWP, lists all the flora and fauna species which have been identified within the search area from previous studies.

Spatial Data Mart - data provided from the DELWP, provides GIS layers and information on the presence of Ecological Vegetation Class's and general flora and fauna data.

Legislation

Environmental Effects Act 1978

The *Environmental Effects Act 1978* provides for assessment of proposed projects (works) that are capable of having a significant effect on the environment. The Act does this by enabling the Minister administering it to decide that an Environmental Effects Statement (EES) should be prepared.

The Minister might typically require a proponent to prepare an EES when:

- there is a likelihood of regionally or State significant adverse effects on the environment
- there is a need for integrated assessment of potential environmental effects (including economic and social effects) of a project and relevant alternatives, and
- normal statutory processes would not provide a sufficiently comprehensive, integrated and transparent assessment.

The EES process provides for the analysis of potential effects on environmental assets and the means of avoiding, minimising and managing adverse effects. It also includes public involvement and the opportunity for an integrated response to a proposal.

Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999

Any action that has, will have, or is likely to have a significant impact on a matter of national environmental significance, as defined under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) requires approval from the Commonwealth Environment Minister. Matters of National Environmental Significance relevant to this study may include nationally threatened species (plants and animals), migratory species, and endangered ecological communities.

Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988

The provisions of the *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988* (FFG Act) bind all public agencies, public landowners and land managers. Removal of any native plants protected under the FFG Act requires a permit from the DSE, where this occurs on public land. It is understood that such a permit is not required for such works on private land. The Act allows for the listing of potentially threatening processes. Any actions that may result in a potentially threatening process should be avoided or managed appropriately.

Clearing of native vegetation- Biodiversity assessment guidelines

In Victoria, a planning permit is usually required to remove, destroy or lop native vegetation. Landholders / managers must apply for a planning permit from their local council. If a permit is granted, a native vegetation offset must be obtained before the native vegetation is removed, to compensate for the impact of the removal on biodiversity.

The Guidelines for the removal, destruction or lopping of native vegetation (2017) are incorporated into the Victoria Planning Provisions and all planning schemes in Victoria. The Guidelines replace the previous incorporated document titled Permitted clearing of native vegetation – Biodiversity assessment guidelines (Department of Environment and Primary Industries, September 2013).

There are three assessment pathways for an application to remove native vegetation: Basic, Intermediate and Detailed. The assessment pathway reflects the potential impact the removal has on biodiversity. These pathways are determined by:

- amount of native vegetation (in hectares)
- whether any large trees are to be removed, and
- location of the native vegetation.

Extent of native vegetation	Location category		
	Location 1	Location 2	Location 3
Less than 0.5 hectares and not including any large trees	Basic	Intermediate	Detailed
Less than 0.5 hectares and including one or more large trees	Intermediate	Intermediate	Detailed
0.5 hectares or more	Detailed	Detailed	Detailed

Proponents can refer to the online-tool Native Vegetation Information Management to understand which risk-pathway the application will be assessed under. The biodiversity report produced by NVIM can be used as part of an application under a Basic and Intermediate risk pathway, whereas a site assessment by an accredited quality vegetation assessor is required as part of an application under the Detailed-risk pathway.

Catchment Management Authority – Regional Catchment Strategies

A primary function of a Catchment Management Authority is to prepare a Regional Catchment Strategy (RCS) for its region and coordinate and monitor its implementation. The strategies describe the natural assets of a region, and how they are interrelated, outlining what needs to be done to manage and use the assets in a sustainable way.

The RCS is an important planning and working document for all organisations and people involved in natural resource management in the region, including government agencies and councils, water authorities, industry, Landcare and community groups. Its main focus is the land, water and biodiversity in the region. It provides a framework for effort, an investment guide, a means of integrating policy and an action plan for catchment works.

Local Government – Environmental Planning Overlays / Vegetation Protection Overlays

Environmental Significance Overlay – Schedules 5 and 6 (ESO5 & ESO6)

Purpose of Schedule 5 - ‘Wetlands of Conservation Value’

- A planning permit is required to remove, destroy or lop any vegetation, including dead vegetation within the ESO5.

A permit is required to remove approx. 6^{2m} of dead native regrowth.

Purpose of Schedule 6 - ‘Catchments of Wetlands of Conservation Value’

- A planning permit is required to remove, destroy or lop any vegetation, including dead vegetation within the ESO6.

A permit is required to remove approx. 0.8^{2m} of non-native vegetation and 0.4^{2m} of native vegetation.

Vegetation Protection Overlay – Schedules 1 and 2 (VPO1 & VPO2)

Purpose of Schedule 1 - 'Jumping Jack Wattle – Roadside Protection and Conservation'.

- A planning permit is required to remove, destroy or lop Jumping Jack Wattle and other indigenous vegetation where such vegetation occurs along the roadside.

Not relevant for the works proposed.

Purpose of Schedule 2 - 'Biolink Corridor – Roadside Protection and Conservation'.




- A planning permit is required to remove, destroy or lop native vegetation within the VPO2.




Pole 65A, 66 and 135 also require a permit under the VPO Schedule 2 for the removal of approx. 1.2^{2m} of native vegetation.




Bushfire Management Overlay




There are no planning permit requirements for the use and development of a utility installation or the removal of vegetation within this overlay.

Appendix 1 – Site Photographs

ID	Site Photographs	Comments
<p>IMG_20210309_090626</p>		<p>Pole 31 at the start of the alignment.</p> <p>Pole to be accessed from road and Rural Roads Victoria (RRV) laydown area. Sugar gums can be seen in the right of photograph.</p>
<p>IMG_20210309_093622</p>		<p>Continuation of maintenance track from Pole 32 and adjacent to Pole 49.</p> <p>Some emergent spear grass can be seen in foreground.</p>
<p>IMG_20210309_095351</p>		<p>Location of Pole 59.</p> <p>Indicative of vegetation from Pole 53 to Pole 60.</p> <p>Dominated by introduced species e.g. oats, veldt grass and quacking grass.</p>

ID	Site Photographs	Comments
<p>IMG_20210309_095818</p>		<p>Location of Pole 61</p> <p>Regrowth of Black mallee-box on maintenance track. Removal of regrowth can be avoided by accessing Pole 61 from the west.</p>
<p>IMG_20210309_103013</p>		<p>Location of Pole 65A</p> <p>Borderline patch of native grasses in location of new pole adjacent to maintenance track.</p> <p>Indicative of precautionary approach taken for the installation of new poles i.e., 41A, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 65A 66 and 135 where native grasses occur between existing poles.</p>
<p>IMG_20210309_115333</p>		<p>Existing laydown area adjacent to Pole 116.</p>

ID	Site Photographs	Comments
<p>IMG_20210309_115620</p>		<p>Start of alignment on private property in paddocks from Pole 117 to Pole 122.</p> <p>Crop stubble present</p> <p>Indicative of site conditions.</p>
<p>IMG_20210309_121543</p>		<p>Pole 123 to Pole 125 on the eastern boundary of the Cane Grass Wetland/Lignum Swampy Woodland Mosaic EVC_833. T</p> <p>The powerline easement is approx. 20m wide. Lignum sporadically present is considered as regrowth within the maintenance track. Pole 123 can be accessed from the paddock.</p>
<p>IMG_20210309_121807</p>		<p>Pole 124 with dead lignum at the base of pole. Although the vegetation within the easement has been considered as regrowth less than 10-years old, the removal of approx. 6²m of dead lignum to access the pole will require a planning permit due the presence of the ESO Schedule 5 overlay. Pole 125 accessed from adjoining paddock directly to maintenance track.</p>

ID	Site Photographs	Comments
<p>IMG_20210309_123723</p>		<p>Poles P1 to P17 New poles located adjacent to crop stubble. Indicative of site conditions</p>
<p>IMG_20210309_130535</p>		<p>Poles P18 to P21 Heavily grazed pasture. Indicative of site conditions</p>
<p>IMG_20210309_130737</p>		<p>Poles P22 to P29 Road cutting spoil on wind farm access track verge. Indicative of site conditions.</p>

Appendix 2 – EES Triggers

Referral criteria: individual potential environmental effects

Individual types of potential effects on the environment that might be of regional or State significance, and therefore warrant referral of a project, are:

- potential clearing of 10 ha or more of native vegetation from an area that:
 - is of an Ecological Vegetation Class identified as endangered by the Department of Sustainability and Environment (in accordance with Appendix 2 of Victoria's Native Vegetation Management Framework); or
 - is, or is likely to be, of very high conservation significance (as defined in accordance with Appendix 3 of Victoria's Native Vegetation Management Framework); and
 - is not authorised under an approved Forest Management Plan or Fire Protection Plan
- potential long-term loss of a significant proportion (e.g. 1 to 5 percent depending on the conservation status of the species) of known remaining habitat or population of a threatened species within Victoria
- potential long-term change to the ecological character of a wetland listed under the Ramsar Convention or in 'A Directory of Important Wetlands in Australia'
- potential extensive or major effects on the health or biodiversity of aquatic, estuarine or marine ecosystems, over the long term
- potential extensive or major effects on the health, safety or well-being of a human community, due to emissions to air or water or chemical hazards or displacement of residences
- potential greenhouse gas emissions exceeding 200,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent per annum, directly attributable to the operation of the facility.

Referral criteria: a combination of potential environmental effects

A combination of *two or more* of the following types of potential effects on the environment that might be of regional or State significance, and therefore warrant referral of a project, are:

- potential clearing of 10 ha or more of native vegetation, unless authorised under an approved Forest Management Plan or Fire Protection Plan
- matters listed under the *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988*:
 - potential loss of a significant area of a listed ecological community; or
 - potential loss of a genetically important population of an endangered or threatened species (listed or nominated for listing), including as a result of loss or fragmentation of habitats; or
 - potential loss of critical habitat; or
 - potential significant effects on habitat values of a wetland supporting migratory bird species
- potential extensive or major effects on landscape values of regional importance, especially where recognised by a planning scheme overlay or within or adjoining land reserved under the *National Parks Act 1975*
- potential extensive or major effects on land stability, acid sulphate soils or highly erodible soils over the short or long term
- potential extensive or major effects on beneficial uses of waterbodies over the long term due to changes in water quality, streamflows or regional groundwater levels
- potential extensive or major effects on social or economic well-being due to direct or indirect displacement of non-residential land use activities
- potential for extensive displacement of residences or severance of residential access to community resources due to infrastructure development
- potential significant effects on the amenity of a substantial number of residents, due to extensive or major, long-term changes in visual, noise and traffic conditions
- potential exposure of a human community to severe or chronic health or safety hazards over the short or long term, due to emissions to air or water or noise or chemical hazards or associated transport
- potential extensive or major effects on Aboriginal cultural heritage
- potential extensive or major effects on cultural heritage places listed on the Heritage Register or the Archaeological Inventory under the *Heritage Act 1995*.

