

**Powertech Pty Ltd**



# **Vegetation Clearing Methodology**

## **Kinross Community Battery**



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**Custodian:** PROJECT MANAGER **Document ID:** E118219-PMP-003

**Document Revision History**

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# 1 Introduction

The purpose of this plan is to outline the clearing and grubbing works of the Community Battery installation site at Kinross.

The detailed guide will provide the clear steps undertaken to complete the process of the clearing and grubbing activity in a safe, systematic and efficient manner in compliance to the statutory and environmental requirements.

| Site Name | Site Address   |
|-----------|--|
| Kinross   | Lot 2277 (No. 15) Selkirk Drive, Kinross 6028<br>Lot 1216 (No. 15) Selkirk Drive, Kinross 6028 |

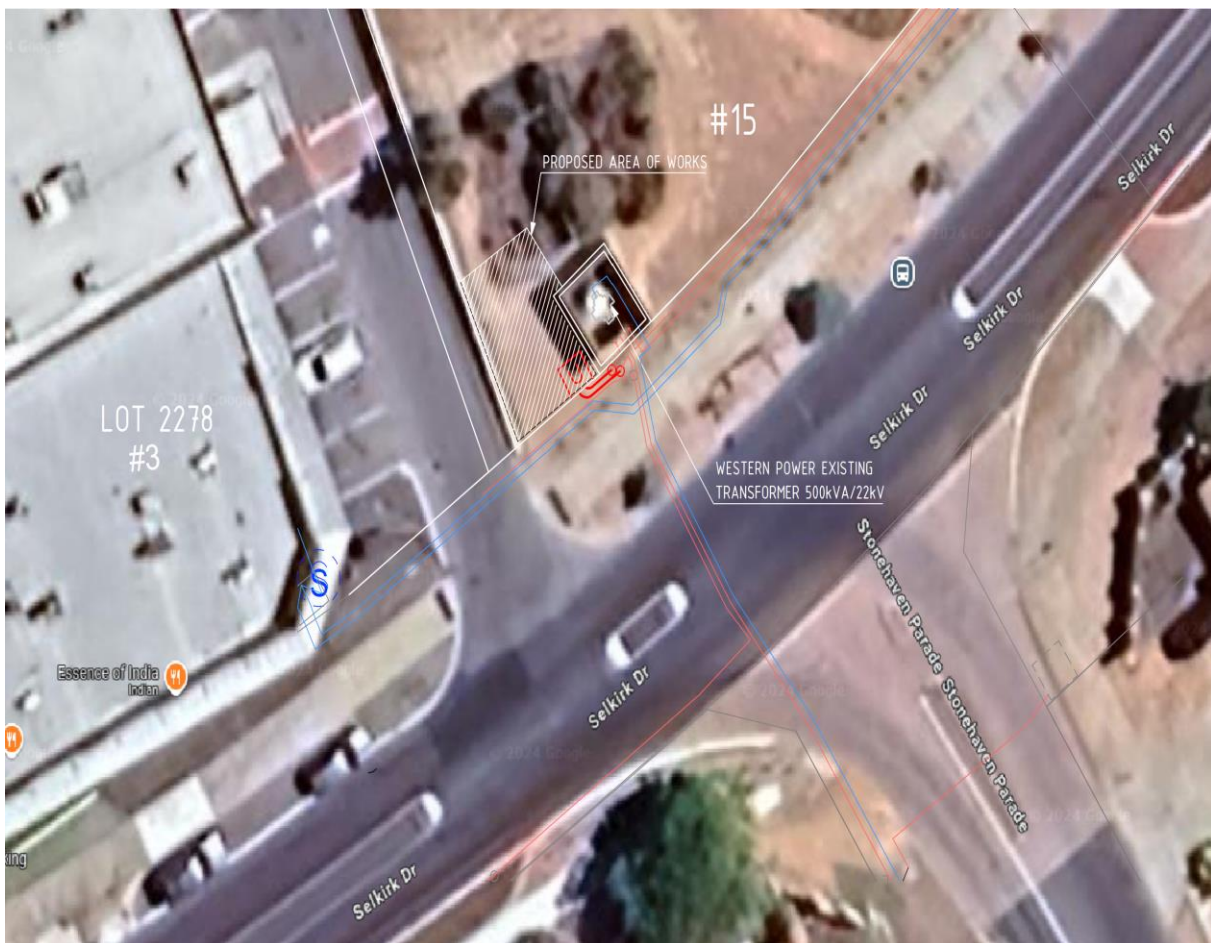


Figure 1: Site Location



Figure 2: Work Area

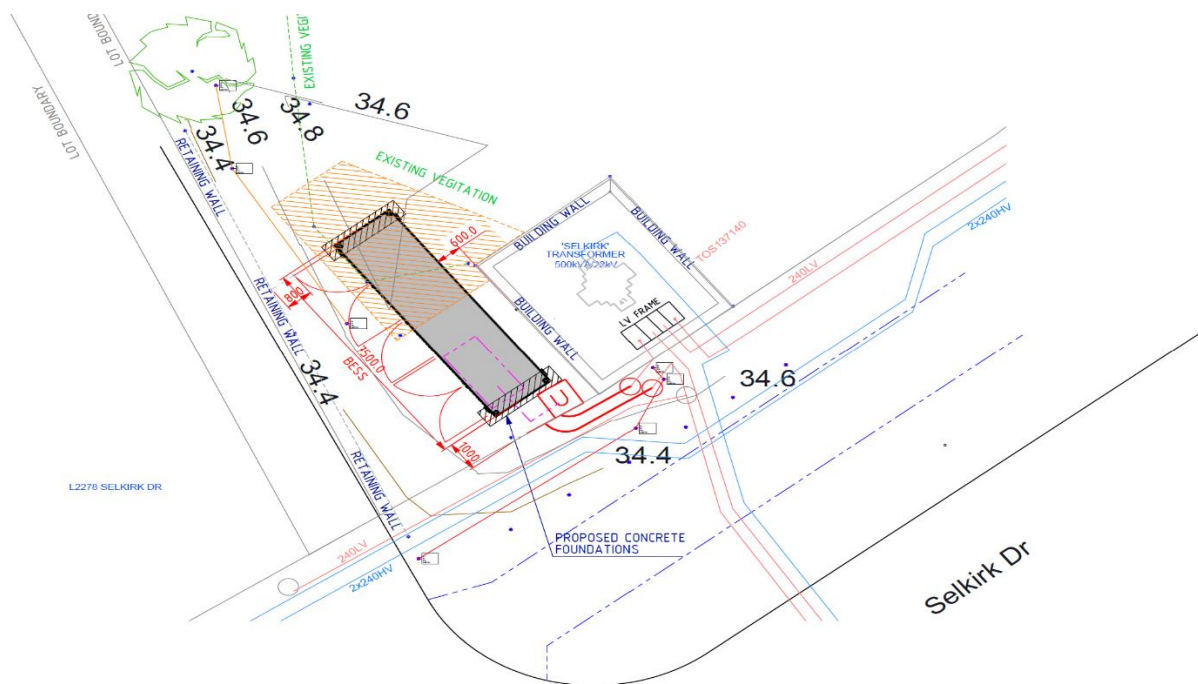


Figure 3: Site Layout for Vegetation Clearing

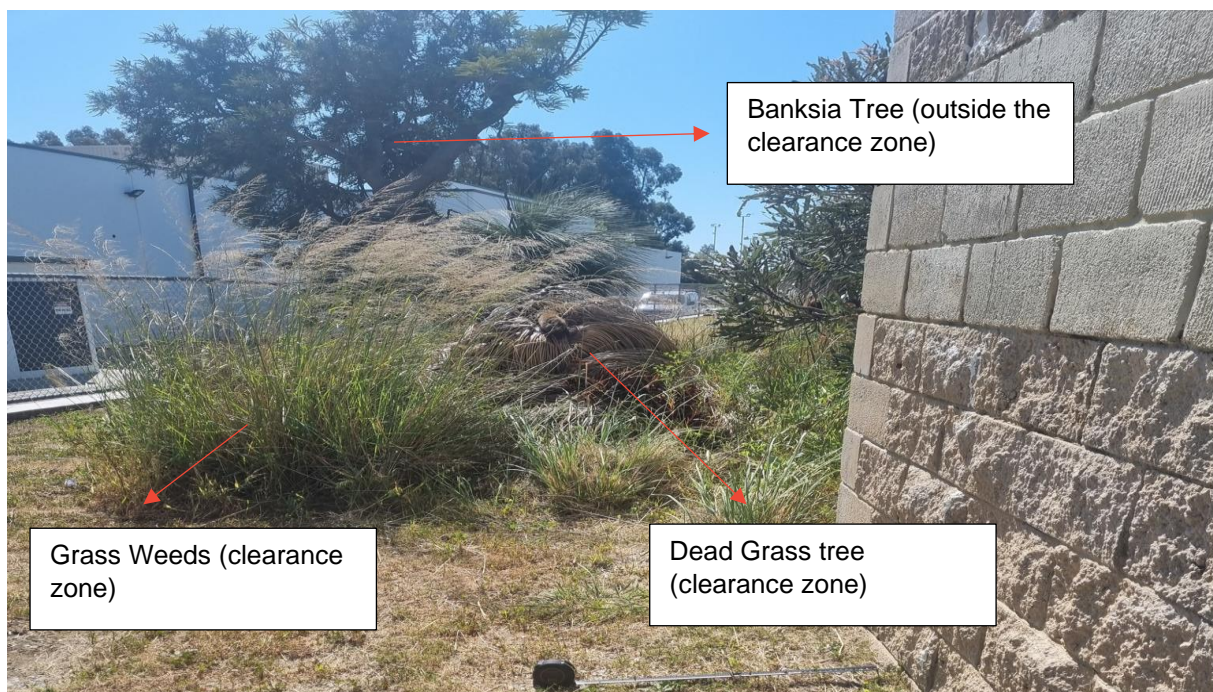
## 1.1 Definitions

| Terms             | Definition   |
|-------------------|--|
| COMPANY           | Western Power  |
| CONTRACTOR        | Powertech Pty Ltd  |
| DCCEEW            | Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water  |
| Project           | DCCEEW Community Battery Project   |
| ASCON             | As Constructed   |
| BESS              | Battery Energy Storage Systems   |
