APPENDIX B: REVISED ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK, EPRs AND MITIGATION MEASURES

MARINUS LINK

Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act)

1. Recommended EPRs for Victoria and marine areas, as relevant

EPR ID	Environmental Performance Requirements
	Environmental Management
EM01	**Deliver the project in general accordance with an Environmental Management System** Develop, implement and maintain an Environmental Management System (EMS) that conforms to *AS/NZS ISO 14001:2016 Environmental Management Systems – Requirements with guidance for use* (or equivalent standard). The EMS must be in implemented during construction, operation and decommissioning of the project. Principal contractors must have an EMS that is certified to AS/NZS ISO 14001:2016 or equivalent standard.
EM02	**Construct the project in accordance with management plans** Prepare a Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) for terrestrial and marine works in accordance with the Environmental Management Framework prior to the commencement of construction. The CEMP must be developed in consultation with relevant stakeholders. Relevant stakeholders are identified in Environmental Performance Requirements (EPRs), or as required by project approvals, legislation or guidelines. The CEMP must be developed with reference to the current state of knowledge, best practice and EPA Publication 1834.1 *Civil construction, building and demolition guide*. The CEMP and sub plans are to be verified by the Independent Environment Auditor (IEA) prior to construction. The CEMP sub plans are required under EPR BF01, CL02, GM04, GM05, GM06, GM07, GM08, GM09, GW01, GW02, GW03, GW04, GW05, GW06, GW07, GW08, MERU01, MERU04, NV02, SW01, SW02, EC02, EC03. The extent and title of CEMP sub plans will be determined by the principal contractor. The CEMP sub plans must address applicable EPRs including those relevant to marine waters, surface water and waterway crossings, groundwater, ground movement, contaminated land and acid sulfate soils, ecology and vegetation, air, noise, bushfire protocols, weed and pest management. The CEMP must be implemented for the duration of construction, or where staged, for the duration of the staged construction.
EM03	**Operate the project in accordance with management plans** Develop an Operation Environmental Management Plan (OEMP) prior to the commencement of operation of the project. The OEMP must: • Be developed in consultation with relevant stakeholders as listed in the Environmental Management Framework or as required by project approvals, legislation or guidelines. • Address the management of extreme or chronic weather events (EPR CC01). • Consider the management plans implemented during construction and if any measures are relevant for operation. The OEMP must outline the framework for ongoing engagement with stakeholders and landholders during operation of the project. The OEMP must be implemented during operation.

EPR ID	Environmental Performance Requirements
EM04	**Audit and report on environmental compliance** Appoint an Independent Environmental Auditor (IEA) that is appropriately qualified to verify compliance of the CEMP with the Environmental Management Framework and EPRs prior to construction and audit compliance of principal contractors with their CEMP and sub plans during construction. The IEA must prepare an audit report after each audit and provide an annual summary of the outcomes to Marinus Link Pty Ltd (MLPL). MLPL will audit compliance with all EPRs in construction that are not addressed as part of the CEMP. MLPL will prepare an environmental compliance summary report of the outcomes of all audits undertaken by the IEA and MLPL to determine compliance with the environmental management framework, EPRs and approval conditions over the previous 12 months during construction. The summary report will be provided to the Minister for Planning. MLPL will audit compliance with all EPRs during operation and decommissioning.
EM05	**Develop and implement a land decommissioning management plan** Prior to the commencement of decommissioning, prepare a land decommissioning management plan with the objective of leaving a safe, stable and non-polluting environment, and minimising impacts during the removal of infrastructure. The land decommissioning management plan must: • Identify above-ground and below-ground infrastructure proposed to be removed or left in situ. • Assess potential impacts of decommissioning activities for the removal or retention of infrastructure. • Describe measures to be implemented to avoid or reduce impacts from the removal or retention of infrastructure. • Include a rehabilitation and monitoring program to return the land surface to a condition consistent with pre-construction conditions or a condition consistent with the proposed land use. Include a noise and vibration management plan for decommissioning related works to be prepared as a sub-plan to the land decommissioning plan. ~~and include:~~ ~~An assessment of the potential impacts of decommissioning on noise and vibration from project activities~~ ~~Describe measures to be implemented to avoid or minimise risk of harm from noise so far as reasonably practicable;~~ ~~Consider management measures adopted in construction and apply these where similar impacts could occur;~~ ~~Outline the proposed decommissioning program and how the proposed management measures are compliant with the requirements defined by EPA Victoria Publication 1834.1~~ ~~Outline all unavoidable works, low-noise impact and managed-impact works that may occur outside normal working hours~~ • ~~Outline the proposed scheduling of any out of hours works to minimise noise and vibration impacts.~~ • Consider management measures adopted in construction and apply these where similar impacts could occur. Comply with the requirements of relevant legislation and guidelines at the time of decommissioning. • Apply the waste management hierarchy for removed materials and include waste management measures to apply to land decommissioning activities. ~~.~~. • Be consistent with the Marinus Link Sustainability Framework. The land decommissioning management plan is to be developed in consultation with landholders, relevant stakeholders and regulator/s. The plan must meet the relevant requirements of legislation and guidelines at the time of decommissioning and be approved by the Minister for Planning. The plan will be prepared and approved 6 months prior to decommissioning or at a time as agreed with the relevant authority.

EPR ID	Environmental Performance Requirements
	The land decommissioning management plan must be implemented during decommissioning.
EM06	**Develop and implement a marine decommissioning management plan** Prior to the commencement of decommissioning, prepare a marine decommissioning management plan with the objective of leaving a safe, stable and non-polluting environment, and minimising impacts during the removal of infrastructure. The marine decommissioning management plan must: • Identify marine infrastructure proposed to be removed or left in situ. • Assess potential impacts of decommissioning activities for the removal or retention of infrastructure. • Outline how activities associated with subsea cable decommissioning are to be carried out in accordance with the Offshore Electricity Infrastructure (OEI) Act licence. • Describe measures to be implemented to avoid or reduce impacts from the removal of infrastructure (if required). • Consider management measures adopted in construction and apply where similar impacts could occur. • Comply with the requirements of relevant legislation and guidelines at the time. • Apply the waste management hierarchy for removed materials and include waste management measures to apply to ~~land~~marine decommissioning activities. ~~.~~. • Be consistent with the Marinus Link Sustainability Framework. The marine decommissioning management plan is to be developed in consultation with land managers, relevant stakeholders and regulator/s. The plan must meet the relevant requirements of legislation and guidelines at the time of decommissioning. The marine decommissioning management plan must be implemented during decommissioning.
EM07	**Develop and implement a waste management plan** Prior to commencement of project works prepare a waste management plan. The waste management plan must detail measures to apply the waste management hierarchy to construction and operation of the project and comply with the requirements of the Victorian Environment Protection Authority (EPA Victoria) as well as the project approvals. The WMP must: • Identify the sources and types of waste through all stages of construction and operation including controlled and ~~prescribed~~ priority waste and/or reportable priority waste expected to be produced during construction and operation. • Classify waste under the ~~applicable regulations in each jurisdiction~~Environment Protection Regulations. • Outline how the waste management hierarchy of avoidance, reuse, recycling and disposal has been applied to the management of wastes during construction and operation. • Identify environmental risks with the waste expected to be generated and how they will be managed, reused, recycled or disposed of. • Detail the approach to management of all types of waste including any safe handling, storage, transporting and disposal requirements and any ~~licensing~~permission, tracking and reporting requirements. • Outline how wastes will be monitored~~, specifically by maintaining an inventory of all waste generated and managed, including the type of waste, the volumes, their management (including how the waste management hierarchy has been applied and whether consistent with the Marinus Link Sustainability Framework), disposal method and locations and/or contractor managing the disposal,~~ and reported. • ~~Include a process for review and continuous improvement, in particular to reflect any unexpected waste where the approach to its management needs to be~~