Appendix 3 - Permitted Vegetation Clearing Pathways

Step 1
Do I need a permit?

Local council can confirm if you need a permit to remove native vegetation. Organise a pre-application meeting with your local council to help answer the following questions:

- Am I removing native vegetation? Appendix 1 will help you to determine if the vegetation is native.
- Do I qualify for an exemption? There are a range of exemptions that mean a permit is not required to remove native vegetation. Refer to the exemption guidance on the [DELWP website](#).
- Are there any other requirements? Check with your local council whether any schedule, Native Vegetation Precinct Plan or environmental overlay applies. Also check whether the vegetation could be protected under other local, state or federal legislation.

If you need a permit to remove native vegetation, continue to Step 2.

Step 2
What is my assessment pathway?

Use the Native Vegetation Information Management removal tool ([NVIM removal tool](#)) to map the native vegetation and determine your assessment pathway; <https://nvim.delwp.vic.gov.au/>.

Note: If you are removing 0.5 ha or more of native vegetation you are automatically in the Detailed Assessment Pathway. This is approximately a rectangle of 100 metres long and 50 wide or 7 large scattered trees or 16 small scattered trees.



Step 3
Do I need an accredited native vegetation assessor?

If you are in the Basic or Intermediate Assessment Pathway you do not need to appoint an accredited native vegetation assessor. You can complete the application yourself using the [NVIM removal tool](#).

You need an accredited native vegetation assessor to complete a site assessment report.

Step 4
Can I reduce my impacts, offset requirements and costs?

Use information in the NVIM removal tool to minimise impacts on native vegetation. Try not to remove areas of native vegetation with higher condition and strategic biodiversity value scores, large trees (allow space for a tree protection zone within 15 metres of the tree trunk) and areas shown as Location 2 and 3 on the *Location map*.

Use information from the site assessment and work with the accredited native vegetation assessor to minimise impacts.

Step 5
Prepare the application

Follow the prompts in the NVIM removal tool to provide additional information that is required for your application. The tool will calculate your offset requirement and you must decide how you will secure the offset – on your own property, or purchased through a broker. Check the costs to secure the offset before proceeding with the application. Download the *Native vegetation removal report* (NVR report). The report will form part of your planning permit application.

Obtain a NVR report for the Detailed Assessment Pathway from the accredited native vegetation assessor. Work with the accredited assessor to complete the application.

Step 6
Lodge the application

Check you have completed all application requirements and attached any necessary information. Examples of statements you could use in the application are provided in Appendix 4 of guidelines. Lodge the planning permit application with your local council.

Appendix 4 – NVIM Report

Native vegetation removal report

A report to support an application to remove, destroy or lop native vegetation in the **Intermediate Assessment Pathway** using the modelled condition score

This report provides information to support an application to remove native vegetation in accordance with the *Guidelines for the removal, destruction or lopping of native vegetation*. The report is not an assessment by DELWP or local council of the proposed native vegetation removal. Biodiversity information and offset requirements have been calculated using modelled condition scores contained in the *Native vegetation condition map*.

Date and time: 12 April 2021 20:15 PM

Lat./Long.: -36.3241058332455,141.478917596903

Native vegetation report ID:

Address: NHILL-DIAPUR ROAD NHILL 3418

330-20210412-079

Assessment pathway

The assessment pathway and reason for the assessment pathway

Assessment pathway	Intermediate Assessment Pathway
Extent of past plus proposed native vegetation removal	0.012 hectares
No. large trees	0 large tree(s)
Location category	Location 2 The native vegetation is in an area mapped as an Endangered Ecological Vegetation Class. Removal of less than 0.5 hectares of native vegetation will not have a significant impact on any habitat for a rare or threatened species.

Offset requirement

The offset requirement that will apply if the native vegetation is approved to be removed

Offset type	General offset
Offset amount	0.012 general habitat units
Offset attributes	
Vicinity	Wimmera Catchment Management Authority (CMA) or Hindmarsh Shire Council
Minimum strategic biodiversity value score	0.672
Large trees	0 large tree(s)

Biodiversity information about the native vegetation

Description of any past native vegetation removal

Any native vegetation that was approved to be removed, or was removed without the required approvals, on the same property or on contiguous land in the same ownership, in the five year period before the application to remove native vegetation is lodged is detailed below.

Permit/PIN number	Extent of native vegetation (hectares)
None entered	0 hectares

Description of the native vegetation proposed to be removed

Extent of all mapped native vegetation	0.012 hectares
Condition score of all mapped native vegetation	0.777
Strategic biodiversity value score of all mapped native vegetation	0.840
Extent of patches native vegetation	0.012 hectares
1	0.012 hectares
Extent of scattered trees	0 hectares
No. large trees within patches	0 large tree(s)
No. large scattered trees	0 large tree(s)
No. small scattered trees	0 small tree(s)

Additional information about trees to be removed, shown in Figure 1

Tree ID	Tree circumference (cm)	Benchmark circumference (cm)	Scattered / Patch	Tree size
N/A				

Other information

Applications to remove, destroy or lop native vegetation must include all the below information. If an appropriate response has not been provided the application is not complete.

Photographs of the native vegetation to be removed

Recent, dated photographs of the native vegetation to be removed must be provided with the application. All photographs must be clear, show whether the vegetation is a patch of native vegetation or scattered trees, and identify any large trees. If the area of native vegetation to be removed is large, provide photos that are indicative of the native vegetation.

Ensure photographs are attached to the application. If appropriate photographs have not been provided the application is not complete.

Topographical and land information

Description of the topographic and land information relating to the native vegetation to be removed, including any ridges, crests and hilltops, wetlands and waterways, slopes of more than 20 percent, drainage lines, low lying areas, saline discharge areas, and areas of existing erosion, as appropriate. This may be represented in a map or plan. **This is an application requirement and your application will be incomplete without it.**

The works entail the upgrade of the existing powerline to service the Diapur Wind Farm. The works involves the replacement 25 existing poles and the installation of 14 new poles. 12 of the new poles will require the removal of native vegetation. All poles to be replaced are located on the road reserve. Due to the difficulties in mapping the individual loss of native vegetation due to the small scale of loss for each pole, the total loss has been grouped together. The total losses have been mapped within the area with the highest classification, in this case Location 2. As a precautionary approach, the extent of loss also includes an area considered to be exempt as it is regrowth less than 10-years old previously legally cleared.

Avoid and minimise statement

This statement describes what has been done to avoid the removal of, and minimise impacts on the biodiversity and other values of native vegetation. **This is an application requirement and your application will be incomplete without it.**

Due to the nature of the project, upgrade of an existing powerline, there is limited scope to avoid all impacts. However minimising impacts is always instigated where practicable. Where possible, pole locations are micro-sited, this was not possible in this case. The construction management plan will confine activities to the powerline maintenance track and laydown areas.

Defendable space statement

Where the removal of native vegetation is to create defendable space, a written statement explaining why the removal of native vegetation is necessary. This statement must have regard to other available bushfire risk mitigation measures. This statement is not required if your application also includes an application under the Bushfire Management Overlay.

Not applicable.

Offset statement

An offset statement that demonstrates that an offset is available and describes how the required offset will be secured. **This is an application requirement and your application will be incomplete without it.**

Powercor has a written agreement with the Secretary to DELWP under the Utility installations exemption-procedure for the removal, destruction or looping of native vegetation. This agreement allows Powercor to undertake works prior to sourcing offsets. Evidence of the secured offsets (allocated credit extracts or executed first party offset agreements) for all endorsed projects for the financial year must be provided to the relevant DELWP region annually by the 31 August. Powercor will source offset Vegetation Link.

Next steps

Applications to remove, destroy or lop native vegetation must address all the application requirements specified in *Guidelines for the removal, destruction or lopping of native vegetation*. If you wish to remove the mapped native vegetation you are required to apply for a permit from your local council. This *Native vegetation removal report* must be submitted with your application and meets most of the application requirements. The following needs to be added as applicable.

Property Vegetation Plan

Landowners can manage native vegetation on their property in the longer term by developing a Property Vegetation Plan (PVP) and entering into an agreement with DELWP.

If an approved PVP applies to the land, ensure the PVP is attached to the application.

Applications under Clause 52.16

An application to remove, destroy or lop native vegetation is under Clause 52.16 if a Native Vegetation Precinct Plan (NVPP) applies to the land, and the proposed native vegetation removal is not in accordance with the relevant NVPP. If this is the case, a statement that explains how the proposal responds to the NVPP considerations must be provided.

If the application is under Clause 52.16, ensure a statement that explains how the proposal responds to the NVPP considerations is attached to the application.

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Authorised by the Victorian Government, 8 Nicholson Street, East Melbourne.

For more information contact the DELWP Customer Service Centre 136 186

www.delwp.vic.gov.au

Disclaimer

This publication may be of assistance to you but the State of Victoria and its employees do not guarantee that the publication is without flaw of any kind or is wholly appropriate for your particular purposes and therefore disclaims all liability for any error, loss or other consequence which may arise from you relying on any information in this publication.

Obtaining this publication does not guarantee that an application will meet the requirements of Clauses 52.16 or 52.17 of planning schemes in Victoria or that a permit to remove native vegetation will be granted.



Notwithstanding anything else contained in this publication, you must ensure that you comply with all relevant laws, legislation, awards or orders and that you obtain and comply with all permits, approvals and the like that affect, are applicable or are necessary to undertake any action to remove, lop or destroy or otherwise deal with any native vegetation or that apply to matters within the scope of Clauses 52.16 or 52.17 of planning schemes in Victoria.

