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# Broome Future Energy System Project - Native Vegetation Clearing Permit Supporting Document

March 2025



**HORIZON**  
POWER

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# 1 Introduction

## 1.1 Project Context

Regional Power Corporation, trading as (T/A) Horizon Power, is a Western Australia (WA) Government Trading Enterprise (GTE) and the state's regional and remote energy provider. Horizon Power operates under the *Electricity Corporations Act 2005* and is governed by a Board of Directors accountable to the Minister for Energy.

The WA State Government has committed to reducing government emissions by 80% below 2020 levels by 2030, and Horizon Power is supporting the Government to achieve this. Many towns in the Kimberley are powered by high emission fossil fuels such as diesel and gas. In Broome, Horizon Power currently purchases power from an independent power producer. The power purchase agreement (PPA) is due to expire, providing Horizon Power with an opportunity to integrate grid-scale renewable electricity into the town supply.

Horizon Power is proposing to deliver a Future Energy System (FES) in Broome in the Kimberley region of WA (the Project). The Project will ensure security of energy supply to Broome after the expiry of the PPA. As part of this future energy supply, Horizon Power is targeting higher renewables and a reduction in emissions as part of the decarbonisation strategy for the town. The Broome FES project will nominally consist of solar photovoltaic (PV) system (up to 90 megawatts alternating current (MWAC)), battery energy storage systems (BESS) (up to 42 megawatts MW / 239 megawatt-hour (MWh)), a network connection route (up to 18 km) and new thermal power station (up to 32 MW). The Project has the potential to significantly reduce the reliance on fossil fuel power in Broome, reducing greenhouse gas emissions and resulting in associated beneficial climate change impacts. The Project is estimated to reduce annual emissions from the supply of electrical power by up to 47,500 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>-e per annum compared to the existing Broome power station. If the FES were to operate for 20 years, this would equate to a reduction of up to 950,000 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>-e. The Proposed Action will also make a sustained contribution to WA's economy through provision of jobs and long-term clean energy.

The solar PV and BESS will be installed at a site approximately 10 km north of Broome, at Lot 501 on Deposited Plan 414127, Reserve 25716. The BESS, transformers, offices, storage and substation will be located in the southwestern corner of the DE, outside of the P1 PDWSA, following on from consultation with Department of Water and Environment Regulation (DWER) and Water Corporation. The network connection route corridor will follow Broome Cape Leveque Road, Broome Highway, Old Broome Road and Fredrick Street to connect the solar PV and BESS to the existing substation on Fredrick Street in Broome. Additional infrastructure as required including a new switchboard may be installed within the existing substation site on Lot 3142 on Plan 36907. The new thermal power station and Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) storage facility is proposed to be installed adjacent to the site of the existing power station location on McDaniel Road in Broome at Lot 1049 and 1060 on Deposited Plan 213567 (Reserve 33718) and Lot 1192 on Deposited Plan 213567. The network connection will either be an overhead or underground electrical distribution or transmission line and will be up to 18 km long. A Development Envelope (DE) has been utilised for the Project approvals, as the exact location of Project elements are yet to be finalised and will be subject to detailed design in the future. The DE is shown on Figure 1.

The DE has a total extent of 391.6 ha and represents the boundary surrounding the Project within which all development will be contained. Construction and operation of the Project will require permanent clearing of up to 289.5 ha of native vegetation within the DE. It should be noted that the 289.5 ha clearing extent within the DE represents the maximum area of disturbance required to construct and install the Project, where opportunities are available clearing will be minimised.

The Project was referred to the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) on 16 April 2025. The EPA decided not to assess the Project and advised that the impacts are related to clearing of native vegetation and can adequately assessed under Part V of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (EP Act). Since referral to the EPA, two additional sites have been added to the DE (a substation and the power station, as well as connections between). The changes were not considered significant as they are located within/adjacent to existing infrastructure, therefore re-referral to the EPA was not considered necessary.

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The Broome Future Energy System will be delivered by Horizon Power in partnership with an Independent Power Producer (IPP) engaged through a competitive procurement process.

### 1.2 Scope and Purpose

This document has been prepared to support a Native Vegetation Clearing Permit (NVCP) application for the Project. Specifically, this document provides further detail regarding the proposed activities (Section 2) and related clearing (Section 3).

To support environmental approvals for the Project, a biological survey was undertaken for the solar facility and the network transmission corridor in 2024 (GHD, 2024); and the power station 2025 (GHD, 2025). The results of these surveys, as relevant to the proposed clearing, are summarised in Section 4 of this document and have been taken into account when avoiding and mitigating Project environmental impacts (Section 6).

An assessment of the 10 Clearing Principles as outlined in 'A guide to the assessment of applications to clear native vegetation' (DER, 2014) has also been undertaken and is presented in Section 8.

An Environment Management Plan (EMP) has also been prepared in support of the NVCP Application and is provided in Appendix A.

## 2 Description of the Activity

### 2.1 Project Location

The Project is located in Broome, Western Australia. The solar and BESS facility is proposed to be located at Lot 501 on Deposited Plan 414127, approximately 10 km north of Broome, with the network connection route following Broome Cape Leveque Road, Broome Highway, Old Broome Road and Fredrick Street to connect the solar PV and BESS to the existing substation on Fredrick Street in Broome. The new thermal power station would be installed adjacent to the existing power station on McDaniel Road in Broome.

Land details of the DE are provided in Table 2-1 and the DE is shown in Figure 1.

Table 2-1 Development Envelope Location

Size of Development Envelope (ha)	Development Envelope location	Shire	Neighbouring land uses
391.6 ha	Solar Facility: – Reserve 25716; Lot 501 on Deposited Plan 414127.	Shire of Broome	Primary distributor road; Local Road; Cultural and natural resource; Rural; Light industry; Urban development; Settlement; Local distributor road; Foreshore; Public open space; District distributor road; Regional centre
	Substation: – Lot 3142 on Deposited Plan 36907.		
	Power Station: – Reserve 33718; Lot 1047, 1050, 1192 and 1193 on Deposited Plan 213567.		
	Network Connection Corridor - Dedicated Road (various) <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ PIN 1250025</li><li>○ PIN 1250019</li><li>○ PIN 1249992</li><li>○ PIN 11479503</li><li>○ PIN 1240445</li><li>○ PIN 1319000</li><li>○ PIN 1150367</li><li>○ PIN 11479495</li><li>○ PIN 11404745</li><li>○ Lot 507 on DP69436</li></ul>		

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Size of Development Envelope (ha)	Development Envelope location	Shire	Neighbouring land uses
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Lot 3098 on DP220235</li> <li>○ PIN1150361</li> <li>○ PIN 11731369</li> <li>○ PIN 1164417</li> <li>○ Lot 392 on DP218390</li> <li>○ Lot 423 on DP218390</li> <li>○ Lot 424 on DP218390</li> <li>○ PIN 11731068</li> <li>○ Lot 305 on DP414127</li> <li>○ PIN 12300179</li> <li>○ Lot 563 on DP71526</li> <li>○ Lot 555 on DP71439</li> <li>○ PIN 11478860</li> <li>○ Lot 554 on DP71439</li> <li>○ PIN 12300178</li> <li>○ PIN 12300173</li> <li>○ PIN 12300172</li> <li>○ Lot 556 on DP71439</li> <li>- Lot 2052 on Deposited Plan 216507</li> <li>- Lot 22 on Diagram 87033</li> <li>- Lot 3148 on Deposited Plan 36907</li> </ul>		



Figure 1 Proposed Action Location and Development Envelope



0 500 1,000 2,000 Meters  
Scale: 1:60,000



## 2.2 Activity Overview and Timelines

### 2.2.1 Pre-construction

Pre-construction activities will occur up to 12 months prior to construction and involve the following activities<sup>1</sup>:

- Solar and BESS facility, network connection route, substation (switchyard) and thermal power station site surveying and marking – surveying personnel utilising Global Positioning System (GPS) equipment to mark Proposed Action boundaries and exclusion zones.
- Solar and BESS facility soil and geotechnical investigations – geotechnical engineering and crew utilising excavators and vehicle mounted drill rig will conduct borehole drilling, soil sampling, soil testing and compaction tests. Up to 80 boreholes to a depth of 25 metres (m) and up to 50 tests pits (up to 5 m width by 5 m width) and up to 3 m depth may be conducted to support the geotechnical investigations. No more than 10 m x 10 m of clearing is permitted per test location. Geotechnical investigations require driving on vegetation to access test locations.
- Network Connection Route, Substation and New Substation Feeder geotechnical investigations – geotechnical engineering and crew utilising excavators and vehicle mounted drill rig to conduct borehole drilling, soil sampling, soil testing and compaction tests. Up to 40 boreholes to a depth of up to 25 m and up to 40 tests pits (up to 5 m width by 5 m width) and up to 3 m depth may be conducted to support the geotechnical investigations. Access is expected to be from the existing road. No more than 10 m x 10 m of clearing is permitted per test location. Geotechnical investigations require driving on vegetation to access test locations.
- Thermal power station and LNG facility soil and geotechnical investigations – geotechnical engineering and crew utilising excavators and vehicle mounted drill rig to conduct borehole drilling, soil sampling, soil testing and compaction tests. Up to 30 borehole drilling, soil sampling, soil testing and compaction tests. Up to 30 boreholes to a depth of 25 m and up to 20 tests pits (2 m width by 3 m width) up to 3 m depth may be conducted to support the geotechnical investigations. Geotechnical investigations require driving on vegetation to access test locations.
- LNG facility - Construction of foundations and bunded areas for LNG tanks. Installation of access roads and hardstand areas. Erection of fencing and security infrastructure.

### 2.2.2 Construction

The construction phase is expected to commence in 2028 for a duration of up to 24 months. Construction personnel will consist of a Project workforce of up to 200 staff for the solar and BESS facility and up to 60 staff for the network connection. Construction works will consist of<sup>2</sup>:

- Clearing of up to 289.5 ha of vegetation, topsoil removal and stockpiling, grading and excavations.
- Weed control measures to manage the spread of invasive weeds.
- Supply of concrete will be either through the establishment of a temporary on-site concrete batch plant or concrete truck deliveries. Licences will be obtained by the contractor as required in accordance with Part V of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*.
- Supply of water for construction purposes will be either trucked water or construction of a bore in accordance with the *Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914*.
- Supply of civil materials for ground levelling and fill will be trucked in from local sources.
- During construction, temporary laydown areas, ablutions, kitchen, offices, crib room, first aid, water supply, generators and other supporting facilities will be established onsite.
- Installation of the solar PV and BESS consisting of ground mounted solar panels, inverters, transformers, cabling, battery containers, substation and other ancillary infrastructure:
  - Solar PV panels and frame will be nominally up to 4 m tall from ground level. The battery containers, substation and office building will nominally be up to 5 m tall.
  - Footings of the solar system will involve either installed piles or concrete blocks. The piles solution may involve up to 40,000 steel piles (250 mm diameter) installed to a nominal depth of up to 5 m.

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<sup>1</sup> All pre-construction numbers and measurements are nominal.

<sup>2</sup> All construction numbers and measurements are nominal.

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- Excavation works for footings for the substation, battery system, office building and other ancillary infrastructure may involve excavation of up to 4,500 m<sup>3</sup> of soil (footing depth typically up to 2 m deep).
- Excavation works for internal electrical cabling may involve excavation of up to 20 km of trenching and up to 1.5 m deep, resulting in excavation of up to 45,000 m<sup>3</sup> of soil.
- Installation of a network connection from the solar and BESS facility, following Broome Cape Leveque Road, Broome Highway, Old Broome Road and Fredrick Street to the existing substation in Broome. The network connection will either be an overhead or underground distribution or transmission line:
  - Underground – Trenching excavations and reinstatement of up to 18 km and up to 3 m wide and up to 2 m deep, total excavation of up to 90,000 m<sup>3</sup> of soil.
  - Overhead – Electrical poles of up to 20 m height installed at spans of up to 200 m. Total of up to 75 poles installed along the 18 km connection route, and excavation for each pole up to 2.5 m deep, total excavations of up to 1,300 m<sup>3</sup> of soil.
- Installation of new underground feeder between existing substation and existing power station including trenching and/or direction drilling up to 5 km, total excavation of up to 25,000 m<sup>3</sup> of soil.
- Installation of a new switchboard and up to three transformers at the existing substation site including excavation of footings up to 2.5m deep.
- Installation of the new thermal power station:
  - Excavation works for footings for the thermal power station may involve excavation of up to 3,750 m<sup>3</sup> of soil (footing depth typically up to 2.5 m deep).
  - Excavation works for internal electrical cabling and gas piping may involve excavation of up to 2 km of trenching and up to 2.5 m deep, resulting in excavation of up to 10,000 m<sup>3</sup> of soil.
  - Installation of the power station including up to 20 engine generators, transformers, substation, cooling system, gas supply system, electrical and control cabling, gas pipelines and other auxiliary infrastructure. Engine generators, transformers and power station will be up to 5 m tall from ground level, while engine stacks may be up to 30 m tall.
- Installation of LNG facility including:
  - Delivery and installation of LNG storage tanks and vaporisers
  - Installation of piping, valves and associated instruments
  - Electrical works including power supply, lighting and control system
  - 2 ha of clearing for unloading bay for receiving LNG deliveries via road tankers
  - Installation of control and safety systems including but not limited to fire suppression, gas detection and emergency shutdown systems.
  - Installation of ancillary infrastructure such as fencing, lighting and utility connections.
- Construction of access tracks.

### 2.3 Land Access

As an 'energy operator', Horizon Power has certain rights under Sections 46 and 49 of the *Energy Operators (Powers) Act 1979* (EOPA) which allow Horizon Power to access and use land for the purpose of constructing, maintaining and operating electricity infrastructure. Horizon Power will utilise these powers for the network connections.

The solar and battery infrastructure will be located at Lot 501, which is currently a Crown Reserve (25716) for 'Water Supply' with Management Order to Water Corporation. A portion of the site will be excised and placed under Management Order to Horizon Power in accordance with the *Land Administration Act 1997*. Water Corporation consultation is ongoing and commitments have been incorporated into the Project EMP. A letter of endorsement from the Water Corporation for environmental approvals application is attached.

The substation will be located at the existing substation on Lot 3142 on Deposited Plan 36907. This is owned in freehold by Horizon Power. Lot 554 on Deposited Plan 714339, Lot 2052 on Deposited Plan 216507 and Lot 3148 on Deposited Plan 36907 may also be impacted for connection infrastructure and will be accessed utilising the EOPA.

The thermal power station and LNG storage components of the Proposed Action will be constructed adjacent to the existing power station within Reserve 33718, which is under a Management Order to Horizon Power for the purpose of Power Station. Reserve 33718 comprises Lot 1049, Lot 1050, and Lot 1192 on Deposited Plan 213567 (being Certificate of Title 3002, Folios 414, 415 and 421).

## 3 Description of Proposed Clearing

### 3.1 Proposed Clearing Area

The final design and footprint required for the Project will be determined once geotechnical survey works are completed and will also depend on the engineering, environmental and heritage constraints of the site. The Project will clear no more than 289.5 ha of native vegetation within the 391.6 ha DE. Clearing is required for the following:

- Geotechnical surveys,
- Solar arrays, battery storage, laydown and construction areas, and ancillary infrastructure,
- Network connection infrastructure and access tracks,
- Substation/switchyard, and
- LNG storage facility and unloading bay
- Thermal power station.

### 3.2 Proposed Clearing Method

Geotechnical survey works will consist of mainly incidental clearing (driving over and parking on native vegetation) for vehicle / machinery access to test sites. Geotechnical tests will require the mechanical removal of native vegetation. Topsoil and vegetation will be respread over each test location once complete.

Clearing for the solar arrays, network connection, thermal power station and associated infrastructure will be undertaken via mechanical removal.

## 4 Biological Survey

Horizon Power commissioned GHD to undertake a detailed (single season) flora and vegetation survey and a Target and Basic fauna survey in 2024 (GHD, 2024) and in 2025 (GHD, 2025) to gain an understanding of the flora, vegetation and fauna values within and surrounding the DE. The GHD (2024) survey covered three sites (including the solar farm) and two network connection route options. The GHD (2025) survey covered two sites (including the power station and another solar farm site). These five sites and two network connection route options surveyed are referred to as the Survey Area. The Survey Area totals to 1,270.74 ha. The biological surveys were undertaken in accordance with the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) guidelines (EPA, 2016 and EPA, 2020) and is summarised in Table 4-1.

The DE has been expanded since the surveys, to include additional assets that may be required at both the power station and substation, as well as the connection corridor between. A total of 97.6 ha is unsurveyed (Figure 2), however the majority of this is previously cleared road corridor. Approximately 5 ha of this is expected to be native vegetation based on aerial imagery. The unsurveyed area was surveyed in February 2026 and the results will be provided to DWER as soon as they are available.

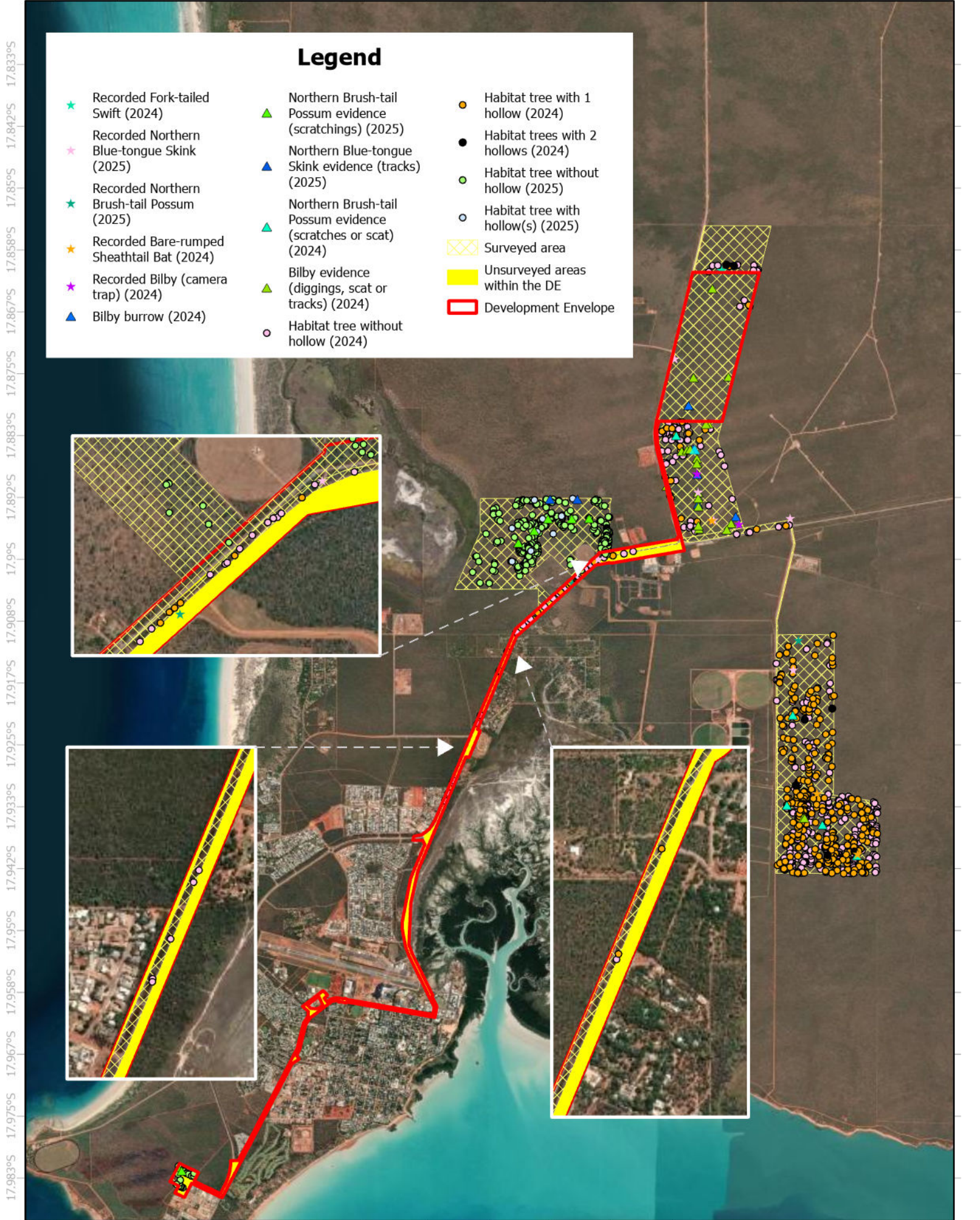


Figure 2 Survey Areas and Fauna Sensitivities Recorded



0 500 1,000 2,000  
 Meters  
 Scale: 1:70,000

Table 4-1 Summary of Biological Surveys Relevant to the DE

Survey/Report	Details
<p>Kimberly IRP: Biological Survey (GHD, 2024) IBSA-2024-0323</p>	<p><b>Survey dates:</b> 6 to 12 February and 6 to 12 March 2024.</p> <p><b>Survey Area:</b> The GHD (2024) Survey Area in Broome covered 988.9 ha.</p> <p><b>Flora/vegetation Findings:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– No <i>Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i> (EPBC Act) or <i>Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016</i> (BC Act) listed flora were recorded within the survey area.</li> <li>– No TECs listed under the EPBC Act or BC Act were recorded within the Broome survey area during the field survey.</li> <li>– One Priority Ecological Community (PEC) listed by Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA) was recorded within the Broome survey area: Relict dune system dominated by extensive stands of Minyjuru (Mangarr – <i>Sersalisia sericea</i>) (Priority (P)1 PEC)</li> <li>– One Declared Pest (DP) was recorded: <i>*Azadirachta indica</i> (Neem).</li> <li>– Four vegetation types were recorded.</li> <li>– The Broome site contained a small patch of open <i>Eucalyptus tectifica</i> clay dampland (VT07) with vines of <i>*Passiflora foetida</i> over a tussock grassland of <i>Chrysopogon pallidus</i>, <i>Eragrostis speciosa</i> over a sparse sedgeland of <i>Cyperus conicus</i>. Broome also contained a small area of mangrove tidal mudflats (VT08) with sparse trees of <i>Avicennia marina</i> subsp. <i>marina</i> and sparse samphire shrubland.</li> <li>– Seven DBCA listed priority flora species were recorded from the Broome survey areas including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Bonamia oblongifolia</i> (P3)</li> <li>• <i>Acacia monticola x tumida</i> var. <i>kulparn</i> (P3)</li> <li>• <i>Glycine pindanica</i> (P3)</li> <li>• <i>Jacquemontia</i> sp. <i>Broome</i> (A.A. Mitchell 3028) (P1)</li> <li>• <i>Polymeria</i> sp. <i>Broome</i> (K.F. Kenneally 9759) (P3)</li> <li>• <i>Terminalia kumpaja</i> (P3)</li> <li>• <i>Corymbia ? paractia</i> (P1)</li> </ul> </li> <li>– Three species recorded in the survey represent range extensions.</li> </ul> <p><b>Fauna / Fauna Habitat Findings:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– The Broome survey recorded the following 7 significant fauna species: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Northern Blue-tongue Skink (<i>Tiliqua scincoides intermedia</i>) - Critically Endangered under EPBC Act</li> <li>• Bilby (<i>Macrotis lagotis</i>) - Vulnerable under EPBC and BC Acts</li> <li>• Northern Brushtail Possum (<i>Trichosurus vulpecula arnhemensis</i>) - Vulnerable under EPBC and BC Acts</li> <li>• Bare-rumped Sheath-tailed Bat (<i>Saccolaimus saccolaimus</i>) – Vulnerable under EPBC Act and Priority 3 under BC Act</li> <li>• Fork-tailed Swift (<i>Apus pacificus</i>) – Migratory species under EPBC and BC Acts</li> <li>• Northern Coastal Free-tailed Bat (<i>Ozimops cobourgianus</i>) – Priority 1 on the DBCA priority fauna list</li> <li>• Yellow-lipped Cave Bat (<i>Vespadelus douglasorum</i>) – Priority 2 on the DBCA priority fauna list</li> </ul> </li> <li>– The following additional conservation listed species are considered likely to occur within the survey area: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Northern Short-tailed Mouse (<i>Leggadina lakedownensis</i>) (Listed as Priority 4 by DBCA)</li> <li>• Dampierland Burrowing Snake (<i>Simoselaps minimus</i>) (Listed as Priority 2 by DBCA)</li> <li>• Dampierland Plain Slider (<i>Lerista separanda</i>) (Listed as Priority 2 by DBCA)</li> <li>• Gouldian Finch (<i>Chleobia gouldiae</i>) (Listed as Endangered under the EPBC ACT and Priority 4 by DBCA)</li> <li>• Grey Falcon (<i>Falco hypoleucos</i>) (Listed as Vulnerable under the EPBC Act and BC Act)</li> <li>• Peregrine Falcon (<i>Falco peregrinus</i>) (Listed as Other Specially Protected Fauna under the BC Act)</li> <li>• Osprey (<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>) (Listed as Migratory under the EPBC Act and BC Act)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Five fauna habitats were recorded within the survey area: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Open Eucalypt dampland</li> <li>• Pindan shrubland plain</li> <li>• Pindan shrubland relic dunes</li> <li>• Scattered plantings and native trees</li> <li>• Sparse mangrove tidal mudflat</li> </ul> </li> <li>– 694 habitat trees, 322 of these are hollow bearing.</li> <li>– 33 Bilby burrows were recorded across the survey area, comprising 6 active burrows, and 27 old or inactive burrows. An additional 25 records, including diggings, prints and scat were recorded during the survey.</li> </ul>
<p>Kimberly IRP: Broome Site E and Power Station (GHD, 2025) IBSA-2025-0366</p>	<p><b>Survey dates:</b> 24 to 30<sup>th</sup> of March 2025</p> <p><b>Survey Area:</b> The GHD (2025) Survey Area in Broome covered 281.84 ha.</p> <p><b>Flora/vegetation Findings:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– No EPBC Act or BC Act listed flora were recorded within the survey area.</li> <li>– No TECs listed under the EPBC Act or BC Act or PECs listed by DBCA were recorded within the field survey</li> <li>– Four vegetation types were recorded.</li> <li>– VT07 and VT08 represent riparian vegetation</li> <li>– Five Priority flora species listed by the DBCA were recorded during the survey: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Polymeria sp. Broome</i> (K.F. Kenneally 9759) (Priority 3)</li> <li>• <i>Bonamia oblongifolia</i> (Priority 3)</li> <li>• <i>Jacquemontia sp. Broome</i> (A.A. Mitchell 3028) (Priority 1)</li> <li>• <i>Corymbia paractia</i> (Priority 2)</li> <li>• <i>Terminalia kumpaja</i> (Priority 3)</li> </ul> </li> <li>– One DP was recorded: *<i>Azadirachta indica</i> (Neem).</li> <li>– A total of five additional significant flora species are considered to potentially occur: – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Thespidium basiflorum</i> (P1)</li> <li>• <i>Acacia monticola x tumida</i> var. <i>kulparn</i> (P3) s</li> <li>• <i>Glycine pindanica</i> (P3)</li> <li>• <i>Paranotis halfordii</i> (P3)</li> <li>• <i>Bonamia oblongifolia</i> (P3)</li> </ul> </li> <li>– A total of seven species recorded within the survey area represent range extensions</li> </ul> <p><b>Fauna / Fauna Habitat Findings:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Two EPBC Act and BC Act listed fauna species was recorded during the survey: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Northern Brushtail Possum (<i>Trichosurus vulpecula arnhemensis</i>) (Vulnerable under the EPBC Act and the BC Act)</li> <li>• Northern Blue-tongue Skink (<i>Tiliqua scincoides intermedia</i>) – Critically Endangered under EPBC Act, and Priority 4 (P4) listed by DBCA</li> </ul> </li> <li>– The following additional conservation listed species are considered likely to occur within the survey area: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bilby (<i>Macrotis lagotis</i>) (Vulnerable under the EPBC Act and the BC Act)</li> <li>• Fork-tailed Swift (<i>Apus pacificus</i>) – Migratory species under EPBC and BC Acts</li> <li>• Gouldian Finch (<i>Chleobia gouldiae</i>) (Listed as Endangered under the EPBC ACT and Priority 4 by DBCA)</li> <li>• Peregrine Falcon (<i>Falco peregrinus</i>) (Listed as Other Specially Protected Fauna under the BC Act)</li> <li>• Osprey (<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>) (Listed as Migratory under the EPBC Act and BC Act)</li> <li>• Northern Coastal Free-tailed Bat (<i>Ozimops cobourgianus</i>) – Priority 1 on the DBCA priority fauna list</li> <li>• Northern Brushtail Possum (<i>Trichosurus vulpecula arnhemensis</i>) - Vulnerable under EPBC and BC Acts</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Bare-rumped Sheath-tailed Bat (<i>Saccolaimus saccolaimus</i>) – Vulnerable under EPBC Act and Priority 3 under BC Act</li><li>– Three fauna habitats were recorded within the survey area:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Open mixed dampland</li><li>• Pindan woodland</li><li>• Pindan woodland plain</li></ul></li><li>– 317 habitat trees, 11 of these are hollow bearing.</li><li>– 8 potential Bilby burrows were recorded in the survey area. An additional 3 records of Bilby diggings were recorded within the survey area.</li></ul>
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The environmental constraints identified in the Development Envelope are detailed in Figure 3.