EPR ID	Environmental Performance Requirements
	~~documented and prior to decommissioning commences to detail the measures to apply in consideration of the marine decommissioning plan (EM06) and land decommissioning plan (EM05).~~
	The waste management plan must be implemented during construction, operation and decommissioning.
EM08	**Develop and implement a strategy for ongoing engagement with First Peoples** MLPL will develop and implement a strategy for ongoing engagement with First Peoples in Victoria and Tasmania during construction and operation of the project.
	Aboriginal and historical cultural heritage

CH01	**Develop and implement a historical heritage management plan to avoid and minimise impacts to historical cultural heritage values**
	Prior to commencement of project works prepare a historic heritage management plan. The plan must be prepared by a suitably qualified archaeologist in consultation with Heritage Victoria. The plan must include:
	• An unexpected finds protocol.
	• Artefact and site recognition guide.
	• Artefact and site recording standards.
	• Artefact management and retention protocol.
	• Measures to avoid impacts to the brick cistern located at Moores Rd, Buffalo, including:
	  ○ Confirmation of the cistern site's boundary by a suitably qualified archaeologist.
	  ○ Installation of a barrier around the site when construction activities are in proximity to the site.
	  ○ Training to prevent access to the site by project employees and contractors.
	  ○ Reference to the site and protection measures in daily toolbox meetings when construction activities are in proximity to the site.
	  ○ Periodic inspections to confirm the barrier around the site remains in place.
	  ○ Monitoring during construction for vibration related impacts if required under the noise and vibration construction management plan prepared under EPR NV02.
	• Cultural awareness training.
	• Procedure for historical cultural heritage inductions to be delivered to all project staff and contractors managing or directly undertaking ground disturbing activities.
	The plan must be implemented during construction.
	As part of the OEMP, include measures to ensure protection of the brick cistern during operation.

CH02	**Comply with the Cultural Heritage Management Plans (CHMPs) 18201 and 18244.** Implement and comply with CHMPs 18201 and 18244, prepared by qualified Heritage Advisors recognised under s 189 of the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006* (Vic), and approved in accordance with Division 5 (ss. 61-66A) of the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006* (Vic). The CHMPs must be implemented and complied with during construction and operation.

EPR ID	Environmental Performance Requirements
CH03	**Develop a cultural values assessment for land and sea country with First Peoples** As part of the strategy developed for EPR EM08, continue working with First Peoples in Victoria and Tasmania about intangible heritage values and develop an understanding of terrestrial and submerged intangible values. ~~Work with First Peoples to prepare cultural values assessments for each group, and~~Where a cultural values assessment for a group has been finalised, ~~incorporate~~ consider incorporation of relevant outcomes ~~the results relevant to the Victoria jurisdiction~~ into the two CHMPs referenced in EPR CH02.
	Agriculture and forestry
A01	**Complete property condition surveys prior to construction** Prior to commencing project works, complete property condition surveys for each property to be disturbed during construction to document existing conditions. The property condition surveys should document all key activities on the property and infrastructure that could be directly or indirectly impacted, whether within or adjacent to the construction corridor, and must be informed by consultation with the landholder. For each property as relevant, ~~T~~this could include, but not be limited to: • Existing pasture or current crop or plantation coupes, including age classes. • Existing ground profile including levels and slope. • Existing drainage and surface water management. • The type and condition of fencing, gates and other farm or forestry infrastructure including but not limited to stockyards, stock water troughs, water supply systems and water points, ~~and~~ temporary and permanent farm buildings, ~~and~~ fire breaks, and (as relevant to forestry) log storage areas and log landings. • The type (tree species), age and condition of plantation coupes, shelter belts and windbreak plantings. • The type and condition of access tracks and laneways including surface material, roads and road classifications (if applicable) and culverts and bridges. • The property condition survey should be supported by a photographic or video record. • A property condition report must be prepared and a copy provided to the landholder.

A02	**Develop and implement property management plans to avoid or minimise impacts on agricultural and forestry properties**
	Prior to commencing project works on each agricultural or forestry property, develop a property management plan. The property management plan must outline property specific measures to avoid or minimise disruption to farm or forestry infrastructure, practices and operations to prevent reducing the carrying capacity of the property or its yield during construction and in operation.
	The property management plan must be informed by the property condition survey (EPR A01) and be prepared in consultation with the landholder. A property management plan may include as relevant for each property:
	• Summary of existing farming or forestry practices (as applicable) and farm development plans and forestry management plans relevant to project works.
	• Controls to minimise disturbance to farm or forestry infrastructure, farming or forestry practices, property operations and maintenance, activities that must occur seasonally for farming practices and plantations, forestry activities and practices. This must include consideration of:
	  ○ Impacts on grazing and crop growing practices
	  ○ Impacts on livestock management
	  ○ Forestry infrastructure and operations, such as log landings, log storage areas and the nature and timing of plantation crop activities.
	  ○ Communication protocol reflecting preferences advised by the landholder, to be utilised by MLPL, contractors and any other relevant parties through construction of the project.

EPR ID	Environmental Performance Requirements

	• The communication protocol must include:
	  ○ Provision of a program of works for the property to the landholder as early as practicable, and at least one month prior to activities commencing on that property.
	  ○ If the program of works is not continuous, the arrangements to manage and maintain worksites between staged construction activities will also be communicated.
	  ○ Notification timeframes and nominate MLPL and principal contractor representatives responsible for managing access and responding to ~~agricultural~~ landholder issues and complaints. The nominated person must be available to respond to landholder issues daily.
	• Details of access arrangements including:
	  ○ property entry and exit points for all construction, operation and maintenance vehicles
	  ○ no go areas
	  ○ maintenance of landholder access to farm or forestry operation areas and farm or forestry infrastructure
	  ○ maintenance of stock, landholder access to water supplies (or alternatives provided)
	  ○ limits on timing and duration of access to a property.
	• Location, construction method, material type (including materials to avoid damage or injury to stock), duration of use (i.e. temporary or permanent), maintenance responsibilities and requirements, and requirements for removal of temporary access tracks.
	• Measures to avoid, so far as reasonably practicable, impacts on land capability outside the construction corridor, laydown areas and access tracks during construction.
	• Type and location of fences or barriers to demarcate the construction corridor and associated workspace, provide stock crossings and restrict stock access.
	• ~~Farm w~~Water supply arrangements during construction including temporary diversion or realignment of water supply infrastructure or alternative water supply arrangements.
	• Measures to avoid impacts on tree protection zones including for isolated trees and stands, shelter belts and windbreak plantings.
	• Measures to avoid impacts to farm infrastructure, including services, sheds, feed store locations and other facilities, or to forestry infrastructure.
	• Biosecurity controls to be implemented to prevent the introduction and spread of animal and plant pathogens, pests and weeds, including soil borne pathogens. Controls should be informed by a risk assessment for each property, comply with the requirements of the Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994 (Vic), and be developed in consultation with Agriculture Victoria.
	• Controls during wet weather to avoid damaging access tracks, infrastructure and paddocks.
	• Controls to minimise dust impacts on farmhouses and farm worker accommodation, farm water supplies fed by water collected from roof~~ve~~s, animal nurseries, animal handling facilities including stockyards and dairies, farm orchards and vegetable patches, crops and pasture, and solar panels. Controls to minimise and manage these impacts must be included in the construction dust management plan required by EPR AQ01.
	• For forestry properties, bushfire management protocols having regard to existing bushfire management arrangements and policies or procedures.
	• Requirements for progressive reinstatement and rehabilitation including:
	  ○ Reinstatement of ~~farm~~ infrastructure (including but not limited to access tracks, water supply and drainage infrastructure) removed or altered in the course of construction or to facilitate construction, to the same or better standard as outlined in the property condition report (EPR A01) or to a condition agreed with the landholder.
	  ○ Rehabilitation of soils and rehabilitation of land to the same gradient, drainage and condition as prior to construction and outlined in the property condition report (EPR A01) prior to construction or to a condition agreed with the landholder. Rehabilitation requirements must include details of seed, lime, gypsum and fertiliser type; mix of plants for revegetation, and consideration of cropping and grazing cycles, where relevant.
	• Process for review and revision of property management plans and property condition reports in response to changes identified during construction.
	• The property management plans must be implemented during construction.