Figure 1 – Map of native vegetation to be removed, destroyed or lopped

Mapped native vegetation to be removed, lopped or destroyed



Legend

-  Mapped native vegetation
-  Property boundary

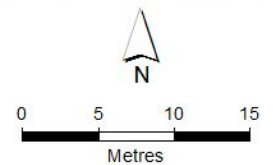


Figure 2 – Map of property in context

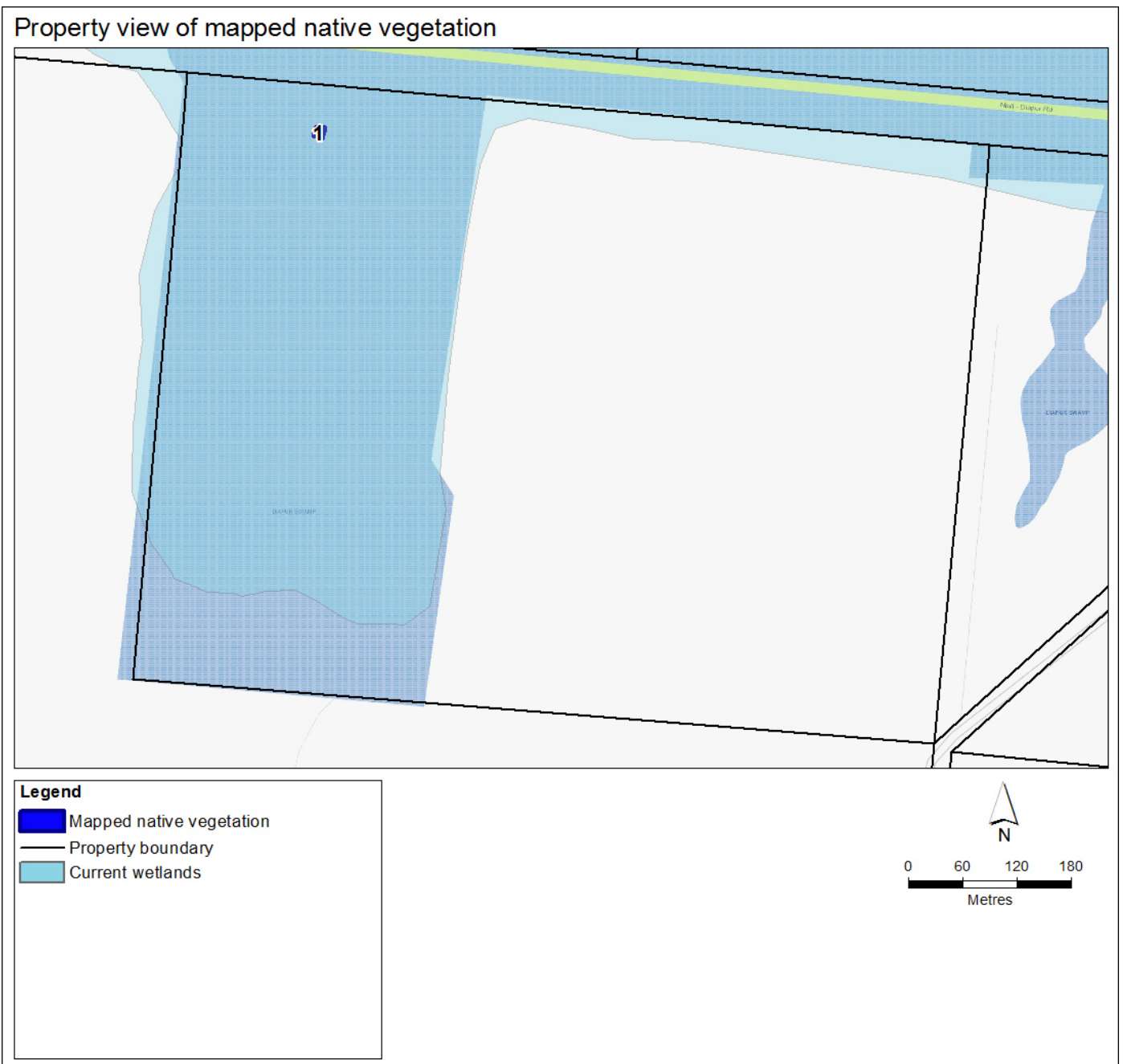
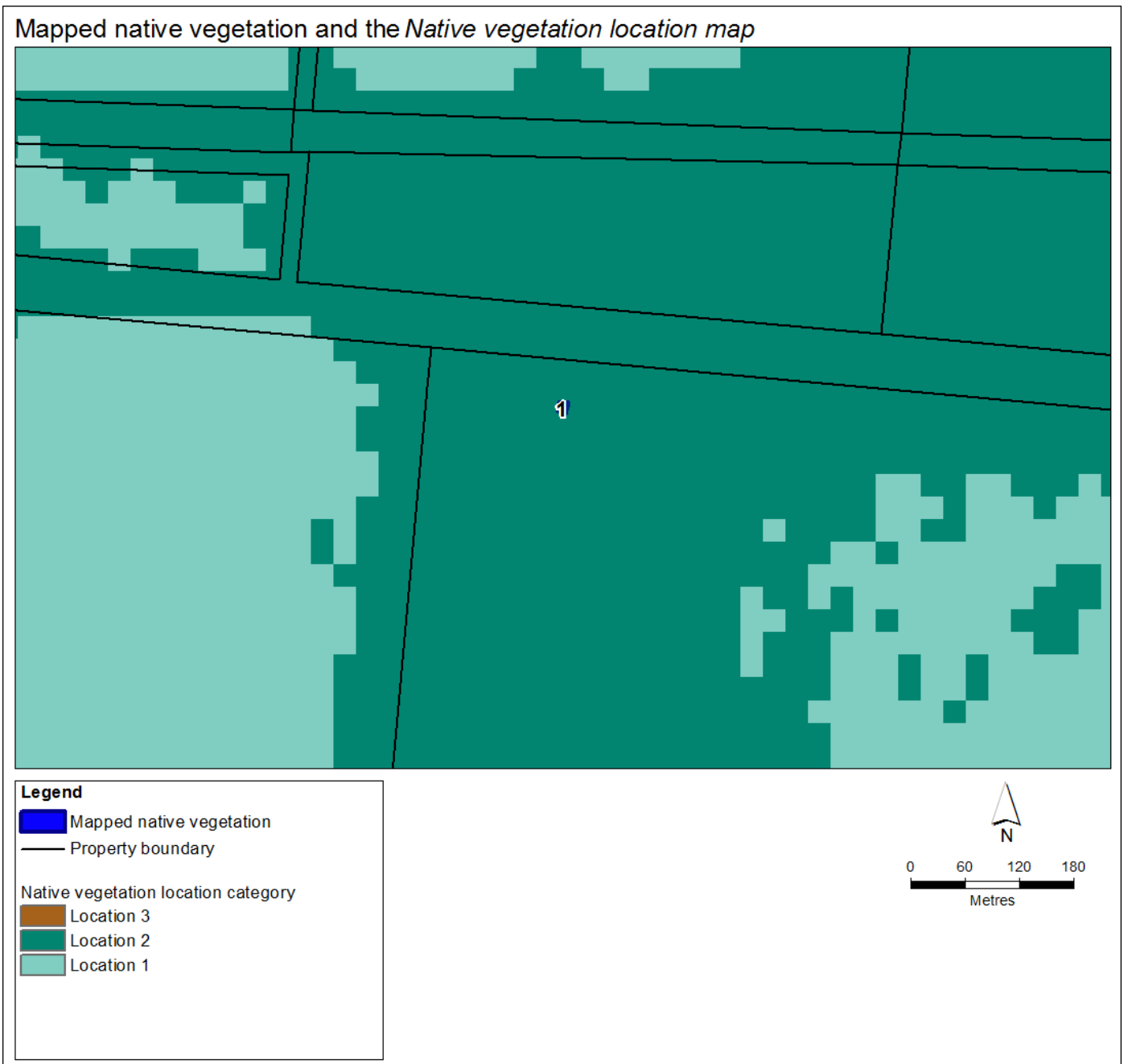