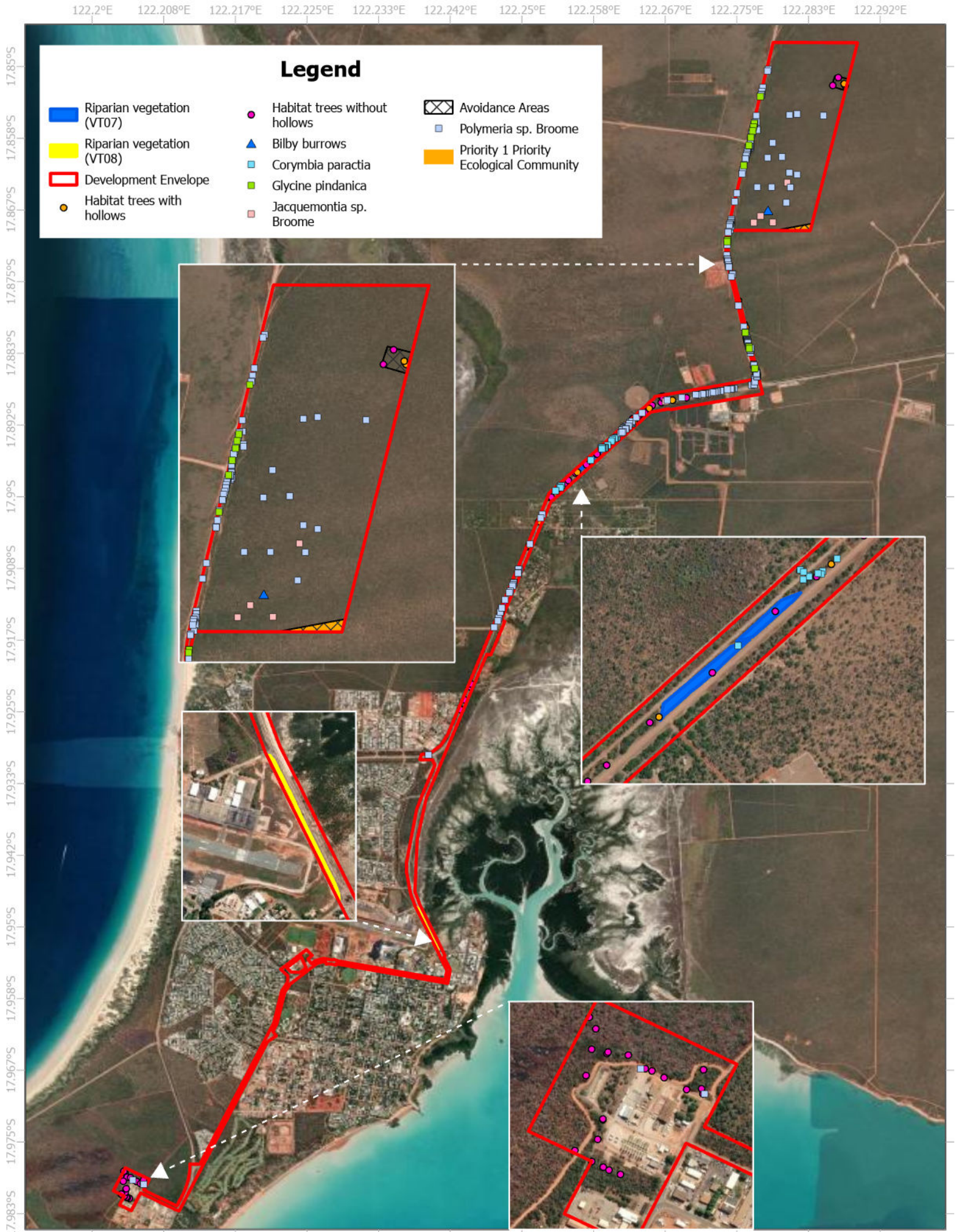


Figure 3 Environmental Constraints within the DE



0 500 1,000 2,000  
Meters

Scale: 1:60,000

## 4.1 Regional survey

Horizon Power also reviewed a number of flora and vegetation surveys completed for other projects in the surrounding region, to obtain regional context and inform the survey effort for this Project. The most relevant surveys reviewed are summarised in Table 4-2, including the key findings applicable to this Project.

Table 4-2 Summary of relevant flora and vegetation surveys reviewed in vicinity of Project

Survey/Report	Author	Date	Key findings relevant to Project
Broome Asparagus Biological Assessment	AECOM	2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recorded 365 individuals of <i>Jacquemontia</i> sp. Broome (A.A. Mitchell 3028) approximately 13 km east of the DE.</li> <li>Recorded Bilby evidence in the form of diggings, scats and old burrows and recorded 369.6 ha of potential Bilby habitat in their survey area, which is approximately 13 km east of the DE.</li> </ul>
Cape Leveque Road Upgrade Biological Survey	Biota Environmental Sciences	2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recorded 742 individuals of <i>Jacquemontia</i> sp. Broome (A.A. Mitchell 3028), of which 730 are within 250 m of the DE, and the furthest record is approximately 15 km north of the DE.</li> <li>Recorded 368 individuals of <i>Polymeria</i> sp. Broome (K.F. Kenneally 9759) within 20 km of the DE, of which 93 were within 250 m of the DE.</li> <li>Recorded 73 individuals of <i>Corymbia paractia</i> within 250 m of the DE.</li> <li>Recorded Bilby evidence in the form of tracks, diggings, active burrows and inactive burrows. There were 196 records of Bilby evidence in total, 11 of which were within 130 m of the DE. The closest active Bilby burrow was approximately 12.7 km north of the DE.</li> </ul>
LandCorp Broome Motorplex Environmental Site Investigation	GHD	2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recorded one individual of <i>Glycine pindanica</i> within 1 km east of the DE.</li> <li>Recorded 9,940 individuals of <i>Jacquemontia</i> sp. Broome (A.A. Mitchell 3028) within 1 km east of the DE.</li> <li>Conducted a fauna survey approximately 1.2 km west of the DE and recorded the Northern Brushtail Possum on six occasions.</li> </ul>
Broome Regional Resource Recovery Park Detailed Flora and Vegetation Assessment	Spectrum Ecology	2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recorded 715 individuals of <i>Jacquemontia</i> sp. Broome (A.A. Mitchell 3028) within 1 km east of the DE.</li> <li>Recorded 14 individuals of <i>Corymbia paractia</i> within 1 km east of the DE.</li> <li>Recorded the Northern Coastal Free-tailed Bat multiple times via ultrasonic recorder within 50 m west of the DE.</li> </ul>
Water Corporation Mamabulanjin Orchard Flora and Fauna Survey	GHD	2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recorded Bilby evidence 11 times within 1 km of the DE, 7 of these records were burrows.</li> </ul>

## 5 Existing Environment

The existing environment is summarised in Table 5-1.

Table 5-1 Existing environment

Environmental value	Assessment																														
Vegetation associations, types and condition	The Project is located within Pre-European Vegetation Association 750. More than 99% of these vegetation associations remain at the state, bioregion, subregion and local government authority (LGA) scale.																														
	Vegetation association	Scale	Pre-European extent (ha)	Current extent (ha)	% Remaining	% of current extent in all DBCA managed land (proportion of current extent)																									
	750	State: WA	1,231,155.50	1,225,687.52	99.56	2.78																									
		IBRA Bioregion: Dampierland	1,229,182.16	1,225,280.52	99.68	2.78																									
		IBRA Subregion: Pindanland	1,221,734.45	1,217,843.72	99.68	2.80																									
LGA: Shire of Broome		1,110,599.36	1,110,131.18	99.96	3.07																										
<p>The DE has been expanded since the surveys, to include additional assets that may be required at both the power station and substation, as well as the connection corridor between. A total of 97.6 ha is unsurveyed, however the majority of this is previously cleared road corridor. Approximately 5 ha of this is expected to be native vegetation based on aerial imagery. Unsurveyed areas within the DE were surveyed in February 2026 and results will be provided to DWER as soon as they are available.</p> <p>Seven native vegetation types were identified in the DE, with the remainder of the DE recorded as scattered natives over weeds, landscaped areas and planted gardens, cleared road verge and drains with regrowth of native forbs and grasses or cleared land (GHD, 2024; 2025):</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Vegetation type</th> <th>Extent (ha) within DE</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>VT02</td> <td>5.9</td> </tr> <tr> <td>VT03</td> <td>0.8</td> </tr> <tr> <td>VT04</td> <td>3.6</td> </tr> <tr> <td>VT05</td> <td>254.2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>VT06</td> <td>2.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>VT07</td> <td>0.6</td> </tr> <tr> <td>VT08</td> <td>0.9</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Scattered natives over weeds</td> <td>1.9</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Landscaped areas and planted gardens</td> <td>1.9</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cleared road verge and drains with regrowth of native forbs and grasses</td> <td>15.8</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cleared</td> <td>6.5</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>TOTAL</b></td> <td><b>294.1</b></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>						Vegetation type	Extent (ha) within DE	VT02	5.9	VT03	0.8	VT04	3.6	VT05	254.2	VT06	2.0	VT07	0.6	VT08	0.9	Scattered natives over weeds	1.9	Landscaped areas and planted gardens	1.9	Cleared road verge and drains with regrowth of native forbs and grasses	15.8	Cleared	6.5	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>294.1</b>
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<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>294.1</b>																														
Fauna habitat	Seven fauna habitat types have been mapped across the Survey Area (GHD, 2024; 2025). The fauna habitat mapping shows that degraded and cleared areas cover 22.3 ha of the DE and are considered to be of minimal value to fauna and are not considered a fauna habitat type. The DE has been expanded since the surveys, to include additional assets that may be required at both the power station and substation, as well as the connection corridor between. A total of 97.6 ha is unsurveyed, however the majority of this is previously																														

Environmental value	Assessment																														
	<p>cleared road corridor. The unsurveyed area (approximately 5 ha of vegetation) was surveyed in February 2026, survey results will be provided to DWER as soon as they are available. Fauna habitats in these areas are expected to be the same as the adjacent vegetation.</p> <p>Fauna habitats within the DE have low to high habitat value in the context of the surrounding environment. Overall, the habitats contain a diversity of fauna, and all provide habitat for significant fauna species that are present or likely to be present in the local area. Fauna habitat and condition is detailed below:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="502 427 1329 952"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="502 427 853 472">Fauna habitat</th> <th data-bbox="853 427 1050 472">Habitat value</th> <th data-bbox="1050 427 1329 472">Extent (ha) within DE</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="502 472 853 517">Pindan shrubland plain</td> <td data-bbox="853 472 1050 517">High</td> <td data-bbox="1050 472 1329 517">254.2</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="502 517 853 562">Pindan shrubland relic dunes</td> <td data-bbox="853 517 1050 562">High</td> <td data-bbox="1050 517 1329 562">2.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="502 562 853 607">Pindan woodland</td> <td data-bbox="853 562 1050 607">Medium</td> <td data-bbox="1050 562 1329 607">5.9</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="502 607 853 651">Pindan woodland plain</td> <td data-bbox="853 607 1050 651">High</td> <td data-bbox="1050 607 1329 651">3.5</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="502 651 853 696">Open Eucalypt dampland</td> <td data-bbox="853 651 1050 696">Medium</td> <td data-bbox="1050 651 1329 696">1.4</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="502 696 853 779">Sparse mangrove tidal mudflat</td> <td data-bbox="853 696 1050 779">Low</td> <td data-bbox="1050 696 1329 779">0.9</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="502 779 853 862">Scattered plantings and native trees</td> <td data-bbox="853 779 1050 862">Low</td> <td data-bbox="1050 779 1329 862">3.9</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="502 862 853 907">Degraded and cleared areas</td> <td data-bbox="853 862 1050 907">Low</td> <td data-bbox="1050 862 1329 907">22.3</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="502 907 853 952"><b>TOTAL</b></td> <td data-bbox="853 907 1050 952"></td> <td data-bbox="1050 907 1329 952"><b>294.1</b></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>There are 78 habitat trees within the DE, 62 of which do not contain hollows and 16 contain hollows. An avoidance area has been committed to, reducing the number of habitat trees to be cleared to 60 without hollows and 14 with. A total of 933 habitat trees (616 without hollows and 317 with) are outside of the DE.</p> <p>There are 2 active and 4 old Bilby burrows within the DE. Additionally, 3 Bilby diggings and 1 Bilby scat was recorded within the DE.</p> <p>The unsurveyed area is expected to contain trees that may or may not contain hollows. This data will be provided to DWER once available.</p>	Fauna habitat	Habitat value	Extent (ha) within DE	Pindan shrubland plain	High	254.2	Pindan shrubland relic dunes	High	2.0	Pindan woodland	Medium	5.9	Pindan woodland plain	High	3.5	Open Eucalypt dampland	Medium	1.4	Sparse mangrove tidal mudflat	Low	0.9	Scattered plantings and native trees	Low	3.9	Degraded and cleared areas	Low	22.3	<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>294.1</b>
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<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>294.1</b>																													
Significant fauna	<p>The GHD (2024) survey recorded four conservation significant fauna species within the DE or in close vicinity to the DE (the Bilby, Northern Brushtail Possum, Northern Blue-tongue Skink and Fork-tailed Swift) with an additional ten species considered likely to occur.</p> <p>The GHD (2025) survey recorded two conservation significant fauna species within the DE (the Northern Brushtail Possum and the Northern Blue-tongue Skink).</p> <p>The surveys combined identified the following species as known or likely to occur:</p> <ul data-bbox="379 1400 1422 2016" style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bilby (<i>Macrotis lagotis</i>): Vulnerable under EPBC and BC Act - known</li> <li>• Northern Brushtail Possum (<i>Trichosurus vulpecula arnhemensis</i>): Vulnerable under EPBC and BC Act – known</li> <li>• Northern Blue-tongue Skink (<i>Tilqua scincoides intermedia</i>): Critically Endangered under EPBC Act and Priority 4 under DBCA - known</li> <li>• Fork-tailed Swift (<i>Apu's pacificus</i>): Migratory under EPBC and BC Act – known</li> <li>• Bare-rumped Sheath-tailed Bat (<i>Saccolaimus saccolaimus</i>): Vulnerable under EPBC Act and Priority 3 under DBCA – likely</li> <li>• Gouldian Finch (<i>Chleobia gouldiae</i>): Endangered under EPBC Act and Priority 4 under DBCA – likely</li> <li>• Grey Falcon (<i>Falco hypoleucos</i>): Vulnerable under EPBC Act and BC Act – likely</li> <li>• Osprey (<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>): Migratory under EPBC and BC Act – likely</li> <li>• Barn Swallow (<i>Hirundo rustica</i>): Migratory under EPBC and BC Act – likely</li> <li>• Peregrine Falcon (<i>Falco peregrinus</i>): Other Specially Protected under EPBC and BC Act – likely</li> <li>• Northern Coastal Free-tailed Bat (<i>Ozimops cobourgianus</i>): Priority 1 under DBCA - likely</li> <li>• Yellow-lipped Cave Bat (<i>Vespadelus douglasorum</i>): Priority 1 under DBCA - likely</li> <li>• Dampierland Burrowing Snake (<i>Simoselaps minimus</i>): Priority 2 under DBCA - likely</li> <li>• Dampierland Plain Slider (<i>Lerista separanda</i>): Priority 2 under DBCA – likely</li> </ul>																														

Environmental value	Assessment
Ecological linkages	The fauna habitats within the DE are part of a contiguous, largely intact area of remnant vegetation present in Broome. Land within the Broome township has been subject to clearing, but this clearing is minimal and much of the remnant vegetation is intact in the local area. Overall, the habitats within the DE are largely contiguous through the local area.
Ecological communities	No State or Commonwealth listed TECs were recorded within the DE (GHD, 2024; GHD, 2025). One Priority 1 PEC was identified in the DE by GHD (2024), located within the southern section of the solar facility of the DE. The PEC is the 'Relict dune system dominated by extensive stands of Minyjuru (Mangarr - <i>Sersalisia sericea</i> )'. An avoidance area has been implemented around this PEC. This PEC is discussed further in Section 8.
Significant flora	<p>The EPBC Act Protected Matters Search Tool (PMST), NatureMap and DBCA Threatened and Priority flora databases identified the presence/potential presence of significant flora taxa within a 20 km buffer of the Survey Area (GHD, 2024; GHD, 2025). No EPBC listed flora were recorded during the field surveys (GHD, 2024; 2025). The GHD (2024; 2025) surveys recorded four Priority species within the DE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 25 individuals of <i>Jacquemontia</i> sp. Broome (A.A. Mitchell 3028) (Priority 1)</li> <li>• 36 individuals of <i>Corymbia paractia</i> (Priority 2)</li> <li>• 231 individuals of <i>Polymeria</i> sp. Broome (K.F. Kenneally 9759) (Priority 3).</li> <li>• 13 individuals of <i>Glycine pindanica</i> (Priority 3)</li> </ul> <p>These species were recorded within the network connection corridor, the solar farm area and the power station sections of the DE (GHD, 2024; GHD, 2025). These species are discussed further in Section 8.</p> <p>An additional three conservation significant flora species were recorded during the GHD (2024; 2025) surveys, however these individuals have been avoided in the proposed design and are not located within the DE. These three species are considered likely to occur within the DE since they have been recorded in proximity to the DE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 9 individuals of <i>Bonamia oblongifolia</i> (Priority 3) – closest record approximately 343 m from the DE</li> <li>• 30 individuals of <i>Terminalia kumpaja</i> (Priority 3) – closest record approximately 15 m from the DE</li> <li>• 1 individual of <i>Acacia monticola</i> x <i>turmidia</i> var. <i>kulparn</i> (Priority 3) – closest record approximately 6.2 km from the DE</li> </ul> <p>The unsurveyed area may contain occurrences of significant flora. This data will be provided to DWER once available.</p>
Wetlands and/or waterways	<p>The DE is within the Cape Leveque Coast Sub-catchment, which is within the Cape Leveque Coast Basin Catchment (DWER, 2024) which contains no large rivers. No permanent water bodies or drainage lines are located within the DE. Based on the topography of the DE and surrounding area, rainfall is expected to drain west towards the coast.</p> <p>The southern portion of the network connection corridor is located in close proximity to the Dampier Creek. This area is characterised by mangroves that experience tidal inundation. The Roebuck Bay wetland is located less than 20 m east of the DE (DBCA, 2018). Roebuck Bay is also associated with a Ramsar wetland which is located approximately 7 km east of the DE (DBCA, 2017).</p> <p>Additionally, VT07 and VT08 represent riparian vegetation and occur in small areas along the network connection route portion of the DE (GHD, 2024).</p>
Water resources	<p>The DE overlaps the Broome Water Reserve, which is a Public Drinking Water Source Area (PDWSA). It also overlaps the Broome Groundwater Area proclaimed under the Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914 (RIWI Act).</p> <p>Based on publicly available data, the depth to groundwater in the area surrounding the DE is estimated to be between 2.1 m to 32 m below ground level (Landcorp, 2009 and Talis, 2023). The groundwater is expected to be shallow along the portion of the network connection corridor that is located in close proximity to Dampier Creek. The general inferred direction of groundwater flow is in a south to southwest direction towards the coast.</p> <p>Water required for construction activities (e.g., dust suppression, civil works and concrete batching) is expected to be sourced via trucking in water from local or regional sources or temporary groundwater bores licences from DWER. Operational water demand will be minimal and primarily for equipment cleaning and routine maintenance and will be sourced from truck in water and/or rainwater tanks.</p>
Conservation Reserves	There are no DBCA managed lands within the DE (DBCA, 2024). However, approximately 310 m east and 705 m west of the DE, there is land protected under the Conservation and Land Management Act 1984 (CALM Act) for the purpose of "conservation, recreation and traditional and customary Aboriginal use and enjoyment" for the Yawuru Native Title Holders Aboriginal Corporation Registered Native Title Body

Environmental value	Assessment
	Corporate (RNTBC). The Yawuru Nagulagun / Roebuck Bay Marine Park is also approximately 140 m east of the DE.
Environmentally Sensitive Area	The network connection corridor portion of the DE overlaps an Environmentally Sensitive Area (ESA) that is associated with the buffer of the Roebuck Bay mudflats State listed TEC. This TEC is listed as Vulnerable under the <i>Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016</i> (BC Act) and is not listed as Threatened under the EPBC Act. The DE only overlaps the buffered extent of this TEC, and does not overlap the mapped boundary of the TEC. No vegetation commensurate with these ecological communities was identified in the DE.
Land and soil quality	<p>The Project is located within the Dampier Peninsula Sandplain Zone, which is described as sandplains and dunes (with some sandy plateaux and coastal mudflats) on sedimentary rocks of the Canning Basin with Red deep sands and some yellow sandy earths and tidal soils (DPIRD, 2022a; Payne &amp; Schoknecht, 2011)). The Project overlaps the following land systems:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yeeda System: Red sandplains supporting pindan vegetation with dense Acacia shrubs, scattered bloodwood and grey box trees and curly spinifex and ribbon grass.</li> <li>• Wanganut System: Sandplains and linear dunes supporting pindan woodlands with Acacias and bloodwoods and curly spinifex- ribbon grass, and broad low-lying swales supporting bloodwood-grey box woodlands with curly spinifex-ribbon grass.</li> <li>• Carpentaria System: Coastal plains, extensive bare mud flats, associated sandy margins and minor dunes, saline sands and muds, supporting paperbark thickets, samphire shrublands and fringing mangrove forests.</li> </ul> <p>The solar facility and the power station are within an area of extremely low probability of occurrence of Acid Sulfate Soils (ASS). A small section of the DE adjacent to the network connection corridor portion of the DE in the intertidal and extratidal flats is within an area of high probability of occurrence of ASS (Fitzpatrick et al., 2011). If ASS or any other contaminants are encountered, additional investigations will be undertaken.</p> <p>The risk of contamination at the solar farm area is considered to be low. Investigations are being undertaken at the existing power station and surroundings.</p> <p>Mitigation measures for erosion and ASS are outlined in the EMP.</p>
Environmental heritage	There are no World Heritage Properties or Commonwealth Heritage Places within the DE or within 20 km of the DE. The West Kimberley National Heritage Place is located approximately 950 m east of the network connection corridor section of the DE. All activities will be confined to the DE, therefore there will be no impacts to this National Heritage Place as a result of the Project, and it is not discussed further.
Air quality	The proposed works are unlikely to contribute significantly to dust. Dust will be managed during construction in accordance with the EMP. No significant receptors are directly adjacent to the Project and no significant air emissions are expected that would impact the airshed.
Amenity values	The Project has the potential to impact on visual amenity of the local area. However, the proposed infrastructure is consistent with existing infrastructure in the region. There are also potential impacts through dust, noise and vibration. However, these will be temporary in nature and limited to the construction phase of the Project. Standard mitigation measures will be implemented and are outlined in the EMP.

## 6 Avoidance, Mitigation and Management Measures

### 6.1 Avoidance

Initial avoidance and minimisation measures were undertaken during early planning works and site selection. The network connection route follows an existing cleared corridor to the existing substation site on Frederick Street in Broome, reducing the amount of clearing required for access tracks and network connection.

To avoid impacts to significant environmental and heritage values identified within the DE, the following avoidance areas will be committed to (see Figure 4):

- An avoidance area has been established around four habitat trees within the DE (of which two had suitable nesting/roosting hollows)
- An avoidance area has been established in the southeastern corner of the solar facility portion of the DE to avoid impacts to the Relict dune system dominated by extensive stands of Minyjuru (Mangarr – *Seralisia sericea*) Priority Ecological Community (PEC) (Priority 1).
- The BESS, transformers, offices, storage and substation will be located outside the P1 PDWSA.
- A PFAS (Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl substances) free fire suppression system will be installed and mandated in contractual documentation.
- Refuelling of all vehicles will occur outside of the P1 PDWSA.

### 6.2 Mitigation and Management

An EMP has been developed for the Project which lists the specific mitigation and management measures to be applied during construction of the Project (see Appendix A). Key management measures for the geotechnical works and Project infrastructure include:

- No clearing is permitted outside the DE.
- Clearing impacts will be further reduced through the detailed design process, including the positioning of solar and BESS facility infrastructure, substation and power station infrastructure and network connection infrastructure to minimise impacts to vegetation and flora (including Priority flora where possible) and fauna habitat.
- Network connection infrastructure will avoid riparian vegetation where possible.
- Habitat trees suitable for the Northern Brush-tail Possum, Northern Coastal Free-tailed Bat, Bare-rumped Sheath-tailed Bat and the Gouldian Finch will be avoided where possible during design.
- The clearing locations are to be demarcated with flagging tape, GPS or similar prior to clearing activities.
- Clearing areas are to be checked by an Environmental Specialist or Site Supervisor prior to clearing to ensure no more than 289.5 ha of clearing is undertaken for the Project.
- A pre-clearing environmental toolbox will be held so all staff are aware of their responsibilities under the permit.
- Pre-clearing fauna relocation as detailed in the EMP.
- Clearing of native vegetation will be undertaken in a slow, progressive manner in one direction to allow fauna to move away from the clearing area.
- Presence of a licenced fauna specialist prior to the commencement of clearing activities to supervise avoidance, dispersal and relocation of fauna.
- Movement of vehicles and machinery will be in convoy along access tracks/ routes and will not go into adjacent vegetation.
- Vehicles and machinery will arrive clean and weed control will be undertaken at the site post-construction as required.
- Dust, noise, vibration and light management measures will be implemented during construction

- Any water abstraction required for construction of the Project will be undertaken to minimise drawdown, and water allowed to infiltrate as close to the source as possible. If the groundwater is acidic, it would be treated and discharged in accordance with an ASS Management Plan.
- Weather will be monitored to avoid construction works during heavy rainfall to prevent runoff, erosion and mobilisation of sediment.
- If ASS or any other contaminants are encountered, additional investigations will be undertaken. An ASS Management Plan will be developed if required.



Figure 4 Development Envelope and Avoidance Area



0 500 1,000 2,000  
Meters

Scale: 1:60,000

**Legend**

- Development Envelope
- Avoidance Areas
- Priority 1 Priority Ecological Community
- Habitat Trees



## 7 Stakeholder Engagement

### 7.1 Key stakeholders

The key stakeholders identified for the Proposed Action are provided in Table 7-1.

Table 7-1 Key project stakeholders

Category	Stakeholders
Agencies acting on behalf of the Commonwealth Government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regional Development Australia Kimberley, DCCEEW</li> </ul>
State Government – Ministers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hon Divina D’Anna – Member for Kimberley</li> <li>Hon Amber-Jade Sanderson – Minister for Energy and Decarbonisation</li> <li>Hon Stephen Dawson – Minister for Regional Development; Ports; Science and Innovation; Medical Research; Kimberley</li> </ul>
Government - Entities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Department Planning, Lands and Heritage, Kimberley Development Commission, Water Corporation, DWER, Department of Communities, Main Roads WA, Department of Biodiversity Conservation and Attractions, Department Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW), and Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA)</li> </ul>
Traditional Owners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yawuru Prescribed Body Corporate</li> </ul>
Local Government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Shire of Broome</li> </ul>
Corporate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nyamba Buru Yawuru Limited, Major Account Holders, Broome Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Clean Energy Council, First Nations Clean Energy Network, Kimberley Land Council, Kimberley Aboriginal Lands Trust, EDL Energy, Telstra</li> </ul>
Broome Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Customer and community members</li> </ul>
Community-led environmental organisations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Environs Kimberley</li> </ul>

### 7.2 Stakeholder engagement process

The stakeholder engagement process is guided by an Engagement and Communications Plan that is informed by a strategic engagement framework. This framework combines principles from the Engagement Institute (formerly IAP2) and national industry organisations, like The Energy Charter & Clean Energy Council.

By integrating these principles, Horizon Power aims to foster inclusive, transparent, and rights-respecting engagement processes that empower communities and uphold fundamental rights.

Horizon Power is committed to working with communities and engaging with them on projects that impact them. We are committed to sharing the journey with our communities to gain their valuable knowledge, enabling us to translate their worthy ideas into our decisions and actions.

Each engagement activity is tailored to the local context, encouraging two-way dialogue. Information has been delivered in-person where possible. Throughout engagement and communications, queries and concerns have been captured and responses provided and documented via a stakeholder consultation register.

A dedicated project webpage, established at project inception in 2023, with FAQs continues to provide easy access to information and serves as a portal for community members to sign up for updates, ask questions, and stay informed about the project’s progress. The project page was updated mid-2025 and the Broome Future Energy System project is now presented as a standalone webpage. Since re-launch the page has received 387 page views.

Community members and stakeholders can contact the team by emailing [broome@horizonpower.com.au](mailto:broome@horizonpower.com.au) or [decarbonisation@horizonpower.com.au](mailto:decarbonisation@horizonpower.com.au), or by reaching out to the Horizon Power Customer and Community team in the Broome office. These email addresses are used to register for project updates, ask questions, and provide feedback.

Engagement is further supported through the Horizon Power Customer Council — an advisory group representing regional interests — and through the annual customer and community survey, which gathers feedback and sentiment on Horizon Power’s activities.

Two in-person community sessions were held in Broome to provide project updates, most recently in August 2025. The event was attended by representatives from Horizon Power’s divisions, including Customer & Community and Future Energy Systems. The session saw a strong turnout, with 98 RSVPs and 51 attendees representing a diverse cross-section of Broome residents and key local stakeholders, including Environs Kimberley, Shire of Broome, Kimberley Development Commission, Broome Chamber of Commerce & Industry, RDA Kimberley, Kimberley Port Authority, Broome Regional Aboriginal Medical Service, GenOffGrid, EDL, and Nulungu Research Institute, University of Notre Dame. The session focused on collaborative roles in the transition to renewable energy, updates on the Future Energy System planning process, and the Community Wave program. Attendees engaged actively, raising questions about renewable options, system resilience, project costs, and cultural-environmental considerations.

In September 2023, an information session was conducted in Broome to mark the commencement of the project. The event was attended by representatives from Horizon Power’s Customer & Community and Future Energy Systems divisions, as well as 30 residents from a total of 45 RSVPs. Environs Kimberley participated as a key local stakeholder.

In August 2024 and May 2025, the Horizon Power CEO presented the Broome Future Energy System project to about 350 key Kimberley stakeholders at the annual Kimberley Economic Forum events in Kununurra and Broome respectively.