EPR ID	Environmental Performance Requirements

A03	**Develop and implement property soil management plans to avoid or minimise impacts on agricultural and forestry properties**
	
	Prior to commencing of project works on each agricultural or forestry property, develop a property soil management plan in consultation with the landholder. Each property soil management plan must include the following, as a minimum:
	• How management of the soil horizons will be achieved during construction including delineation and separate stockpiling of soil horizons.
	• Measures to delineate and separate stockpiles of A and B horizon soils and any major delineation of the B horizon to avoid soil inversion and mixing.
	• Measures to avoid impacts on soil fertility through:
	  ○ stripping and separately stockpiling topsoil
	  ○ excavating and separately stockpiling subsoil
	  ○ managing topsoil and subsoil stockpiles to avoid erosion and mixing
	  ○ reinstating subsoil and topsoil based on documented soil horizons to avoid mixing
	  ○ compacting subsoils ~~to 85% of in-situ soil strength~~ to minimise slumping and erosion, to 90% of in-situ soil strength or otherwise as agreed by the landholder
	  ○ minimising soil compaction of topsoils
	  ○ deep cultivation during reinstatement to manage soil compaction and maintain soil moisture content.
	
	The soil management plan must be a sub plan to the property management plan for each property and be implemented during construction.

A04	**Develop and implement a rehabilitation strategy to avoid or minimise impacts on agricultural and forestry properties** Prior to commencement of project works, develop a strategy for progressive rehabilitation of disturbed areas not being used for permanent infrastructure. The rehabilitation strategy must include: • Requirements for rehabilitation of soil, surface contours and drains damaged or temporarily diverted during construction. • Requirements for use of appropriate seeds and fertilisers for revegetation and with respect to forestry properties, requirements for plantation crop genetic selection and propagation. • Criteria for successful reinstatement and rehabilitation, and revegetation including soil capacity, pasture or crop health, and weed type and density. • Details of an inspection program to be completed for a minimum of two years after completion of rehabilitation, to determine the success of rehabilitation. Inspections are required quarterly in the first year, twice in the second year after the completion of rehabilitation, and within two weeks of storm events. • A procedure to manage locations where the success criteria has not been met and where additional work is required. The rehabilitation strategy must be implemented until the rehabilitation criteria are achieved for all properties where construction activities disturb ground.
A05	**Avoid impacts on organic farming certification** Prior to commencing project works on ~~each~~ any certified organic farming property, develop measures to be implemented in construction to avoid impacts on organic farming and organic farming certification. These measures must be informed by advice provided or guidelines published by approved organic certifying bodies registered by the Commonwealth Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry and be developed in consultation with organic farm landholders.

EPR ID	Environmental Performance Requirements
A06	**Develop and implement measures to avoid or minimise impacts on agricultural and forestry properties during operation** As part of the OEMP, develop measures to avoid or minimise impacts on agricultural and forestry properties. These measures must include: • Communication protocols with landholders to facilitate site access for inspection and maintenance activities. • Biosecurity protocols to prevent the introduction and spread of animal and plant pathogens, pests and weeds. • Protocols for accessing certified organic farms and plantations. • Measures for soil management and land reinstatement and rehabilitation in the event that excavations are required for maintenance. • Measures to avoid impacts to farming and forestry infrastructure, practices and operations during operation activities. • Bushfire management protocols.
	Air quality

AQ01	**Develop and implement a construction dust management plan**
	Prior to commencement of project works, develop a construction dust management plan that documents measures to avoid, minimise and mitigate dust emissions. The construction dust management plan must:
	• Identify sources of dust and airborne pollutants, including diffuse sources and the location of sensitive receptors in accordance with EPA Victoria Publication 1943 – Guideline for assessing nuisance dust.
	• Describe dust management measures to be adopted in construction considering:
	  ○ Earthworks, exposed areas and stockpiles
	  ○ Access tracks and haul routes
	  ○ Construction vehicles and equipment
	  ○ Construction materials, transport, handling and storage
	  ○ Waste management transport, handling and storage
	• Describe measures to avoid and, where avoidance is not practicable, reduce the risk of harm from air emissions so far as reasonably practicable to minimise impacts on health, safety or amenity in accordance with EPA Victoria Publication 1820.1 – Guide to preventing harm to people and the environment.
	• Describe processes to ensure the measures are implemented appropriately, are regularly assessed for effectiveness, including regular inspection requirements ~~for~~ in construction areas~~, and as a result are subject to continuous improvement to monitor implementation of controls~~.
	• Define roles and responsibilities of the contractors, and how implementation of dust management measures will be communicated.
	• Outline a process to address complaints related to dust and dust events and identify opportunities for continual improvement of air quality impacts from construction.
	• Outline a process for review and improvement of dust and emission reduction and management measures.
	• Consider the mitigation measures presented in the Air Quality impact assessment prepared for the Marinus Link EIS/EES including mitigation for cumulative impacts.

EPR ID	Environmental Performance Requirements
AQ02	**Develop and implement measures to manage emissions to air during operations** As part of the OEMP, develop measures to avoid or minimise air quality impacts. These measures must include consideration of: • Converter station site maintenance and exposed soil areas • Access roads • Vehicles and equipment • Waste management
	Bushfire
BF01	**Develop and implement measures to avoid and manage ignition of fires during construction** Prior to commencement of project works and in consultation with the relevant fire authority and, as relevant, any industry brigade, develop a bushfire protocol as part of the CEMP to: • Avoid and minimise high risk activities on Total Fire Ban Days. • Maintain fuels to low levels within the sites prior to and during the bushfire danger periods. • Maintain vehicles, plant and machinery in accordance with specifications to prevent fire ignition from their operation. • Mitigate ignition risks from electrical faults. • Establish and maintain vehicle access to the site and surrounds for fire suppression activities by fire fighting authorities and brigades.
BF02	**Provide onsite firefighting water capacity in high fire risk areas** Prior to commencement of project works, develop a protocol for the provision of dedicated onsite water supply tanks or alternative water sources for firefighting in high fire risk areas. The protocol must include: • Provision of mobile water carts along the cable route to supplement emergency water supply for onsite personnel and emergency services. • For the fixed sites, use tank(s) that are non-combustible and incorporate appropriate fire fighting fittings, for emergency services to access the water supply. • Maintaining clear access to tanks or water sources for fire fighting vehicles. • Providing sufficient water capacity to undertake adequate fire suppression. • Provision of trained personnel and equipment. High fire risk areas are areas in the natural landscape that are located in ~~both~~ a Bushfire Prone Area and/or the Bushfire Management Overlay. This protocol should be referenced in the ~~project's eEmergency rResponse pPlan.~~ Bushfire Emergency Management Plan prepared in accordance with EPR BF03.