Figure 3 – Biodiversity information maps





Native vegetation removal report






Mapped native vegetation and the *Native vegetation condition map*



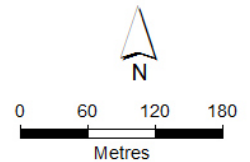
Legend

-  Mapped native vegetation
-  Property boundary

Native vegetation condition*

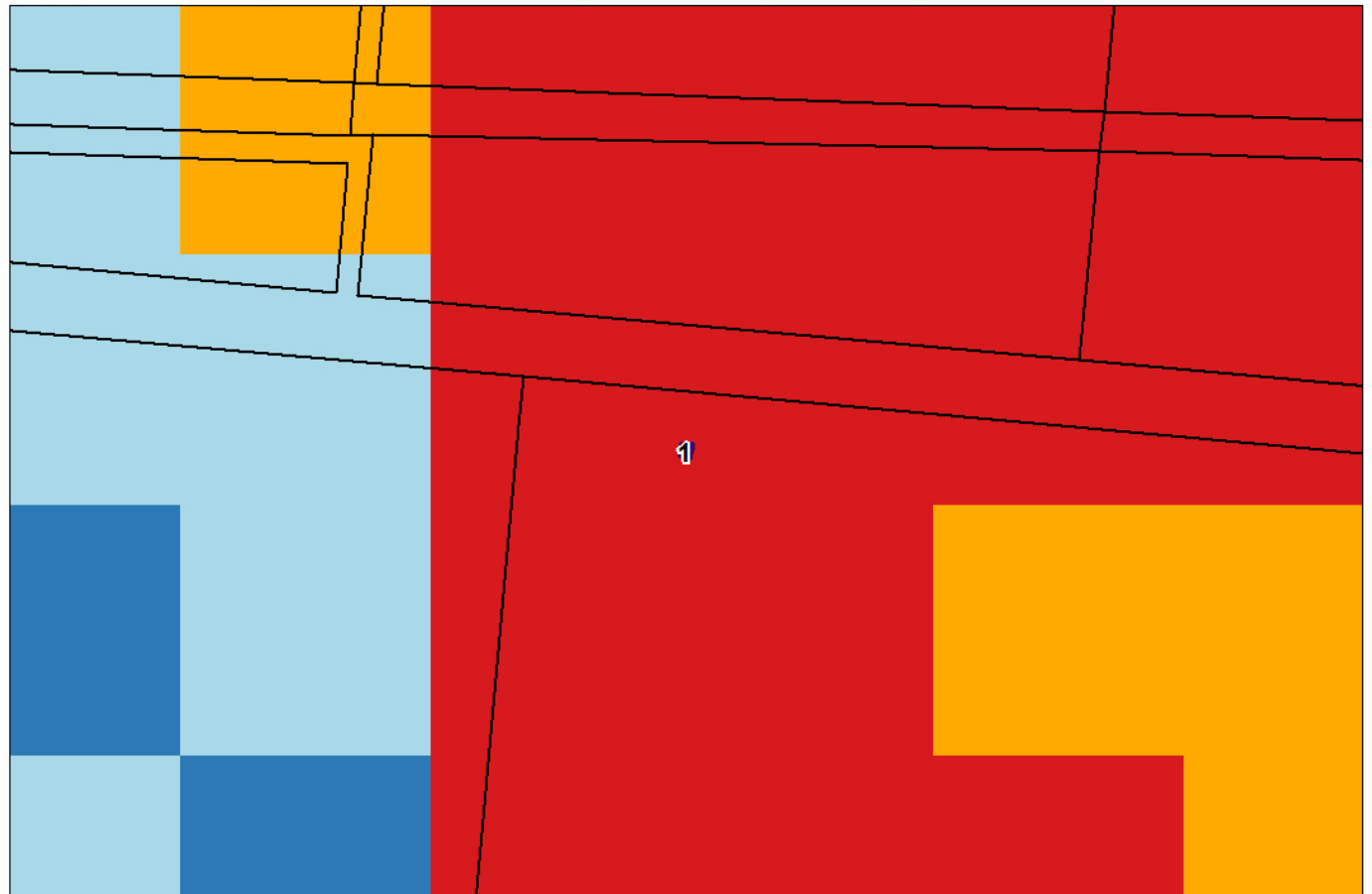
-  0.81 - 1.00
-  0.61 - 0.80
-  0.41 - 0.60
-  0.21 - 0.40
-  0.00 - 0.20

* These classes are for display purposes only





Native vegetation removal report

Mapped native vegetation and the *Strategic biodiversity value map*




Legend


 Mapped native vegetation


 Property boundary


Strategic biodiversity value*

 0.81 - 1.00

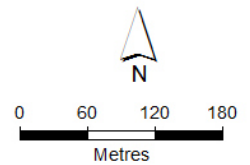
 0.61 - 0.80

 0.41 - 0.60

 0.21 - 0.40

 0.00 - 0.20

* These classes are for display purposes only



Appendix 1 - Details of offset requirements

Native vegetation to be removed

Extent of all mapped native vegetation (for calculating habitat hectares)	0.012	The area of land covered by a patch of native vegetation and/or a scattered tree, measured in hectares. Where the mapped native vegetation includes scattered trees, each tree is assigned a standard extent and converted to hectares. A small scattered tree is assigned a standard extent defined by a circle with a 10 metre radius and a large scattered tree a circle with a 15 metre radius. The extent of all mapped native vegetation is an input to calculating the habitat hectares.
Condition score*	0.777	The condition score of native vegetation is a site-based measure that describes how close native vegetation is to its mature natural state. The condition score is the weighted average condition score of the mapped native vegetation calculated using the <i>Native vegetation condition map</i> .
Habitat hectares	0.009	Habitat hectares is a site-based measure that combines extent and condition of native vegetation. It is calculated by multiplying the extent of native vegetation by the condition score: <i>Habitat hectares = extent x condition score</i>
Strategic biodiversity value score	0.840	The strategic biodiversity value score represents the complementary contribution to Victoria's biodiversity of a location, relative to other locations across the state. This score is the weighted average strategic biodiversity value score of the mapped native vegetation calculated using the <i>Strategic biodiversity value map</i> .
General landscape factor	0.920	The general landscape factor is an adjusted strategic biodiversity value score. It has been adjusted to reduce the influence of landscape scale information on the general habitat score.
General habitat score	0.008	The general habitat score combines site-based and landscape scale information to obtain an overall measure of the biodiversity value of the native vegetation. The general habitat score is calculated as follows: <i>General habitat score = habitat hectares x general landscape factor</i>

* **Offset requirements for partial removal:** If your proposal is to remove parts of the native vegetation in a patch (for example only understorey plants) the condition score must be adjusted. This will require manual editing of the condition score and an update to the calculations that the native vegetation removal tool has provided: habitat hectares, general habitat score and offset amount.

Offset requirements

Offset type	General offset	A general offset is required when the removal of native vegetation does not have a significant impact on any habitat for rare or threatened species. All proposals in the Basic and Intermediate assessment pathways will only require a general offset.
Offset multiplier	1.5	This multiplier is used to address the risk that the predicted outcomes for gain will not be achieved, and therefore will not adequately compensate the biodiversity loss from the removal of native vegetation.
Offset amount (general habitat units)	0.012	The general habitat units are the amount of offset that must be secured if the application is approved. This offset requirement will be a condition to any permit or approval for the removal of native vegetation. <i>General habitat units required = general habitat score x 1.5</i>
Minimum strategic biodiversity value score	0.672	The offset site must have a strategic biodiversity value score of at least 80 per cent of the strategic biodiversity value score of the native vegetation to be removed. This is to ensure offsets are located in areas with a strategic biodiversity value that is comparable to the native vegetation to be removed.
Vicinity	Wimmera CMA or Hindmarsh Shire Council	The offset site must be located within the same Catchment Management Authority boundary or municipal district as the native vegetation to be removed.
Large trees	0 large tree (s)	The offset site must protect at least one large tree for every large tree removed. A large tree is a native canopy tree with a Diameter at Breast Height greater than or equal to the large tree benchmark for the local Ecological Vegetation Class. A large tree can be either a large scattered tree or a large patch tree.



APPENDIX C
CONSTRUCTION PLANS

LEGEND	
OVERHEAD LINE	EXISTING (E)
CONDUCTOR (GENERAL)	NEW (N)
SUB-TRANSMISSION (16, 23KV)	REMOVE (R)
HV OPEN WIRE (22, 31, 6.6 kV)	GENERAL
HV AERIAL BUNDLED CABLE	BOUNDARY LINE
HV A LV OPEN WIRE	FACE OF KERB
LV AERIAL BUNDLED CABLE	LIP OF KERB
LV OPEN WIRE (LV MAINS)	OTHER SERVICES
PUBLIC LIGHTING CABLE	LV CABLE TERMINATION
SUPERVISORY CABLE	LV CABLE TERMINATION
SERVICE CABLE (LVI)	POLE TERMINATION
SERVICE CABLE (MVA)	POLE TERMINATION
SERVICE CABLE (STANDARD)	REPAIR POLE (ASSET)
	VIBRATION DAMPER
	POLE NUMBER
	GENERAL STEEL WARD
	REINFORCED CONCRETE LOG
	REINFORCED CONCRETE LOG
	GROUND STAY & SIZE
	REMOVE GROUND STAY
	LV CABLE (SHOWN AS DISHED)
	LV CABLE (SHOWN AS DISHED)
	LV SWITCHGEAR POLE
	REPAIR POLE (ASSET)
	IG CABLE (GENERAL)

CAUTIONS	
FOR DETAILS OF CONDITIONS REFER TO DIAL BEFORE YOU DIG	
PROJECT NUMBER	6042539
ROAD DIRECTOR	MR TERRY
DESIGNER	MR TERRY
ENGINEER	MR TERRY
PROJECT MANAGER	MR TERRY

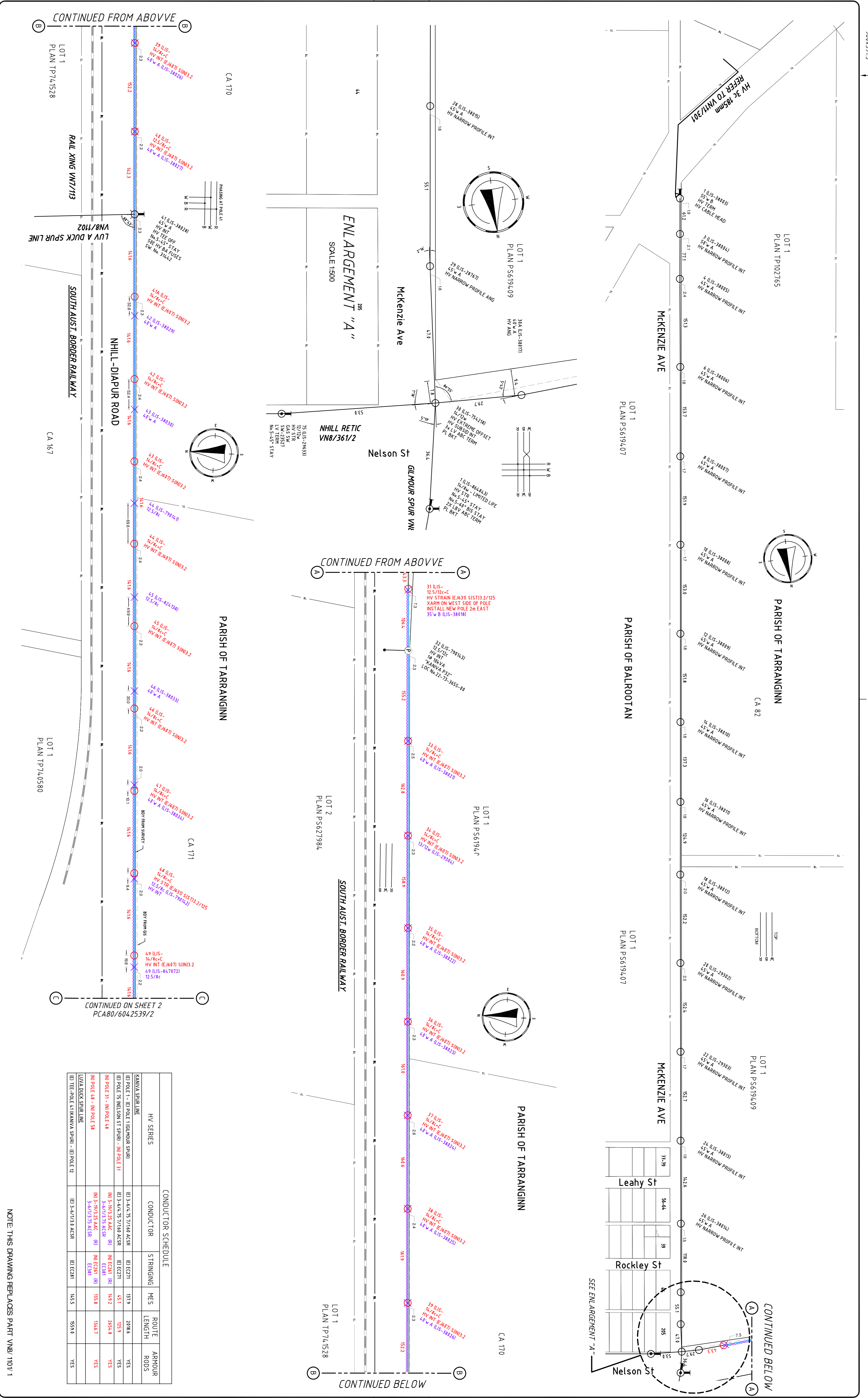
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CTIPower
Electricity Networks
Melbourne Bag 1499
www.en.vic.gov.au