The project was presented to the Regional Development Australia Kimberley Committee, in Derby on 7 September 2023. Horizon Power commenced engagement with the Shire of Broome in September 2023 and maintained regular and ongoing engagement

As a member of the Broome Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Horizon Power co-hosted a Business After Hours event on 17 April 2024, where the Broome Future Energy System planning featured as an agenda item and senior regional and executive Horizon Power staff attended to undertake Question and Answer session, and face-to-face engagement following the formal presentation.

Two electronic direct mail campaigns have been issued to Broome and Kimberley Horizon Power customers. The current database for the Broome community members requesting information about Broome Future Energy System planning totals 279 people.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander stakeholder engagement has been occurring in two streams. Broad town-by-town community engagement planned through the Community Engagement and Communications Plan and regionally through dedicated Customer and Community staff to engage with residents.

The Traditional Owner Relationships & Reconciliation (TORR) team have provided back-up support where needed. The TORR team reviewed and adapted communication materials for Traditional Owners and Aboriginal community engagement.

The TORR team continue to coordinate the engagement with Traditional Owners through Land Councils and Prescribed Body Corporates (PBCs). This engagement has occurred separate to community engagement due to governance models and their respective annual calendar of meeting dates. Horizon Power first met with members of Yawuru on 26 September 2023, and engagement remains ongoing.

### 7.3 Stakeholder consultation outcomes

The outcome of the stakeholder consultation undertaken to date for the Proposed Action is provided in Table 7-2.

Table 7-2 Stakeholder consultation register

Stakeholder	Date	Type of consultation	Stakeholder comments/issue/topic raised	Outcomes/ Response
Resident & Horizon Power customer and community	25 November 2023	Email inquiry	Requested to be kept up to date  Asked when residents can get more rooftop solar and more details on rooftop solar  Support for renewable energy	Horizon Power constrained customer rooftop solar installs prior to Q2 2024 because the network could not manage the energy flow back into the grid and maintain grid stability. Distributed Energy Resource Management system (DERMS) has since enabled Smart Connect Solar and there are now zero-refusals.
	20 September 23	Info session	Asked when residents can get more rooftop solar and more details on rooftop solar	Duplicate rooftop solar response as above
	20 July 2024	Email inquiry	Requested detail on residential roof top solar access and battery storage issues specific to the region.	Duplicate rooftop solar response as above
	20 September 2023	Community information session	Request to please ensure our communications present a fair representation of energy options (including the full value proposal - land, emissions, waste, end of life recovery)	Update to Horizon Power website with requested details
	5 October 2023	Email inquiry	Requested to be kept up to date	Added to project e-newsletter distribution
	20 September 2023	Community information session	Community member impressed by our efforts to implement new technology (batteries, hydrogen, electric vehicles, etc)	Added to project e-newsletter distribution
	11 April 2024	Email inquiry	Queries regarding rooftop solar	Duplicate rooftop solar response as above
	6 Aug 2025	Community Information session	Queries why multiple sites are interconnected, what “optimised” means and why 50% capacity is considered optimised, the reasons for regional differences such as Exmouth at 80% versus Broome at 50%, whether centralised solar sites will also host batteries, the supplier’s role in designing technical elements of solar farms and batteries, and how community solar farms or shared solutions can provide access for those unable to install rooftop solar.	Two renewable options presented, both pending investment decision-making. Sunshine Saver product re-launch for customers unable to access rooftop solar.

Stakeholder	Date	Type of consultation	Stakeholder comments/issue/topic raised	Outcomes/ Response
Buru Energy	30 May 2024	Newsletter correspondence	Rafael conventional gas and condensate discovery.  Currently, all natural gas (via LNG) and diesel is imported into the Kimberley, hence a local source will provide very favourable energy security, affordability and environmental credentials as an alternate supply.	Taken on notice
Environs Kimberley	14 November 2024  2 May 2024  20 September 2023  5 June 2025	Email inquiry  Letter  Community Information session  Email	Stakeholder strongly urges Horizon Power to ensure that all power stations it is responsible for in the Kimberley use at least 80% renewable energy by 2027.    Request to release Kimberley Biological Survey	Acknowledged and recorded.    Released
Groundbreaking Energy	November 2023	Email inquiry	Groundbreaking Energy looking to understand the power requirements and community expectations in the region and to assess whether geothermal energy can contribute to the mix of solutions.	Geothermal energy solutions were not considered due to technical considerations and economic viability.
Kimberley Development Commission	20 September 2023	Community information session	Discussion of project and short-listed sites  Stakeholder asked to be kept updated	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Smart Connect Solar launched in Broome Q2 2024.</li> <li>• Project to continue with corridor identified along road access for connection routes.</li> <li>• Confirmed Water Corporation identified the portion in line with their bore field planning.</li> <li>• Key community messaging: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Greener solution</li> <li>o Reduced fossil fuels</li> <li>o Reliability of renewable energy</li> <li>o Increased capacity for additional roof top solar</li> <li>o Underground feeders where possible where no existing overhead</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
	17 January 2024	Meeting	Discussed previous projects and initiatives in Broome which ended up being withdrawn or impacted by community sentiment over the perceived 'industrialisation' of Broome (floating pontoon, Woodside project, which was withdrawn due to community pressure, increased trucks on road which was already approved for such purpose). Preference for undergrounding cables for reliability.  Request that Horizon Power ensure clear messaging to manage perceptions and combat incorrect messages regarding renewables to gain community support.  Discussed alternate connection routes (utilising previous Water Corporation pipes) and shape of the preferred site (Water Corporation site).	

Stakeholder	Date	Type of consultation	Stakeholder comments/issue/topic raised	Outcomes/ Response
				lines (combination may be okay, if possible)
Broome Chamber of Commerce and Industry members (102 attendees)	17 April 2024	Business After Hours event: Project presentation and Q&A session	The project was discussed and methods for seeking more information or providing feedback communicated	Nothing further
Shire of Broome	17 January 2024	Shire meeting	Shared preliminary flora and fauna survey results and preferred sites	Acknowledged and recorded
	19 March 2024	Shire meeting	Discussion of planning advice - design to take into consideration visual amenity, set back from road and screening.	
	14 May 2024	Shire Council workshop	Request to engage early with the community	
	5 March 2025	Shire meeting	Undergrounding of network connection preferred, particularly within townsite	
	22 May 2025	Shire meeting	Ongoing project updates	
	4 September 2025	Shire meeting		
	23 October 2025	Shire meeting		
	10 December 2025	Shire meeting		
Yawuru PBC Board including Elders	15 May 2024	Meeting	Work with Traditional Owners to build capacity and/or broker joint-venture opportunities with capacity partners in the delivery of renewable energy.  Discussion of project sites	Commence discussions about community participation models and Heritage Protection Agreement
	23 May 2024	Letter		
	20 February 2025	Yawuru Law Boss meeting to discuss cultural heritage surveys and Environmental surveys		
	13 March 2025	Meeting		

Stakeholder	Date	Type of consultation	Stakeholder comments/issue/topic raised	Outcomes/ Response
2025 Kimberley Economic Forum delegates (200 attendees)	28-30 May 2025	Regional economic development event – project presentation and brochure handout	What is the project timeline update	Estimated completion 2029-2030
2024 Kimberley Economic Forum delegates (150 attendees)	28-30 August 2024	Regional economic development event – project presentation and brochure handout	Query regarding other towns and communities in the Kimberley being considered for decarbonisation	Yes, additional towns in the Kimberley are being considered for decarbonisation
2025 Green Horizons Forum	18 September 2025	A Forum on Renewable Energy, Investment, and Industry Transition	Long duration energy storage solutions	Vanadium battery trial in Kununurra
Broome Senior High School	15 July 2024	Email inquiry	Query around rooftop solar	Duplicate rooftop solar response as above
Broome small business owner and business account holder	20 September 2023	Letter	Request for renewable energy in Broome. Requested that no further new gas fields, fracking, gas processing plants or any other retrograde step in that direction should be taken.	Acknowledged and recorded
	20 September 2023	Community information session	Enquiry about where gas for Broome is sourced	Horizon Power purchases energy from an Independent Power Producer through a Power Purchase Agreement.
Argyle Pastoral	20 November 2023	Email inquiry	Request to explore more reliable, renewable and lower cost energy solutions	Acknowledged and recorded.
DCCEEW	17 September 2024	Pre-referral meeting	DCCEEW indicated that this referral must address National heritage values of West Kimberley, upstream and downstream impacts to Ramsar Wetland, impacts to groundwater and wetlands, critical, foraging and breeding habitat impacts and transmission line impacts to birds.	The EPBC referral (2025/10191) addresses the points raised by DCCEEW.

Stakeholder	Date	Type of consultation	Stakeholder comments/issue/topic raised	Outcomes/ Response
			DCCEEW wants to ensure that the biological survey has been conducted in line with DCCEEW survey guidelines.  DCCEEW are open to discussing offset requirements.	
Environmental Protection Authority	17 September 2024	Pre-referral meeting	EPA indicated interest in the minimisation of project impacts via community solar supply. EPA Referral to include an assessment of solar panel impacts on birds. Referral to include environmental management plan.  EPA are interested in Bilby critical habitat and that an offset would be required if a significant impact is expected. EPA expressed that a wind farm in Broome rather than a solar farm would have impacts on migratory bird pathways.	The points raised by the EPA were addressed in the state referral and incorporated into this document.
DWER	24 September 2025	Meeting	Discuss offset options and limitations for Broome and Derby Future Energy Systems.	No offset fund is expected to be established for the Kimberley
	19 August 2025	Meeting	Discuss offset options in the Kimberley and likelihood of Kimberley Offset Fund being established.	
Water Corporation	18 July 2023	Meeting	Meeting to discuss excision of a portion of Reserve 25716.	Water Corporation indicated in-principle support.
	9 April 2024	Meeting	Meeting to discuss land access for ongoing biological and heritage surveys.	Access to Water Corporation land to be facilitated via Notice of Entry.
	31 May 2024	Meeting	Meeting to present preliminary environmental survey results and general project updates.	Acknowledged and recorded.
	1 April 2025	Meeting	Ongoing project update.	Horizon Power agreed to provide visibility on referral.
	18 September 2025	Meeting	Ongoing engagement to progress Broome FES Site.	Horizon Power to provide ongoing updates.
	1 October 2025			
	10 October 2025			

Stakeholder	Date	Type of consultation	Stakeholder comments/issue/topic raised	Outcomes/ Response
	21 November 2025			
	19 December 2025			
DWER and Water Corporation	23 January 2026	Meeting	Workshop to discuss Broome PDWSA Risk Assessment with Water Corporation and DWER.	<p>Concerns raised in the workshop to be incorporated into the Broome FES PDWSA risk assessment.</p> <p>Water Corporation and DWER confirmed their support of the Broome PDWSA Risk Assessment.</p>
	13 February 2026			

## 8 Assessment Against the 10 Clearing Principles

An assessment against the 10 Clearing Principles has been undertaken to support the NVCP application for the Project, as presented in Table 8-1. The assessment found that the proposed clearing of native vegetation for the Project is likely to be at variance with principle (b) and (f). The Project is not at variance with the other principles.

Table 8-1 Assessment Against the 10 Clearing Principles

Principle	Assessment	Outcome
<p>(a) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises a high level of biological diversity.</p>	<p>Up to 289.5 ha of native vegetation is proposed to be cleared for the Project within the DE.</p> <p><b>Vegetation</b></p> <p>The DE is located in the Dampierland bioregion and the Pindanland sub-region as described by IBRA.</p> <p>Seven vegetation types were identified in the DE (not including scattered natives over weeds, landscaped areas and planted gardens, cleared road verge and drains with regrowth of native forbs) during the GHD (2024; 2025) surveys. These vegetation types are representative of the vegetation association in the region, with over 99% of pre-European extent remaining.</p> <p>No TECs listed under the EPBC Act or BC Act were identified within the DE.</p> <p>An avoidance area has been established around the Priority 1 PEC (the Minyjuru (Mangarr – <i>Sersalisia sericea</i>), located in the south-eastern corner of the solar facility section of the DE. 1.97 ha of this PEC intersects the DE, all of which will be avoided.</p> <p>VT07 and VT08 are considered to be riparian vegetation and occur in small patches within the network connection route section of the DE (GHD, 2024). There is 1.5 ha of riparian vegetation within the DE to be cleared.</p> <p>Vegetation condition within the DE ranged from Excellent to Completely Degraded, with majority of the DE (246.8 ha, 63%) reported as Excellent.</p> <p><b>Flora</b></p> <p>174 flora taxa from 48 families and 118 genera (including subspecies and variants) were recorded during the GHD (2024) survey. A total of 64 vascular flora species from 30 families and 59 genera (including subspecies and variants) were recorded during the GHD (2025) survey. Noting there will be overlap in species between the 2024 and 2025 surveys. No EPBC Act listed flora were recorded. Four DBCA listed priority flora species were recorded within the DE (GHD, 2024; 2025):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 25 individuals of <i>Jacquemontia</i> sp. Broome (A.A. Mitchell 3028) (Priority 1)</li> <li>• 36 individuals of <i>Corymbia paractia</i> (Priority 2)</li> <li>• 231 individuals of <i>Polymeria</i> sp. Broome (K.F. Kenneally 9759) (Priority 3)</li> <li>• 13 individuals of <i>Glycine Pindanica</i> (Priority 3)</li> </ul> <p>An additional three conservation significant flora species were recorded during the GHD (2024; 2025) surveys, however these individuals have been avoided in the proposed design and are not located within the DE. These three species are considered likely to occur within the DE since they have been recorded in proximity to the DE. Individuals and proximity to DE are detailed below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 9 individuals of <i>Bonamia oblongifolia</i> (Priority 3) – closest record approximately 343 m from the DE</li> <li>• 30 individuals of <i>Terminalia kumpaja</i> (Priority 3) – closest record approximately 15 m from the DE</li> <li>• 1 individual of <i>Acacia monticola</i> x <i>turmidia</i> var. <i>kulparn</i> (Priority 3) – closest record approximately 6.2 km from the DE</li> </ul> <p>14 of the flora taxa were introduced flora taxa (GHD, 2024; 2025). One of which, <i>Azadirachta indica</i> is a Declared Pest under the Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007 (BAM Act) and was well established in vegetation.</p> <p><b>Fauna and fauna habitat</b></p> <p>Seven fauna habitats were identified in the DE (GHD, 2024; 2025). These fauna habitats range from ‘High’ to ‘Low’ value habitat for fauna (GHD, 2024; 2025).</p>	<p>May be at variance.</p>

Principle	Assessment	Outcome
	<p>There are 78 habitat trees within the DE, 62 of which do not contain hollows and 16 contain hollows. An avoidance area has been committed to, reducing the number of habitat trees to be cleared to 60 without hollows and 14 with. A total of 933 habitat trees (616 without hollows and 317 with) are outside of the DE.</p> <p>Across the GHD (2024) Survey Area, a total of 115 fauna species, consisting of 73 birds, 30 reptiles, three amphibians and nine mammals were recorded (GHD, 2024). Of these species recorded, three are introduced species, which included the Dingo (<i>Canis familiaris</i>), the Cat (<i>Felis catus</i>) and Cattle (<i>Bos taurus</i>).</p> <p>The GHD (2025) field survey recorded a total of 25 fauna species, consisting of 21 birds and four mammals within the power station site (GHD, 2025). Up to 289.5 ha of native vegetation is proposed to be cleared for the Project. This vegetation is considered to be well represented locally and regionally. However, based on the occurrence of high value fauna habitats (including habitat trees and Bilby burrows), and diversity of fauna species recorded, it is considered the Project may be at variance to this Principle.</p>	
<p>(b) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises the whole or part of, or is necessary for the maintenance of, a significant habitat for fauna indigenous Western Australia.</p>	<p>Seven fauna habitats were identified in the DE (GHD, 2024; 2025). These fauna habitats range from 'High' to 'Low' value habitat for fauna (GHD, 2024; 2025). Of these habitats, 259.6 ha were considered to be high value to fauna.</p> <p>There are 78 habitat trees within the DE, 62 of which do not contain hollows and 16 contain hollows. An avoidance area has been committed to, reducing the number of habitat trees to be cleared to 60 without hollows and 14 with. An additional 933 habitat trees (616 without hollows and 317 with) were recorded outside of the DE.</p> <p>Up to 2 active and 4 old burrows will be cleared for the Project. Noting that there were 69 records of the Bilby (burrows, scat and diggings) in the survey area.</p> <p>Across the GHD (2024) Survey Area, a total of 115 fauna species, consisting of 73 birds, 30 reptiles, three amphibians and nine mammals were recorded (GHD, 2024). Of these species recorded, three are introduced species, which included the Dingo (<i>Canis familiaris</i>), the Cat (<i>Felis catus</i>) and Cattle (<i>Bos taurus</i>). The GHD (2025) field survey recorded a total of 25 fauna species, consisting of 21 birds and four mammals within the power station site (GHD, 2025). The conservation significant fauna species recorded during the surveys (GHD, 2024; 2025) include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bilby (<i>Macrotis lagotis</i>): Vulnerable under BC Act</li> <li>• Northern Brushtail Possum (<i>Trichosurus vulpecula arnhemensis</i>): Vulnerable under BC Act</li> <li>• Northern Blue-tongue Skink (<i>Tilqua scincoides intermedia</i>): Priority 4 under DBCA</li> <li>• Fork-tailed Swift (<i>Apus pacificus</i>): Migratory under BC Act</li> <li>• Yellow-lipped Cave Bat: Priority 2 under DBCA</li> <li>• Bare-rumped Sheath-tailed Bat (<i>Saccolaimus saccolaimus</i>) – Vulnerable under EPBC Act and Priority 3 under BC Act</li> <li>• Northern Coastal Free-tailed Bat (<i>Ozimops cobourgianus</i>) – Priority 1 on the DBCA priority fauna list</li> </ul> <p>A further 8 state listed conservation significant species were considered likely to occur by GHD (2024; 2025) in a post survey likelihood assessment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gouldian Finch (<i>Chleobia gouldiae</i>): Priority 4 under DBCA</li> <li>• Grey Falcon (<i>Falco hypoleucos</i>): Vulnerable under BC Act</li> <li>• Osprey (<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>): Migratory under BC Act</li> <li>• Barn Swallow (<i>Hirundo rustica</i>): Migratory under BC Act</li> </ul>	<p>May be at variance.</p>

Principle	Assessment	Outcome
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Peregrine Falcon (<i>Falco peregrinus</i>): Other Specially Protected under BC Act</li> <li>• Northern Short-tailed Mouse (<i>Leggadina lakedownensis</i>): Priority 4 under DBCA</li> <li>• Dampierland Burrowing Snake (<i>Simoselaps minimus</i>): Priority 2 under DBCA</li> <li>• Dampierland Plain Slider (<i>Lerista separanda</i>): Priority 2 under DBCA</li> </ul> <p>The conservation significant species including habitat preferences are described below.</p> <p><b>Bilby</b></p> <p>The Bilby usually spends the daytime in burrows, often built against termite mounds, spinifex hummock or shrubs (Van Dyck and Strahan, 2008). The Bilby occupies three major habitats; open tussock grasslands on uplands and hills, mulga woodland/shrubland growing on ridges and rises and hummock grasslands in plains and alluvial areas. In WA there are disjunct populations in the Gibson Desert, south-western Kimberley, inland areas of the Pilbara and northern Great Sandy Desert. The current occurrence of this species is strongly associated with higher rainfall and temperatures, which promote areas of higher plant and food production (DCCEEW, 2023).</p> <p>There are 1,835 records of the Bilby on the DBCA database within the Pindanland subregion with multiple records within the DE and within the immediate vicinity of the DE. There were 61 records of Bilby evidence in the GHD (2024) Survey Area and 11 in the GHD (2025) Survey Area in the form of burrows, diggings and scat. Two active burrows and four old and inactive Bilby burrows will be cleared for the Project. Up to 251.6 ha of pindan shrubland, 5.9 ha of the pindan woodland and 3.5 ha of the pindan woodland plain habitat will be cleared for the Project, which are considered critical habitat for the Bilby due to its potential foraging, breeding, shelter and/or dispersal values.</p> <p>Based on aerial imagery and the Native Vegetation Extent (spatial dataset DPIRD-005, DPIRD, 2023) and Pre-European Vegetation (spatial dataset DPIRD-006, DPIRD, 2019) datasets, clearing of 261 ha of potential Bilby habitat represents 0.31% of available habitat within 20 km of the DE.</p> <p>The Project has been designed to minimise impacts to potential Bilby habitat as far as possible. As the design develops, impacts to the species will be further reduced and avoided where possible. Clearing of potential Bilby habitat is not expected to result in a significant impact to the species at a local or regional scale, given the relative abundance of habitat available in the region, however given the habitat is considered critical habitat, the Project may be at variance.</p> <p><b>Northern Brushtail Possum</b></p> <p>The Northern Brushtail Possum is a nocturnal and arboreal species, that mainly inhabits tall eucalypt open forests with large hollow-bearing trees as they shelter in tree hollows (TSSC, 2021). The species typically occurs in areas with adequate dense canopy habitat connectivity, however it adapts well to rural and urban habitats (TSSC, 2021).</p> <p>There are 15 records of the Northern Brushtail Possum on the DBCA database within the Pindanland subregion with the closest record being approximately 450 m south of the DE. Additionally, GHD (2009) conducted a fauna survey approximately 1.2 km west of the DE and recorded the Northern Brushtail Possum on six occasions. The Northern Brushtail Possum was recorded in the Survey Area during the GHD (2024; 2025) surveys at seven locations outside of the DE. The closest records were approximately 15 m east and 315 m east of the DE. There are 78 suitable habitat trees for the Northern Brushtail Possum identified in the GHD (2024; 2025) surveys. 74 habitat trees will be cleared for the Project, of which 14 have hollows suitable for nesting. Up to 9.37 ha of pindan shrubland habitat within the network connection route portion of the DE will be cleared for the Project, which is considered critical habitat for the Northern Brushtail Possum due to the presence of suitable habitat trees with hollows for breeding. An additional 256.9 ha of supporting habitat</p>	

Principle	Assessment	Outcome
	<p>will be cleared for the Project in the form of pindan shrubland (in the solar and BESS facility portion of the DE), pindan woodland, pindan woodland plain, open Eucalypt dampland habitat and scattered plantings and native trees habitat which have potential foraging, shelter and dispersal values.</p> <p>Based on aerial imagery and the Native Vegetation Extent (spatial dataset DPIRD-005, DPIRD, 2023) and Pre-European Vegetation (spatial dataset DPIRD-006, DPIRD, 2019) datasets, clearing of 266.3 ha of potential Northern Brushtail Possum habitat represents 0.37% of available habitat within 20 km of the DE.</p> <p>The Project has been designed to minimise impacts to potential Northern Brushtail Possum habitat as far as possible, including locating the DE to avoid habitat trees where possible, and establishing an avoidance area around four habitat trees, further reducing the number to be cleared. As the design develops, impacts to the species will be further reduced and avoided where possible. Clearing of potential Northern Brushtail Possum habitat is not expected to result in a significant impact to the species at a local or regional scale, given the relative abundance of habitat available in the region and the management measures applied to avoid impacts to breeding habitat within the DE.</p> <p><b>Northern Blue-tongue Skink</b></p> <p>This species occurs across Northern Australia (DCCEEW, 2023). They move widely across the savannah landscape but spend most of their time in small, fragmented patches of habitat that offer cooler moister conditions. Individuals spend long periods within small and distinctive habitat patches, interspersed with longer directional relocations from one patch to the next.</p> <p>There are no records of the Northern Blue-tongue Skink on the DBCA database within the Pindanland subregion. GHD (2016) and GHD (2019) conducted fauna surveys within the Broome region and recorded the Northern Blue-tongue Skink at a sites immediately adjacent (west) of the DE. There were five records in the Survey Area (ranging from 0.9 km to 4.4 km south of the DE) (GHD, 2024). There were two opportunistic sightings of the species within the DE (GHD, 2024). The GHD (2025) did not record the species. Up to 266.3 ha of pindan shrubland plain, pindan woodland plain, pindan woodland, open Eucalypt dampland and scattered plantings and native trees habitats will be cleared for the Project, which are considered critical habitat for the Northern Blue-tongue Skink due to their potential foraging, breeding, shelter and/or dispersal values.</p> <p>Based on aerial imagery and the Native Vegetation Extent (spatial dataset DPIRD-005, DPIRD, 2023) and Pre-European Vegetation (spatial dataset DPIRD-006, DPIRD, 2019) datasets, clearing of 266.3 ha of potential Northern Blue-tongue Skink habitat represents 0.37% of available habitat within 20 km of the DE.</p> <p>The Project has been designed to minimise impacts to potential Northern Blue-tongue Skink habitat as far as possible, including pre-clearing inspection and relocation of any skink in the clearing area. As the design develops, impacts to the species will be further reduced and avoided where possible. Clearing of potential Northern Blue-tongue Skink habitat is not expected to result in a significant impact to the species at a local or regional scale, given the relative abundance of habitat available in the region.</p> <p><b>Fork-tailed Swift</b></p> <p>The Fork-tailed Swift is common in coastal and sub coastal areas and are found across a range of habitats, from inland open plains to wooded areas. This species is almost exclusively aerial and does not breed in Australia (DoE, 2025a).</p> <p>There are 117 records of the Fork-tailed Swift on the DBCA database within the Pindanland subregion with multiple records within the DE and within the immediate vicinity of the DE. The Fork-tailed swift was recorded in large numbers (150 individuals) during the GHD (2024) survey within 30 m of the DE. This shows that the Fork-tailed Swift is common within the region.</p>	

Principle	Assessment	Outcome
	<p>Up to 267.2 ha of supporting habitat for the Fork-tailed Swift will be cleared for the Project in the form of pindan shrubland plains, pindan woodland plain, pindan woodland, open Eucalypt dampland, scattered plantings and native trees, and sparse mangrove tidal mudflat. These habitat types provide potential foraging habitat for the Fork-tailed Swift.</p> <p>Based on aerial imagery and the Native Vegetation Extent (spatial dataset DPIRD-005, DPIRD, 2023) and Pre-European Vegetation (spatial dataset DPIRD-006, DPIRD, 2019) datasets, clearing of 267.2 ha of potential Fork-tailed Swift habitat represents 0.30% of available habitat within 20 km of the DE. Clearing of potential Fork-tailed Swift habitat is not expected to result in a significant residual impact to the species at a local or regional scale, given the relative abundance of habitat available in the region.</p> <p><b>Northern Coastal Free-tailed Bat</b></p> <p>Ecology of this species is not well understood, but they are usually associated with mangroves and coastal woodlands where they roost in tree hollows (GHD, 2024).</p> <p>This species was recorded within the GHD (2024) field survey at all survey sites. A total of 270 records of the species was recorded within the survey area. This species was not recorded within the GHD (2025) survey, but considered likely to occur within the power station section of the DE due to potentially suitable foraging habitat within the pindan habitat. This species likely roosts within suitable habitat trees within the pindan shrubland plain habitat.</p> <p>There are 78 suitable habitat trees for the Northern Coastal Free-tailed Bat identified in the GHD (2024; 2025) surveys. 74 habitat trees will be cleared for the Project, of which 14 have hollows suitable for nesting. Up to 9.37 ha of pindan shrubland habitat within the network connection route portion of the DE will be cleared for the Project, which is considered important habitat for the Northern Coastal Free-tail Bat due to the presence of suitable habitat trees with hollows for breeding. An additional 256.9 ha of supporting habitat will be cleared for the Project in the form of pindan shrubland (in the solar and BESS facility portion of the DE), pindan woodland, pindan woodland plain, open Eucalypt dampland habitat and scattered plantings and native trees habitat which have potential foraging, shelter and dispersal values.</p> <p>Based on aerial imagery and the Native Vegetation Extent (spatial dataset DPIRD-005, DPIRD, 2023) and Pre-European Vegetation (spatial dataset DPIRD-006, DPIRD, 2019) datasets, clearing of 266.3 ha of potential Northern Coastal Free-tailed Bat habitat represents 0.37% of available habitat within 20 km of the DE.</p> <p>The Project has been designed to minimise impacts to potential Northern Coastal Free-tailed Bat habitat as far as possible. As the design develops, impacts to the species will be further reduced and avoided where possible. Clearing of potential Northern Coastal Free-tailed Bat habitat is not expected to result in a significant residual impact to the species at a local or regional scale, given the relative abundance of habitat available in the region.</p> <p><b>Yellow-lipped Cave Bat</b></p> <p>The Yellow-lipped Cave Bat species forages in woodlands, particularly riparian vegetation in proximity to rocky habitat where it will roost in caves and crevices (GHD, 2024). This species would likely forage in the Open Eucalypt dampland, pindan woodland plain and pindan woodland habitat within the DE.</p> <p>Up to 10.8 ha of supporting habitat for the Yellow-lipped Cave Bat will be cleared for the Project. This habitat would provide foraging value to the species.</p> <p>Based on aerial imagery and the Native Vegetation Extent (spatial dataset DPIRD-005, DPIRD, 2023) and Pre-European Vegetation (spatial dataset DPIRD-006, DPIRD, 2019) datasets, clearing of 10.8 ha of potential Yellow-lipped Cave Bat habitat represents 0.02% of available habitat within 20 km of the DE.</p>	