EPR ID	Environmental Performance Requirements
BF03	**Prepare and implement a Bushfire Emergency Management Plan (BEMP)** ~~As a subplan to the project's eEmergency rResponse pPlan, prepare and implement a~~ Prior to commencement of project works, prepare a Bushfire Emergency Management Plan (BEMP) to the satisfaction of the relevant fire authority. The BEMP ~~that~~ must document arrangements, systems, strategies, roles and procedures relating to the preparedness, prevention, response and recovery of bushfire emergencies, and must include~~s~~, but ~~is~~ not be limited to: • Description of the site facility • Provide details of all emergency procedures, including closure triggers • Emergency preparedness arrangements • Details of all shelter in place and offsite evacuation procedures • Site based exposure requirements for work sites at Hazelwood, Waratah Bay and all laydown areas (including in respect of management of vegetation) to ensure radiant heat exposure of no greater than 12.5 kW/m2. The BEMP must be informed by consultation with the relevant fire authority and, as relevant, any industry brigade, and must have regard to any relevant bushfire management protocols for forestry properties. The BEMP must be implemented during project works, and be reviewed annually in consultation with the relevant fire authority.
BF04	**Develop and implement measures to avoid and manage ignition risks during operation** In consultation with the relevant fire authority, ~~Develop~~ develop~~and implement~~ a protocol for: • Avoiding high risk activities on Total Fire Ban Days. • Maintenance of converter station infrastructure. • Maintenance of fire fighting systems and water tank capacity at the converter station~~s~~. • Site based exposure requirements for above ground infrastructure sites (including in respect of management of vegetation) to ensure radiant heat exposure of no greater than 12.5 kW/m2. • Maintaining vehicle access to the site and surrounds for fire suppression activities by fire fighting authorities. • Operation of electrical infrastructure to minimise ignition risk and maintain monitoring and management systems (emergencies, fault management, system monitoring, fire detection and suppression). • Provision of trained personnel and equipment. This protocol should be referenced in the project's e~~E~~mergency r~~R~~esponse p~~P~~lan and implemented during operation.
	Climate change

EPR ID	Environmental Performance Requirements
CC01	**Implement measures to address the impacts of climate change on the project.** Design the project to address potential impacts from climate change across the life of the project, considering: • Increased ambient temperatures/soil temperatures/sea temperatures and their potential impact on the operation of high voltage infrastructure. • Sea level rise and coastal erosion and its potential impact on accessibility, and function of coastal infrastructure. The design must be informed by a risk assessment completed to identify climate change risks and management measures based on: • AS/NZS ISO 31000:2018 Risk management – Principles and guidelines • AS 5334-2013 Climate change adaptation for settlements and infrastructure – A risk-based approach • IPCC 2012 Managing the risks of extreme events and disasters to advance climate change adaptation Include measures in the CEMP and OEMP (as relevant) to address: • Extreme or chronic weather events such as bushfires, heavy rainfall events and extreme wind speeds and their potential impact on safety of employees, accessibility, and operation of infrastructure.
EPR ID	**Environmental Performance Requirements**
	Contaminated land and acid sulfate soils
CL01	**Inspect sites to avoid or remove buried waste and waste piles to manage impacts to the environment** Prior to commencement of project works: • Inspect properties to be directly disturbed that have a medium or high risk of contamination as identified in table in section 7.1.1 of ~~in~~ the EIS/EES Technical Appendix N: Contaminated Land and Acid Sulfate Soils, and have not been previously accessed to identify risk of potential contamination. The purpose of inspections is to identify areas of potential contamination including buried waste and waste piles to be sampled and tested. • Where practicable, realign the cable route to avoid areas of identified wastes and/or potential contamination. Areas that cannot be avoided should be tested to confirm the presence of contamination as required by EPR CL02.
CL02	**Manage excavated soil, contaminated soils, removed wastes and potential risks to the environment due to contamination during construction** Prior to commencement of project works, prepare a contaminated land management plan ~~in consultation with EPA~~ to manage excavated soils that includes: • A procedure for completing a detailed site investigation (in accordance with the National Environment Protection (Assessment of Site Contamination) Measure (2013) (including as a minimum scheduled B1 and B2) prior to any excavation of medium to high risk of being contaminated areas (as identified in the table in section 7.1.1 of the EIS/EES Technical Appendix N) to identify the location, types and extent of contamination, in consideration of the potential contaminants of concern for each land parcel identified as relevant to detailed site investigation for the activities in table 7-2 of ~~(as identified in [insert]~~ the EIS/EES Technical Appendix N and the findings of any inspection under EPR CL01). • Measures for the management of all material generated from excavation or trenchless construction methods in accordance with the Environment Protection Act 2017 (Vic) (EP Act) and Environment Protection Regulations. • Validation testing of soils beneath removed wastes and contaminated soils, and implement measures to remediate or dispose of contaminated soils that present a potential risk to human health and the environment. • Handling, transport, storage and disposal of spoil, excavated or generated wastes in accordance with EM07 to protect human health and the environment.

EPR ID	Environmental Performance Requirements
	• Develop a protocol to manage usable spoil material. ~~Spoil Management Plan as subset of the Contaminated Land Management Plan, that addresses the handling, transport, storage and disposal of spoil. The plan is to be developed in accordance with EM07.~~ ~~Measures to minimise dust generation, sediment and stormwater runoff and seepage from stockpiled materials.~~ • Management of hazardous substances, excavated soils and asbestos contaminated soils to minimise risks to human health and the environment. • An unexpected finds protocol for contaminated land, acid sulfate soils, asbestos and odour management of excavated materials / soils. • Preventing contamination of soil, surface water and groundwater ~~water~~ during construction activities through: ○ Chemicals, fuels and hazardous materials being stored and handled onsite in a manner that prevent contamination and in accordance *Australian Standard AS1940 Storage and Handling of Flammable and Combustible Liquids* and with reference to EPA Victoria Publication 1698*: Liquid storage and handling guidelines*. ○ Contingency and emergency response procedures to handle fuel and chemical spills, including availability of on-site hydrocarbon spill kits. • Document the requirements for the use, handling, storage, transportation and disposal of all substances to minimise the risk of pollution or harm and in accordance with the relevant legislation and guidelines to demonstrate compliance with the General Environmental Duty. The contaminated land management plan must be a sub plan to the CEMP and implemented during construction.
CL03	**Develop and implement an acid sulfate soils management plan** Prior to commencement of project works: • Undertake site investigations to characterise potential acid sulfate soils (ASS) prior to construction to confirm the location and extent of potential ASS that could be disturbed by the project (including areas mapped as having a high-probability of containing ASS and areas of waterlogged soils) in accordance with EPA Publication 655.1: Acid Sulfate Soil and Rock. • Develop an ASS management plan for locations where disturbance intersect potential ASS. The ASS management plan must meet the requirements of ~~*Industrial Waste Management Policy (Waste Acid Sulfate Soils)*~~*National Acid Sulfate Soils Guidance – National acid sulfate soils sampling and identification methods manual June 2018*, EPA Publication 655.1*: Acid Sulfate Soil and Rock* and the *Victorian Best Practice Guidelines for Assessing and Managing Coastal Acid Sulfate Soils* (DSE,2010), and include: • The location of potential ASS identified. • Measures to prevent oxidation of ASS identified and acidification of groundwater wherever possible. • Management of potential ASS to limit or treat acid generation. • Identification of appropriate stockpile areas and management measures to prevent release of acid and odours to the environment including lining, covering and runoff collection. • Identification of suitable sites for management, re-use or disposal of any ASS spoil that may be generated in accordance with EPA Victoria requirements. The ASS management plan must be informed by the sub plan developed for EPR GW07 ~~and approved by EPA Victoria~~. The ASS management plan must be a sub plan to the CEMP and implemented during construction.