REVISION	DATE	BY	DESCRIPTION
1	27/01/2019	DR	ISSUED FOR CONSTRUCTION

PCAB0 6042539 1

O/H CONSTRUCTION PLAN
SUPPLY TO WIND FARM
KANAWA SPUR LINE

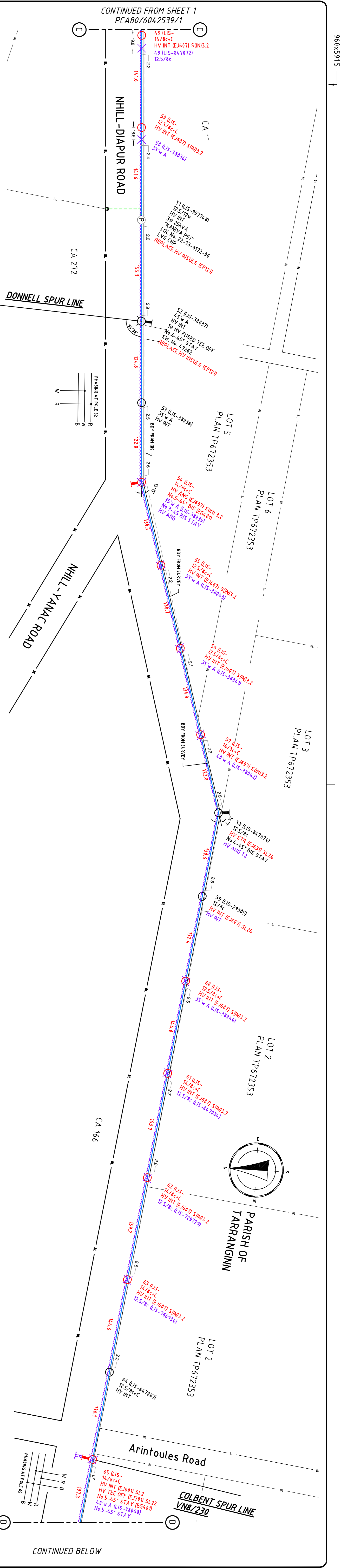
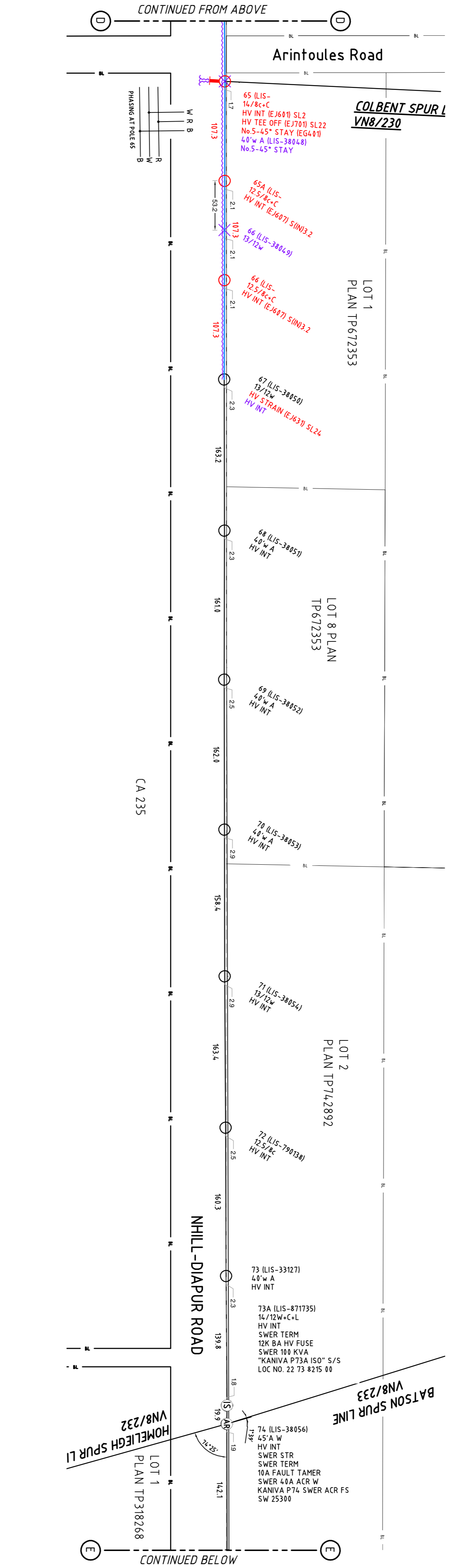
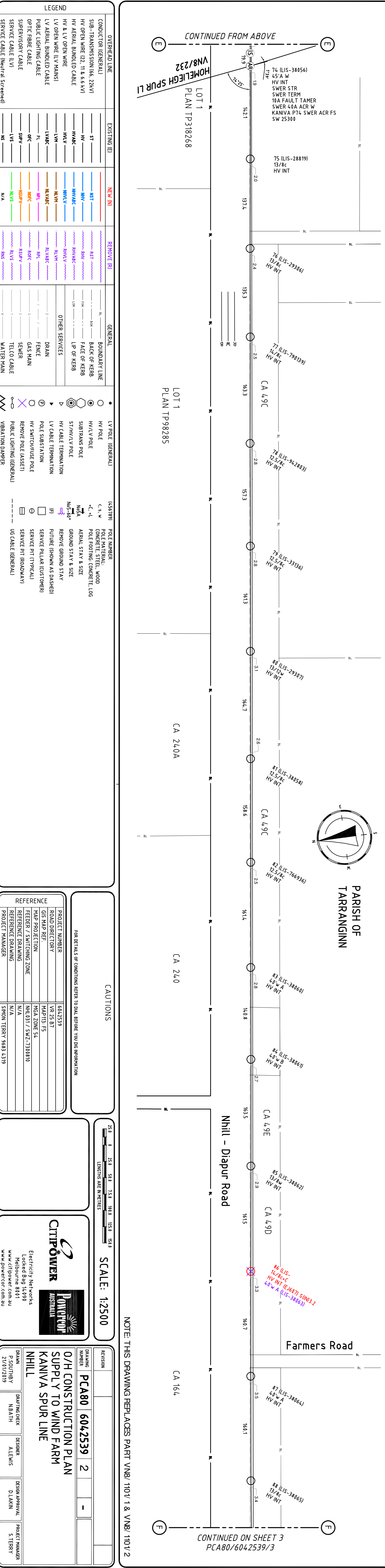


CONDUCTOR SCHEDULE					
HV SERIES	CONDUCTOR	STRINGING	MES	ROUTE LENGTH	ARMOUR RODS
KANAWA SPUR LINE					
(E) POLE 1 - (E) POLE 1 (BORDER SPUR)	(E) 3-4/4-75 7/160 ACSR	(E) EC271	191.9	2088.6	YES
(E) POLE 15 - (E) POLE 31	(E) 3-4/4-75 7/160 ACSR	(E) EC271	45.1	105.9	YES
(N) POLE 31 - (N) POLE 48	(N) 3-4/4-75 7/160 ACSR	(N) EC261 (R)	149.2	2654.8	YES
(N) POLE 48 - (N) POLE 58	(N) 3-4/4-75 7/160 ACSR	(N) EC261 (R)	155.8	3346.7	YES
LVA DUCK SPUR LINE					
(E) THE POLE 41 (KANAWA SPUR) - (E) POLE 72	(E) 3-4/4-75 7/160 ACSR	(E) EC281	145.5	1599.0	YES

NOTE: THIS DRAWING REPLACES PART VN8/1101/1

CONDUCTOR SCHEDULE

HV SERIES	CONDUCTOR	MES	ROUTE LENGTH	ARMOUR RODS
KAHVVA SPUR LINE	3-6/1/15 AAC (R)	355.8	194.67	YES
IN POLE 44 - IN POLE 54	3-6/1/15 AAC (R)	193.4	331.15	YES
IN POLE 54 - IN POLE 67	3-6/1/15 AAC (R)	193.4	331.15	YES
IN POLE 67 - EI POLE 110	3-6/1/15 AAC (R)	6713.9	YES	NO
IN POLE 110 - EI POLE 74	3-6/1/15 AAC (R)	20	NO	NO
IN POLE 74 - EI POLE 18	3-6/1/15 AAC (R)	544.2	YES	NO
COLBERT SPUR LINE	3-6/1/15 AAC (R)	2113	3592.3	YES
EL TEE-POLE 53 (KAVVA SPUR) - EI POLE 2	3-6/1/15 AAC (R)	2113	3592.3	YES
EL TEE-POLE 63 (KAVVA SPUR) - EI POLE 10	3-6/1/15 AAC (R)	2113	3592.3	YES
HOMELEIGH SPUR LINE	3-6/1/15 AAC (R)	324.1	835.9	YES
EL POLE 74 (KAVVA SPUR) - EI POLE 6	3-6/1/15 AAC (R)	324.1	835.9	YES
BATSON SPUR LINE	3-6/1/15 AAC (R)	331.9	544.2	YES
EL POLE 74 (KAVVA SPUR) - EI POLE 18	3-6/1/15 AAC (R)	331.9	544.2	YES