| BYDA              | Before You Dig Australia   |
| Clearing          | As defined in section 51A of the EP Act, clearing means:<br>(a) the killing or destruction of; or<br>(b) the removal of; or<br>(c) the severing or ringbarking of trunks or stems of; or<br>(d) the doing of any other substantial damage to,<br>some or all of the native vegetation in an area, and includes the draining or flooding of land, the burning of vegetation, the grazing of stock, or any other act or activity, that causes —<br>(e) the killing or destruction of; or<br>(f) the severing of trunks or stems of; or<br>(g) any other substantial damage to,<br>some or all of the native vegetation in an area. |
| Client            | Western Power  |
| Competent Person  | A person assessed as competent by Powertech Pty Ltd for the tasks they must perform, and who have acquired through training, knowledge, qualifications, and experience the skills required to perform those tasks competently.   |
| Contract          | Contract means the agreement between the Client and the Contractor to perform the works outlined in the Scope of Work.   |
| CRAW              | Construction Risk Assessment Workshop  |
| Grubbing          | Removal of stumps, roots and vegetation matter from the ground surface after clearing  |
| May               | Indicates that the requirement is optional or at the person's discretion.  |
| Must              | Means when the requirement is documented it is mandatory, and deviation must constitute non-compliance by law.   |
| Native vegetation | As defined in sections 3(1) and 51A of the EP Act and Regulations, native vegetation means indigenous aquatic or terrestrial vegetation, and includes dead vegetation unless that dead vegetation is of a class declared by regulation to be excluded from this definition but does not include vegetation in a plantation (unless planted as required under this Act or another law, e.g., rehabilitation).   |

|                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| Project Personnel | Powertech Pty Ltd workers and contractors engaged for the works  |
| Shall             | Mandatory  |
| SHEMP             | Safety Health and Environment Management Plan  |
| Should            | Recommended but not mandatory  |
| Subsoil           | Soil below topsoil that is advantageous to recover where possible (between 200 and 500 mm), to help address likely site topsoil deficit and support rehabilitation activities.   |
| Topsoil           | Is the upper most layer of soil to be recovered to a minimum depth 200 mm where possible, which holds the highest concentration of organic matter and microorganisms, is an important soil seed bank and critical limited resource in support of rehabilitation. Topsoil depths vary across a site usually in association with landform. |
| WUC               | Works under Contract   |