EPR ID	Environmental Performance Requirements
CL04	**Develop and implement measures to manage potential contamination impacts in operation** As part of the OEMP, develop and implement measures to avoid causing contamination during the operation of the project. The measures should: • Comply with Australian Standard AS1940 Storage Handling of Flammable and Combustible Liquids. • Address requirements of EPA Victoria Publication 1834.1 Civil construction, building and demolition guide. • Address requirements of EPA Victoria Publication 1698 *Liquid Storage and Handling Guidelines*.
	Electromagnetic fields
EMF01	**Design the project to reduce EMF/EMI emissions** Design and construct the project to reduce electric and magnetic fields (EMF) and electromagnetic interference (EMI) for the project alignment onshore to below the reference levels or as low as reasonably practicable to avoid and minimise impacts. The applicable reference levels are defined in EIS/EES Technical Appendix A: Electromagnetic Fields Section 7 of the EMI impact assessment prepared for the EIS/EES. The design must be informed by a project wide EMF and EMI assessment for all the proposed infrastructure, identifying existing sensitive receptors and committed future developments within the study area. The assessment must be documented in a management plan that includes, but is not limited to: • Outcomes of the project wide EMF and EMI assessment and details of the areas assessed. • The location of all sensitive receptors including beehives within 5 m of the infrastructure. The location of beehives must also be documented in the property management plans (EPR A02). • Where at-receiver mitigation works to sensitive equipment are required to avoid or minimise adverse impacts. • A pre- and post-construction testing strategy to verify design calculations, impacts on sensitive equipment and the efficacy of any specified mitigation measures. • Remedial action to be undertaken if EMF and EMI limits are not met during the construction, testing, and commissioning. The EMF and EMI management plan must be prepared to inform the design and commissioning of the project. EMF and EMI emissions of the subsea cable are addressed in EPR MERU 12.
EMF02	**Investigate and resolve complaints regarding EMF and EMI during operation** As part of the OEMP, develop a protocol for investigating and resolving complaints regarding EMF and EMI during operation. The protocol must outline requirements for working with landholders to assess impacts on sensitive equipment and implement reasonably practicable measures to address impacts.
	Geomorphology and soils

Appendix B – Updated proposed Environmental Performance Requirements and Mitigation Measures

EPR ID	Environmental Performance Requirements
GM01	~~Assess~~ **Investigate ground and groundwater conditions over the alignment, identify and assess landslide and other hazards ~~and landslide risks~~ to inform design and construction methods that reduce environmental and operational risk to tolerable levels (under AGS2007)** Prior to commencement of project works, complete targeted surveys and site assessments along the project alignment, converter station, shore crossing and transition station to assess ground and groundwater conditions to inform the design and site- specific construction methods for the project components including above ground infrastructure, buildings, access roads, underground cables, joint bays, and laydown areas. The surveys and site assessments must be undertaken by a suitably qualified person and include, but not be limited to the following (as appropriate having regard to the ground conditions of the particular site): • Desktop review of LiDAR, geological maps and any other relevant information to identify possible landslides or areas of potential instability. • Develop preliminary ground models incorporating LiDAR ground profiles, available geological / geotechnical information and knowledge of geological processes. • Undertake targeted site investigation along the alignment and surrounding area as relevant, including surface mapping and intrusive investigation (such as test pits / boreholes, geophysical investigation and materials testing) to confirm soil, rock and groundwater conditions including confirmation of the depth and extent of possible landslides. • Update ground models based on findings of the site investigations. • Run appropriate slope stability analysis using the updated ground models to assess the factor(s) of safety of the current conditions and the stability conditions following installation of the infrastructure, including sensitivity analysis, to confirm tolerable level of risk at potentially unstable locations. In this EPR 'tolerable' adopts the meaning under Australian Geomechanics Society, Volume 42, No 1, March 2001 (AGS2007), • Install ground monitoring system, if appropriate, to confirm whether or not identified instability features may be creeping and / or to establish a base line for future monitoring during the construction and operational phases. This could include survey monuments, inclinometers, piezometers, extensometers, or iterative detailed photogrammetry. • Use the findings of the investigation(s) as inputs to landslide hazard and risk assessment with reference to AGS2007. ~~Seismic assessment to assess seismic hazards.~~ ~~• *Geotechnical testing to confirm geological conditions.*~~ ~~Groundwater levels.~~ ~~Landslide risk assessment.~~

GM02	**Develop designs and construction methodology that minimise construction induced ground movement**
	
	Prior to commencement of project works, develop a design for below and above ground infrastructure that ameliorates risk from identified instability hazards.
	• Where risk from landslide or slope instability is shown to be above tolerable levels in GM01, use the ground models developed in GM01 as the basis for design of preliminary mitigation options that are aimed at reducing risk to elements at risk (both environmental and operational) by reducing one or both of the following:
	  ○ The likelihood of occurrence
	  ○ The consequences to the elements at risk.
	• Liaise with stakeholders whom MLPL identifies as relevant and undergo optioneering / cost benefit analysis to identify the preferred mitigation option to manage risk.
	• Understand serviceability requirements for the proposed infrastructure i.e., what are tolerable ground movements (both lateral and vertical) within the design of cable joints and couplings and any surface infrastructure.
	• Develop the preferred mitigation option(s) to the detailed design stage with consideration to serviceability constraints, constructability, stability of temporary