LEGEND

OVERHEAD LINE	EXISTING (E)	NEW (N)	REMOVE (R)
CONDUCTOR (GENERAL)	1T	1NT	1RT
SUB-TRANSFORMER (16.22kV)	2T	2NT	2RT
HW AIRAL BUNDLED CABLE	3T	3NT	3RT
HW AIRAL UNBUNDLED CABLE	4T	4NT	4RT
HW AIRAL UNBUNDLED CABLE	5T	5NT	5RT
HW AIRAL UNBUNDLED CABLE	6T	6NT	6RT
HW AIRAL UNBUNDLED CABLE	7T	7NT	7RT
HW AIRAL UNBUNDLED CABLE	8T	8NT	8RT
HW AIRAL UNBUNDLED CABLE	9T	9NT	9RT
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HW AIRAL UNBUNDLED CABLE	90T	90NT	90RT

CAUTIONS

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ROAD DIRECTOR	WV 55 57
DATE OF DRAWING	MARCH 15
DATE OF LAST REVISION	N/A
DATE OF NEXT DRAWING	27/01/2019
DATE OF THIS DRAWING	27/01/2019
DATE OF NEXT DRAWING	27/01/2019
DATE OF THIS DRAWING	27/01/2019

SCALE: 1:2500

DATE: 27/01/2019

PROJECT NUMBER: 6042539

PROJECT NAME: O/H CONSTRUCTION PLAN SUPPLY TO WIND FARM KANIVA SPUR LINE

PROJECT MANAGER: DONNELL

PROJECT ENGINEER: DONNELL

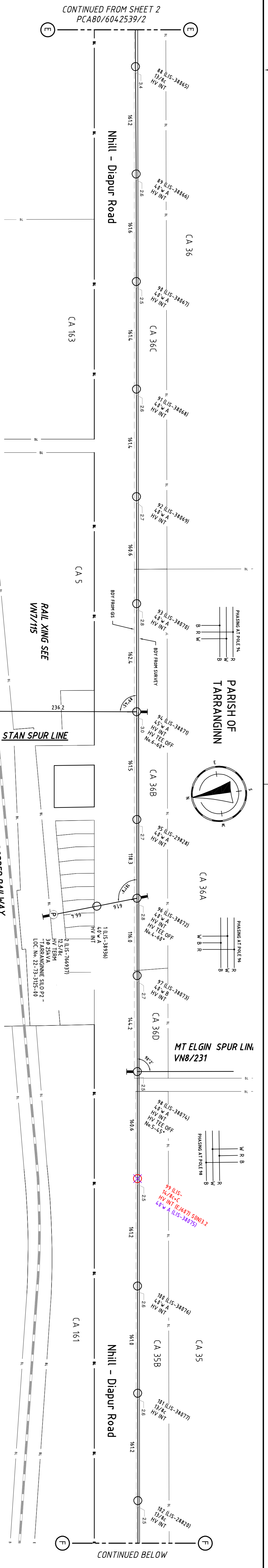
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PROJECT APPROVAL: DONNELL

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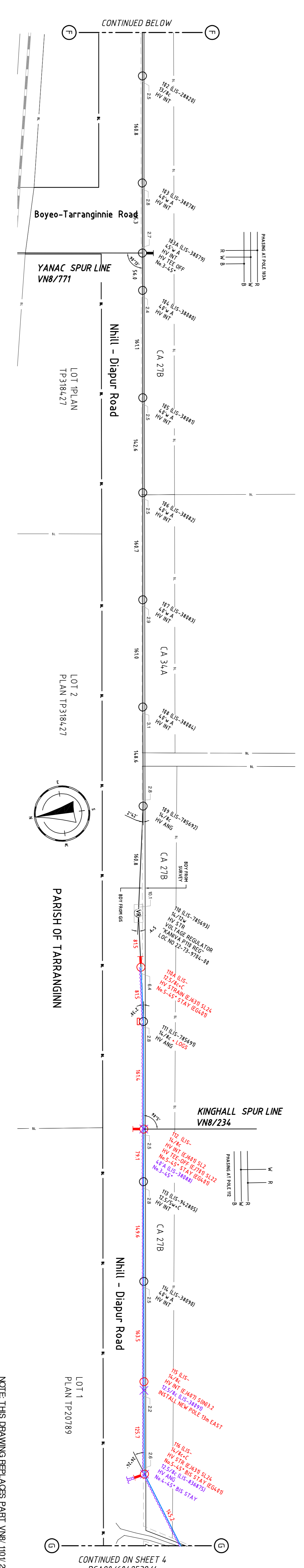
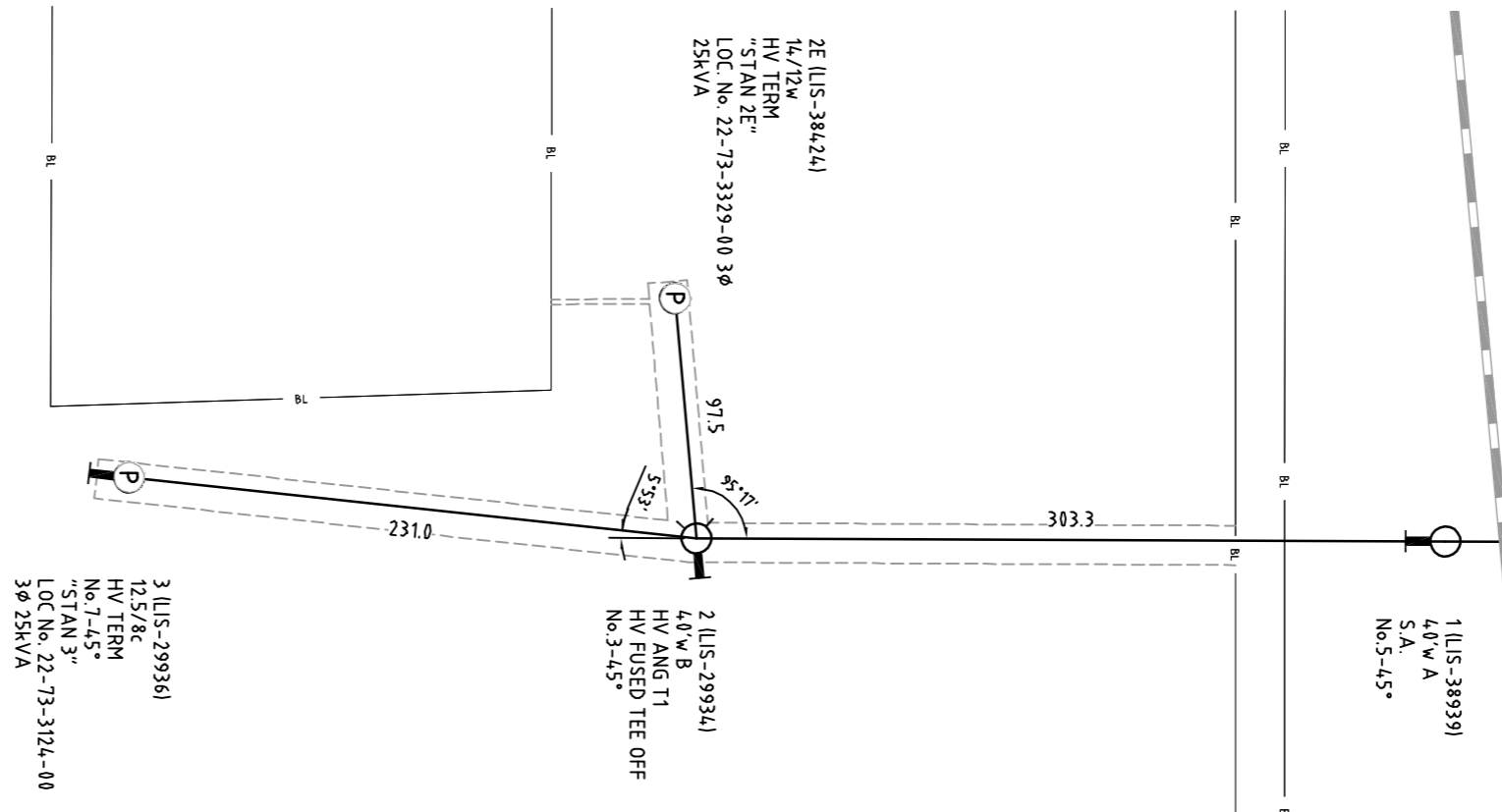
DATE OF SIGNATURE: 27/01/2019

NOTE: THIS DRAWING REPLACES PART VNB/ 1101.1 & VNB/ 1101.2



CONDUCTOR SCHEDULE

HY SERIES	CONDUCTOR	STRINGING	MES	ROUTE LENGTH	ARMOUR RODS
KANAWA SPUR LINE					
NI POLE 97 - NI POLE 110	3-6/3.75 ACSR	10	EC285	6713.9	YES
NI POLE 110 - NI POLE 114A	3-6/3.75 ACSR	10	EC285	815	NO
NI POLE 114A - NI POLE 116	3-6/3.75 ACSR	10	EC281	160.8	YES
NI POLE 116 - NI POLE 117	3-6/3.75 ACSR	10	EC281	145.2	YES
STAN SPUR LINE					
103 LIS-28820 HV INT	40 W A	10	EC291	24.8	YES
104 LIS-28820 HV INT	40 W A	10	EC271	124.0	YES
105 LIS-28820 HV INT	40 W A	10	EC291	856.0	YES
106 LIS-28820 HV INT	40 W A	10	EC281	393.2	YES
107 LIS-28820 HV INT	40 W A	10	EC271	112.8	NO