## 2 Site Assessment

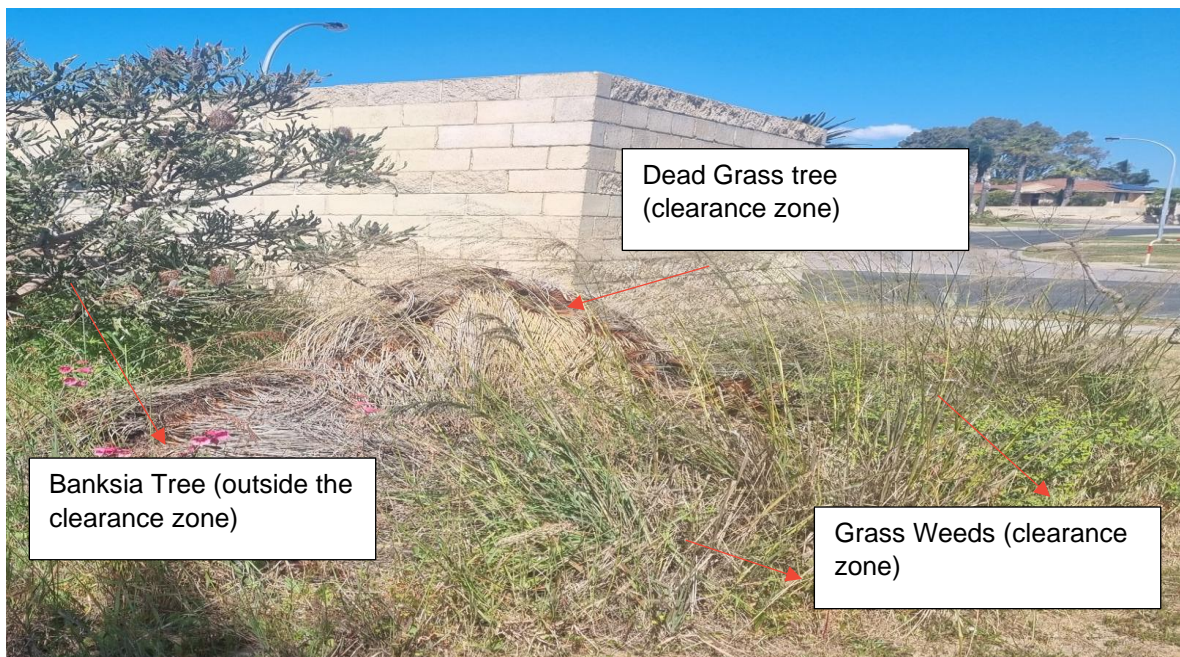
A site investigation has been carried out to determine the extent of vegetation clearing and to ascertain what vegetation needs clearing at the Kinross site.



**Image 1: Site Picture (Front View)**



**Image 2: Site Picture (Side View)**



**Image 3: Site Picture (Back View)**

There are some vegetations present in the area:

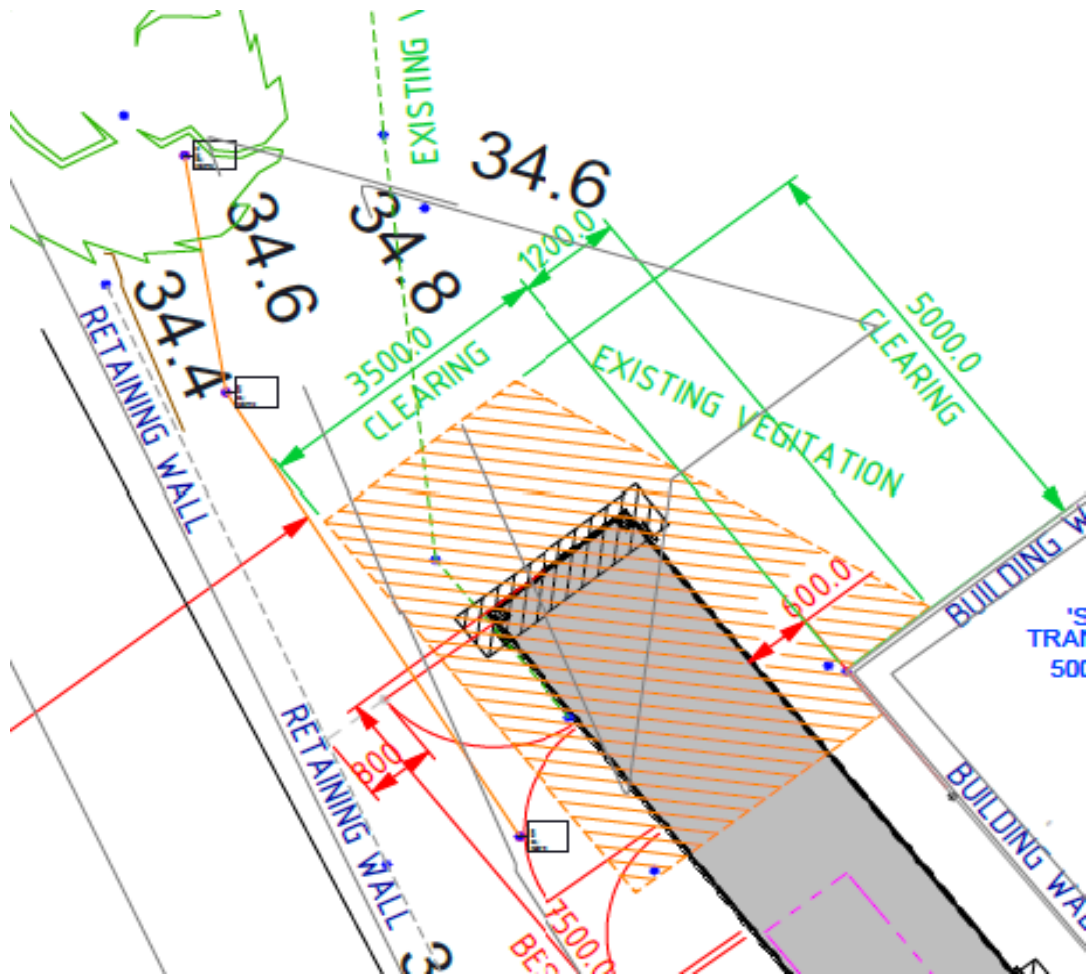
- a) Grass weeds – present across the BESS Layout, needs clearing.
- b) Dead Grass Tree ( Xanthorrhoea) – present across the BESS Layout, needs clearing.
- c) Banksia Tree ( around 2 meters height) – Located at least 3-4 meters away northwest the BESS vegetation clearing zone. ( not to be cleared).
- d) Banksia Tree ( less than 2 meters height) – Located at least 3-4 meters away northeast the BESS vegetation clearing zone. ( not to be cleared, only branch cutting).



### 3 Scope of Work

Total area of the vegetation clearing zone is approximately 14.5 square metres.

Based on the site investigation, only grass weeds and a dead Grass Tree ( Xanthorrhoea) are within the vegetation clearing zone and needs to be cleared. Banksia Trees are located more than 3 metres one in the northeast and the other one in the northwest from the clearing zone will be protected and will not be cleared during the installation woks.



**Figure 4: Extent of Vegetation Clearing**



**Figure 5: Vegetations to be cleared BESS path (front)**



**Figure 6: Vegetations to be cleared BESS path (back)**

The purpose of this work is getting all vegetation within the clearing zone cleared and removed. This work consists of :

- a) Clearing and Grubbing - All surface objects and all vegetations, fallen timber, rotten wood, stumps, roots, snags, brush, other vegetation, rubbish, and other protruding obstructions such as rubble and tree branches not designated to remain, shall be cleared and/or grubbed, including disposal as required.
- b) Topsoil Stripping- In general, topsoil stripping work will remove the fertile soil layer to avoid the regrow of vegetation.
- c) Preservation from injury or defacement of all objects and vegetation designated to remain.

### **3.1 Equipment**

This work will utilize heavy equipment to ease the task, such as :

- a) Mini Excavator
- b) Dumped Truck
- c) Hand Tools such as chain saws etc.

## **4 Execution - Site Clearing Work**

### **4.1 Preliminary Activity**

Powertech will implement the following Mobilisation tasks prior to and at the time of mobilisation (the following list is not exhaustive).