EPR ID	Environmental Performance Requirements
	works as well as long term stability. • Demonstrate the mitigation measures bring risk to a tolerable level with reference to procedures outlined in AGS2007. • Continue monitoring established in GM01, if applicable, through to construction and operations stages. • Establish a Trigger Action Response Plan (TARP) that clearly sets out criteria that would require a response during construction or operation, what the levels of response(s) would be, and who will be responsible to carry it (them) out. • Employ standard construction techniques to minimise potential for slope / trench instability including limiting the length and duration of unsupported temporary excavations. • ~~Addresses areas of high landslide risk identified in EPR GM01 and implement design measures to reduce landslip risks to tolerable levels in accordance with Australian Geomechanics Society landslide management guidelines:~~ • ~~*Landslide Risk Management Concepts and Guidelines* (AGS 2000)~~ • ~~*Guideline for Landslide Susceptibility, Hazard and Risk Zoning for Land Use Planning* (AGS 2007)~~ • ~~*Commentary on Guideline for Landslide Susceptibility, Hazard and Risk Zoning for Land Use Planning* (AGS 2007)~~ • ~~*Practice Note Guidelines for Landslide Risk Management* (AGS 2007)~~ • ~~*Commentary on Practice Note Guidelines for Landslide Risk Management* (AGS 2007)~~ • ~~*The Australian GeoGuides for Slope Management and Maintenance* (AGS 2007)~~ ~~Includes measures to stabilise construction areas using appropriate engineering techniques in particular where cuts and fills are required.~~ ~~Responds to local soil and groundwater conditions including the potential for reactive soils such as in weathered volcanics and alluvial sediments and other clay rich soils.~~ ~~Considers induced settlement through subsidence resulting from groundwater drawdown through construction.~~ ~~Allows for ground movements (both lateral and vertical) within the design of cable joints and couplings, and any surface infrastructure.~~ ~~Where landslide risks cannot be addressed through design controls, the project alignment must be amended to reduce landslide risks to a tolerable level.~~
GM03	**Develop designs that minimise ground disturbance due to vegetation removal and disturbance of acid sulfate soils** Prior to commencement of project works, develop designs for below and above ground infrastructure that: • Are informed by investigations required in EPR GM01. • Includes measures to ensure ground disturbance is kept to a minimum following vegetation clearance. • Apply erosion control measures during periods of ground disturbance • Minimises disturbance of ASS ~~as outlined in EPR CL03~~. If the design cannot avoid disturbance of ASS, then develop an Acid Sulfate Soils Management Plan to manage risk of ASS, as outlined in EPR CL03.

EPR ID	Environmental Performance Requirements
GM04	**Undertake ~~construction excavation~~earthworks including excavations in accordance with Australian Standards and informed by geotechnical investigations** Prior to commencement of project earthworks, develop methods based on the findings of EPR GM01 that: • Are planned, constructed and documented in accordance with AS 3798-2007 Guidelines on earthworks for commercial and residential developments. • Deploy erosion control measures developed with refence to the Best Practice Erosion and Sediment Control Guidelines (IECA 2008). • ~~, and the Best Practice Erosion and Sediment Control Guidelines (IECA 2008).~~ • Ensure all trenches are backfilled with suitable engineering materials to an appropriate design compaction standard to ensure long term trench and slope stability. • Incorporate groundwater management (e.g. subdrains) in the design where accumulation of groundwater could affect slope instability. • Cap trench backfill consistent with the requirements of EPR GW04 to reduce the potential for water ingress. • Include cut and fill batter angles in the design that are commensurate with long term gross and surficial stability.~~engineering designs.~~ • Include measures for treating exposed faces in a manner to limit erosion and promote longer term vegetation growth. • Minimise the duration of open trenches in landscapes susceptible to movement. • Utilise excavation equipment that is suitable for the geological conditions and able to efficiently construct the proposed trench profile. • Include a program for inspection and testing of earthworks ~~s of~~ and inspection of excavations during construction. These measures must be documented in a sub plan to the CEMP and implemented during construction.
GM05	**Develop and implement methods for trenchless construction (HDD) that have considered ground conditions** Prior to commencement of project works, develop measures where trenchless construction methods will be implemented that addresses site conditions as determined through the assessments completed to comply with EPR GM01. These methods must be specific to the location, geology, terrain, geomorphological processes and surrounding landscape stability, including at shore crossings. These measures must be documented in a sub plan to the CEMP and implemented during construction.
GM06	**Develop and implement methods to provide trench stability during construction** Prior to commencement of project works, develop measures that provide trench stability based on the findings of EPR GM01 and consider factors such as, but not limited to: • Measures that support the stability of the surrounding landscape to maintain lateral support. • Measures to support trench walls and prevent collapse in all ground conditions including unconsolidated, ~~and~~ soft and sodic/dispersive soils such as a result of presence of marine deposits, alluvial sediments and weathered, saturated basalts. • Methods to manage trench dewatering, where it is required, to avoid and/or minimise potential trench wall instability scouring and erosion. • Avoiding surface water from entering the trench during and after construction, and if not possible to avoid, install appropriate drainage with managed outlets. • Minimise the duration that trenches are kept open. These measures must be documented in a sub plan to the CEMP and implemented during construction.

EPR ID	Environmental Performance Requirements
GM07	**Develop and implement methods to provide slope stability during trenching** Prior to commencement of project works, develop measures based on the findings of EPR GM01 that ensure stability on slopes and consider factors such as, but not limited to: • ~~Avoid and minimise water being dammed in trenches which could then~~ Manage surface water flow consistent with EPR SW01 to reduce potential for ground saturation or erosion from project works that could induce ~~saturated slopes and~~or initiate instability. • Avoid placement of spoil from trenches next to a trench on moderate to steep slopes to reduce ~~impact~~ potential for~~on slope~~ excavation instability. • Implement measures so that the trench and the slope above is fully supported and the upslope is not undermined and initiates failures. • Minimise the duration that trenches are kept open. • Wherever possible, sequence trenching to work down the slope rather than up the slope to avoid undermining moderate to steep slopes from below. • Includes measures to ensure slope stability above and below the trench following vegetation clearance. These measures must be documented in a sub plan to the CEMP and implemented during construction.
GM08	**Develop and implement a site drainage plan to minimise site run off and avoid and/or minimise impacts to ground and slope stability** Prior to commencement of project works, develop measures to avoid and minimise alteration of drainage that could impact~~s to~~ erosion ~~ground~~ and slope stability. The plan must document measures and where they will be applied to address: • The provision of drainage for any area of disturbed ground and construction of level areas. • Existing gullies or areas susceptible to gullying by avoiding the concentration of water flows into susceptible areas~~.~~ • Manage surface water flow consistent with EPR SW01 to direct surface water away from or around any temporary excavations and all permanent manufactured slopes ~~-~~ • Cap trench backfill consistent with the requirements of EPR GW04~~with relatively impermeable material~~ to reduce the potential for surface water ingress into the trench backfill. • ~~-~~Avoid creating closed depressions so as to avoid ponding of runoff. • These measures must be documented in a sub plan to the CEMP and implemented during construction.
GM09	**Develop and implement a ~~watercourse~~ waterway crossing plan ~~to avoid and/or minimise impacts to existing fluvial geomorphology~~** Prior to commencement of project works, develop a waterway crossing plan for ~~watercourse~~ crossing of all waterways identified in Figure 52 and Table 31 in the EIS/EES Technical Appendix Q: Victorian Surface Water Impact Assessment, ~~crossings~~ that confirms the construction methodology ~~as indicated below~~ to be adopted and documents the measures ~~and where they~~to ~~will~~ be applied to avoid and minimise impacts to ~~fluvial~~ geomorphology at waterways. The plan ~~should address~~must include: a) ~~Trenchless construction~~ Assessment of relevant waterways where trenchless construction is preferred 1) For the following waterways, outline relevant outcomes of further design, geotechnical and other investigations, ~~landowner~~ landholder consultation, and outcomes of existing conditions assessment under EPR EC01, EC03,SW01 and ~~GM05~~GM01, to confirm ~~whether~~ that trenchless construction remains the preferred methodology: Morwell River, Tarwin River East Branch, Tributary of Tarwin River East Branch (northern), Tributary of the Tarwin River East Branch (southern), Stony Creek, Buffalo Creek, Fish Creek and Little Morwell River. ~~Paragraph (b) below will apply to trenched construction.~~ b) Trenchless construction