LEGEND

OVERHEAD LINE	EXISTING (E)	NEW (N)	REMOVE (R)	GENERAL
CONDUCTOR (GENERAL)	—	—	—	BOUNDARY LINE
SUB-TRANSMISSION (6, 23KV)	—	—	—	BACK OF KERB
HV OPEN WIRE (22, 11 & 6.6 KV)	—	—	—	FACE OF KERB
HV AERIAL BUNDLED CABLE	—	—	—	LIP OF KERB
HV Aerial Bundled Cable	—	—	—	OTHER SERVICES
HV Aerial Bundled Cable	—	—	—	HY CABLE TERMINATION
HV Aerial Bundled Cable	—	—	—	L V CABLE TERMINATION
HV Aerial Bundled Cable	—	—	—	POLE SUBSTATION
HV Aerial Bundled Cable	—	—	—	HY SWITCHGEAR POLE
HV Aerial Bundled Cable	—	—	—	REMOVE POLE (ASSET)
HV Aerial Bundled Cable	—	—	—	PUBLIC LIGHTING (GENERAL)
OPTIC FIBRE CABLE	—	—	—	REMOVE POLE (ASSET)
SUPERVISORY CABLE	—	—	—	IG CABLE (GENERAL)
SERVICE CABLE (LVI)	—	—	—	
SERVICE CABLE (MUTUAL SCREENED)	—	—	—	

CAUTIONS

FOR DETAILS OF CONDITIONS REFER TO DIAL BEFORE YOU DIG INFORMATION

PROJECT NUMBER	6042539
ROAD DIRECTOR	VR 55.47
GIS MAP REF	MAR 118.53
PRODUCTION DATE	18/03/23
REFERENCED ZONING	R14 ZONE S4
REFERENCED DRAWING	EN517 5/22/231818
PROJECT MANAGER	N/A
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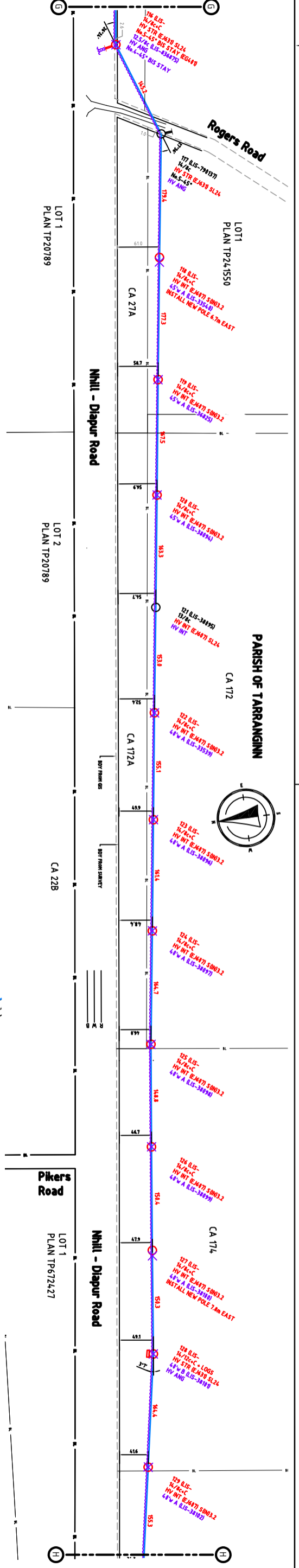
SCALE: 1:2500

CTIPOWER
Electricity Networks
Leedebag 1499
www.electricity.com.au

POWER SUPPLY TO WIND FARM
KAWAWA SPUR LINE
NHELL

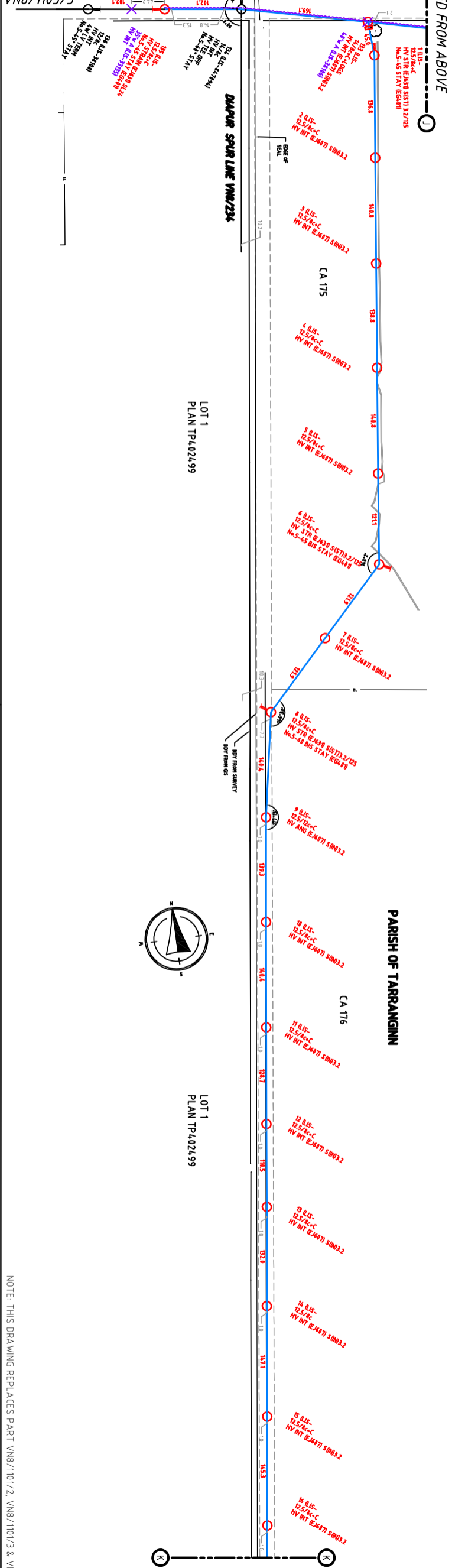
DRIVER: 27/01/2019
DRAWING: 13/07/11
DESIGNER: ALENS
DESIGN APPROVAL: D.LANN
PROJECT NUMBER: 27/01/2019

CONTINUED FROM SHEET 3
PCA80/6042539/3



CONDUCTOR	STRANDING	HES	ROUTE LENGTH	ARMOUR RODS
KANIVA SPUR LINE				
NO POLE 101 - NO POLE 107	NI 3-0/3/35 AAC NI	NI EC241 NI	652	NO
NO POLE 108 - NO POLE 109	NI 3-0/3/35 AAC NI	NI EC241 NI	574.9	YES
NO POLE 109 - NO POLE 110	NI 3-0/3/35 AAC NI	NI EC241 NI	571.6	YES
NO POLE 110 - NO POLE 119	NI 3-0/3/35 AAC NI	NI EC241 NI	778.4	NO
DIAPUR SPUR LINE				
NO POLE 124 - NO POLE 127	NI 3-0/3/35 AAC NI	NI EC241 NI	284.1	YES
NO POLE 128 - NO POLE 129	NI 3-0/3/35 AAC NI	NI EC241 NI	313.2	YES
NO POLE 129 - NO POLE 13	NI 3-0/3/35 AAC NI	NI EC241 NI	45.9	NO
ROGERS SPUR LINE				
NO POLE 135 - NO POLE 139	NI 3-0/3/35 AAC NI	NI EC241 NI	322.5	YES

KANIVA SPUR ON
VN8/1103/3



LEGEND

OVERHEAD LINE	EXISTING EI	NEW NI	GENERAL
CONDUCTOR GENERAL	ST	NI	BOUNDARY LINE
SUB-TRANSMISSION (6, 23KV)	NW	NI	BACK OF KERB
HV OPEN WIRE (22, 11 & 6.6KV)	NW	NI	FACE OF KERB
HV/ARIAL BUNDLED CABLE	NW	NI	LIP OF KERB
HV OPEN WIRE (LV/PHAS)	NW	NI	OTHER SERVICES
LV/ARIAL BUNDLED CABLE	NW	NI	DRAIN
OPTIC FIBRE CABLE	NW	NI	FENCE
SUPERVISORY CABLE	NW	NI	GAS MAIN
SERVICE CABLE (LV)	NW	NI	SEWER
SERVICE CABLE (Medium Voltage)	NW	NI	TELE CABLE
			WATER MAIN

CAUTIONS

FOR DETAILS OF CONDUITS REFER TO DIAL BOARD FOR THE OPERATIONS

SCALE: 1:2500

CITIPOWER
Electricity Networks
1000 Bag Road
Melbourne VIC 3001
www.citipower.com.au

INTEGRITY
Electricity Networks
1000 Bag Road
Melbourne VIC 3001
www.integrity.com.au