Principle	Assessment	Outcome
	<p>The Project has been designed to minimise impacts to potential Yellow-lipped Cave Bat habitat as far as possible. As the design develops, impacts to the species will be further reduced and avoided where possible. Clearing of potential Yellow-lipped Cave Bat habitat is not expected to result in a significant residual impact to the species at a local or regional scale, given the relative abundance of habitat available in the region.</p> <p><b>Bare-rumped Sheath-tailed Bat</b></p> <p>The Bare-rumped Sheath-tail Bat occurs mostly in lowland areas, typically in a range of woodland, forest and open environments (TSSC, 2016a). The Bare-rumped Sheath-tail Bat has been suggested to forage over habitat edges such as the edge of rainforest and in forest clearings (Churchill, 1998). All confirmed roosts in Australia have been within tree hollows and no individuals have been found roosting in caves.</p> <p>The Bare-rumped Sheath-tailed Bat was recorded 9 times within the Survey Area, 6 of these records are within the DE (GHD 2024). The species was not recorded within the GHD (2025) survey.</p> <p>There are 78 suitable habitat trees for the Bare-rumped Sheath-tailed Bat identified in the GHD (2024; 2025) surveys. 74 habitat trees will be cleared for the Project, of which 14 have hollows suitable for nesting. Up to 9.37 ha of pindan shrubland habitat within the network connection route portion of the DE will be cleared for the Project, which is considered important habitat for the Bare-rumped Sheath-tail Bat due to the presence of suitable habitat trees with hollows for breeding. An additional 251.61 ha of supporting habitat will be cleared for the Project in the form of pindan shrubland (in the solar and BESS facility portion of the DE), pindan woodland, pindan woodland plain, open Eucalypt dampland habitat and scattered plantings and native trees habitat which have potential foraging, shelter and dispersal values.</p> <p>Based on aerial imagery and the Native Vegetation Extent (spatial dataset DPIRD-005, DPIRD, 2023) and Pre-European Vegetation (spatial dataset DPIRD-006, DPIRD, 2019) datasets, clearing of 260.98 ha of potential Bare-rumped Sheath tail Bat habitat represents 0.31% of available habitat within 20 km of the DE.</p> <p>The Project has been designed to minimise impacts to potential Bare-rumped Sheath-tail Bat habitat as far as possible, including avoiding trees with hollows in the solar farm area. As the design develops, impacts to the species will be further reduced and avoided where possible. Clearing of potential Bare-rumped Sheath-tail Bat habitat is not expected to result in a significant residual impact to the species at a local or regional scale, given the relative abundance of habitat available in the region.</p> <p><b>Gouldian Finch</b></p> <p>The Gouldian Finch inhabits open woodlands dominated by Eucalyptus trees and support ground cover of Sorghum and other grasses (Boekel, 1980). The critical components of suitable core habitat for the Gouldian Finch appear to be the presence of favoured annual and perennial grasses (especially Sorghum), a nearby source of surface water and, in the breeding season, unburnt hollow-bearing Eucalyptus trees (especially <i>E. tintinnans</i>, <i>E. brevifolia</i> and <i>E. leucophloia</i>) (Higgins <i>et al.</i>, 2006). It is likely this species will use the pindan shrubland plain, pindan shrubland relic dune, pindan woodland, pindan woodland plain and open Eucalypt dampland habitats for foraging (GHD, 2024; GHD, 2025).</p> <p>No Gouldian Finch were observed in the 2024 or 2025 biological surveys. There are 30 records of the Gouldian Finch on DBCA data records within the Pindanland subregion with the closest record (recorded in 1986) being approximately 80 km from the DE. This species is known to occur on the Dampier Peninsula north of Broome, but rarely in the Broome area.</p> <p>Up to 262.4 ha of potential critical habitat for the Gouldian Finch will be cleared for the Project. This is in the form of pindan shrubland plain, pindan woodland, pindan woodland plain and open Eucalypt dampland habitats, which have potential foraging values.</p>	

Principle	Assessment	Outcome
	<p>Based on aerial imagery and the Native Vegetation Extent (spatial dataset DPIRD-005, DPIRD, 2023) and Pre-European Vegetation (spatial dataset DPIRD-006, DPIRD, 2019) datasets, clearing of 262.4 ha of potential Gouldian Finch habitat represents 0.31% of available habitat within 20 km of the DE.</p> <p>The Project has been designed to minimise impacts to potential Gouldian Finch habitat as far as possible. Given this species is highly mobile with an abundance of regional habitat, the Project is not expected to result in a significant impact to the species at a local or regional scale.</p> <p><b>Grey Falcon</b></p> <p>The Grey Falcon is an Australian endemic, usually confined to the arid inland. It inhabits Triodia grassland, Acacia shrubland, and lightly timbered arid woodland especially stony, inland plains, gibber deserts, sand ridges, pastoral lands, and timbered watercourses, but seldom in driest deserts (Morcombe, 2004). It is likely this species will use the pindan shrubland and sparse mangrove tidal mudflat habitats for foraging (GHD, 2024). GHD (2024) reported the species as likely to occur on an occasional or seasonal bases when foraging plants (grasses) are present and when water is available.</p> <p>There are 10 records of the Grey Falcon on DBCA data records within the Pindanland subregion with the closest record being approximately 530 m west of the DE. The Grey Falcon was not recorded in the Survey Area during the GHD (2024; 2025) surveys. The Grey Falcon is expected to occur occasionally within the region.</p> <p>Up to 261.9 ha of potential supporting habitat for the Grey Falcon will be cleared for the Project. This is in the form of pindan shrubland plain, pindan woodland, pindan woodland plain and sparse mangrove and tidal mudflat habitats, which have potential foraging values.</p> <p>Based on aerial imagery and the Native Vegetation Extent (spatial dataset DPIRD-005, DPIRD, 2023) and Pre-European Vegetation (spatial dataset DPIRD-006, DPIRD, 2019) datasets, clearing of 261.9 ha of potential Grey Falcon habitat represents 0.30% of available habitat within 20 km of the DE.</p> <p>The Project has been designed to minimise impacts to potential Grey Falcon habitat as far as possible. Given this species is highly mobile with an abundance of regional habitat, the Project is not expected to result in a significant impact to the species at a local or regional scale.</p> <p><b>Barn Swallow</b></p> <p>In Australia, the Barn Swallow is recorded in open country in coastal lowlands, often near water, towns and cities. Birds are often sighted perched on overhead wires, and also in or over freshwater wetlands, paperbark Melaleuca woodland, mesophyll shrub thickets and tussock grassland (DoE, 2025c). The species does not breed in Australia.</p> <p>There are 173 records of the Barn Swallow on DBCA data records within the Pindanland subregion with the closest record being approximately 260 m east of the DE. The Barn Swallow was not recorded in the Survey Area during the GHD (2024; 2025) surveys. This shows that the Barn Swallow occurs occasionally within the region.</p> <p>Up to 261 ha of potential supporting habitat for the Barn Swallow will be cleared for the Project. This is in the form of pindan habitats (pindan woodland plain, pindan woodland and pindan shrubland plain), which has potential foraging value.</p> <p>Based on aerial imagery and the Native Vegetation Extent (spatial dataset DPIRD-005, DPIRD, 2023) and Pre-European Vegetation (spatial dataset DPIRD-006, DPIRD, 2019) datasets, clearing of 261 ha of potential Barn Swallow habitat represents 0.34% of available habitat within 20 km of the DE. Clearing of potential Barn Swallow habitat is not expected to result in a significant residual impact to the species at a local or regional scale, given the relative abundance of habitat available in the region.</p>	

Principle	Assessment	Outcome
	<p><b>Osprey</b></p> <p>The breeding range of the Osprey extends around the coast of Australia (DoE, 2025b). Ospreys occur in littoral and coastal habitats and terrestrial wetlands of tropical and temperate Australia and offshore islands. They require extensive areas of open fresh, brackish or saline water for foraging (Marchant &amp; Higgins, 1993). They may also occur over habitats such as heath, woodland, forest, sandy shores and muddy shores when travelling to and from foraging sites (DoE, 2025b).</p> <p>There are 450 records of the Osprey on DBCA data records within the Pindanland subregion with multiple records within the DE and within the vicinity of the DE. The Osprey was not recorded in the Survey Area during the GHD (2024; 2025) surveys. This shows that the Osprey occurs occasionally within the region.</p> <p>Up to 267.2 ha of potential supporting habitat for the Osprey will be cleared for the Project. This is in the form of pindan shrubland plains, pindan woodland plain, pindan woodland, open Eucalypt dampland, scattered plantings and native trees, and sparse mangrove tidal mudflat, which have potential foraging value.</p> <p>Based on aerial imagery and the Native Vegetation Extent (spatial dataset DPIRD-005, DPIRD, 2023) and Pre-European Vegetation (spatial dataset DPIRD-006, DPIRD, 2019) datasets, clearing of 267.2 ha of potential Osprey habitat represents 0.30% of available habitat within 20 km of the DE. Clearing of potential Osprey habitat is not expected to result in a significant residual impact to the species at a local or regional scale, given the relative abundance of habitat available in the region.</p> <p><b>Peregrine Falcon</b></p> <p>The Peregrine Falcon is found on and near cliffs, gorges, timbered watercourses, riverine environments, wetlands, plains, open woodlands, and pylons and spires of buildings, though less frequently in desert regions (Morcombe, 2004; Pizzey &amp; Knight, 2012). Peregrine Falcons are not common but can be found almost anywhere throughout WA.</p> <p>The Peregrine Falcon was not recorded during the field surveys (GHD, 2024; 2025), but is considered likely to occur due to potentially suitable foraging habitat within the DE.</p> <p>Up to 261.9 ha of potential supporting habitat for the Peregrine Falcon will be cleared for the Project. This is in the form of pindan shrubland plain, pindan woodland, pindan woodland plain and sparse mangrove and tidal mudflat habitats, which have potential foraging values.</p> <p>Based on aerial imagery and the Native Vegetation Extent (spatial dataset DPIRD-005, DPIRD, 2023) and Pre-European Vegetation (spatial dataset DPIRD-006, DPIRD, 2019) datasets, clearing of 261.9 ha of potential Peregrine Falcon habitat represents 0.30% of available habitat within 20 km of the DE. Clearing of potential Peregrine Falcon habitat is not expected to result in a significant impact to the species at a local or regional scale, given the relative abundance of habitat available in the region.</p> <p><b>Northern Short-tailed Mouse</b></p> <p>This species has been recorded in a range of habitats such as tussock grasslands and stony clay hummock grasslands, the ecology of this species is poorly known.</p> <p>This species wasn't recorded during the surveys (GHD, 2024; 2025). However, the pindan habitats are considered suitable supporting habitat for the species (GHD, 2024; 2025).</p> <p>Up to 261 ha of potential supporting habitat for the Northern Short-tailed Mouse will be cleared for the Project. This is in the form of pindan habitats (pindan woodland plain, pindan woodland, pindan shrubland plain), which has potential foraging value.</p> <p>Based on aerial imagery and the Native Vegetation Extent (spatial dataset DPIRD-005, DPIRD, 2023) and Pre-European Vegetation (spatial dataset DPIRD-006, DPIRD, 2019) datasets, clearing of 261 ha of potential Northern Short-tailed Mouse habitat represents</p>	

Principle	Assessment	Outcome
	<p>0.36% of available habitat within 20 km of the DE. Clearing of potential Northern Short-tailed Mouse habitat is not expected to result in a significant residual impact to the species at a local or regional scale, given the relative abundance of habitat available in the region.</p> <p><b>Dampierland Burrowing Snake</b></p> <p>The species is a small burrowing (sand swimming) snake that prefers deep loose coastal sand dunes and adjacent shrubland areas (Wilson and Swan, 2010).</p> <p>This species was not recorded during the field surveys (GHD, 2024; 2025). The is however, suitable habitat within the low elevation ancient dunes in the pindan shrubland plain, open Eucalypt dampland and scattered plantings and native trees habitat trees (GHD, 2024). There is up to 256.9 ha of this supporting habitat that may be cleared.</p> <p>Based on aerial imagery and the Native Vegetation Extent (spatial dataset DPIRD-005, DPIRD, 2023) and Pre-European Vegetation (spatial dataset DPIRD-006, DPIRD, 2019) datasets, clearing of 256.9 ha of potential Dampierland Burrowing Snake habitat represents 1.61% of available habitat within 20 km of the DE. Clearing of potential Dampierland Burrowing Snake habitat is not expected to result in a significant residual impact to the species at a local or regional scale, given the relative abundance of habitat available in the region.</p> <p><b>Dampierland Plain Slider</b></p> <p>The species has four well-developed limbs and a preference for sandy substrates (Wilson and Swan, 2010). The records of this species represent a range extension on its previously known distribution, which was generally described as the southern Kimberley coast, between Kimbolton and Nita Downs. The species prefers deep loose coastal sand dunes and adjacent shrubland areas (Wilson and Swan, 2010).</p> <p>This species was not recorded during the field surveys (GHD, 2024; 2025). The is however, suitable habitat within the low elevation ancient dunes in the pindan shrubland plain, open Eucalypt dampland and scattered plantings and native trees habitat trees (GHD, 2024). There is up to 256.9 ha of this supporting habitat that may be cleared.</p> <p>Based on aerial imagery and the Native Vegetation Extent (spatial dataset DPIRD-005, DPIRD, 2023) and Pre-European Vegetation (spatial dataset DPIRD-006, DPIRD, 2019) datasets, clearing of 256.9 ha of potential Dampierland Plain Slider habitat represents 1.61% of available habitat within 20 km of the DE. Clearing of potential Dampierland Plain Slider habitat is not expected to result in a significant residual impact to the species at a local or regional scale, given the relative abundance of habitat available in the region.</p> <p>Overall, the fauna values of the DE are highly represented on a local and regional scale (GHD, 2024). However, critical habitat will be cleared for the Bilby, Northern Brushtail Possum, Northern Blue-tongue Skink and Gouldian Finch. Further, there are habitat trees and Bilby burrows that might constitute breeding habitat for significant fauna. The EMP has been developed to reduce the potential impacts to fauna, including pre-clearance fauna inspections. The Project may be at variance to this principle.</p>	
(c) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it includes, or is necessary for the continued existence of, rare flora.	GHD (2024) and GHD (2025) undertook a detailed assessment for flora and vegetation in April 2024 and March 2025 respectively. The survey timing (April/March) is appropriate for the Northern botanical province (January to March) due to adequate rainfall in the region. No Threatened flora species listed under the EPBC Act or BC Act were recorded during the survey. GHD (2024; 2025) undertook a likelihood of occurrence assessment post-field survey and concluded that no Threatened flora were considered likely to occur within the DE. Therefore, the proposed clearing of native vegetation for the Project is therefore not considered to be at variance with this principle.	Unlikely to be at variance.

Principle	Assessment	Outcome
(d) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises the whole or a part of, or is necessary for the maintenance of, a threatened ecological community.	The survey by GHD (2024; 2025) did not record any threatened ecological communities listed under the EPBC Act or BC Act. The network connection corridor portion of the DE overlaps an Environmentally Sensitive Area (ESA) that is associated with the buffer of the Roebuck Bay mudflats State listed TEC. This TEC is listed as Vulnerable under the BC Act and is not listed as Threatened under the EPBC Act. The DE only overlaps the buffered extent of this TEC, and does not overlap the mapped boundary of the TEC. No vegetation commensurate with these ecological communities was identified in the DE, therefore the Project is unlikely to be at variance with this principle.	Unlikely to be at variance.
(e) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it is significant as a remnant of native vegetation in an area that has been extensively cleared.	The DE intersects one vegetation association, which has more than 99% pre-European extent remaining. The DE is not considered to be within an area that has been extensively cleared given they have more than 99% of pre-European extent. This vegetation forms part of a large continuous tract of habitat and has a high degree of habitat connectivity with surrounding vegetation, which has similar or better condition vegetation. The vegetation type identified during the survey is not confined to the DE and is considered well represented in the local and regional area. Therefore, it is considered that the native vegetation proposed to be cleared for the Project is not significant as a remnant of native vegetation within an area that has been extensively cleared.	Unlikely to be at variance.
(f) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it is growing in or in association with a watercourse or wetland.	There are no wetland features overlapping the DE. There is however, the Roebuck Bay wetland within 20 m of the connection corridor, which follows the existing infrastructure. This wetland is associated with a Ramsar wetland which is located approximately 7 km east of the DE (DBCA, 2017). However, as the Project will be confined to the DE, there will be no direct impact to the wetland. Further, there is no expected impact to drainage lines or other water features within and surrounding the DE.  There is approximately 1.5 ha of riparian vegetation (VT07 and VT08) that may be cleared for the Project. Therefore, the proposed clearing of native vegetation for the Project may be at variance with this principle.	May be at variance.
(g) Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause appreciable land degradation.	The DE intersects the following land systems: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yeeda System: Red sandplains supporting pindan vegetation with dense Acacia shrubs, scattered bloodwood and grey box trees and curly spinifex and ribbon grass.</li> <li>• Wanganut System: Sandplains and linear dunes supporting pindan woodlands with Acacias and bloodwoods and curly spinifex-ribbon grass, and broad low-lying swales supporting bloodwood-grey box woodlands with curly spinifex-ribbon grass.</li> <li>• Carpentaria System: Coastal plains, extensive bare mud flats, associated sandy margins and minor dunes, saline sands and muds, supporting paperbark thickets, samphire shrublands and fringing mangrove forests.</li> </ul> The DE contains soils which may be susceptible to erosion. However, standard management practices will be implemented to prevent erosion / sedimentation, as outlined in the EMP (Appendix A). Any dust produced during construction will also be managed through the implementation of an EMP. Therefore, it is not likely that the clearing will cause appreciable land degradation that will affect the present or future use of the land. Based on the above, the proposed clearing of native vegetation for the Project is not considered to be at variance with this principle.	Unlikely to be at variance.
(h) Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to	The West Kimberley National Heritage Place is known for unique environmental values, and is located approximately 950 m east of the network connection corridor section of the DE. All activities will be confined to the DE, therefore there will be no impacts to this National Heritage Place as a result of the Proposed Action and it is not discussed further.	Unlikely to be at variance.

Principle	Assessment	Outcome
<p>have an impact on the environmental values of any adjacent or nearby conservation area.</p>	<p>There are no DBCA managed lands within the DE (DBCA, 2024). However, approximately 250 m east and 705 m west of the DE, there is land protected under the <i>Conservation and Land Management Act 1984</i> (CALM Act) for the purpose of “conservation, recreation and traditional and customary Aboriginal use and enjoyment” for the Yawuru Native Title Holders Aboriginal Corporation Registered Native Title Body Corporate (RNTBC). The Yawuru Nagulagun / Roebuck Bay Marine Park is also approximately 100 m east of the DE.</p> <p>No off-site impacts are anticipated as a result of the proposed clearing of native vegetation within the DE. It is noted that management measures regarding weeds and disease will be implemented to ensure that weeds are not spread as a result of clearing activities (Appendix A). The proposed clearing is not expected to impact any adjacent conservation areas.</p>	
<p>(i) Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause deterioration in the quality of surface or underground water.</p>	<p>The DE is within the Cape Leveque Coast Basin Catchment (DWER, 2024) and Cape Leveque Coast Sub-catchment, which contains no large rivers. No permanent water bodies or drainage lines are located within the DE. Based on the topography of the DE and surrounding area, rainfall is expected to drain west towards the coast.</p> <p>The south eastern portion of the network connection corridor is located in close proximity to the Dampier Creek. This area is characterised by mangroves that experience tidal inundation. This area was surveyed in February 2026 and is expected to have degraded to good condition vegetation due to disturbance from existing roads, runway and urban development. The Roebuck Bay wetland is located less than 20 m east of the DE (DBCA, 2018). Roebuck Bay is also associated with a Ramsar wetland which is located approximately 7 km east of the DE (DBCA, 2017).</p> <p>The DE overlaps the Broome Water Reserve, which is a Public Drinking Water Source Area (PDWSA). The DE it also overlaps the Broome Groundwater Area proclaimed under the Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914 (RIWI Act). A water risk assessment of the project has therefore been completed and is provided in Appendix B. In order to minimise the impact to the Broome PDWSA, several mitigation measures will be implemented, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The BESS, transformers, offices, storage and substation will be located outside the P1 PDWSA</li> <li>• Refuelling of machinery will occur offsite and drip trays will be placed under stationary vehicles</li> <li>• Amenities will be located outside of the PDWSA and use sealed, non-sewered systems (no effluent discharge is permitted, consistent with Water Quality Protection Note 25).</li> <li>• Disposal of wastewater will be undertaken by a licensed waste contractor</li> <li>• No PFAS are permitted to be used in BESS fire suppression infrastructure at the solar farm site.</li> </ul> <p>The water risk assessment concludes that the residual risk for the Proposal after controls was ‘High’ for hydrocarbons and toxic chemicals, ‘Moderate’ for salinity (land clearing) and ‘Low’ for turbidity (fire).</p> <p>Based on publicly available data, the depth to groundwater in the area surrounding the DE is estimated to be between 2.1 m to 32 m below ground level (Landcorp, 2009 and Talis, 2023). The groundwater is expected to be shallow along the portion of the network connection corridor that is located in close proximity to the Dampier Creek. The general inferred direction of groundwater flow is in a south to southwest direction towards the coast.</p> <p>Potential impacts to surface water quality from erosion / sedimentation / hydrocarbons will be managed. Clearing within the DE is unlikely to cause deterioration in the quality of surface or underground water, therefore the Project is unlikely to be at variance to this principle.</p>	<p>Unlikely to be at variance.</p>
<p>(j) Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the</p>	<p>The DE is located within the Cape Leveque Coast basin Catchment (DWER, 2024) and Cape Leveque Coast Sub-Catchment. No permanent water bodies or drainage lines are located within the DE. Based on the topography of the DE and surrounding area, rainfall is expected to drain west towards the coast. The elevation within the solar and BESS facility portion of the DE is relatively flat, ranging</p>	<p>Unlikely to be at variance.</p>

Principle	Assessment	Outcome
<p>vegetation is likely to cause, or exacerbate, the intensity of flooding.</p>	<p>from approximately 45 m Australian Height Datum (AHD) in the centre of the area, to approximately 36 m AHD in the southwest corner. The network connection route/substation portion of the DE ranges from approximately 25 m AHD at the northern extent of the route to 7 m AHD (Topographic Map, n.d.). The power station is relatively flat, ranging from 17-19 m AHD throughout (Topographic Map, n.d.).</p> <p>Standard management measures for construction will be in place to mitigate against / manage erosion and associated environmental aspects. Therefore, the proposed clearing of native vegetation for the Project is not considered to be at variance with this principle.</p> <p>The proposed clearing is not expected to exacerbate or increase risk of flooding.</p>	

## 9 Other matters

### 9.1 Land Planning

The Project will be considered Public Works and is expected to be exempt from development approval under Section 6 of the *Planning and Development Act 2005*, however, due regard is required with respect to:

- The purpose and intent of any planning scheme that has effect in the locality where, and at the time when, the right is exercised;
- The orderly and proper planning, and the preservation of the amenity, of that locality at that time; and
- Any advice provided by the responsible authority in the course of the consultation required.

Horizon Power has engaged with the Local Government Authority in the selection of the DE.

### 9.2 Other Approvals

In considering a clearing matter under section 51O of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (EP Act), the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) CEO shall have regard to any planning instrument and other relevant matters when making decisions as to clearing permits. 'Other matters' are not defined in the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (EP Act), and consequently are any matters the CEO considers relevant. Other matters are generally environmental issues not directly within the scope of the clearing principles, but within the object and principles of the Act. Other approvals that may apply to this Project are detailed Table 9-1. Land access is detailed in Section 2.3.

*Table 9-1 Other approvals*

Other approvals	Assessment
Referral to Environmental Protection Authority	The Project was referred to the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) on 16 April 2025. The EPA decided not to assess the Project, and it was determined that the Project can be adequately assessed under Part V of the EP Act. Since referral to the EPA under the EP Act, two additional site have been added to the DE (a substation and the power station, as well as connection between the two). The change is not considered significant, therefore the Project will not be re-referred.
Referral to Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW)	The Project was referred to the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW) on 09/01/2026 under the EPBC Act due to the potential impacts for listed Threatened and Migratory species (EPBC 2025/10191). The Project was determined to be a Controlled Action on 19 February 2026.
Works Approval or Licence under EP Act	The Project may include the construction and operation of solar infrastructure, new concrete batching plant, wastewater treatment plant and other supporting infrastructure which may require approval from DWER through a works approval/licence application under Part V of the EP Act. This will be obtained by the contractor prior to delivery as required.
Groundwater or surface water licence under the <i>Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914</i>	Horizon Power is permitted to access water under Section 42 and 49 of the <i>Electricity Operator (Powers) Act 1979</i> . Any licences required for construction water will be acquired by the construction contractor.
Notice of Intent to Clear system under the <i>Soil and Land Conservation Act 1945</i>	Not Applicable.
State and municipal heritage	A search of the Heritage Council WA inHerit database confirms no State Heritage sites occur within the DE (DPLH, 2025a). The following municipal heritage sites intersects portion of the DE: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tram Line (Place Number: 26423)</li> <li>• Lurujarri Heritage Trail (Place Number: 26457).</li> </ul> The Project is not expected to impact municipal or State heritage.

Other approvals	Assessment
Native title	<p>The Proposed Action is not located within an Indigenous Land Use Agreement area (Landgate, 2025b). The DE is located within the Rubibi Community Native Title Determination Area (Federal Court file number: WAD6006/1998), which has the Yawuru Native Title Holders Aboriginal Corporation as the RNTBC.</p>
<p>Aboriginal Sites of Significance under the <i>Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972</i></p>	<p>A search of the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Inquiry System (ACHIS) shows that the publicly known boundaries of 9 registered sites intersect the DE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Undanda (ID 12793): Camp; Ritual / Ceremonial; Creation / Dreaming Narrative; Grinding areas / Grooves; Midden</li> <li>• Wundorda (ID 13320): Artefacts / Scatter; Ritual / Ceremonial; Midden</li> <li>• Ngilirirbanjin (ID 13351): Ritual / Ceremonial</li> <li>• Wullulong Ground (ID 13463): Other</li> <li>• Titirrkun/Kennedy Hill (ID 14560): Artefacts / Scatter; Ritual / Ceremonial; Creation / Dreaming Narrative; Grinding areas / Grooves; Hunting Place; Midden; Other; Water Source</li> <li>• Broome Crocodile Farm (ID 21408): Camp; Ritual / Ceremonial; Creation / Dreaming Narrative</li> <li>• Clementson St. Site Complex (ID 12552): Ritual / Ceremonial; Creation / Dreaming Narrative</li> <li>• Lintapitjin / Lot 2065 Port Drive (ID 12410): Artefacts / Scatter; Ritual / Ceremonial; Creation / Dreaming Narrative; Midden</li> <li>• One mile camp (ID 12522): Camp.</li> </ul> <p>According to the ACHIS, the DE intersects one Lodged site:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Balliwanduna (ID 12887): Creation/ Dreaming Narrative</li> </ul> <p>Horizon Power has commissioned an Aboriginal cultural heritage survey within the DE to validate the locations of these sites and ensure all known Aboriginal cultural heritage intersecting the DE can be avoided.</p> <p>Horizon Power has an external <a href="#">Aboriginal Heritage Management Policy</a>, that details our commitment to <i>avoid impacting on Aboriginal Heritage whenever and wherever possible</i>.</p> <p>A Heritage Protection Plan will be developed based on the outcomes of the heritage survey to ensure impact on heritage values is avoided.</p> <p>As appropriate, management measures will be implemented during activities, such as the engagement of cultural heritage monitors during ground disturbing works.</p>

## 10 References

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- Contaminated Sites Database (DWER-059)*
- RIWI Act, Groundwater Areas (DWER-034)*
- Public Drinking Water Source Areas (DWER-033)*
- RIWI Act, Rivers (DWER-036)*
- RIWI Act Surface Water and Irrigation District (DWER-037)*
- DBCA Legislated Lands and Waters (DBCA-011)*
- Soil Landscape Mapping – Systems (DPIRD-064)*
- Heritage Council WA - State Register (DPLH-006)*
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## Appendix A: Environmental Management Plan

PROTECTED

# Broome Future Energy System Environmental Management Plan


March 2026



**HORIZON**  
POWER

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## Document Version Control

Version	Date	Description (reason for changes)	Authorised	Signature
0	20/3/2026	Submission	D Kippin	

## Environmental Protection Authority

### Cover Page Table

<b>Proposal Name</b>	Broome Future Energy System
<b>Proponent Name</b>	Horizon Power
<b>Ministerial Statement Number/s (if applicable)</b>	Not applicable (yet to be assessed), will be added if applicable in later revisions.
<b>Purpose of the EMP</b>	To describe how the environmental impacts of the Proposal activities will be monitored, reported on and managed.
<b>Key Environmental Factor(s) and Objective(s)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Flora and vegetation: to minimise impacts to flora and vegetation required for construction and operation of the Project as far as practicable</li> <li>– Terrestrial fauna: to minimise fauna habitat loss, and direct and indirect impacts to fauna as far as practicable</li> <li>– Inland waters: to minimise impacts to surface water and groundwater hydrological regimes or quality water quality</li> <li>– Social surroundings: to minimise impacts to heritage values and visual amenity</li> <li>– Terrestrial environmental quality: to minimise impacts from Acid Sulphate Soils (ASS) and site contamination as far as practicable</li> <li>– Air quality: to minimise impacts to air quality, resulting from the generation of gaseous and dust emissions during construction</li> </ul>
<b>Ministerial Statement Condition Clauses (if applicable)</b>	Not applicable (yet to be assessed), will be added if applicable in later revisions.
<b>Key Components or Legal Requirements of the Plan</b>	This EMP has been prepared in accordance with the WA EPA's (State) <i>Instructions: How to prepare Environmental Protection Act 1986 Part IV Environmental Management Plans</i> (EPA, 2024) and DCCEEW's (Commonwealth) <i>Environmental Management Plan Guidelines</i> (DCCEEW, 2024).
<b>Proposed Construction and Operation Dates</b>	The construction phase of the Proposal is estimated to take three years (subject to approvals) from 2027 – 2029. Operation will commence in 2029.
<b>EMP Required Pre-Construction?</b>	Yes

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## Glossary

Acronym / Abbreviation	Definition
ACHIS	Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Inquiry System
CLD	Customer-led Decarbonisation
DBCA	Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions
DCCEEW	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water
DE	Development Envelope
DWER	Department of Water and Environmental Regulation
EMP	Environmental Management Plan
EMS	Environmental Management System
EP Act	<i>Environmental Protection Act 1986</i>
EPBC Act	<i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i>
GHG	Greenhouse Gas
GTE	Government Trading Enterprise
ha	Hectares
JHA	Job Hazard Analysis
m	Metres
MNES	Matters of National Environmental Significance
PPA	Power Purchase Agreement
RIWI Act	<i>Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914</i>
SDS	Safety Data Sheet
WA	Western Australia

# 1 Introduction

## 1.1 The Proposed Action

Regional Power Corporation, trading as (T/A) Horizon Power, is a Western Australian (WA) Government Trading Enterprise (GTE) and the state's regional and remote energy provider. Horizon Power operates under the Electricity Corporations Act 2005 and is governed by a Board of Directors accountable to the Minister for Energy.