EPR ID	Environmental Performance Requirements
	~~1)~~ Where trenchless construction will be utilised, i~~I~~dentify any measures required in addition to EPR SW01, ~~GM05~~GM06, GW03 and EC03 to avoid or minimise impacts to fluvial geomorphology at waterways where trenchless construction will be utilised. 2) c) Trenched construction 1) Identify any measures required in addition to EPR SW01, GM05 and EC03 to avoid or minimise impacts to fluvial geomorphology. 2) ~~Management of trenching across watercourses to avoid major damming and channel incision of watercourses.~~ For trenched construction of unnamed waterway crossings at KP66.6 and KP67.0 in the EIS/EES Technical Appendix V: Terrestrial Ecology, measures to maximise utilisation of existing track at the crossing location and having regard to EPR EC03. ~~• Adopting trenchless construction methods for all significant watercourses.~~ ~~These measures~~The waterway crossing plan must be ~~documented in~~ a sub plan to the CEMP and implemented during construction.
GM10	**Develop and implement measures to manage potential impacts to and from ground stability in operation** As part of the OEMP, include a stability management plan to set out measures to manage any residual ground stability risk to the constructed infrastructure and the land along the easement. The measure should include a periodic monitoring regime and a TARP to identify trigger levels, the action required to be taken for each trigger level, and who is responsible for the action. The stability management plan must be a sub plan to the OEMP and implemented during operation.
	Greenhouse gas emissions
GHG01	**Minimise greenhouse gas emissions in construction** Prior to commencement of project works, identify opportunities to reduce Scope 1 and Scope 2 greenhouse gas emissions (as defined in the NGER Act), so far as reasonably practicable. Measures must be consistent with the Marinus Link Sustainability Framework and include consideration of: • Use of low emission fuels • Maintenance of equipment and vehicles • Minimising vegetation clearance • Purchase of green energy • Procurement of energy efficient machinery • Use of low carbon emission concrete • Use of recycled materials The design must include measures to avoid SF_6 leakage so far as reasonably practicable. Scope 1 and Scope 2 GHG emissions during construction must be reported annually on the Marinus Link website.

EPR ID	Environmental Performance Requirements
GHG02	**Report on GHG emissions in operation** Prior to commencement of operation, identify opportunities to reduce operational Scope 1 and Scope 2 greenhouse gas emissions (as defined in the NGER Act) so far as reasonably practicable. Measures must be consistent with the Marinus Link Sustainability Framework and include consideration of: • Management and maintenance of SF6 insulated equipment in accordance with Australian Standard IEC 62271.4: 2015 – high-voltage switchgear and controlgear – Part 4: Handling procedures for sulphur hexafluoride (SF6) and its mixtures and the Energy Network Australia Industry Guideline for SF6 Management (Document 022-2008) and prevention of release of SF6 by using a closed cycle during installation, maintenance and decommissioning of equipment where practicable. • Use of low emission fuels. • Maintenance of equipment and vehicles. • Purchase of green energy. • Procurement of energy efficient machinery. Scope 1 and Scope 2 emissions from operation must be reported annually on the Marinus Link website.
	Groundwater
GW01	**Complete a hydrogeological assessment and dewatering drawdown assessment to inform the design** Prior to commencement of project works, and using available site-specific hydrogeological information, complete a hydrogeological assessment at locations identified along the final project alignment as likely to encounter groundwater during construction or at other locations where pre-construction site investigations indicate that shallow groundwater may be encountered. ~~to refine the predicted groundwater drawdown levels identified and assessed in EIS/EES Technical Appendix P: Groundwater Assessment.~~ The assessment must: • Be completed by a suitably qualified hydrogeologist. • Consider the assumptions and approach outlined in the EIS/EES Technical Appendix P and identify any differences between the potential impacts assessed in the EIS/EES Technical Appendix P and those in this assessment. • ~~.~~ • Be informed by hydrogeological investigations including groundwater level and quality monitoring, and aquifer hydraulic testing. • Be informed by geotechnical investigations where available. • Be informed by representative aquifer hydraulic conditions (such as from aquifer hydraulic tests completed on-site) in areas of shallow groundwater and use relevant, available monitoring data. • Include a groundwater drawdown assessment for areas where dewatering of construction trenches will be required based on the detailed design. • Include site inspections and necessary investigations to identify potential GDEs or unregistered groundwater users (including springs and spring fed dams) within zones of predicted construction dewatering drawdown, in terms of their location, extent, and ecological significance. Incorporate groundwater quality analysis undertaken to assess for the presence of unexpected, existing groundwater contamination.

EPR ID	Environmental Performance Requirements
	The ~~assessment~~ outcomes of the assessment must be documented ~~as part of the~~ in a groundwater management plan as a sub plan to the CEMP and implemented during construction.
GW02	**Develop and implement methods to minimise groundwater inflow into trenches and groundwater level drawdown** Prior to commencement of project works, develop methods that identify and either avoid (where possible) or minimise groundwater inflow into cable trenches and joint pits. The construction method should: • Be informed by the hydrogeological assessment completed for EPR GW01 and include measures to respond to the outcomes of that assessment, where required. • Include measures to minimise groundwater drawdown where impacts may occur to groundwater quality, productive uses or the function of GDEs. • Consider scheduling construction works to minimise the total time that dewatering is required. • Adopt engineering controls during construction such as sheet pile walls or other temporary structures to avoid (where possible) or minimise groundwater ingress to construction trenches at locations where: ○ High groundwater inflows are predicted to be encountered. ○ The hydrogeological assessment (EPR GW01) identifies potential impacts to groundwater that may be more significant than assessed the EIS/EES Technical Appendix P. • Include contingency measures to manage groundwater inflow rates that may be higher than predicted. • Include adaptive management measures to manage unexpected shallow groundwater during construction and rapidly assess risk to groundwater values. These measures must be documented in a groundwater management plan as a sub plan to the CEMP and implemented during construction.
GW03	**Develop and implement methods for HDD and drilling to prevent groundwater movement and contamination** Prior to commencement of project works, develop methods to identify and avoid or minimise impacts to groundwater that: • Seal the annulus of directionally drilled bores or otherwise prevent water movement along the borehole annulus. • Adopt relevant guidance from Minimum construction requirements for water bores in Australia (2020), including the use of appropriate well construction materials based on local ground conditions (such as salinity and acidity in the coastal zone), to minimise potential for impacts to groundwater. • Utilise non-toxic and/or biodegradable drilling additives, such as bentonite clay and xanthan gum, for HDD and other drilling activities during construction • Are informed by investigations as required by EPR GW01. • Are informed by geotechnical investigations or advice prior to commencing HDD activities. • Include methods for HDD monitoring and mitigation measures to minimise potential for frac-outs to occur and limit the scale of impact in sensitive areas. These include minimum observations during drilling to detect frac-outs (such as loss of fluid circulation) and pressure relief methods. Emergency response measures for frac out during HDD are covered by EPR SW01. These measures must be documented in a groundwater management plan as a sub plan to the CEMP and implemented during construction.