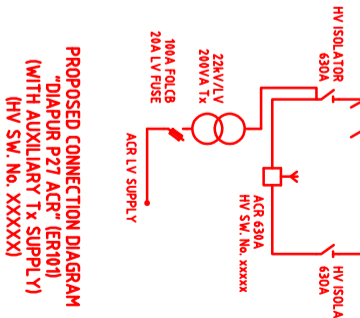
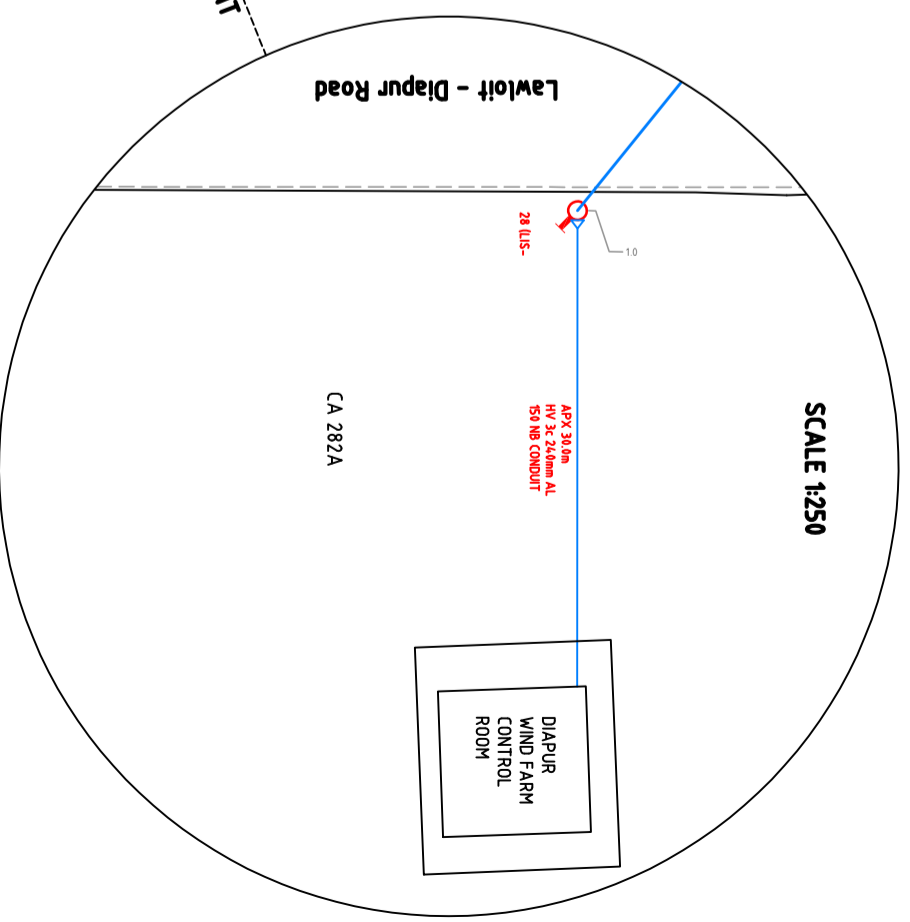
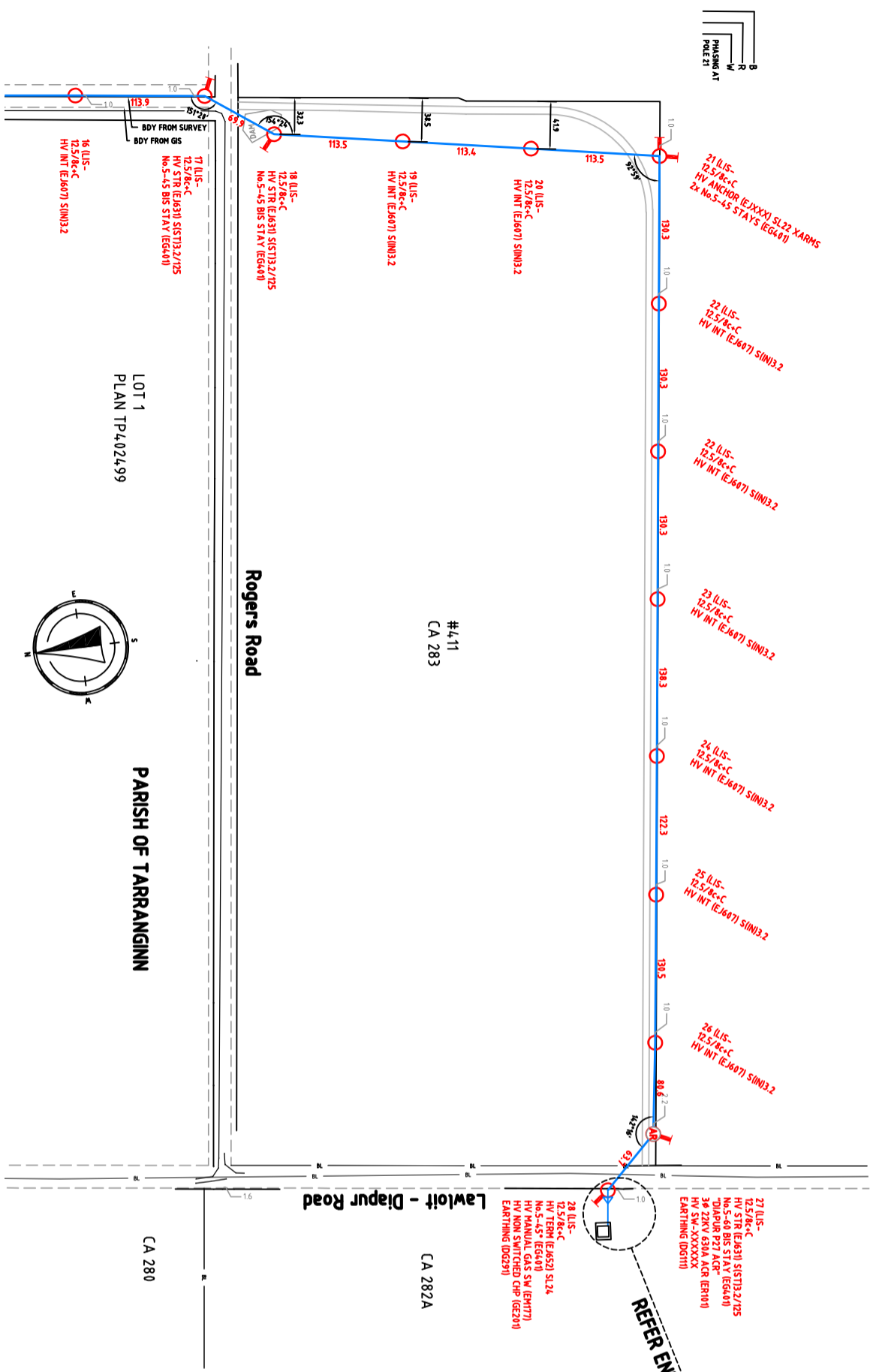
PROJECT NUMBER	PCA80 6042539
ROAD DIRECTORY	VE 32.27
GIS MAP REF.	HQZ ZONE 55
HAP PROJECTION	NAD83 / SVD-781818
FEDER / SWITCHING ZONE	N/A
REFERENCE DRAWINGS	SHDN TERNY 4623 5319
PROJECT MANAGER	

NOTE: THIS DRAWING REPLACES PART VN8/1101/2, VN8/1101/3 & VN8/234.

CONTINUED ON SHEET 5
PCA80/6042539/5

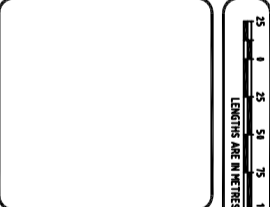
CONTINUED BELOW

CONDUCTOR SCHEDULE					
HV SERIES	CONDUCTOR	STRINGING	MES	ROUTE LENGTH	ARMOUR RODS
DIAPUR WIND FARM SPUR LINE					
(N) POLE 8 - (N) POLE 17	(N) 3-19/325 AAC	(N) EC261	105.2	2100.1	YES
(N) POLE 17 - (N) POLE 18	(N) 3-19/325 AAC	(N) EC211	-	45.9	NO
(N) POLE 18 - (N) POLE 21	(N) 3-19/325 AAC	(N) EC211	-	45.9	NO
(N) POLE 21 - (N) POLE 27	(N) 3-19/325 AAC	(N) EC261	104.2	168.3	YES
(N) POLE 27 - (N) POLE 28	(N) 3-19/325 AAC	(N) EC261	-	128.2	NO



LEGEND	
OVERHEAD LINE	EXISTING (EI)
CONDUCTOR (GENERAL)	NEW (NI)
SUB-TRANSMISSION (66, 22kV)	REMOVE (RI)
HV OPEN WIRE (22, 11 & 6.6 kV)	GENERAL
HV AERIAL BUNDLED CABLE	BOUNDARY LINE
HV & LV OPEN WIRE	BACK OF KERB
LV AERIAL BUNDLED CABLE	FACE OF KERB
LV OPEN WIRE (LV MAINS)	LIP OF KERB
LV AERIAL BUNDLED CABLE	OTHER SERVICES
PUBLIC LIGHTING CABLE	DRAIN
OPTIC FIBRE CABLE	FENCE
SUPERVISORY CABLE	GAS MAIN
SERVICE CABLE (LV)	SEWER
SERVICE CABLE (Neutral Screened)	TELCO CABLE
	WATER MAIN

CAUTIONS	
FOR DETAILS OF CONDITIONS REFER TO PDL BEFORE YOU DIG INFORMATION	
PROJECT NUMBER	6042539
ROAD DIRECTOR	IAN ZI JI
MAP REF:	HAP 11305
MAP PROJECTION	HGA ZONE 54
FEDDER / SWITCHING ZONE	NHL031 / SWZ-7375429
REFERENCE DRAWING	N/A
PROJECT MANAGER	SHON TERRY 9683 4319



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www.powercor.com.au

O/H CONSTRUCTION PLAN	
DRAWING NUMBER	PCAB0 6042539
REVISION	5
DATE	21/01/2019
DRAWING CHECK	NBATH
DESIGNER	ALEWIS
DESIGN APPROVAL	DLAIN
PROJECT MANAGER	S.TERRY

CONTINUED FROM SHEET 4
PCAB0/6042539/4



APPENDIX D
DELWP PRE-APPLICATION ADVICE

Glennie Nottle

From: Bec Falk (DELWP) <bec.falk@delwp.vic.gov.au>
Sent: Friday, 9 April 2021 12:00 PM
To: Glennie Nottle
Cc: Stewart J Dekker (DELWP)
Subject: OFFICIAL: Native Vegetation Query - Works on an Existing Access Track

Hello Glennie,

Thank you for that chat yesterday in regards to the Works on an Existing Access Track.

I have reviewed the details you have provided and have formed the view that exemptions under clause 52.17 of the Victorian Planning Provisions apply to the proposed works along the 20km of track. As discussed the following are some suggestions for best practice work while undertaking the proposal.

To avoid and minimise impacts to native vegetation it is suggested that:

- Vehicles are to remain on existing access tracks or roads.
- Avoid working in wet conditions to minimise disturbance.
- If required to work in wet conditions, bog mats are to be used.
- Vehicles should not be parked on existing access track for long duration.
- Existing access track should be limited to low frequency.

Please also remember to conduct the correct bio value check for the area, ensuring that threatened species are recorded. If the area is considered high quality grassland there should be conditions set in place to ensure there is no direct impact or loss to the native grass species.

Regards,

Bec

Bec Falk (she/her)

Natural Environment Program Officer | Natural Environment Programs – Grampians Forest, Fire and Regions | Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning

M: 0436 451 323 | **E:** bec.falk@delwp.vic.gov.au

Due to COVID-19 I am currently working remotely.



We acknowledge Victorian Traditional Owners and their Elders past and present as the original custodians of Victoria's land and waters and commit to genuinely partnering with them and Victoria's Aboriginal community to progress their aspirations.