- Ensure all personnel engaged for the WUC, have the necessary and current authorisations, accreditations, licences, and qualifications, which include all subcontractor personnel engaged by the Contractor, in accordance with Network Authorisation procedure.
- A recipient in charge (RIC) is assigned and all relevant Permits in place.
- Ensure that the Minimum Approach Distances (MAD's) to any Live High Voltage Apparatus, Equipment and Overhead conductors are known, clearly defined and work permits are put in place prior to commencing any tasks or activities with the WUC.
- Ensure a valid vegetation clearing permit is issued by the Principal, prior to commencing any Site clearing WUC.
- Service location, pegging and marking.
- Before You Dig Australia (BYDA) information for the area of WUC requiring excavation.
- Establish site facilities (portlet), laydown areas, storage areas, including waste disposal skip bins and vehicle access.
-

## 4.2 Traffic Management

Powertech shall provide the Principal with traffic management and plans required for the execution of the works. Compliance Main Roads WA (MRWA) Traffic Management for Road Works Code of Practice and any guidelines / recommendations regarding traffic control and road safety when working on or near public roads will be adhered at all times.

Whenever it may be necessary to obstruct a road or footpath to carry out works, Powertech shall inform all relevant Authorities, including MRWA and / or any Local Government Authorities (LGA's) and comply with all relevant legislative requirements of those authorities, including obtaining the written consent of MRWA and / or LGA's, before creating such obstruction.

## 4.3 Access Paths

- Temporary access path shall be developed for equipment and other vehicles as Figure 7.



**Figure 7: Proposed Access Plan**

#### **4.4 Existing Utility Services**

- Before commencing earthworks, locate and mark existing underground services in the areas to be affected by the works including clearing, excavating and trenching.
- Take all measures to prevent damage to existing underground and overhead utility services. Do not excavate by machine within 1 m of existing underground services.

#### **4.5 Vegetation Clearing**

- Mark the extent of area that needs to be cleared as per relevant site layouts, civil drawings and in accordance with the vegetation clearing permit ( if needed)
- Trees outside limits of work: Plan all operations to ensure that there is no damage to any trees outside the limits of clearing specified or approved.
- All vegetations within the clearance zone will be removed using a mini excavator and loaded onto the dump truck.
- The ground is flattened using a mini excavator according to approved civil design drawings.
- The unused material carried by Dump Truck to approved disposal area.
- In areas to be excavated, stump holes and other holes from which obstructions are removed shall be backfilled with suitable material and compacted to the required density.

#### **4.6 Post-clearing**

On completion of clearing and grubbing the Environmental Advisor (or nominated person) shall inspect the cleared area to confirm all available topsoil and/or subsoil has been recovered prior to any further works taking place (e.g., construction).

No vegetation or organic matter should remain on the cleared surface (this indicates topsoil). The nominated person will also be responsible for signposting all stockpiles.

#### **4.7 Non-compliance**

Any deviation, non-compliance or environmental incident and must be recorded in Non-compliance register and investigated accordingly.

## **5 Working Hours**

The Contractor must adhere to the site regulation with regards to project working hours.

Project working hours on site, are restricted to the following:

- Monday to Saturday working hours: 06.00 – 18.00.

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## 6 Interface Management During Construction

### 6.1 Local Communities

Powertech acknowledges the need for ongoing interaction with a range of Project Stakeholders, including the local community, during the execution of the specific project scope.

The following entities have been identified as having a direct involvement in execution of the works or required to execute the specific project scope:

- The Client – Western Power
- Synergy
- Sub-Contractors
- Other Contractors on Site
- City of Joondalup

The above list is not exhaustive but there will be ongoing consultation and coordination with each of these entities on a as needed basis during construction.

The primary mode of managing interfaces will be through ongoing consultative verbal and written dialogue between each party.

The project management team will also be assigned the task of monitoring and coordinating the work of other entities during construction on a day-to-day basis such that the overall objectives with respect to safety, quality, environment, and program are achieved.

### 6.2 Construction Noise And Vibration

Powertech is aware of the impact of construction noise and vibration on the locality and have considered the impact on the local area.

The Contractor will take all reasonable and practicable measures to limit noise and vibration detectable outside of the site boundaries, which exceeds legislative requirements and may affect the amenity.

Controls will be identified and included in the project risk register. The hierarchy of controls will be followed to avoid/reduce noise and vibration where possible.

Further details of these measures are captured in The Contractor's Project Health Safety Management & Environmental Management Plan (SHEMP).

**Powertech Pty Ltd**



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