The WA State Government has committed to reducing government carbon emissions by 80% (below 2020 levels by 2030), and Horizon Power is supporting the Government to achieve this target. Many towns in the Kimberley are powered by high emission fossil fuels such as diesel and gas. In Broome, Horizon Power currently purchases power from an independent power producer. The power purchase agreement (PPA) is due to expire, providing Horizon Power with an opportunity to integrate grid-scale renewable electricity into the town supply.

Horizon Power is proposing to construct a Future Energy System (FES) in Broome in the Kimberley region of WA (the Proposed Action). The Proposed Action will ensure security of energy supply to Broome after the expiry of the PPA. As part of this future energy supply, Horizon Power is targeting higher renewables and a reduction in emissions as part of the decarbonisation strategy for the town.

The Broome FES project will nominally consist of solar photovoltaic (PV) system (up to 90 megawatts alternating current (MWAC)), battery energy storage systems (BESS) (up to 42 megawatts MW / 239 megawatt-hour (MWh)), a network connection route (up to 18 km), a thermal power station (up to 32 MW), LNG storage facility and other supporting infrastructure as required.

### 1.1.1 Proposed Action Location

The solar PV and BESS will be installed at a site approximately 10 km north of Broome, at Lot 501 on Deposited Plan 414127, Reserve 25716. The network connection route corridor will follow Broome Cape Leveque Road, Broome Highway, Old Broome Road and Fredrick Street to connect the solar PV and BESS to the existing substation on Fredrick Street in Broome. The network connection will either be an overhead or underground electrical distribution or transmission line and will be up to 18 km long. Additional infrastructure will be constructed as required, including a new switchboard within the existing substation site on Lot 3142 on Plan 36907. The new thermals and LNG storage facility would be installed adjacent to the site of the existing power station location on McDaniel Road in Broome, and the connection upgraded between the existing power station and the substation. A Development Envelope (DE) has been established which represents the boundary surrounding the Proposed Action within which all development will be contained. Construction and operation of the Proposed Action will require permanent clearing within the DE.

The DE is shown on Figure 1-1. Horizon Power will remain flexible with the Proposed Action design, therefore the area to be cleared is indicative only and subject to change as the design develops. To ensure the Proposed Action avoids impacts to significant environmental and heritage values identified within the DE, avoidance areas have been developed (Figure 1-2). The final design of the Proposed Action will accommodate these avoidance areas to minimise impacts to environmental and Aboriginal cultural heritage values as much as possible.



**Proposed Action Location**



**Legend**

- Development Envelope

Figure 1-1

Proposed Action Location and Development Envelope



0 500 1,000 2,000  
Meters  
Scale: 1:60,000



**Legend**

- Development Envelope
- Avoidance Areas
- Priority 1 Priority Ecological Community
- Habitat Trees

Figure 1-2 Development Envelope and Avoidance Area



0 500 1,000 2,000  
Meters  
Scale: 1:60,000



### 1.1.2 Activity Overview and Timelines

Along with the solar and BESS facility, substation, power station, LNG storage facility and network connection, the additional construction and operational requirements for the Proposed Action are detailed in Section 1.1.2.1, Section 1.1.2.2 and Section 1.1.1.1.

#### 1.1.2.1 Pre-construction

Pre-construction activities will occur up to 12 months prior to construction and involve the following activities:

- Solar and BESS facility, network connection route, substation (switchyard) and thermal power station site surveying and marking – surveying personnel utilising Global Positioning System (GPS) equipment to mark Proposed Action boundaries and exclusion zones.
- Solar and BESS facility soil and geotechnical investigations – geotechnical engineering and crew utilising excavators and vehicle mounted drill rig will conduct borehole drilling, soil sampling, soil testing and compaction tests. Up to 80 boreholes to a depth of 25 metres (m) and up to 50 tests pits (up to 5 m width by 5 m width) and up to 3 m depth may be conducted to support the geotechnical investigations. No more than 10 m x 10 m of clearing is permitted per test location. Geotechnical investigations require driving on vegetation to access test locations.
- Network Connection Route, Substation and New Substation Feeder geotechnical investigations – geotechnical engineering and crew utilising excavators and vehicle mounted drill rig to conduct borehole drilling, soil sampling, soil testing and compaction tests. Up to 40 boreholes to a depth of up to 25 m and up to 40 tests pits (up to 5 m width by 5 m width) and up to 3 m depth may be conducted to support the geotechnical investigations. Access is expected to be from the existing road. No more than 10 m x 10 m of clearing is permitted per test location. Geotechnical investigations require driving on vegetation to access test locations.
- Thermal power station soil and geotechnical investigations – geotechnical engineering and crew utilising excavators and vehicle mounted drill rig to conduct borehole drilling, soil sampling, soil testing and compaction tests. Up to 30 borehole drilling, soil sampling, soil testing and compaction tests. Up to 30 boreholes to a depth of 25 m and up to 20 tests pits (2 m width by 3 m width) up to 3 m depth may be conducted to support the geotechnical investigations. Geotechnical investigations require driving on vegetation to access test locations.
- LNG storage facility - Construction of foundations and bunded areas for LNG tanks. Installation of access roads and hardstand areas. Erection of fencing and security infrastructure.

#### 1.1.2.2 Construction

The construction phase is expected to commence in 2028 for a duration of up to 24 months. Clearing of native vegetation is expected to take approximately 4 to 6 weeks and will be undertaken at the commencement of construction. Construction activities will be determined by weather, as the wet season in the Kimberly typically occurs between November and April. Construction personnel will consist of a Proposed Action workforce of up to 200 staff for the solar and BESS facility and up to 60 staff for the network connection route. Construction works will consist of:

- Clearing of vegetation, topsoil removal and stockpiling, grading and excavations.
- Weed control measures to manage the spread of invasive weeds.
- Supply of concrete will be either through the establishment of a temporary on-site concrete batch plant or concrete truck deliveries.

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- Supply of water for construction purposes will be either trucked water or construction of a bore in accordance with regulations.
- Supply of civil materials for ground levelling and fill will be trucked in from local sources.
- During construction, temporary laydown areas, ablutions, kitchen, offices, crib room, first aid, water supply, generators and other supporting facilities will be established onsite.
- Installation of the solar PV and BESS consisting of ground mounted solar panels, inverters, transformers, cabling, battery containers, substation and other ancillary infrastructure:
  - Solar PV panels and frame will be nominally up to 4 m tall from ground level. The battery containers, substation and office building will nominally be up to 5 m tall.
  - Footings of the solar system will involve either installed piles or concrete blocks. The piles solution may involve up to 40,000 steel piles (250 mm diameter) installed to a nominal depth of up to 5 m.
  - Excavation works for footings for the substation, battery system, office building and other ancillary infrastructure may involve excavation of up to 4,500 m<sup>3</sup> of soil (footing depth typically up to 2 m deep).
  - Excavation works for internal electrical cabling may involve excavation of up to 20 km of trenching and up to 1.5 m deep, resulting in excavation of up to 45,000 m<sup>3</sup> of soil.
- Installation of a network connection route from the solar and BESS facility, following Broome Cape Leveque Road, Broome Highway, Old Broome Road and Fredrick Street to the existing substation in Broome. The network connection will either be an overhead or underground distribution or transmission line:
  - Underground – Trenching excavations of up to 10 km and up to 3 m wide and up to 2 m deep, total excavation of up to 90,000 m<sup>3</sup> of soil.
  - Overhead – Electrical poles of up to 20 m height installed at spans of up to 200 m. Total of up to 75 poles installed along the 10 km connection route, and excavation for each pole up to 2.5 m deep, total excavations of up to 1,300 m<sup>3</sup> of soil.
- Installation of new underground feeder between existing substation and existing power station including trenching and/or direction drilling up to 5 km, total excavation of up to 25,000 m<sup>3</sup> of soil.
- Installation of a new switchboard and up to three transformers at the existing substation site including excavation of footings up to 2.5m deep.
- Installation of the new thermal power station:
  - Excavation works for footings for the thermal power station may involve excavation of up to 3,750 m<sup>3</sup> of soil (footing depth typically up to 2.5 m deep).
  - Excavation works for internal electrical cabling and gas piping may involve excavation of up to 2 km of trenching and up to 2.5 m deep, resulting in excavation of up to 10,000 m<sup>3</sup> of soil.
  - Installation of the power station including up to 20 engine generators, transformers, substation, cooling system, gas supply system, electrical and control cabling, gas pipelines and other auxiliary infrastructure. Engine generators, transformers and power station will be up to 5 m tall from ground level, while engine stacks may be up to 30 m tall.
- Installation of LNG storage facility including:
  - Delivery and installation of LNG storage tanks and vaporisers
  - Installation of piping, valves and associated instruments
  - Electrical works including power supply, lighting and control system
  - Clearing for unloading bay for receiving LNG deliveries via road tankers

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- Installation of control and safety systems including but not limited to fire suppression, gas detection and emergency shutdown systems.
- Installation of ancillary infrastructure such as fencing, lighting and utility connections.
- Construction of access tracks.

Typical heavy machinery and vehicles are proposed to be utilised onsite during the construction phase.

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### 1.1.2.3 Operations

The operational phase is expected to commence in 2029, with operational personnel shifts conducted during daylight hours at the solar and BESS facility while the solar is producing energy. Operations personnel will consist of a local workforce of up to four personnel per shift for the solar and BESS facility. There will be no accommodation onsite, personnel will commute to site daily.

Activities associated with the operational phase will include:

- Operation and maintenance of the solar and BESS facility, network connection, substation and thermal power station.
- Pressure testing and leak detection, system integration and functional testing
- Regulatory inspections and approvals
- Routine maintenance activities for the solar and BESS facility including visual inspections, solar panel cleaning (if required, using water), solar panel replacement, electrical inspections and testing.
- Regular maintenance of the network connection. Activities will depend on whether it is an overhead or underground transmission line:
  - Overhead– visual inspections, thermal imaging, tower and pole maintenance, conductor and insulator cleaning, vegetation management and protection system testing.
  - Underground – visual inspections, thermal imaging and electrical testing.
- Routine maintenance activities including weed control.

Machinery and vehicles used onsite during operational phase will include light vehicles, semi-trailer truck, cranes and telehandler.

### 1.1.2.4 Decommissioning

The Proposed Action is expected to operate for a minimum of 20 years. After the initial 20 years, dependent on remaining service life of the solar panels, the infrastructure may either be decommissioned or retained/upgraded. If decommissioning is required, all solar farm infrastructure will be removed from the site, which will be rehabilitated to the approved final landform and condition.

Decommissioning works would include:

- Removal of solar arrays and associated infrastructure.
- Site rehabilitation.
- Monitoring and compliance.

The BESS thermal power station, LNG storage facility and network connection infrastructure would be expected to remain in situ and continue to be used as part of Broome's electricity grid. Following the removal of all infrastructure, the site would be rehabilitated in line with approval conditions and agreed completion criteria.

## 1.2 Assessment Process and Condition Requirements

The Proposed Action will be subject to a clearing permit under the Environmental Protection Act 1986.

As the Proposed Action is currently progressing through assessment under Part the EPBC Act, condition requirements are not applicable. If necessary, condition requirements will be added to this section of the EMP.

### 1.3 Document Purpose

The purpose of this Environmental Management Plan (EMP) is to support the referrals under the EP Act and describe how the environmental impacts of the Proposal activities will be monitored, reported on and managed. This document has been prepared in accordance with the WA Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) *'Instructions: How to prepare Environmental Protection Act 1986 Part IV Environmental Management Plans'* (EPA, 2024).

### 1.4 Rationale and Approach

The objective of this EMP is to ensure that appropriate management measures will be in place during construction and operation of the Proposal to reduce potential impacts on the environment. This EMP adopts a management approach to achieve the environmental objectives for each key environmental factor, based on consideration of:

- Survey and study findings
- Key assumptions and uncertainties
- Scientific information on the site and region
- Changes in the environment
- External issues to the Proposal
- Timeframe for mitigation.

### 1.5 Potential impacts and primary mitigation strategy

A summary of the key potential impacts and mitigation strategies for the Proposal are identified in Table 1-1.

*Table 1-1 Potential impacts and mitigation strategy*

Potential Impacts	Mitigation Strategy
Vegetation clearance and loss of habitat in excess of the approved amount. Refer to Section 9 for an assessment of this risk.	The extent of the approved clearing will be clearly communicated in documentation. Avoidance areas will be demarcated prior to ground disturbing activities.
Direct mortality of fauna due to interaction with construction activities. Construction activities with an associated risk of direct mortality of fauna individuals include the clearing of vegetation and soil excavation. Injury or mortality of fauna individuals due to vehicle strike during construction of the Proposal or during routine inspection and maintenance activities during operations, or collision with operational infrastructure. Refer to Section 9 for an assessment of this risk.	Site personnel inductions regarding threatened fauna and direct and indirect impacts (e.g., risk of vehicle strike, interaction with construction activities, adherence to speed limits, waste management and control of feral animals). Clearing will be undertaken progressively in one direction, to allow fauna dispersal.  Inductions for site operatives regarding threatened fauna and direct and indirect impacts (e.g., risk of vehicle strike, interaction with maintenance activities, adherence to speed limits, waste management and control of feral animals).
Habitat fragmentation through clearing activities and disturbance associated with construction of the operational infrastructure. Refer to Section 9 for an assessment of this risk.	Infrastructure and temporary clearing will be preferentially positioned within or adjacent to the existing cleared areas to reduce the amount of fauna habitat clearing required.
Increased light and noise pollution from temporary construction activities or permanent operational lighting and maintenance activities. Fauna may be attracted to areas where prey such as insects are attracted to the light emissions. Light emissions may also cause other behaviour responses such as changing the timing of fauna individual's activities or avoidance of the area.  Noise is an environmental stressor and can potentially affect fauna in a number of ways including avoidance of noisy habitats or reduction in foraging success due	Construction works are expected to occur during daylight hours. However, limited works may be required outside daylight hours for specific activities. Standard construction noise management measures will be implemented. Temporary lighting will be directional to reduce potential for light spill.  Maintenance activities will involve minimal site presence and typically undertaken during daylight hours. Lighting design will be directional to reduce potential for light spill.

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Potential Impacts	Mitigation Strategy
to masking (i.e. interference with the perception of sounds of interest). Refer to Section 9 for an assessment of this risk.	
Increased risk of feral animals and weeds as a result of the creation of new pathways for pest animals (including Cane Toads) and potential attraction of animals to waste. Refer to Section 11 for an assessment of this risk.	Biosecurity measures in place and induction for all personnel will include the requirement to report sightings of feral animals, no feeding of native and/or feral animals and no pets allowed on site. Good practice waste management procedures will be in place. Additional measures to control Cane Toad movements may be implemented if Cane Toad presence becomes a problem in Broome. This may include: ensuring there is no standing water across the DE during operations that Cane Toads could potentially breed in; exclusion measures (e.g. buried-base mesh fencing); and monitoring and removal of Cane Toads.
Increased risk of fire. Accidental fire, during construction, operation, or decommissioning of the Proposal, can result in injury or mortality of fauna individuals. Additionally, fire can temporarily reduce the amount of fauna habitat available, increase habitat fragmentation and open up areas to weed invasion. Refer to Section 11 for an assessment of this risk.	Whenever feasible, fire-resistant barriers like screens will be employed to confine sparks generated by welders and other hot work activities. PFAS-free fire extinguishers will be strategically positioned in locations with a higher risk of fire.
Increased dust causing degradation to habitat. Vegetation damage from increased dust deposition during construction can potentially result in degradation of fauna habitat leading to loss or fragmentation or foraging areas. Refer to Section 9 for an assessment of this risk.	Standard construction dust control and mitigation measures will be implemented during construction. This may include the use of a water trucks for dust suppression. Erosion control measures will be developed through detailed design and incorporated into the Proposal including consideration of installing mulching or erosion control mats; gravel/crushed rock; or vegetative cover of native grasses or low-growing vegetation.

## 2 Existing Environment

### 2.1 Survey and Study Findings

Horizon Power commissioned a detailed flora and vegetation survey and a Targeted and Basic fauna survey in 2024 and 2025 to gain an understanding of the flora, vegetation and fauna values within and surrounding the DE. The surveys were undertaken in accordance with relevant EPA guidance. The relevant survey and study findings of the Proposal are summarised in Table 2-1.

Table 2-1 Survey and Study Findings

Survey/Report	Details
<p>Kimberly IRP: Biological Survey (GHD, 2024)</p> <p>IBSA-2024-0323</p>	<p>Flora and vegetation scope: Detailed (single season) flora and vegetation survey, including a desktop assessment and field survey. Three sites were surveyed in Broome, with Site F being relevant to the Proposal. This survey was undertaken in accordance with EPA Technical Guidance – Flora and Vegetation Surveys for Environmental Impact Assessment (EPA, 2016a).</p> <p>The survey mapped the vegetation types and condition and recorded the presence of Priority flora. Field survey methods involved a combination of high intensity quadrat sampling and traversing the Survey Area by foot. Quadrats were conducted within the Survey Area to describe the broad-scale vegetation and physical features. There were 18 quadrats and 5 relevés across the three Broome sites.</p> <p>Fauna scope: Targeted and Basic fauna survey, including a desktop assessment and field survey. Three sites were surveyed in Broome, with Site F being relevant to the Proposal. This survey was undertaken in accordance with EPA Technical Guidance – Terrestrial Vertebrate Fauna Surveys for Environmental Impact Assessment (EPA, 2020a).</p> <p>The survey areas were traversed by foot to identify and describe dominant fauna habitat types present, and their condition, and to assess habitat for significant fauna. Targeted assessments specific for the Bilby (<i>Macrotis lagotis</i>), Northern Brushtail Possum (<i>Trichosurus vulpecula arnhemensis</i>), Northern Blue tongue Skink (<i>Tiliqua scincoides intermedia</i>) and the Northern Coastal Free-Tailed Bat (<i>Ozimops cobourgianus</i>) were undertaken in the Survey Area. The Basic assessment also identified and recorded all fauna occurring in the area at the time of the survey.</p> <p>Remote motion sensitive cameras were deployed in areas of suitable habitat to target fauna of conservation significance including Bilby and Northern Brushtail Possum. SM4<sup>®</sup> and Anabat Swift bat call detectors were set for general bat activity and to target the Northern Coastal free-tailed bat (<i>Ozimops cobourgianus</i>).</p> <p>Survey dates: 6 to 12 February and 6 to 12 March 2024.</p> <p>Survey Area: The GHD (2024) Survey Area in Broome covered 988.9 ha.</p>
<p>Kimberly IRP: Broome Site E and Power Station (GHD, 2025)</p> <p>IBSA-2025-0366</p>	<p>Flora and vegetation scope: Detailed and targeted flora and vegetation survey, including a desktop assessment and field survey. Two sites were surveyed in Broome, the Broome Power Station and Broome Site E, being relevant to the Proposal. This survey was undertaken in accordance with EPA Technical Guidance – Flora and Vegetation Surveys for Environmental Impact Assessment (EPA, 2016a).</p> <p>The survey mapped the vegetation types and condition and recorded the presence of Priority flora. Field survey methods involved a combination of high intensity quadrat sampling and traversing the Survey Area by foot. Quadrats were conducted within the Survey Area to describe the broad-scale vegetation and physical features. There were 14 quadrats and 6 relevés across the two Broome sites.</p> <p>Fauna scope: Targeted and Basic fauna survey, including a desktop assessment and field survey. Targeted assessments were undertaken for (but not limited to) the Bilby (<i>Macrotis lagotis</i>), Northern Brush-tail Possum (<i>Trichosurus vulpecula arnhemensis</i>), Northern Blue-tongue Skink (<i>Tiliqua scincoides</i>) and the Northern Free-tailed Bat (<i>Ozimops cobourgianus</i>). This survey was undertaken in accordance with EPA Technical Guidance – Terrestrial Vertebrate Fauna Surveys for Environmental Impact Assessment (EPA, 2020a).</p> <p>The Basic assessment also identified and recorded all fauna occurring in the area at the time of the survey.</p> <p>Remote motion sensitive cameras were deployed in areas of suitable habitat to target the Bilby. SM4 and Anabat Swift bat call detectors were set for general bat activity and to target the Northern Coastal free-tailed bat (<i>Ozimops cobourgianus</i>).</p> <p>Survey dates: 24 to 30<sup>th</sup> of March 2025</p> <p>Survey Area: The GHD (2025) Survey Area in Broome covered 281.84 ha.</p>

## 2.2 Relevant Environmental Factors

The WA EPA has 14 environmental factors, organised into five themes. Each of the 14 environmental factors has an associated objective which is used to determine whether the potential environmental impacts of a Project may be significant. An impact assessment was undertaken in the EPA referral supporting documentation (Horizon Power, 2025) with the following environmental factors identified as Key Environmental Factors:

- Flora and vegetation
- Terrestrial fauna
- Inland waters
- Social surroundings.

An additional three factors have been identified as 'other environmental factors' for the Project, including:

- Terrestrial environmental quality
- Air quality
- Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.

A detailed GHG assessment for the Project indicated that construction of the Project is unlikely to result in a significant increase in GHG emissions. The Proposal is unlikely to result in a significant residual impact on GHG emission factor and is not considered to require a GHG management plan given emissions are 62,334 t CO<sub>2</sub>-e for construction and 24,962 t CO<sub>2</sub>-e/yr<sup>1</sup> for operation. Given the low emissions and other legislated mechanisms for reducing GHG emissions, this factor has not been included within this EMP.

The existing environment associated with the DE is summarised in Table 2-2.

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<sup>1</sup> A greenhouse gas (GHG) assessment was undertaken for Broome as two one of Horizon Power's larger GHG emitting towns. This assessment includes project elements that are subject to this referral, plus additional requirements that could be needed in the future such as new power station infrastructure. This approach was taken to demonstrate that both the towns would be well below the safeguard threshold (100,000 tonnes carbon dioxide equivalent (tCO<sub>2</sub>e) per year).

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Table 2-2 Existing Environment

Environmental Value	Assessment	Related Key Environmental Factor relevant to the Project	Related Proposed Action Activities that would Affect this Environmental Value
<p>Vegetation associations, types and condition</p>	<p>The Proposed Action is located within Pre-European Vegetation Association 750. This vegetation association is characterised as pindan woodland: <i>Acacia</i> thicket with Eucalypt woodland over spinifex <i>Acacia tumida</i>, <i>Eucalyptus tectifica</i>, <i>Corymbia grandifolia</i>, <i>Triodia pungens</i> and <i>T. bitextura</i>. Vegetation Association 750 is well retained above the Commonwealth and State Government targets of 30% of pre-European extent, which reflects the limited agricultural and urban development of the Dampierland Bioregion.</p> <p>The DE comprises native vegetation representing seven vegetation types (GHD, 2024;2025). Areas that are not considered native vegetation have been modified with significant changes to the vegetation structure and no longer represent an intact vegetation type. These include areas of scattered natives over weeds, landscaped areas and planted gardens, cleared road verge and drains with regrowth of native forbs and grasses or cleared land (GHD, 2024). The vegetation recorded in the DE were (GHD 2024;2025):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– VT02: Low open forest to woodland <i>Corymbia zygomphylla</i> over <i>Lysiphyllum cunninghamii</i> and <i>Acacia eriopoda</i> over a low woodland of <i>Acacia coleii</i> var. <i>coleii</i>, <i>Ehretia saligna</i>, <i>Brachychiton diversifolius</i> subsp. <i>diversifolius</i> and <i>Ficus aculeata</i>, occasional small thicket of <i>Acacia monticola</i> over a mid open shrubland of <i>Acacia adoxa</i> var. <i>subglabra</i> over a tall open forbland of <i>Waltheria indica</i> over a low open shrubland of <i>Corchorus sidoides</i> subsp. <i>sidoides</i> over a hummock grassland of <i>Triodia caelestialis</i> over an open tussock grassland of <i>Eragrostis eriopoda</i>, <i>Aristida holathera</i> var. <i>holathera</i> and <i>Eriachne obtusa</i> over a low open forbland of <i>Spermacoce occidentalis</i> on flat dunes of red brown clay loam.</li> <li>– VT03: Open woodland of <i>Corymbia polycarpa</i> over a low open to sparse woodland of <i>Melaleuca argentea</i>, <i>Melaleuca cajuputi</i> subsp. <i>cajuputi</i> and <i>Acacia coleii</i> var. <i>coleii</i>, over a sparse to open tall forbland of <i>Waltheria indica</i> over a mid to tall sedgeland of <i>Cyperus conicus</i> over an open tussock grassland of <i>Aristida holathera</i> var. <i>holathera</i>, <i>Chrysopogon pallidus</i> and occasional <i>Sorghum plumosum</i> over a forbland to closed forbland of <i>Goodenia armitiana</i>, <i>Lindernia ?aplectra</i>, <i>Grona filiformis</i> and low sedgeland of <i>Fimbristylis caespitosa</i> on grey brown sandy clay loam.</li> <li>– VT04: Low open woodland of <i>Eucalyptus tectifica</i> / <i>Corymbia greeniana</i> / <i>Corymbia polycarpa</i> / <i>Corymbia dendromerinx</i> over a low woodland to forest of <i>Lysiphyllum cunninghamii</i>, <i>Acacia eriopoda</i>, <i>Acacia tumida</i> var. <i>tumida</i> (<i>Melaleuca</i> spp. and <i>Hakea arborescens</i> on the transition to damper areas) over low mixed tree layer consisting of species including <i>Planchonia careyi</i>, <i>Santalum lanceolata</i>, <i>Ehretia saligna</i> var. <i>saligna</i>,</li> </ul>	<p>Flora and Vegetation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Loss of vegetation and flora through clearing, including significant and riparian vegetation, and flora.</li> <li>– Introduction and/or the spread of weeds.</li> <li>– Alteration of fire regimes.</li> <li>– Alteration to hydrological flows.</li> <li>– Generation of dust.</li> <li>– Spills or leaks of chemical, hydrocarbon and/or hazardous materials.</li> </ul>

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Environmental Value	Assessment	Related Key Environmental Factor relevant to the Project	Related Proposed Action Activities that would Affect this Environmental Value
	<p><i>Persoonia falcata</i>, <i>Brachychiton diversifolius</i> subsp. <i>diversifolius</i>, <i>Gyrocarpus americanus</i> var. <i>americanus</i>, <i>Hakea macrocarpa</i>, <i>Ficus aculeata</i> var. <i>indecora</i>, <i>Acacia colei</i> var. <i>colei</i> and <i>Ventilago viminalis</i> over (+/-) sparse mid shrubs of <i>Dodonaea hispidula</i> var. <i>arida</i>, <i>Jasminum didymum</i> subsp. <i>lineare</i> and <i>Dolichandrone occidentalis</i> over a tall open to closed forbland of <i>Waltheria indica</i> and (+/-) <i>Pterocaulon intermedium</i> over a low open to sparse shrubland of <i>Corchorus sidoides</i> subsp. <i>sidoides</i> over a hummock grassland of <i>Triodia caelestialis</i> and/or tussock grassland of <i>Chrysopogon pallidus</i> (+/-) <i>Aristida holathera</i> var. <i>holathera</i>, <i>Panicum coloratum</i>, <i>Aristida holathera</i> var. <i>latifolia</i>, <i>Sehima nervosum</i> and/or <i>Eriachne obtusa</i>) on undulating plain of orange loam.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– VT05: Variable from low open forest to open woodland (<i>Corymbia greeniana</i>, <i>C. zygophylla</i> and/or <i>C. flavescens</i>) with <i>Acacia eriopoda</i> or <i>A. eriopoda</i> x <i>tumida</i> var. <i>tumida</i> (tree form or occasionally shrub form where more recently burnt) and scattered <i>Acacia colei</i> var. <i>colei</i> on pindan plains and dunes of very low relief.</li> <li>– VT06: Low open forest to tall shrubland (Pindan) dominated by <i>Acacia eriopoda</i> with emergent <i>Planchonia careyi</i>, <i>Corymbia greeniana</i> and <i>C. zygophylla</i> (occ. <i>Sersalisia sericea</i>) over scattered low trees of <i>Gyrocarpus americanus</i> subsp. <i>pachyphyllus</i>, <i>Hakea macrocarpa</i>, <i>Brachychiton diversifolius</i> subsp. <i>folius</i> on pindan relict dune formation (aligns with Relict dune system dominated by extensive stands of Minyjuru (<i>Mangarr – Sersalisia sericea</i>) (P1 PEC).</li> <li>– VT07: Low open forest of <i>Eucalyptus tectifica</i> and *<i>Azadirachta indica</i> over <i>Melaleuca cajuputi</i> subsp. <i>cajuputi</i>, <i>Melaleuca glomerata</i>, <i>Lysiphyllum cunninghamii</i> and <i>Acacia colei</i> var. <i>colei</i> on clay dampland.</li> <li>– VT08: Sparse trees of <i>Avicennia marina</i> subsp. <i>marina</i> and <i>Ceriops australis</i> over a sparse low samphire shrubland of <i>Tecticornia ?pergranulata</i> subsp. <i>elongata</i>, <i>Neobassia astrocarpa</i> and <i>Sesuvium portulacastrum</i> subsp. <i>portulacastrum</i> on tidal mudflats.</li> </ul> <p>The area of these vegetation types within the DE is provided within the EPBC Supporting Document.</p> <p>The vegetation condition ranges from Excellent to Completely Degraded with the majority of the vegetation in Excellent condition (GHD, 2024; 2025).</p>		
Significant vegetation	The Survey Area intersects with the mapped extent of the Monsoon Vine Thickets of Dampier Peninsula TEC (Endangered). However, the GHD (2024; 2025) surveys did not identify any vegetation types that represented EPBC listed TECs within the DE.	Flora and Vegetation	– Loss of vegetation and flora through clearing, including significant and riparian vegetation, and flora.

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Environmental Value	Assessment	Related Key Environmental Factor relevant to the Project	Related Proposed Action Activities that would Affect this Environmental Value
	<p>An avoidance area has been established (Figure 1-2) in the south-eastern corner of the solar facility portion of the DE to avoid clearing DBCA listed Priority Ecological Community Relict dune system dominated by extensive stands of Minyjuru (Mangarr – <i>Seralisia sericea</i>) Priority Ecological Community (PEC) (Priority 1).</p> <p>VT07 and VT08 are considered to be riparian vegetation and occur in small patches within the network connection route section of the DE. There is 1.5 ha of riparian vegetation within the DE to be cleared.</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Introduction and/or the spread of weeds.</li> <li>– Alteration of fire regimes.</li> <li>– Alteration to hydrological flows.</li> <li>– Generation of dust.</li> <li>– Spills or leaks of chemical, hydrocarbon and/or hazardous materials.</li> </ul>
Significant flora	<p>No EPBC Act or BC Act listed Threatened flora taxa were recorded within the DE during the GHD (2024; 2025) surveys.</p> <p>Seven DBCA listed priority flora species were recorded from the Broome survey areas including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– <i>Bonamia oblongifolia</i> (P3)</li> <li>– <i>Acacia monticola x tumida var. kulparn</i> (P3)</li> <li>– <i>Glycine pindanica</i> (P3)</li> <li>– <i>Jacquemontia sp. Broome</i> (A.A. Mitchell 3028) (P1)</li> <li>– <i>Polymeria sp. Broome</i> (K.F. Kenneally 9759) (P3)</li> <li>– <i>Terminalia kumpaja</i> (P3)</li> <li>– <i>Corymbia ? paractia</i> (P1)</li> </ul>	Flora and Vegetation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Loss of vegetation and flora through clearing, including significant and riparian vegetation, and flora.</li> <li>– Introduction and/or the spread of weeds.</li> <li>– Alteration of fire regimes.</li> <li>– Alteration to hydrological flows.</li> <li>– Generation of dust.</li> <li>– Spills or leaks of chemical, hydrocarbon and/or hazardous materials.</li> </ul>
Fauna habitat	<p>Seven fauna habitat types have been mapped across the DE (GHD, 2024;2025). These fauna habitats align with the vegetation types identified above.</p> <p>Fauna habitats within the DE have high habitat value in the context of the surrounding environment. Overall, the habitats contain a diversity of fauna, and all provide habitat for significant fauna species that are present or likely to be present in the local area.</p> <p>The fauna habitats within the DE are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Pindan shrubland plain</li> <li>– Pindan shrubland relic dunes</li> <li>– Pindan woodland</li> </ul>	Terrestrial fauna	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Loss of fauna habitat through clearing, including habitat for significant fauna species.</li> </ul>

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Environmental Value	Assessment	Related Key Environmental Factor relevant to the Project	Related Proposed Action Activities that would Affect this Environmental Value
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Pindan woodland plain</li> <li>– Open Eucalypt dampland</li> <li>– Sparse mangrove tidal mudflat</li> <li>– Scattered plantings and native trees</li> </ul> <p>The areas of these habitat types within the DE is provided in the EPBC Act Supporting Document.</p> <p>The DE does not present a significant ecological linkage. The fauna habitats within the DE are part of a contiguous, largely intact area of remnant vegetation present in Broome. Land within the Broome township has been subject to clearing, but this clearing is minimal and much of the remnant vegetation intact in the local area. Overall, the habitats within the DE are largely contiguous through the local area.</p>		
Significant fauna	<p>The GHD (2024) survey recorded four conservation significant fauna species within the DE or in close vicinity to the DE, with an additional five species considered likely to occur. The species that are known to occur or are likely to occur in the DE are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Bilby (<i>Macrotis lagotis</i>) is listed as vulnerable under the EPBC Act and the BC Act. The Bilby is known to occur locally, and evidence was recorded during the GHD (2024;25) surveys. Potential foraging, breeding, shelter and dispersal habitat (considered to be critical habitat) for this species will be cleared for the Proposed Action.</li> <li>– Northern Brushtail Possum (<i>Trichosurus vulpecula arnhemensis</i>) is listed as Vulnerable under the EPBC Act and BC Act. Potential foraging, breeding, shelter and dispersal habitat (considered to be critical and supporting habitat) for this species will be cleared for the Proposed Action.</li> <li>– Northern Blue-tongue Skink (<i>Tiliqua scincoides intermedia</i>) is listed as Critically Endangered under the EPBC Act. Potential foraging breeding, shelter and dispersal habitat (considered to be critical habitat) for this species will be cleared for the Proposed Action.</li> <li>– Fork-tailed Swift (<i>Apus Pacificus</i>) is listed as Migratory under the EPBC Act and the <i>Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016</i> (BC Act). Potential foraging habitat (considered to be supporting habitat) for this species will be cleared for the Proposed Action.</li> <li>– Bare-rumped Sheath-tailed Bat (<i>Saccolaimus saccolaimus</i>) is listed as Vulnerable under the EPBC Act and Priority 3 under the BC Act. Potential foraging, breeding, roosting and dispersal habitat will be cleared for the Proposed Action.</li> </ul>	Terrestrial fauna	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Loss of fauna habitat through clearing, including habitat for significant fauna species.</li> <li>– Fauna injury/death from vehicle strike, clearing activities or direct collision with infrastructure.</li> <li>– Fauna activity disturbance from temporary increase in noise/vibration/light, attraction of feral animals, alteration of fire regimes, increased generation of dust during construction.</li> </ul>

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Environmental Value	Assessment	Related Key Environmental Factor relevant to the Project	Related Proposed Action Activities that would Affect this Environmental Value
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Gouldian Finch (<i>Chleobia gouldiae</i>) is listed as Endangered under the EPBC Act and Priority 4 under the BC Act. Potential foraging and nesting/breeding habitat (considered to be critical habitat) for this species will be cleared for the Proposed Action.</li> <li>– Grey Falcon (<i>Falco hypoleucos</i>) is listed as Vulnerable under the EPBC Act and the BC Act. Potential foraging habitat (considered to be supporting habitat) for this species will be cleared for the Proposed Action.</li> <li>– Osprey (<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>) is listed as Migratory under the EPBC Act and the BC Act. Potential foraging habitat (considered to be supporting habitat) for this species will be cleared for the Proposed Action.</li> <li>– Barn Swallow (<i>Hirundo rustica</i>) is listed as Migratory under the EPBC Act and the BC Act. Potential foraging habitat (considered to be supporting habitat) for this species will be cleared for the Proposed Action.</li> </ul> <p>Suitable habitat for the relevant EPBC listed species identified above is discussed in detail in the EPBC Act Supporting Document, including the extent of suitable habitat in the DE.</p> <p>Short-range endemic species likely to occur in the Kimberley are land and freshwater snails (EPA, 2016b). The habitats likely to contain short-range endemic species include vine thickets, boulder piles, isolated hills and other landforms, vegetated gullies and freshwater habitats (EPA, 2016b). These habitats are not present within the DE and therefore short-range endemic fauna are not expected to be relevant to the Proposed Action and are not discussed further.</p>		
Surface water	<p>The DE is within the Cape Leveque Coast Basin Catchment (DWER, 2024) and Cape Leveque Coast Sub-catchment, which is within the Cape Leveque Coast Basin Catchment (DWER, 2024) which contains no large rivers. No permanent water bodies or drainage lines are located within the DE. Based on the topography of the DE and surrounding area, rainfall is expected to drain west towards the coast.</p>	Inland waters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– A minor and temporary impact on the quality of inland waters as a result of sediments and/or contaminants being transported with stormwater runoff.</li> <li>– Changes to surface water flows and increased risk of land erosion due to clearing of native vegetation within the DE.</li> <li>– Risk of contamination of soils and subsequent mobilisation to surface waters may result from accidental</li> </ul>

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Environmental Value	Assessment	Related Key Environmental Factor relevant to the Project	Related Proposed Action Activities that would Affect this Environmental Value
			<p>release of chemicals and/or hydrocarbons (i.e. leaks, spills).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Exposure of ASS by ground disturbing associated with construction of the network connection.</li> </ul>
Groundwater	<p>The DE overlaps the Broome Water Reserve, which is a Public Drinking Water Source Area (PDWSA), and it also overlaps the Broome Groundwater Area proclaimed under the <i>Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914</i> (RIWI Act).</p>	Inland waters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– If groundwater is encountered, short-term dewatering of potentially acidic groundwater may be required.</li> <li>– Changes to groundwater infiltration from clearing of native vegetation within the DE.</li> <li>– Minor temporary drawdown of groundwater should dewatering be required to construct solar infrastructure, transmission connection infrastructure (the transmission line may be overhead or underground) or the thermal power station.</li> </ul>
Amenity	<p>The Proposed Action will have a permanent impact on visual amenity of the DE and surrounds, as well as temporary impacts on amenity during clearing and construction (i.e. dust, noise and vibrations).</p> <p>Construction of the Proposed Action will generate noise, dust and vibration of short-term duration within the DE. Noise and vibration may cause nuisance during construction to nearby sensitive receptors, however these impacts will be of a short duration and temporary. The network connection will be constructed adjacent to existing roads and a residential area.</p>	Social surroundings	<p>Potential to impact upon amenity (visual, noise and vibration).</p>
Cultural heritage	<p>There are no World Heritage Properties or Commonwealth Heritage Places within the DE or within 20 km of the DE.</p> <p>The West Kimberley National Heritage Place is located approximately 950 m east of the network connection corridor section of the DE. All activities will be confined to the DE,</p>	Social surroundings	<p>The location and extent of Aboriginal cultural heritage values within the DE have been confirmed via an Aboriginal cultural heritage survey with the support and consent of relevant</p>

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Environmental Value	Assessment	Related Key Environmental Factor relevant to the Project	Related Proposed Action Activities that would Affect this Environmental Value
	<p>therefore there will be no impacts to this National Heritage Place as a result of the Proposed Action and it is not discussed further.</p> <p>The Proposed Action is not located within an Indigenous Land Use Agreement area (Landgate, 2025b).</p> <p>The DE is located within the Rubibi Community Native Title Determination Area (Federal Court file number: WAD6006/1998), which has the Yawuru Native Title Holders Aboriginal Corporation as the RNTBC.</p> <p>A search of the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Inquiry System (ACHIS) indicates that one Lodged site intersects the DE and the publicly known boundaries of 9 Registered sites intersect the DE. Horizon Power has commissioned an Aboriginal cultural heritage survey within the DE to validate the locations of these sites and ensure all known Aboriginal cultural heritage intersecting the DE can be avoided.</p> <p>A search of the Heritage Council WA inHerit database confirms no State Heritage sites occur within the DE (DPLH, 2025a).</p> <p>The following municipal heritage sites intersects portion of the DE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Tram Line (Place Number: 26423)</li> <li>– Lurujarri Heritage Trail (Place Number: 26457).</li> </ul>		<p>Traditional Owners. Horizon Power is committed to avoiding direct impacts to all known Aboriginal cultural heritage. The Traditional Owners have cleared the area to proceed, with conditions.</p> <p>The Proposed Action has the potential to indirectly impact Aboriginal cultural heritage and values of the DE and surrounding areas through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Dust generation during construction has the potential to settle on Aboriginal cultural heritage within or adjacent to the DE</li> <li>– Vibrations during construction has the potential to cause physical damage to Aboriginal cultural heritage within or adjacent to the DE</li> <li>– Accidental fires during construction or operations, has the potential to cause physical damage to Aboriginal cultural heritage within or adjacent to the DE.</li> </ul>
Conservation Reserves and Environmentally Sensitive Areas	<p>There are no DBCA managed lands within the DE (DBCA, 2024a). However, approximately 250 m east and 705 m west of the DE, there is land protected under the <i>Conservation and Land Management Act 1984</i> (CALM Act) for the purpose of “conservation, recreation and traditional and customary Aboriginal use and enjoyment” for the Yawuru Native Title Holders Aboriginal Corporation Registered Native Title Body Corporate (RNTBC). The Yawuru Nagulagun / Roebuck Bay Marine Park is also approximately 100 m east of the DE.</p>	Flora and vegetation Social surroundings	N/A
Land and soil quality	<p>The solar farm and the thermal power station areas are within an area of extremely low probability of occurrence of Acid Sulfate Soils (ASS) (Fitzpatrick <i>et al.</i>, 2011). Adjacent to the network connection there is a high probability of occurrence of ASS in intertidal and extratidal flats (Fitzpatrick <i>et al.</i>, 2011).</p>	Terrestrial environmental quality	Exposure of ASS by ground disturbance associated with construction of the network connection or thermal power station.

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Environmental Value	Assessment	Related Key Environmental Factor relevant to the Project	Related Proposed Action Activities that would Affect this Environmental Value
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– If groundwater is encountered, short-term dewatering of potentially acidic groundwater may be required.</li> <li>– Soil erosion from clearing, earthworks and vehicle/machinery movement.</li> <li>– Soil contamination from accidental release of chemicals and/or hydrocarbons (i.e. leaks, spills) particularly during the construction phase. Since minor quantities of chemicals and hydrocarbons will be handled and/or temporarily stored through construction, impacts resulting in the event of accidental release are expected to be negligible.</li> <li>– Soil contamination from accidental release of waste.</li> <li>– Disturbance to existing contaminated sites within DE.</li> </ul>
Air quality	The network connection route and existing power station portion of the DE intersects Broome town.	Air quality	Fugitive dust may be generated from vehicle movements, clearing and construction activities, having a temporary and localised impact on air quality. The majority of dust is expected to be generated during the construction and operational phases.

### 2.3 Key Assumptions and Uncertainties

The GHD (2024) survey reported standard limitations for the desktop component related to the accuracy of publicly available datasets utilised for the assessment. With regard to the field survey, there was a minor constraint highlighted related to the weather around the time of the survey. Rainfall received in the three months prior to the survey was 191.6 mm, which was lower than the long term average of 475.3 mm (BoM 2024). As a result, few species were flowering and few annuals were present and identifiable. These minor limitations are not considered to pose any substantial uncertainty with respect to this EMP.

Horizon Power will commission Aboriginal cultural heritage surveys of the DE to confirm Aboriginal cultural heritage values. These will be carried out with the support of Yawuru Traditional Owners. Additional avoidance areas within the DE will be considered during the detailed design phase and construction methods will consider the location of the DE to ensure a suitable clearance area can be maintained around any potential Aboriginal cultural heritage.

### 3 Objectives

The objective of this EMP is to ensure that appropriate management measures will be in place during construction, operation, and decommissioning of the Proposed Action to reduce potential impacts on Key Environmental Factors. This EMP adopts management objectives based on consideration of:

- Survey and study findings.
- Key assumptions and uncertainties.
- Risks to environmental values including MNES
- Scientific information on the site and region.
- Intensity, duration, magnitude and footprint of impact.
- Changes in the environment.
- External issues to the Proposed Action.
- Timeframe for mitigation.

The management-based components provided within this EMP seek to align with established industry practises to avoid and minimise potential environmental and heritage impacts.

The environmental outcomes and objectives are detailed in Section 9.

## 4 Roles and Responsibilities

Horizon Power has a standard Proposed Action management methodology that will be applied to this Proposed Action and is applied to Proposed Actions of this nature. A Proposed Action board is established as a governing committee, which comprises executive and senior managers from Horizon Power.

The role of the Proposed Action board is to support the Proposed Action sponsor with the management of the Proposed Action by providing a decision-making and governance framework that is logical, robust and repeatable.

The Proposed Action team roles and responsibilities are provided in Table 4-1.

*Table 4-1 Proposed Action Board Roles and Responsibilities*

Role	Responsibility
Proposed Action Sponsor (Executive member)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Oversee the overall delivery of the Proposed Action to ensure good governance is achieved and Proposed Action objectives are met.</li> </ul>
Proposed Action Director (Senior Manager)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Establish the Proposed Action team to deliver the Proposed Action.</li> <li>– Ensure plans, systems and processes are established, implemented and maintained by the Proposed Action team to ensure good governance is achieved on the Proposed Action.</li> <li>– Ensure the Proposed Action objectives are visible to the Proposed Action team and delivery of the objectives are met by the Proposed Action.</li> <li>– Monitor performance of the Proposed Action.</li> </ul>
Horizon Power Manager Sustainability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Oversee specific onsite compliance obligations for the Proposed Action.</li> <li>– Ensure appropriate investigation, reporting and remediation if an environmental incident occurs and provide approval for works to recommence on site when appropriate to do so.</li> </ul>
Proposed Action Manager	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Establish Proposed Action plans to manage the Proposed Action.</li> <li>– Manage Proposed Action team activities to deliver the Proposed Action.</li> <li>– Implement systems and processes to ensure good governance is achieved on the Proposed Action.</li> <li>– Manage scope, cost, time, quality, resourcing and compliance obligations for the Proposed Action.</li> <li>– Report performance of the Proposed Action.</li> </ul>
Site Representative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Oversee activities onsite to deliver the Proposed Action.</li> <li>– Ensure works cease where required if an environmental incident occurs and escalation of incident.</li> <li>– Monitor systems and processes being implemented onsite to ensure good governance is achieved on the Proposed Action.</li> <li>– Manage specific onsite compliance obligations for the Proposed Action.</li> <li>– Report onsite performance of the Proposed Action.</li> </ul>
Site Environmental Officer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Oversee activities onsite to deliver the Proposed Action.</li> <li>– Monitor systems and processes being implemented onsite to ensure good governance is achieved on the Proposed Action.</li> <li>– Manage specific onsite compliance obligations for the Proposed Action.</li> <li>– Report onsite performance of the Proposed Action.</li> </ul>

This EMP outlines the environmental management activities for the implementation of the Proposed Action. Horizon Power and their appointed contractor will undertake these activities and acknowledges they are legal requirements to be met.

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The responsibilities for the implementation of the management actions outlined in this document are detailed in Table 4-1. The actions may be undertaken by employees and/or contractors of Horizon Power when communicated and documented to relevant personnel through environmental training.

## 5 Reporting

Horizon Power has well established management measures that will be applied during construction of the Proposed Action. In addition, Horizon Power maintains an Environmental Management System (EMS). Works conducted as a part of this Proposed Action will be compliant with both Horizon Power's Environmental Policy and EMS.

### 5.1 State Reporting Requirements

Horizon Power will report to Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) on the implementation of this EMP as part of annual compliance reporting required under the conditions of approval for the Project (if applicable).

### 5.2 Environmental Incidents / Non-compliances

Internal monitoring of the environmental aspects outlined in this Plan will occur throughout the construction phase of the Proposed Action. Any non-conformances or incidents within this EMP will be investigated, rectified or mitigated as soon as possible to ensure minimal ongoing environmental harm. Relevant procedures will be amended/updated as necessary and inductions and other workforce communication will be undertaken in a timely manner to minimise the risk of re-occurrences.

Environmental incidents and non-compliances will be identified and recorded as soon as possible by the relevant responsible persons within the contractor organisation or Horizon Power. Incidents will be mitigated or rectified where possible within 24 hours of being identified. Incidents and non-conformances will be reported to the Horizon Power representative within 24 hours of identification or as soon as reasonably practicable.

Any non-conformance to this EMP is to be investigated to determine:

- why the non-conformance occurred
- what was the environmental harm or alteration of the environment that resulted from the non-conformance
- what changes to Proposed Action activities and/or management plans is required
- measures to prevent, control or abate the environmental harm that may have occurred.
- A log of incidents and non-conformances is to be maintained.

In the event of an environmental incident, the priority is to ensure the safety of all site personnel and the neighbouring community. All practical steps shall then be taken to minimise further environmental damage through the implementation of the appropriate contingency and corrective actions, as outlined in the environmental management measures in Section 9.

## 6 Environmental Training

All construction personnel and sub-contractors will undergo a project induction, which includes information on the importance of the environmental approvals conditions and the requirements to enable environmental outcomes to be achieved. They will be advised of their responsibilities with regard to the EPBC Act, EP Act, BC Act, and other relevant legislation, in addition to ministerial and contractual requirements (if applicable).

Toolbox meetings will be used to reinforce messages on environmental protection, to relay new information and to encourage and celebrate positive outcomes. Key personnel working on the Proposed Action will undertake cultural awareness training to ensure an appropriate level of understanding is maintained on heritage and related matters for the duration of construction activities.

Records of all training and inductions conducted will be maintained and include:

- the person receiving the training
- the date the training was received
- the name of the person conducting the training
- a summary of the training.

## 7 Communication

Horizon Power undertakes ongoing engagement with key stakeholders. These stakeholders include State Government Agencies and Ministers, Local Government, Traditional Owners, Local Community and Corporate companies.

Horizon Power’s ongoing consultation will continue throughout the construction phase and beyond, to ensure transparent and clear engagement informs our progress and that all concerns are addressed. Critically, Horizon Power have, and will, engage extensively with the Traditional Owners and will continue to work with them throughout the Proposed Action process.

Communication during the construction phase of the Proposed Action will occur on a daily, weekly or as needed basis with relevant staff, project managers or external stakeholders. Communication will be subject to the requirements of the construction contract, as determined by Horizon Power. Horizon Power has identified key external stakeholders and will ensure information is communicated as appropriate and as required. A log of communications with external stakeholders and the public will be maintained.

*Key external stakeholders are provided in Table 7-1. Table 7-1 Key Proposed Action stakeholders*

Category	Stakeholders
Agencies acting on behalf of the Commonwealth Government	– Regional Development Australia Kimberley, DCCEEW
State Government – Ministers	– Hon Divina D’Anna – Member for Kimberley – Hon Amber-Jade Sanderson – Minister for Energy and Decarbonisation – Hon Stephen Dawson – Minister for for Regional Development; Ports; Science and Innovation; Medical Research; Kimberley
State Government - Entities	– Department Planning, Lands and Heritage, Kimberley Development Commission, Water Corporation, DWER, Department of Communities, Main Roads WA, Department of Biodiversity Conservation and Attractions
Traditional Owners	– Yawuru Prescribed Body Corporate
Local Government	– Shire of Broome
Corporate	– Nyamba Buru Yawuru Limited, Major Account Holders, Broome Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Clean Energy Council, First Nations Clean Energy Network, Kimberley Land Council, Kimberley Aboriginal Lands Trust, EDL Energy, Telstra
Broome Community	– Customer and community members
Aviation Authorities	– Civil Aviation Safety Authority, Airservices Australia

All external communication will be managed by Horizon Power. Construction Contractors will not engage with external stakeholders unless otherwise instructed by Horizon Power or as per contract terms.

### 7.1 Emergency contacts and procedures

Environmental incidents and non-compliances will be identified and recorded as soon as possible by the relevant responsible persons within the contractor organisation or Horizon Power. Incidents will be mitigated or rectified where possible within 48 hours of being identified. Incidents and non-conformances will be reported to the Horizon Power representative within 48 hours of identification or as soon as reasonably practicable.

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An Emergency Response Plan for managing and responding to spills will be developed by the Contractor in accordance with Water Quality Protection Note 10. This document will detail:

- A contingency plan for management and responding to spills in accordance with WPQN 10.
- Containment measures for fire in the event of thermal runaway or fire.
- Correct disposal of any contaminated materials resulting from an incident
- Requirement for monitoring bores to be installed between the Project and the drinking water bore field in the event of a significant spill.

A Bushfire Management Plan will be developed by the Contractor and will include:

- Measures to manage electrical failure leading to thermal runaway
- Controls and bunding for fire water runoff contamination
- Fire Suppression System to not include PFAS
- Consideration of BESS design to minimise potential for bushfire and minimise impact of bushfire on the BESS.

A Cyclone Management Plan will be developed by the Contractor and may be included in the Emergency Response Plan. This will detail the requirements for preventing offsite impacts in the event of a cyclone.

Any non-conformance to this EMP, the Emergency Response Plan or Bushfire Management Plan is to be investigated to determine:

- Why the non-conformance occurred.
- What was the environmental harm or alteration of the environment that resulted from the non-conformance.
- What changes to Proposed Action activities and/or management plans is required.
- Measures to prevent, control or abate the environmental harm that may have occurred.

A log of incidents and non-conformances is to be maintained.

In the event of an environmental incident, the priority is to ensure the safety of all site personnel and the neighbouring community. All practical steps shall then be taken to minimise further environmental damage through the implementation of the appropriate contingency and corrective actions, as outlined in the Environmental management measures in Section 9.

## 8 Rationale and Choice of Provisions

This EMP adopts provisions based on industry standard practices for avoidance, minimisation and rehabilitation of environmental impacts during construction.

The provisions reflect the temporary duration of construction activities, and the intermittent, episodic and acute nature of impacts posed by construction activities, such as un-authorised clearing, dust emissions during high winds, or accidental spills of hazardous materials or wastes.

The provisions have also reflected the potential for chronic impacts to occur post construction, such as the spread of introduced weeds or ongoing erosion of areas disturbed during construction, as well as impacts relating to maintenance and operating activities.

The majority of provisions address episodic and acute impacts and provide short term mitigation. Provisions also address the longer-term timeframes to demonstrate weed control success.

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### 9 Environmental Management Measures

As per the EP Act referral documentation, the Environmental Factors that have the potential to be present in the DE and/or immediate surrounds are:

- Flora and vegetation
- Terrestrial fauna
- Inland waters
- Social surroundings.
- Terrestrial environmental quality
- Air quality
- Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.

A description of the Environmental Factors relevant to the Project is provided in Section 2.2.

#### 9.1 Environmental Management Objectives

This EMP utilises objective-based components. The selection of objective-based components rather than outcome-based components is due to the Project construction activities posing environmental risks that are generally intermittent, episodic or acute impact events that are less applicable to long term objective measurement and reporting.

The management-based components provided within this EMP seek to align with established industry practises to avoid and minimise potential environmental and heritage impacts. This EMP has the following objectives for the preliminary key environmental factors and other environmental factors identified in the referral of the Project:

- Flora and Vegetation: to minimise impacts to flora and vegetation required for construction and operation of the Project as far as practicable
- Terrestrial Fauna: to minimise fauna habitat loss and minimise direct and indirect impacts to fauna as far as practicable
- Inland Waters: to minimise impacts to surface water and groundwater hydrological regimes or quality water quality
- Social Surroundings: to minimise impacts to heritage values and visual amenity
- Terrestrial Environmental Quality: to minimise impacts from Acid Sulphate Soils (ASS) and site contamination as far as practicable
- Air Quality: to minimise impacts to air quality, resulting from the generation of gaseous and dust emissions during construction.

Additional general management objectives for the Proposed Action include:

- No mobilization of ASS during construction
- All suspected contamination is characterised and appropriately managed
- All accidental spills or leaks of hazardous materials or waste is appropriately managed and minimise the risk of spills or leaks of hazardous materials or waste
- Minimise indirect impacts to surrounding/adjacent areas from altered surface water drainage and flows
- No noticeable increase in sediment discharge or soil erosion
- Minimise the spread and/or introduction of weeds.
- Additionally, the Broome FES PDWSA Water Risk Assessment will be provided to Water Corporation for endorsement, prior to commencement of the Proposed Action and the final detailed design will be provided to key stakeholders.

## 9.2 Flora and Vegetation

The management components for flora and vegetation are outlined in Table 9-1.

Table 9-1 Flora and Vegetation – management components

<p><b>EPA Factor:</b> Flora and Vegetation</p> <p><b>EPA Objective:</b> “To protect flora and vegetation so that biological diversity and ecological integrity are maintained.”</p> <p><b>EMP Objective:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– To minimise impacts to flora and vegetation required for construction and operation of the Project as far as practicable</li> </ul> <p><b>Key Environmental Values:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Native vegetation including significant flora and riparian vegetation</li> </ul> <p><b>Key Impact and Risks:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Loss of vegetation and flora through clearing, including significant and riparian vegetation, and flora</li> <li>– Introduction and/or the spread of weeds</li> <li>– Alteration of fire regimes</li> <li>– Alteration to hydrological flows</li> <li>– Generation of dust</li> <li>– Spills or leaks of chemical, hydrocarbon and/or hazardous materials.</li> </ul>				
Management Targets	Management Actions	Monitoring	Timing / Frequency of Monitoring	Reporting
<b>Vegetation clearing</b>				
<p>No clearing of vegetation to occur outside of the predefined clearing limits and boundaries described within approval documents, during or attributable to construction.</p> <p>No impacts to significant flora and significant vegetation outside of the predefined clearing limits and boundaries described within approval documents.</p>	<p>Clearing and ground disturbing activities (including soil and geotechnical investigations) limited to the defined clearing limits and boundaries described within the approval document.</p> <p>Driving for geotechnical investigations will be in convoy and no more than 10 m x 10 m of clearing is permitted per test location.</p> <p>The extent of the approved clearing will be clearly</p>	<p>Drawings, inductions and shape/CAD files showing approved clearing areas provided to Construction Contractor Representative.</p> <p>Job Hazard Analysis (JHA) or equivalent to include the risks and mitigation actions to be understood and adhered to as they pertain to the contractor and scope of work on the JHA.</p> <p>Track logs from soil and geotechnical investigations of</p>	<p>Prior to commencement of clearing.</p>	<p>Project Environmental Officer to check that drawings, inductions and shape/CAD files show correct approved clearing areas.</p> <p>Record of provision of drawings and shape/CAD files showing approved clearing areas.</p> <p>All relevant contractors to sign onto JHA or equivalent.</p> <p>Pre-clearing photos to be documented and daily inspection of clearing extents during clearing activities and weekly inspections</p>

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Management Targets	Management Actions	Monitoring	Timing / Frequency of Monitoring	Reporting
	<p>communicated in documentation and inductions.</p> <p>Where safe to do so, relocate coarse woody debris, logs and rock piles to areas outside of the disturbance footprint to maintain refuge for the Northern Blue-tongue Skink and other fauna.</p>	<p>where vehicles have driven within the predefined clearing limits.</p> <p>Inspection of clearing extents during clearing activities to confirm no over clearing (including soil and geotechnical investigations).</p>		<p>during the remainder of construction to confirm no over clearing.</p> <p>Visual inspection and record of cleared areas to be undertaken post-clearing to confirm no over clearing and relevant shapefiles provided to Horizon Power.</p> <p>Track logs from soil and geotechnical investigations to show no vehicle movement outside of predefined clearing limits.</p> <p>Clearing area shapefiles from soil and geotechnical investigations to show no clearing outside of predefined clearing limits.</p> <p>Report unauthorised clearing as soon as practicable after identified.</p>
	<p>Avoid clearing of Priority flora where possible:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– <i>Jacquemontia sp Broome</i> (A.A. Mitchell 3028)</li> <li>– <i>Glycine pindanica</i></li> <li>– <i>Corymbia paractia</i></li> <li>– <i>Polymeria sp. Broome</i> (K.F. Kenneally 9759)</li> </ul>	<p>Design drawings to avoid Priority flora species where possible.</p> <p>Avoidance areas applied around Priority flora to be retained on site to prevent accidental impacts</p> <p>Directional drilling to be used preferentially to trenching where possible to avoid impacts to Priority flora and trees with hollows.</p>	<p>Prior to commencement of clearing.</p> <p>During construction.</p>	
	<p>Avoidance areas will be demarcated on Project drawings and physically on site prior to clearing activities.</p>	<p>At risk 'avoidance areas' clearly marked out on all relevant Project drawings and demarcated on site with shapefiles provided.</p>	<p>Prior to commencement of clearing.</p>	<p>Contractor to check that drawings and shape/CAD files show correct approved clearing areas.</p>

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Management Targets	Management Actions	Monitoring	Timing / Frequency of Monitoring	Reporting
	<p>Conduct pre-clearance fauna surveys within 14 days prior to clearing for construction to identify Northern Brushtail Possum habitat (see Appendix A for pre-clearance survey requirements). This will be undertaken by a licenced fauna specialist and include the identification and inspection of hollows and determination of whether the hollows are being utilised.</p>	<p>JHA or equivalent to include the risks and mitigation actions to be understood and adhered to as they pertain to the contractor and scope of work on the JHA.</p> <p>Daily inspections during clearing and weekly inspections during the remainder of construction within the work area of at risk 'avoidance area' demarcation will be undertaken to confirm markings remain in place and are accurate.</p>		<p>Record of provision of drawings and shape/CAD files showing approved clearing areas.</p> <p>Daily site inspections during clearing and weekly inspections during the remainder of construction to confirm appropriate demarcations of at risk avoidance areas are maintained.</p> <p>Pre-clearing survey reports.</p> <p>Construction reports which will include clearing extents and shapefiles.</p> <p>Vegetation clearing records and annual environmental reporting.</p>
	<p>Personnel access routes and parking will be restricted and clearly demarcated on site.</p> <p>Vehicles and machinery to remain on designated compliance roads/access tracks areas where possible.</p>	<p>Approved clearing areas including designated access routes and parking areas to be clearly demarcated on site and communicated appropriately.</p> <p>Routine inspection of Project defined clearing limits and Boundaries demarcation during clearing activities.</p> <p>Daily inspection of clearing extents during clearing activities and weekly inspections during the remainder of construction to confirm no over clearing.</p>	<p>Prior to commencement of clearing.</p> <p>During construction.</p>	<p>Vegetation clearing records and annual environmental reporting.</p> <p>Report unauthorized clearing as soon as practicable after identified.</p> <p>Construction site plan showing all approved access areas.</p> <p>Daily site inspections during and weekly inspections during the remainder of construction.</p> <p>Routine spot checks of vehicles and equipment compliance with cleaning.</p>
	<p>Review environmental constraints that are outlined in approval documents during detailed design</p>	<p>Pre-construction reviews of the construction plan shows that infrastructure is placed in cleared areas where practicable.</p>	<p>During construction.</p>	<p>Construction site plan showing environmental constraints to be avoided.</p>

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Management Targets	Management Actions	Monitoring	Timing / Frequency of Monitoring	Reporting
	and avoid sensitivities where possible. The detailed design will ensure landscape connectivity is maintained wherever possible.			
	Areas required for temporary construction purposes and areas required for operational maintenance and repair activities, will be located within existing cleared areas, or areas required for permanent infrastructure, where possible.	Drawings, inductions and shape/CAD files showing approved clearing areas provided to Construction Contractor Representative.  Job Hazard Analysis (JHA) or equivalent to include the risks and mitigation actions to be understood and adhered to as they pertain to the contractor and scope of work on the JHA.	Prior to and during construction and operation.  Decommissioning.	Daily inspection of Project defined clearing limits and boundaries demarcation during clearing activities and weekly inspections during the remainder of construction.  Vegetation clearing records and annual environmental reporting Report unauthorized clearing as soon as practicable after identified.
	Minimise clearing to the extent required during construction, and the ongoing maintenance and operation of the assets.	Routine inspection of Project defined clearing limits and boundaries demarcation during clearing activities.  Daily inspection of clearing extents during clearing activities and weekly inspections during the remainder of construction to confirm no over clearing.	During construction and operation.	Vegetation clearing records and annual environmental reporting. Report unauthorized clearing as soon as practicable after identified.
	Visual inspection and record of cleared areas to be undertaken post-clearing to confirm no over clearing.	N/A.	Post construction.	Annual Compliance Reporting.
<b>Weeds</b>				
Minimise the spread and/or introduction of weeds.	All site personnel to be inducted on environmental responsibilities including hygiene management.	Record of all site personnel that have undertaken the induction.	Prior to construction.	Induction records.

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Management Targets	Management Actions	Monitoring	Timing / Frequency of Monitoring	Reporting
	A weed register will be developed and maintained for declared weeds, WONS or serious environmental weed species. The register will contain relevant information such as species, distribution, abundance and history of control method.	Record of weed register. Implement a quarterly weed monitoring and management program for the first year following completion of ground disturbance activities.	Prior to and during construction. Decommissioning.	Weed register.
	Develop and implement vehicle and equipment clean on entry/exit procedures; Any machinery used to remove weed-infested topsoil will be cleaned down before entering or leaving the work site to prevent the introduction and spread of weeds into new areas.	Routine spot checks of vehicles and equipment compliance with cleaning.	During construction.	Results of spot checks of vehicle and equipment cleaning compliance.
	Vehicles and machinery to remain on designated roads/access tracks areas where possible.	Routine spot checks of vehicles and equipment compliance with cleaning.	During construction.	Results of spot checks of vehicle and equipment cleaning compliance.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Implement a quarterly weed monitoring and management program for the first year following completion of ground disturbance activities.</li> <li>– Ad-hoc weed checks during operational maintenance activities in accordance with standard Horizon Power network weed control.</li> </ul>	Yearly weed inspection and management program.	Post construction.	Annual Compliance Reporting.
	Pesticides will only be used for targeted weed control where necessary, in strict accordance with S10 PSC88, best management practices and	Inspection records.	During construction and operations.	Inspection Reports.

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Management Targets	Management Actions	Monitoring	Timing / Frequency of Monitoring	Reporting
	<p>relevant guidelines; all other weed control will be undertaken using manual methods (e.g., hand weeding or mechanical removal).</p> <p>Pesticide use will be minimised in solar farm area and within the Public Drinking Water Source area.</p>			
<b>Hydrological flows</b>				
Minimise indirect impacts to surrounding/adjacent areas from altered surface water drainage and flows.	Refer to Table 9-3 for management targets, actions, monitoring, timing and reporting of management measures in relation to hydrological flows.			
<b>Fire regimes</b>				
No unplanned fires as a result of Project activities.	All site personnel to be inducted on environmental responsibilities including fire prevention.	Record of all site personnel that have undertaken the induction.	Prior to construction.	Induction records.
	All non-essential work is to be stopped or postponed in the event that a Total Fire Ban with Catastrophic fire danger ratings or Emergency Warning is issued for the area. Works to be conducted in accordance with all local fire control laws and regulations.	N/A.	At all times.	Incident reporting system. Weekly site inspection report.
	Where increased risk of fire is identified, fire-resistant barriers like screens will be employed to confine sparks generated by welders and other hot work activities.	N/A.	At all times.	Incident reporting system. Weekly site inspection report.

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Management Targets	Management Actions	Monitoring	Timing / Frequency of Monitoring	Reporting
	Fire extinguishers will be strategically positioned in locations with a higher risk of fire.	N/A.	At all times.	Incident reporting system. Weekly site inspection report.
	Hot work permits will be mandatory before commencing any hot work.	Compliance with hot work permits.	At all times.	Hot work permit record system. Weekly site inspection report.
	Vehicles and equipment access limited to designated roads/access tracks and cleared areas where possible.	N/A.	At all times.	Incident reporting system. Weekly site inspection report
	Smoking will be confined to designated smoking area only.	N/A.	At all times.	Incident reporting system. Weekly site inspection report.
	Identify potential ignition sources and/or activities with the potential to lead to fire.	N/A.	At all times.	Incident reporting system. Weekly site inspection report.
	No PFAS (Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl substances) are permitted to be used in BESS fire suppression infrastructure at the solar farm site.	N/A	At all times.	Weekly site inspection report.
	Spacing between BESS containers to be considered during design to limit fire spread and impacts of bushfires.  Fuel-free backup power and gravity-fed or pressurized water-based fire suppression to be installed.  Fire pump to be double skinned and fully banded concrete.  Battery management system monitoring and alarm settings to	N/A	At all times.	Final detailed design.

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Management Targets	Management Actions	Monitoring	Timing / Frequency of Monitoring	Reporting
	<p>be designed to identify thermal runaway conditions (alarm and shutdown activation).</p> <p>Where increased risk of fire is identified, fire-resistant barriers like screens will be employed to confine sparks generated by welders and other hot work activities.</p>			
<b>Dust emissions</b>				
<p>Minimise impacts to flora and vegetation from increased generation of dust emissions during construction.</p>	<p>Refer to Table 9-6 for management targets, actions, monitoring, timing and reporting of management measures in relation to dust emissions.</p>			
<b>Spills or leaks of chemical, hydrocarbon and/or hazardous materials</b>				
<p>Minimise impacts to flora and vegetation from spills or leaks of chemical, hydrocarbon and/or hazardous materials.</p>	<p>Refer to Table 9-5 for management targets, actions, monitoring, timing and reporting of management measures in relation to spills or leaks of chemical, hydrocarbon and/or hazardous materials.</p>			

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## 9.3 Terrestrial Fauna

The management components for fauna are outlined in Table 9-2.

Table 9-2 Terrestrial Fauna – management components

<b>EPA Factor:</b> Terrestrial Fauna <b>EPA Objective:</b> “To protect terrestrial fauna so that biological diversity and ecological integrity are maintained.” <b>EMP Objective:</b> to minimise fauna habitat loss and minimise direct and indirect impacts to fauna as far as practicable <b>Key Environmental Values:</b> Significant fauna species and habitats <b>Key Impact and Risks:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Loss of fauna habitat through clearing, including habitat for significance fauna species</li> <li>– Fauna injury/death from vehicle strike, clearing activities or direct collision with infrastructure</li> <li>– Fauna activity disturbance from temporary increase in noise/vibration/light, attraction of feral animals, alteration of fire regimes, increased generation of dust during construction.</li> </ul>				
Management Targets	Management Actions	Monitoring	Timing / frequency of actions	Reporting
<b>Clearing and ground disturbance</b>				
Minimise fauna habitat loss.	Refer to Table 9-1 for management targets, actions, monitoring, timing and reporting of management measures in relation to vegetation clearing in the DE, which directly relates to habitat clearing within the DE.			
<b>Fauna injury/death</b>				
No deaths of significant fauna during vegetation clearing for construction.  Minimise fauna injury/death during Project construction and operation.	Personnel induction regarding threatened fauna and direct and indirect impacts (e.g., risk of vehicle strike, interaction with construction activities, waste management introduction of feral animals, requirement to report sightings of feral animals, no feeding of native and/or feral animals and no pets, traps or firearms allowed on site).	Record of all site personnel that have undertaken the induction.	Prior to construction.	Induction records. Feral animal sightings.
	Speed limits between 40-80 km/hr in order to avoid fauna strikes during clearing and construction.	Visual monitoring by all construction personnel.	During construction. Decommissioning.	Incident reporting.
	Clearing to be undertaken progressively in one direction to allow fauna dispersal.	N/A	During construction.	Clearing records. Record known injuries to, or deaths of conservation

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Management Targets	Management Actions	Monitoring	Timing / frequency of actions	Reporting
				<p>significant fauna species in a Conservation Significant Fauna Interaction Register as soon as possible as the injury or death is identified.</p> <p>Annual Compliance Reporting.</p>
	<p>Prior to the commencement of clearing, a licenced fauna specialist will be present for a pre-clearance survey to oversee the works (See Appendix A for pre-clearance fauna survey requirements).</p> <p>If any listed fauna is identified during the pre-clearance survey, clearing will stop until the listed fauna has moved out of the clearing area or has been relocated by the licenced fauna specialist.</p>	N/A.	Prior to clearing.	<p>Internal Project clearing permit, signed by Supervisor</p> <p>Licensed fauna specialist to report on areas they inspected (e.g. where the Bilby burrows were that they inspected), the species found and the location of where any fauna were released to.</p>
	<p>Management of excavations including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Excavations shall remain open for the minimal required time to facilitate the ongoing construction.</li> <li>– Excavations will be done in sections.</li> <li>– Fauna escape batters, ramps or egress ladders will be implemented in excavated areas where required to be left open overnight.</li> <li>– Posts shall be raised as soon as practical after the holes are excavated, and holes will not be left open overnight where possible. Where excavations required to be left open overnight, fauna egress points will be made.</li> <li>– Any excavations required will generally not be left open and an inspection will be undertaken at the commencement</li> </ul>	Daily inspections of non-battered excavations during construction to identify trapped fauna and to enable capture and relocation.	During construction.	<p>Daily monitoring for trapped fauna during construction in non-battered excavations.</p> <p>Record known injuries to, or deaths of conservation significant fauna species in a Conservation Significant Fauna Interaction Register as soon as possible as the injury or death is identified.</p> <p>Annual Compliance Reporting.</p>

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Management Targets	Management Actions	Monitoring	Timing / frequency of actions	Reporting
	<p>of each workday, to identify and address any potential instances of trapped animals.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Temporary fencing or coverings will be implemented around excavated areas.</li> </ul>			
	<p>In the event of listed threatened fauna injury, advice shall be sought from local qualified wildlife organisations/persons.</p> <p>Sick or injured wildlife will be allocated to an appropriate specialist organisation for care.</p> <p>Fauna fatality and injury will be recorded as an environmental incident.</p>	<p>In case of fauna injury, advice undertaken and, if necessary, relocation of rescue animals to an appropriate specialised organisation.</p> <p>Daily inspections of non-battered excavations during construction to identify trapped fauna and to enable capture and relocation and/or treatment.</p>	<p>During construction.</p>	<p>Animal injury or fatalities reported as an incident in the incident records system.</p> <p>Record known injuries to, or deaths of conservation significant fauna species in a Conservation Significant Fauna Interaction Register as soon as possible as the injury or death is identified.</p> <p>Annual Compliance Reporting.</p> <p>Licensed fauna handler to report on areas they inspected (e.g. where the Bilby burrows were that they inspected), the species found and the location of where any fauna were released.</p>
	<p>Night-time vehicle movements during construction will be limited where possible to minimise the potential for vehicle strikes. Working hours will generally take place between daylight hours.</p>	<p>In case of fauna injury, advice undertaken and, if necessary, relocation of rescue animals to an appropriate specialised organisation.</p>	<p>During construction.</p>	<p>Animal injury or fatalities reported as an incident in the incident records system.</p> <p>Record known injuries to, or deaths of conservation significant fauna species in a Conservation Significant Fauna Interaction Register as soon as possible as the injury or death is identified.</p> <p>Annual Compliance Reporting.</p>

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Management Targets	Management Actions	Monitoring	Timing / frequency of actions	Reporting
	Fauna identified within the demarcated clearing areas unable to move away from the clearing areas without intervention are to be moved to a location deemed appropriate for the safety and survival of the fauna individual/s.	Daily visual inspections for native fauna within non-battered excavations during construction.  Ad hoc fauna relocations as identified by workers on site.	During construction.	Record known injuries to, or deaths of conservation significant fauna species in a Conservation Significant Fauna Interaction Register as soon as possible as the injury or death is identified.  Annual Compliance Reporting.  Licenced fauna handler to report on areas they inspected (e.g. where the Bilby burrows were that they inspected), the species found and the location of where any fauna were released to.
	Pre-clearance surveys and fauna relocation for the Bilby, Northern Brushtail Possum and Northern Blue-tongue Skink as detailed in Appendix A.	As detailed in Appendix A.	Prior to construction.	A report of the fauna identification work undertaken must be provided to Horizon Power by the contractor, as detailed in Appendix A.
<b>Disturbance to native fauna</b>				
Minimise disturbance to native fauna from noise, light and vibration during Project construction.	Construction works will generally occur during the daylight hours.	Noise emissions will be kept at a minimum during daylight hours. No increase in noise will occur during night-time hours.	During construction.	Noise complaints will be recorded.  Compliance with implementation of noise and vibration minimisation strategies will be developed and implemented during construction of the Project.
	Light emissions from on-site construction lighting towers will occur transiently, not remaining in the same location unnecessarily.	No light emission from on-site construction lighting towers will in the same location for longer than six months.	During construction.	Incident reports.

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Management Targets	Management Actions	Monitoring	Timing / frequency of actions	Reporting
	<p>No clearing during Northern Blue-tongue Skink birthing season (December to January).</p> <p>To avoid disruption to the main nesting season for significant bird species, Horizon Power only clears nests on the transmission network from March to April.</p>	Vegetation clearing records	During clearing.	Annual environmental reporting.
	<p>Reduction of light spill to surrounding environment and lighting only used where required and kept to a minimum (e.g. turned off when not required).</p> <p>Minimise light emissions to surrounding natural environment that may impact fauna</p>	Operational light review.	Post construction	Review reports unnecessary/excessive light emissions.
Refer to Table 9-4 for management targets, actions, monitoring, timing and reporting of management measures in relation to noise and vibration.				
Minimise disturbance to native fauna from feral animals during Project construction	<p>Personnel induction to include introduction of feral animals, requirement to report sightings of feral animals, no feeding of native and/or feral animals and no pets allowed on site.</p>	Record of all site personnel that have undertaken the induction.	Prior to construction.	Induction records.
	<p>All staff will be trained in Cane Toad identification, reporting, and removal protocols.</p> <p>Maintain strict waste management protocols to reduce attractants that may support Cane Toad populations.</p> <p>Implement a Cane Toad monitoring and removal program within the project area, including seasonal inspections and manual removal where feasible.</p>	<p>Record of all site personnel that have undertaken the induction.</p> <p>Cane Toad sightings.</p>	<p>Prior to construction.</p> <p>During construction and operations.</p>	<p>Induction records.</p> <p>Cane Toad monitoring and removal inspections records.</p>
	<p>General construction waste material and food waste to be appropriately managed</p>	Routine inspections of waste storage and handling areas.	During construction.	<p>Weekly inspection.</p> <p>Waste disposal records.</p>

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Management Targets	Management Actions	Monitoring	Timing / frequency of actions	Reporting
	and disposed of off-site at an appropriate facility.	Waste stored in fauna-proof containers and disposed of appropriately.		
No standing water across the DE during operations that Cane Toads could potentially breed in	<p>Drainage control will be established during detailed design and may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Ground under and between ground mounted solar arrays may be covered with erosion control measures including installing mulching or erosion control mats; gravel/crushed rock; or vegetative cover of native grasses or low-growing vegetation.</li> <li>– Design the site to drain water or sloped so the water runs off site.</li> <li>– Design drainage and water-holding infrastructure to prevent the creation of permanent standing water that could support Cane Toad breeding.</li> <li>– Where practicable, implement barriers (e.g. buried-base mesh fencing) around key water storage or sedimentation ponds to restrict toad access.</li> </ul>	Pre-construction reviews of the construction site plan shows that there will be minimal alteration to surface water drainage flows.	During operations.	Report any standing water 48 hours after rainfall as soon as practicable after identified and modification to remove standing water.
<b>Dust emissions</b>				
Minimise disturbance to native fauna from increased generation of dust during construction.	Refer to Table 9-6 for management targets, actions, monitoring, timing and reporting of management measures in relation to dust emissions.			
<b>Fire regimes</b>				
Prevent indirect impacts on fauna habitats due to accidental fires	Refer to Table 9-1 for management targets, actions, monitoring, timing and reporting of management measures in relation to no unplanned fires.			

### 9.4 Inland Waters

The management components for inland waters are outlined in Table 9-3.

*Table 9-3 Inland Waters – management components*

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**EPA Factor: Inland Waters**

**EPA Objective:** “To maintain the hydrological regimes and quality of groundwater and surface water so that environmental values are protected.”

**EMP Objective:** To minimise impacts to surface water and groundwater hydrological regimes or quality water quality

**Key Environmental Values:** Riparian vegetation within the DE, the DE is within the Broome Water Reserve PDWSA, Roebuck Bay Wetland is located less than 20 m east of the DE

**Key Impact and Risks:**

- Excavation of ASS
- Changes to surface water flows
- Soil erosion and sediment discharge
- Accidental spills or leaks of hazardous materials or wastes
- Changes to groundwater infiltration
- Minor temporary drawdown of groundwater should dewatering be required

Management Targets	Management Actions	Monitoring	Timing / frequency of actions	Reporting
<b>Acid sulfate soils</b>				
Minimise the risk of ASS mobilization and leaching into groundwater/surface water.	Refer to Table 9-5 for management targets, actions, monitoring, timing and reporting of management measures for the excavation of ASS.			
<b>Hydrological flows</b>				
Minimise indirect impacts to surrounding/adjacent areas from altered surface water drainage and flows.	Local drainage to be considered during site design and layout.	Pre-construction reviews of the construction site plan shows that there will be minimal alteration to surface water drainage flows.	Prior to construction.	Construction site plan. Ad hoc inspections of surface water drainage and flows.
<b>Soil erosion and sediment discharge</b>				
Minimise the risk of soil erosion and sedimentation of surface water.	Refer to Table 9-5 for management targets, actions, monitoring, timing and reporting of management measures in relation to soil erosion and sediment discharge.			
<b>Spills or leaks of chemical, hydrocarbon and/or hazardous materials</b>				
Minimise the risk of hazardous material and waste leaching into groundwater/surface water.	Refer to Table 9-5 for management targets, actions, monitoring, timing and reporting of management measures in relation to spills or leaks of chemical, hydrocarbon and/or hazardous materials.			
<b>Groundwater</b>				

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Management Targets	Management Actions	Monitoring	Timing / frequency of actions	Reporting
Minimise the risk of changes to groundwater infiltration and groundwater drawdown.	Any water abstraction required for construction of the Project will be undertaken to minimise drawdown, and water allowed to infiltrate as close to the source as possible. If the groundwater is acidic, it would be treated and discharged in accordance with an ASS Management Plan.	Routine inspection of Project to monitor groundwater levels.	During construction.	Groundwater monitoring records.
	No groundwater abstraction will be undertaken within the solar farm area.			
	Compliance with conditions administered under Section 5C and 26D Licences under the RIWI Act.	As per requirements of works approvals and/or licencing under Part V of the EP Act.	At all times.	Annual Compliance Reporting.
<b>Riparian vegetation</b>				
No clearing of riparian vegetation outside of the predefined clearing limits and boundaries described within approval documents.	Refer to Table 9-1 for management targets, actions, monitoring, timing and reporting of management measures in relation to vegetation clearing in the DE, which directly relates to clearing of riparian vegetation within the DE.			
<b>Roebuck Bay Wetland</b>				
No direct impacts to Roebuck Bay Wetland.	Refer to Table 9-1 for management targets, actions, monitoring, timing and reporting of management measures in relation to vegetation clearing in the DE, which directly relates to avoiding clearing impacts to Roebuck Bay Wetland.			

### 9.5 Social Surroundings

The management components for social surroundings are outlined in Table 9-4.

Table 9-4 Social Surroundings – management components

<b>EPA Factor:</b> Social Surroundings <b>EPA Objective:</b> “To protect social surroundings from significant harm.” <b>EMP Objective:</b> To minimise impacts to heritage values and visual amenity <b>Key Environmental Values:</b> Sites of Heritage significance and visual amenity <b>Key Impact and Risks:</b> – Potential indirect impacts to known Aboriginal cultural heritage sites and areas as a result of vibration and dust deposition, vibration and fires during construction – Potential to impact upon amenity (visual, noise and vibration) – Potential for accidental direct impact to previously unrecorded Aboriginal cultural heritage Sites (that have the potential to be uncovered during ground disturbing activities).				
Management Targets	Management Actions	Monitoring	Timing / frequency of actions	Reporting
<b>Heritage sites</b>				
No disturbance of known Aboriginal cultural heritage sites.	All site personnel to be inducted on Aboriginal cultural heritage.	Record of all site personnel that have undertaken the induction.	Prior to construction.	Induction records.
	Horizon Power will commission an Aboriginal cultural heritage survey with the support of Yawuru Traditional Owners to identify heritage sites and areas.	Aboriginal cultural heritage survey report.	Prior to construction.	N/A.
	At risk avoidance areas within the DE will be clearly established through consultation with Yawuru Traditional Owners and demarcated in a culturally appropriate manner prior to ground disturbing activities to prevent damage to Aboriginal cultural heritage sites outside of the approved disturbance area.	Place boundary to verify buffer and/or demarcation in a culturally appropriate manner.	Prior to construction.	Incident reports. Induction records. Annual Compliance Reporting.
	Engagement of Aboriginal cultural heritage monitors as per Heritage	Visual inspections of heritage sites during ground disturbance.	During construction.	Incident reports.

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Management Targets	Management Actions	Monitoring	Timing / frequency of actions	Reporting
	Protection Agreement requirements to monitor initial ground disturbing earthworks and to manage Aboriginal cultural heritage values of the site and the adjacent areas.	Regular engagement with Yawuru Traditional Owners.		Induction records. Annual Compliance Reporting.
	Any potential Aboriginal materials or other unexpected finds found on site during excavation, such as Aboriginal burials, will be subject to an immediate shutdown of nearby activities and a suitable exclusion zone.  The Manager Sustainability will be immediately notified.  Horizon Power will consult with Yawuru Traditional Owners and an archaeologist will be engaged to assess the archaeological material and provide a report to Horizon Power.  Horizon Power will work with Yawuru Traditional Owners and the archaeologist to implement an appropriate course of action.	Visual inspections of heritage sites during ground disturbance and flagging/fencing as applied  Regular engagement with Yawuru Traditional Owners	During construction.	Incident reports. Induction records. Annual Compliance Reporting.
	Enable Yawuru Traditional Owners to monitor the heritage places to enable knowledge transfer to occur and ensure the heritage values are protected for future generations.	Visual inspections of heritage sites during ground disturbance.  Regular engagement with Yawuru Traditional Owners.	At all times.	Incident reports. Induction records. Annual Compliance Reporting.
	Continue to engage and consult with Yawuru Traditional Owners to ensure heritage values are managed.	Visual inspections of heritage sites during ground disturbance.  Regular engagement with Yawuru Traditional Owners.	At all times.	Incident reports. Induction records. Annual Compliance Reporting.

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Management Targets	Management Actions	Monitoring	Timing / frequency of actions	Reporting
	Regularly liaise with Yawuru Traditional Owners to establish and maintain processes and accountability between the parties.			
	If required, any disturbance to heritage features will be undertaken in accordance with the <i>Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972</i> and any other applicable legislation, aligned with the Horizon Power Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management Policy and following consultation with the Yawuru Traditional Owners.  Compliance with conditions administered under the <i>Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972</i> as required.	As per requirements under the <i>Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972</i> .	At all times.	Annual Compliance Reporting.
<b>Dust</b>				
Minimise dust deposition on Aboriginal cultural heritage sites	Dust suppression, including use of water carts to be implemented where required during construction activities in proximity to Aboriginal cultural heritage sites as required.	Visual inspections of heritage sites (by heritage monitors) during ground disturbance.  Ad hoc inspections of heritage sites (by heritage monitors) during Project construction.	During construction.	Incident reports. Annual Compliance Reporting.
Refer to Table 9-6 for additional management targets, actions, monitoring, timing and reporting of management measures in relation to dust emissions.				
<b>Noise and vibration</b>				
Minimise construction noise and vibration	All site personnel to be inducted on Aboriginal cultural heritage.	Record of all site personnel that have undertaken the induction.	Prior to construction.	Induction records.
	Construction works will be undertaken in accordance with the Environmental Protection (Noise) Regulations 1997.	Compliance with Environmental Protection (Noise) Regulations 1997 and/or approved Noise Management Plan.	During construction.	Incident reports. Complaint closeout. Annual Compliance Reporting.

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Management Targets	Management Actions	Monitoring	Timing / frequency of actions	Reporting
		Investigation and reporting of all complaints.		
	Comply with local government noise management requirements.	Compliance with Environmental Protection (Noise) Regulations 1997 and/or approved Noise Management Plan. Investigation and reporting of all complaints.	During construction.	Incident reports. Complaint closeout. Annual Compliance Reporting.
	Establish complaints register.	Compliance with Environmental Protection (Noise) Regulations 1997 and/or approved Noise Management Plan. Investigation and reporting of all complaints.	During construction.	Incident reports. Complaint closeout. Annual Compliance Reporting.
	Reduce noise emissions as much as practicable.	Compliance with Environmental Protection (Noise) Regulations 1997 and/or approved Noise Management Plan. Investigation and reporting of all complaints.	During construction.	Incident reports. Complaint closeout. Annual Compliance Reporting.
	Heavy vehicle movements minimised as far as practicable.	Compliance with Environmental Protection (Noise) Regulations 1997 and/or approved Noise Management Plan. Investigation and reporting of all complaints.	During construction.	Incident reports. Complaint closeout. Annual Compliance Reporting.
	In the event of significant noise activities noise and vibration minimisation strategies (e.g. soft start) will be developed and implemented during Project construction.	Compliance with implementation of noise and vibration minimisation strategies.	During construction.	Annual Compliance Reporting.

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Management Targets	Management Actions	Monitoring	Timing / frequency of actions	Reporting
<b>Fire regimes</b>				
Refer to Table 9-1 for management targets, actions, monitoring, timing and reporting of management measures in relation to fire regimes.				
<b>Visual amenity</b>				
Minimise adverse visual amenity.	Maximise visual amenity through site layout design and construction materials, where possible.	Investigation and reporting of all complaints.	Prior to construction.	Annual Compliance Reporting Complaint closeout.
	Establish complaints register.	Investigation and reporting of all complaints.	During construction.	Annual Compliance Reporting Complaint closeout.

## 9.6 Terrestrial Environmental Quality

The management components for terrestrial environmental quality are outlined in Table 9-5.

Table 9-5 Terrestrial Environmental Quality – management components

<b>EPA Factor:</b> Terrestrial Environmental Quality <b>EPA Objective:</b> To maintain the quality of land and soils so that environmental values are protected <b>EMP Objective:</b> To minimise impacts from Acid Sulphate Soils (ASS) and site contamination as far as practicable <b>Key Environmental Values:</b> Adjacent to the network connection route portion of the DE, there is a high probability of occurrence of ASS, the DE overlaps two contaminated sites <b>Key Impact and Risks:</b> – Exposure of ASS – Soil erosion and sediment discharge – Disturbance to existing contaminated sites – Accidental release of chemicals and/or hydrocarbons (i.e. leaks, spills) or waste				
Management Targets	Management Actions	Monitoring	Timing / frequency of actions	Reporting
<b>Acid sulfate soils</b>				
No mobilization of ASS during construction.	All site personnel to be inducted on environmental responsibilities including area of ASS risk.	Record of all site personnel that have undertaken the induction.	Prior to commencement of construction activities.	Induction records.
	Pre-construction ASS investigation in accordance with Department of Environment Regulation (DER) 2015 ASS guideline – Identification and investigation of ASS and acidic landscapes, for all high to medium risk ASS areas.  If the investigation identifies ASS within excavation areas, the Contractor will develop and implement an ASS ASSMP in accordance with the DER (2015) ASS guidelines.	As per the ASS management plan.	Prior to and during construction.	Inspection report. ASS investigation survey report ASSMP approved by DWER (if required).

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Management Targets	Management Actions	Monitoring	Timing / frequency of actions	Reporting
	Construction activities will be undertaken in accordance with the recommendations provided in the ASS investigation and/or ASS management plan.	As per the ASS management plan.	During construction.	ASSMP approved by DWER (if required).
	Any water abstraction required for construction of the Proposal will be undertaken to minimise drawdown, and water allowed to infiltrate as close to the source as possible. If the groundwater is acidic, it would be treated and discharged in accordance with an ASSMP.	As per the ASS management plan.	During construction.	ASSMP approved by DWER (if required).
<b>Soil erosion and sediment discharge</b>				
No noticeable change in sediment discharge. No noticeable increase in soil erosion.	Establishment of designated access roads to prevent unauthorised disturbance.	Routine inspections of erosion and sediment discharge.	At all times.	Inspection Report. Incident Report.
	Erosion and sediment control measures will be applied to prevent erosion of exposed areas and sediment discharge to adjacent areas, where practicable.	Routine inspections of erosion and sediment discharge.	During construction.	Inspection Report. Incident Report.
	Laydown areas will be rehabilitated or otherwise stabilised as early as practicable to minimise the potential for erosion.	Routine inspections of erosion and sediment discharge.	Post construction.	Inspection Report. Incident Report.
	Extreme weather will be monitored by the construction contractor and if a cyclone warning is issued, a site inspection and clean-up will be undertaken prior to the cyclone.	Monitoring of weather.	During construction.	Inspection Report. Incident Report. Cyclone Management Plan.

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Management Targets	Management Actions	Monitoring	Timing / frequency of actions	Reporting
	<p>This will include filling in any holes, as well as stabilisation or dispersal of piles of dirt and removal of rubbish.</p> <p>A cyclone management plan will be developed by the contractor prior to construction.</p>			
<b>Groundwater</b>				
Minimise the risk of changes to groundwater infiltration and groundwater drawdown.	Refer to Table 9-3 for management targets, actions, monitoring, timing and reporting of management measures in relation to spills or leaks of chemical, hydrocarbon and/or hazardous materials.			
<b>Contamination</b>				
All suspected contamination is characterised and appropriately managed.	All site personnel to be inducted on environmental responsibilities.	Record of all site personnel that have undertaken the induction.	Prior to construction.	Induction records.
	<p>In the event of excavation encountering suspected contaminated materials, the excavation works are to be stopped, and advice sought from a qualified environmental professional.</p> <p>If required, the suspected contamination will be sampled and analysed to determine the appropriate remediation and disposal.</p>	Visual monitoring during excavation.	During construction.	<p>Reporting of all suspected contamination.</p> <p>Contamination report from environmental professional</p>
	If dewatering is required in areas of known contaminated sites, the construction contractor will develop a dewatering contamination plan or similar.	Dewatering contamination plan or similar.	Prior to construction.	Dewatering contamination plan or similar.
<b>Spills or leaks of chemical, hydrocarbon and/or hazardous materials</b>				

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Management Targets	Management Actions	Monitoring	Timing / frequency of actions	Reporting
<p>All accidental spills or leaks of hazardous materials or waste is appropriately managed.</p> <p>Minimise the risk of spills or leaks of hazardous materials or waste.</p>	<p>All site personnel to be inducted on environmental responsibilities including storage of hydrocarbons and chemicals, bunding requirements, refuelling requirements and incident response measures in the event of a spill.</p>	<p>Record of all site personnel that have undertaken the induction.</p>	<p>Prior to construction.</p>	<p>Induction records.</p>
	<p>Spill management procedures to be developed prior to construction.</p>	<p>Record of storage and spill management procedures.</p>	<p>Prior to construction.</p>	<p>Inspection Report. Incident Report.</p>
	<p>Hazardous materials used during construction will be stored in compliance with relevant Australian Standards and Regulations.</p> <p>All hydrocarbons and chemicals are correctly stored in accordance with Water Quality Protection Note 25.</p>	<p>Record of storage and spill management procedures.</p>	<p>At all times.</p>	<p>Inspection Report. Incident Report.</p>
	<p>Refuelling of machinery to occur off-site, subject to appropriate spill controls and at least 50 m away from all surface water features and drainage areas.</p> <p>Drip trays to be placed under stationary machinery.</p>	<p>Weekly site inspections of hazardous materials and waste storage and handling areas to identify spills / leaks and discharges, and check that storage, handling and signage is appropriate.</p>	<p>At all times.</p>	<p>Inspection Report. Incident Report.</p>
	<p>Scheduled / major maintenance of vehicles / plant to be undertaken off-site.</p>	<p>Record of maintenance of vehicles.</p>	<p>At all times.</p>	<p>Inspection Report. Incident Report.</p>
	<p>Provision of spill response kits at refuelling locations and any locations where hydrocarbons or chemicals are stored.</p>	<p>Record of storage and spill management procedures.</p>	<p>At all times.</p>	<p>Inspection Report. Incident Report.</p>

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Management Targets	Management Actions	Monitoring	Timing / frequency of actions	Reporting
	Safety Data Sheets (SDSs) and hazardous materials inventory to be retained on site.	Record of storage and spill management procedures.	At all times.	Inspection Report. Incident Report.
	During construction, temporary ablution facilities to be self-contained. Sewage to be collected by a licensed contractor and disposed at an appropriately licensed waste facility.	Record of storage and spill management procedures.	At all times.	Inspection Report. Incident Report.
	General construction waste material to be appropriately managed and disposed of off-site at an appropriate facility.	Record of storage and spill management procedures.	At all times.	Inspection Report. Incident Report.
	Diesel storage will not exceed 5000 litres within the Broome Water Reserve Public Drinking Water Source Area.	Record of diesel storage.	At all times	Inspection Report. Incident Report.
	No refuelling is permitted at the solar farm site or within the Public Drinking Water Source area. A contingency plan for managing and responding to spills must be developed for the works in accordance with Water Quality Protection Note 10. Scheduled / major maintenance of vehicles / plant to be undertaken offsite. Provision of spill response kits at refuelling locations and any locations where hydrocarbons or chemicals are stored.	Site induction records. Record of storage and spill management procedures. Weekly site inspections of hazardous materials and waste storage and handling areas to identify spills / leaks and discharges, and check that storage, handling, signage and spill kits is appropriate. Record of diesel storage.	At all times.	Inspection Report. Incident Report.

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Management Targets	Management Actions	Monitoring	Timing / frequency of actions	Reporting
	<p>During construction, temporary ablution facilities to be self-contained. Sewage to be collected by a licensed contractor and disposed at an appropriately licensed waste facility.</p> <p>General construction waste material to be appropriately managed and disposed of off-site at an appropriate facility.</p> <p>Wastewater systems to be sealed.</p> <p>HVAC units to be sealed</p>			
<b>Construction and operation of prescribed activities and premises</b>				
Achieve all management targets in relation to terrestrial environmental quality.	Compliance with conditions administered under the works approvals and/or licencing under Part V of the EP Act as required.	As per requirements of works approvals and/or licencing under Part V of the EP Act.	At all times.	As per requirements of works approvals and/or licencing under Part V of the EP Act.
<b>Dangerous goods</b>				
Achieve all management targets in relation to terrestrial environmental quality.	Compliance with conditions administered under a Dangerous Goods Site Licence as required.	As per requirements of Dangerous Goods Site Licence.	At all times.	As per requirements of Dangerous Goods Site Licence.

### 9.7 Air Quality

The management components for air quality are outlined in Table 9-6.

Table 9-6 Air Quality – management components

<b>EPA Factor:</b> Air Quality <b>EPA Objective:</b> “To maintain air quality and minimise emissions so that environmental values are protected.” <b>EMP Objective:</b> To minimise impacts to air quality, resulting from the generation of gaseous and dust emissions during construction <b>Key Environmental Values:</b> Broome township, located approximately 10 km southwest of the solar and BESS facility <b>Key Impact and Risks:</b> – Gaseous emissions generated during construction – Dust emissions generated during construction				
Management Targets	Management Actions	Monitoring	Timing / frequency of actions	Reporting
<b>Gaseous emissions</b>				
Minimise gaseous emissions resulting from construction of the Project.	Machinery and vehicles are regularly serviced and operated/maintained in accordance with the manufacturer’s specifications.	Record of maintenance of vehicles.	At all times.	Inspection Report. Incident Report.
	Vehicles on site will be switched off and not left idling when not in use.	N/A.	At all times.	N/A.
	Source construction materials locally and with a lower emissions footprint where available, suitable and practicable.	N/A.	Prior to construction.	N/A.
	Vehicle selection will take into account fuel consumption efficiency, whilst allowing operational efficiency.	N/A.	At all times.	N/A.
	Ongoing maintenance of vehicles to ensure efficient fuel use.	N/A.	At all times.	N/A.

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Management Targets	Management Actions	Monitoring	Timing / frequency of actions	Reporting
<b>Dust emissions</b>				
Minimise visible dust emissions resulting from construction of the Project.	All site personnel to be inducted on minimisation of dust emissions.	Record of all site personnel that have undertaken the induction.	Prior to construction.	Site induction records.
	Use of water carts as needed to wet down dust generating surfaces such as roads, earthworks areas.	N/A.	During construction.	N/A.
	Ground disturbance and/or clearing of vegetation will be restricted during high winds if dust cannot be adequately controlled.	Routine monitoring of wind conditions.	During construction.	N/A.
	Review of weather forecasts will be undertaken prior to native vegetation clearing to identify periods of extreme weather conditions likely to result in increased dust emissions so that additional mitigation measures can be implemented; or ground disturbance and/or clearing of native vegetation will be halted.	Routine monitoring of wind conditions.	During construction.	N/A.
	Use of defined haul routes for machinery/vehicles travelling on unsealed surfaces or roads, and reduced vehicle speed in areas of unconsolidated soil.	N/A.	During construction.	N/A.
	Machinery and vehicles are regularly serviced and operated/maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's specifications.	Vehicle inspection records.	During construction and operations.	N/A.

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Management Targets	Management Actions	Monitoring	Timing / frequency of actions	Reporting
	Any complaints relating to dust emissions will be recorded and investigated as per Horizon Power's incident management procedure.	N/A.	During construction.	Complaints record.

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Table 9-7 Other Environmental Management Measures

<b>EMP Objective:</b> – To minimise impacts to flora and vegetation required for construction and operation of the Project as far as practicable – To minimise impacts to heritage values and visual amenity – To minimise impacts to air quality, resulting from the generation of gaseous and dust emissions during construction <b>Key Environmental Values:</b> – Native vegetation including significant flora and riparian vegetation – Sites of Heritage significance and visual amenity – Gaseous emissions generated during construction					
Management Targets	Management Actions	Monitoring	Timing / Frequency of Monitoring	Reporting	
<b>Vegetation clearing</b>					
No clearing of vegetation to occur outside of the predefined clearing limits and boundaries described within approval documents, during or attributable to construction.  No impacts to significant flora and significant vegetation outside of the predefined clearing limits and boundaries described within approval documents.	Clearing and ground disturbing activities (including soil and geotechnical investigations) limited to the defined clearing limits and boundaries described within the approval document.  Driving for geotechnical investigations will be in convoy and no more than 10 m x 10 m of clearing is permitted per test location.  The extent of the approved clearing will be clearly communicated in documentation and inductions.	Drawings, inductions and shape/CAD files showing approved clearing areas provided to Construction Contractor Representative.  Job Hazard Analysis (JHA) or equivalent to include the risks and mitigation actions to be understood and adhered to as they pertain to the contractor and scope of work on the JHA.  Track logs from soil and geotechnical investigations of where vehicles have driven within the predefined clearing limits.  Inspection of clearing extents during clearing activities to confirm no over clearing (including soil and geotechnical investigations).	Prior to construction.	Contractor to check that drawings, inductions and shape/CAD files show correct approved clearing areas.  Record of provision of drawings and shape/CAD files showing approved clearing areas.  All relevant contractors to sign onto JHA or equivalent.  Pre-clearing photos to be documented and daily inspection of clearing extents during clearing activities and weekly inspections during the remainder of construction to confirm no over clearing.  Visual inspection and record of cleared areas to be undertaken post-clearing to confirm no over clearing and relevant shapefiles provided to Horizon Power.  Track logs from soil and geotechnical investigations to show no vehicle movement outside of predefined clearing limits.  Clearing area shapefiles from soil and geotechnical investigations to show no clearing outside of predefined clearing limits.  Report unauthorised clearing as soon as practicable after identified.	
	At risk, 'avoidance areas' will be demarcated on Project drawings and physically on site prior to clearing activities.	At risk 'avoidance areas' clearly marked out on all relevant Project drawings and demarcated on site with shapefiles provided.  JHA or equivalent to include the risks and mitigation actions to be understood and adhered to as they pertain to the contractor and scope of work on the JHA.  Daily inspections during clearing and weekly inspections during the remainder of construction within the work area of at risk 'avoidance area' demarcation will be undertaken to confirm markings remain in place and are accurate.	At risk 'avoidance areas' clearly marked out on all relevant Project drawings and demarcated on site with shapefiles provided.  JHA or equivalent to include the risks and mitigation actions to be understood and adhered to as they pertain to the contractor and scope of work on the JHA.  Daily inspections during clearing and weekly inspections during the remainder of construction within the work area of at risk 'avoidance area' demarcation will be undertaken to confirm markings remain in place and are accurate.	During construction.	Contractor to check that drawings and shape/CAD files show correct approved clearing areas.  Record of provision of drawings and shape/CAD files showing approved clearing areas.  Daily site inspections during clearing and weekly inspections during the remainder of construction to confirm appropriate demarcations of at risk avoidance areas are maintained.  Construction reports which will include clearing extents and shapefiles.  Vegetation clearing records and annual environmental reporting.
	Personnel access routes and parking will be restricted and clearly demarcated on site.	Approved clearing areas including designated access routes and parking areas to be clearly demarcated on site and communicated appropriately.  Routine inspection of Project defined clearing limits and Boundaries demarcation during clearing activities.  Daily inspection of clearing extents during clearing activities and weekly inspections during the remainder of construction to confirm no over clearing.	Approved clearing areas including designated access routes and parking areas to be clearly demarcated on site and communicated appropriately.  Routine inspection of Project defined clearing limits and Boundaries demarcation during clearing activities.  Daily inspection of clearing extents during clearing activities and weekly inspections during the remainder of construction to confirm no over clearing.	During construction and operation.	Vegetation clearing records and annual environmental reporting.  Report unauthorised clearing as soon as practicable after identified.  Construction site plan showing all approved access areas.  Daily site inspections during clearing activities and weekly inspections during the remainder of construction.
	Review environmental constraints that are outlined in approval documents during detailed design and avoid sensitivities where possible.	Pre-construction reviews of the construction plan shows that infrastructure is placed in cleared areas where practicable.	Pre-construction reviews of the construction plan shows that infrastructure is placed in cleared areas where practicable.	During construction.	Construction site plan showing all approved access areas.

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Management Targets	Management Actions	Monitoring	Timing / Frequency of Monitoring	Reporting
	Areas required for temporary construction purposes and areas required for operational maintenance and repair activities, will be located within existing cleared areas, or areas required for permanent infrastructure, where possible.	Drawings, inductions and shape/CAD files showing approved clearing areas provided to Construction Contractor Representative. Job Hazard Analysis (JHA) or equivalent to include the risks and mitigation actions to be understood and adhered to as they pertain to the contractor and scope of work on the JHA.	Prior to and during construction.	Daily inspection of Project defined clearing limits and boundaries demarcation during clearing activities and weekly inspections during the remainder of construction. Vegetation clearing records and annual environmental reporting. Report unauthorized clearing as soon as practicable after identified.
	Minimise clearing to the extent required during construction, and the ongoing maintenance and operation of the assets.	Routine inspection of Project defined clearing limits and boundaries demarcation during clearing activities. Daily inspection of clearing extents during clearing activities and weekly inspections during the remainder of construction to confirm no over clearing.	During construction and operation.	Vegetation clearing records and annual environmental reporting. Report unauthorized clearing as soon as practicable after identified.
	Visual inspection and record of cleared areas to be undertaken post-clearing to confirm no over clearing.	N/A.	Post construction.	Annual Compliance Reporting.
<b>Heritage sites</b>				
No disturbance of known Aboriginal cultural heritage sites.	All site personnel to be inducted on Aboriginal cultural heritage.	Record of all site personnel that have undertaken the induction.	Prior to construction.	Induction records.
	Horizon Power will commission an Aboriginal cultural heritage survey with the support and consent of relevant Traditional Owners to identify heritage sites and areas.	Aboriginal cultural heritage survey report.	Prior to construction.	N/A.
	At risk, avoidance areas within the DE will be clearly established through consultation with Traditional Owners and demarcated in a culturally appropriate manner prior to ground disturbing activities to prevent damage to Aboriginal cultural heritage sites outside of the approved disturbance area.	Place boundary to verify buffer and/or demarcation in a culturally appropriate manner.	Prior to construction.	Incident reports. Induction records. Annual Compliance Reporting.
	Engagement of Aboriginal cultural heritage monitors as per Heritage Protection Agreement requirements and/or heritage survey outcome recommendations to monitor initial ground disturbing earthworks and to manage Aboriginal cultural heritage values of the site and the adjacent areas.	Visual inspections of heritage sites during ground disturbance. Regular engagement with Traditional Owners.	During construction.	Incident reports. Induction records. Annual Compliance Reporting.
	Any potential Aboriginal materials or other unexpected finds found on site during excavation, such as subsurface artefacts, will be subject to an immediate shutdown of nearby activities and a suitable exclusion zone. The Manager Sustainability will be immediately notified Horizon Power will consult with Traditional Owners and, if required, an archaeologist will be engaged to assess the archaeological material and provide a report to Horizon Power. Horizon Power will work with Traditional Owners and, if required, the archaeologist to implement an appropriate course of action.	Visual inspections of heritage sites during ground disturbance and flagging/fencing as applied Regular engagement with Traditional Owners	During construction.	Incident reports. Induction records. Annual Compliance Reporting.
	Enable Traditional Owners to monitor the heritage places to enable knowledge transfer to occur and ensure the heritage values are protected for future generations.	Visual inspections of heritage sites during ground disturbance. Regular engagement with Traditional Owners.	At all times.	Incident reports. Induction records. Annual Compliance Reporting.

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Management Targets	Management Actions	Monitoring	Timing / Frequency of Monitoring	Reporting
	Continue to engage and consult with Traditional Owners to ensure heritage values are managed. Regularly liaise with Traditional Owners to establish and maintain processes and accountability between the parties.	Regular engagement with Traditional Owners.	At all times.	Incident reports. Induction records. Annual Compliance Reporting.
	If required, any disturbance to heritage features will be undertaken in accordance with the <i>Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972</i> and any other applicable legislation, aligned with the Horizon Power Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management Policy and following consultation with the Traditional Owners. Compliance with conditions administered under the <i>Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972</i> as required.	As per requirements under the <i>Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972</i> .	At all times.	Annual Compliance Reporting.
Minimise dust deposition on Aboriginal cultural heritage sites	Dust suppression, including use of water carts to be implemented where required during construction activities in proximity to Aboriginal cultural heritage sites as required.	Visual inspections of heritage sites (by heritage monitors) during ground disturbance. Ad hoc inspections of heritage sites (by heritage monitors) during Project construction.	During construction.	Incident reports. Annual Compliance Reporting.
Minimise adverse visual amenity.	Maximise visual amenity through site layout design and construction materials, where possible.	Investigation and reporting of all complaints.	Prior to construction.	Annual Compliance Reporting. Complaint closeout.
	Establish complaints register.	Investigation and reporting of all complaints.	During construction.	Annual Compliance Reporting. Complaint closeout.
<b>Gaseous emissions</b>				
Minimise gaseous emissions resulting from construction of the Project.	Machinery and vehicles are regularly serviced and operated/maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's specifications.	Record of maintenance of vehicles.	At all times.	Inspection Report. Incident Report.
	Vehicles on site will be switched off and not left idling when not in use.	N/A.	At all times.	N/A.
	Source construction materials locally and with a lower emissions footprint where available, suitable and practicable.	N/A.	Prior to construction.	N/A.
	Vehicle selection will take into account fuel consumption efficiency, whilst allowing operational efficiency.	N/A.	At all times.	N/A.
	Ongoing maintenance of vehicles to ensure efficient fuel use.	N/A.	At all times.	N/A.

## 10 Adaptive Management and Review of the EMP

### 10.1 Audit and Review

Internal monitoring will be conducted throughout the construction phase of the Proposed Action to assess the environmental aspects outlined in this EMP. Any instances of non-conformance or incidents associated with measures set out in this EMP will be investigated and addressed to minimise potential environmental impacts. Appropriate procedures will be implemented as needed, and refresher training will be conducted to reduce the likelihood of future occurrences.

The proposed auditing schedule for this EMP is identified in Table 10-1.

Table 10-1. Environmental audit schedule

Timing	Action	Schedule
Pre-construction	Review of construction procedures to ensure EMP management/monitoring actions are incorporated within works procedures.	Prior to construction (single event)
Construction	Inspections by site environmental personnel to identify compliance with EMP.	Periodic (Weekly)
	Internal audit for assessment of compliance with EMP.	Annually (once per calendar year)
Post construction	Internal audit for assessment of compliance with EMP.	Annually (once per calendar year for up to three years)
Decommissioning	To be determined as part of any future decommissioning plan, which will be in accordance with Horizon Power's standard operating procedures and will be approved by Horizon Power's Manager Sustainability.	To be determined as part of any future decommissioning plan.

### 10.2 Environmental Management Plan Review

This EMP is intended to be dynamic and may be updated to reflect changes in management practices and the natural environment with time. This will also allow flexibility to adopt new technologies/management measures. Amendments to management actions and targets will be completed on an as needs basis. This will include revision/amendment of management actions that are not achieving the desired outcomes, monitoring identifying additional impacts and management actions, changes to relevant legislation or improvements to practices to achieve a greater environmental outcome.

The EMP will be reviewed by the Proposal Manager and Manager Sustainability annually during construction to:

- Consider the effectiveness / appropriateness of management and monitoring actions
- Consider opportunities for improvement in environmental performance (for example, changes to construction methodology or timing)
- Identify any general need to update this EMP (for example, to capture new information on relevant environmental factor or management, or updates to the EP Act, BC Act or Policy Statements).

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### Appendix A – Fauna Pre-clearance Survey and Relocation

#### Northern Brushtail Possum

A pre-clearance fauna survey will be undertaken within 14 days prior to clearing for construction to identify Northern Brushtail Possum habitat. This includes the identification and inspection of hollows and determination of whether the hollows are being utilised. This will be undertaken by a licenced fauna specialist.

Note: The DE was selected to avoid habitat trees where possible, and an avoidance area was established around four habitat trees, further reducing the number to be cleared.

Pre-clearance fauna survey transects will be completed as follows:

- Transects spaced at 100 metres on average, to identify evidence of use by the Northern Brushtail Possum.
- Where evidence of Northern Brushtail Possum use is identified, transects spaced at 20 metres on average will be undertaken, to identify evidence of hollows that may be in use.

If a hollow is identified:

- Hollows showing signs of recent use will be flagged by the fauna specialist and a 50 m avoidance area will be established around the hollow so they will not be impacted by the Proposed Action.
- If a hollow is in use and cannot be avoided for the Proposed Action, activities may not proceed without approval from the Horizon Power Sustainability Manager and additional controls will be implemented, including:
  - Engaging a licenced fauna specialist to install fauna monitoring cameras to confirm presence of Northern Brushtail Possum in hollows.
  - Remove and relocate the identified Northern Brushtail Possum to an area of suitable habitat in accordance with a section 40 authorisation under the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016*.
  - Relocation will be undertaken within 48 hours of commencement of clearing to reduce the risk of animals returning to the work area prior to clearing.

#### Northern Blue-tongue Skink

Within 48 hours of clearing commencement, the proposed impact area will be surveyed for Northern Blue-tongue Skink. If a Northern Blue-tongued Skink is identified, the fauna specialist will remove and relocate the Northern Blue-tongued Skink to an area of suitable habitat in accordance with a section 40 authorisation under the Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016. Relocation will be undertaken within 48 hours of commencement of clearing to reduce the risk of animals returning to the work area prior to clearing.

During geotechnical investigations, a fauna specialist will attend site and identify if any hollows suitable for use are present in the proposed testing location. If any hollows suitable for use are identified, these will be avoided with a 20 m buffer as geotechnical tests have limited duration and disturbance. an alternative location will be selected for the proposed tests.

Any Northern Blue-tongued Skink identified during geotechnical investigations will be avoided or relocated from the test area.

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### Bilby

A pre-clearance fauna survey will be undertaken within 14 days prior to clearing for construction to identify Bilby habitat. This includes the identification and inspection of burrows and determination of whether the burrows are being utilised. This will be undertaken by a licenced fauna specialist.

Pre-clearance fauna survey transects will be undertaken as follows:

- Transects spaced at 100 metres on average, to identify evidence of use by Bilbies.
- Where evidence of Bilby use is identified, transects spaced at 20 metres on average will be undertaken, to identify evidence of burrows that may be in use.

If a Bilby burrow is identified:

- If a burrow is in use and cannot be avoided for the Proposed Action, activities may not proceed without approval from the Horizon Power Sustainability Manager and additional controls will be implemented, including:
  - Engaging a licenced fauna specialist to install fauna monitoring cameras to confirm presence of Bilbies in identified burrows.
  - Remove and relocate the identified bilbies to an area of suitable habitat in accordance with a section 40 authorisation under the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016*.
  - Relocation will be undertaken within 48 hours of commencement of clearing to reduce the risk of animals returning to the work area prior to clearing.

### Reporting

A report of the fauna identification work undertaken will be provided to Horizon Power including:

- The location of Northern Brushtail Possum hollows.
- The location of Bilby burrows, and whether burrows were old/historical or in use
- Evidence of use of hollows or burrows including photographs, digging or scats
- The location of Northern Brushtail Possum, Bilby or Northern Blue-tongued Skink sighting.
- Date and time the fauna was recorded.
- The gender of the fauna.
- The vegetation type and weather conditions it was recorded in.
- The location where fauna was relocated to, if required.
- The name and copy of fauna licence of the fauna specialist that relocated fauna.

## Appendix B – Broome Public Drinking Water Source Area Water Risk Assessment