EPR ID	Environmental Performance Requirements
GW04	**Develop and implement measures to utilise cable backfill material to minimise impact on groundwater recharge and flow** Prior to commencement of project works, develop measures to backfill excavations with the same material that was excavated in approximately the same order so far as reasonably practicable, and having regard to EPR A03. • The backfill should reinstate the soil profile with adequate compaction to avoid (where possible) or minimise surface water ingress to the trench, flow along the trench, and preferential recharge to groundwater, and allow for existing groundwater movement. • Backfill below the water table should be informed by a hydrogeological assessment (EPR GW01). • Where the existing material is not suitable for backfill and thermal backfill is required, the placement of thermal backfill and the construction design should be informed by the hydrogeological assessment (EPR GW01) to prevent barrier effects and allow groundwater pressure to equilibrate across the structure. • Engineered solutions might include the design of under-drainage layers or other features that allow groundwater pressure to equilibrate across the structure. These measures must be documented in a groundwater management plan as a sub plan to the CEMP and implemented during construction.
GW05	**Design and implement measures to manage and dispose of extracted groundwater during construction to avoid (where possible) or minimise environmental impacts** Prior to commencement of project works, develop measures to manage, monitor, reuse where possible, treat where necessary, and dispose of groundwater inflows during construction dewatering that identify and avoid or minimise potential impacts to groundwater values and conditions. The measures must be developed in consultation with relevant water authorities ~~and EPA Victoria~~, and comply with relevant legislation and guidelines, including but not limited to: • EP Act and Environment Protection Regulations 2021. • Environment Reference Standard. • Water Industry Regulations 2006. • Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004 (Vic) and Occupational Health and Safety Regulations 2017. • The waste management hierarchy. The measures must be documented in a plan that also outlines the approach to: • Avoiding or minimising wastewater production from dewatering groundwater, consistent with EPR GW02 Monitoring of groundwater levels and quality where dewatering may occur. • Management of extracted groundwater including collection methods, quality monitoring methods during disposal, discharge criteria and trigger levels developed in consultation with relevant regulators, proposed treatment methods, and disposal processes. • Groundwater disposal options and individual discharge locations including estimated discharge volumes and flow rates, discharge limits for water quality and flow rates, anticipated potential water treatment requirements and any required approvals, monitoring and reporting. These measures must be documented in a groundwater management plan as a sub plan to the CEMP and implemented during construction.

EPR ID	Environmental Performance Requirements
GW06	**Undertake groundwater monitoring to establish baseline groundwater conditions prior to construction and monitor groundwater levels and quality in areas of higher potential impact during construction** Prior to commencement of project works, develop a groundwater monitoring program to establish background and baseline groundwater conditions to the extent reasonably practicable. The baseline and background level and quality data will be used to identify if there are any changes in groundwater during construction. The program must focus on areas where higher impacts to environmental values may occur and include, but not be limited to, the project alignment area adjacent to Hazelwood cooling pond, Waratah Bay, groundwater dependent ecosystems and areas of potential ASS. The monitoring program must: ~~Be developed in consultation with EPA Victoria to confirm the extent and duration of monitoring required prior to, during and post construction.~~ • Establish seasonal variability and other long-term trends of groundwater conditions. • Establish baseline groundwater levels and quality conditions in areas where shallow groundwater is expected to be encountered and is susceptible to groundwater quality, flow and drawdown impacts, as identified in EPR GW01. • Calibrate the groundwater drawdown assessment prior to commencement of project works and during construction activities to verify predictions. • Verify the adequacy of the proposed design and construction methods, and where required, identify and implement any additional measures required to mitigate impacts from changes in groundwater levels, flow and quality. • Be informed by the outcomes of the hydrogeological assessment (EPR GW01) and acid sulfate soil assessment (EPR GW07). • Outline the approach to review of monitoring results and define acceptability criteria for groundwater recovery at completion of construction for water quality, flows and level recovery as predicted by the groundwater drawdown assessment required in EPR GW01 and considering the impacted groundwater values. Where recovery may extend into operation, relevant groundwater monitoring activities should be incorporated into the OEMP (EPR GW09) The monitoring program, where required, must be consistent with the obligations of the EP Act, EPA Victoria Publication 668 *Hydrogeological assessment groundwater quality guidelines*, EPA Victoria Publication 669 *Groundwater Sampling Guidelines*, EPA Victoria Publication 2033 *Background levels methodology guidance* and the Environment Reference Standard. This program must be documented in a groundwater management plan as a sub plan to the CEMP and implemented during construction.

EPR ID	Environmental Performance Requirements
GW07	**Develop and implement measures to prevent groundwater acidification, saline intrusion and contaminant mobilisation in areas where they are predicted to occur** Prior to commencement of project works, develop measures to prevent groundwater acidification within the zone of groundwater drawdown and in ~~the coastal~~ areas where acid sulfate soils may exist. The measures must: • Be informed by the ASS management plan (EPR CL03) that will identify locations where ASS could occur. • Be based on the findings of the hydrogeological assessment EPR GW01 and groundwater monitoring EPR GW06. • Adopt appropriate engineering controls, such as sheet pile walls or other barriers, to prevent groundwater level drawdown, so far as reasonably practicable or adopt other mitigations or management measures to prevent groundwater acidification impacts. Develop and implement measures to: • Prevent saline water intrusion into freshwater aquifers where potential impacts to groundwater quality are predicted to occur as a result of dewatering in the coastal zone. Measures should be developed based on the outcome of the hydrogeological assessment (EPR GW01) and prior to the commencement of works. • Prevent the mobilisation of known, existing groundwater contamination, as identified in EPR GW01, that would increase the risk posed to groundwater receptors or cause degraded groundwater quality. Groundwater monitoring must be carried out during construction to verify groundwater acidification, saline intrusion and mobilisation of contamination is not occurring and responses are implemented if quality impacts are detected. The measures must be documented in a sub plan endorsed by a person(s) appointed by EPA Victoria as an environmental auditor. These measures must be documented in a groundwater management plan as a sub plan to the CEMP and implemented during construction.
GW08	**Develop and implement measures to maintain water supply to registered and unregistered groundwater users** • Confirm the status and use of registered and unregistered bores within the immediate construction zone by making inquiries with affected landholders and estimate the drawdown area due to construction. • Where necessary, negotiate requirements to decommission existing bores where they may be destroyed during construction, and/or negotiate the need for replacement with new bores or the provision of an alternative water supply. • Where dewatering reduces access to groundwater for landholders (either via installed groundwater bores or spring fed dams), negotiate arrangements to provide alternative water supplies until groundwater levels return to enable supply of water. • Bore decommissioning must be completed in accordance with the Minimum Construction Requirements for Water Bores in Australia. These measures must be documented in a groundwater management plan as a sub plan to the CEMP and implemented during construction.

EPR ID	Environmental Performance Requirements
GW09	**Develop and implement measures to manage potential impacts to groundwater in operation** As part of the OEMP, develop and implement measures to identify and avoid (where possible) or minimise potential impacts to groundwater during the operation of the project as identified by the EIS/EES Technical Appendix P or by assessment of impacts from the proposed operation and maintenance activities. The OEMP must also include measures to manage any residual impacts to groundwater from construction that need to be managed in operation. The measures must address: • Ongoing monitoring requirements as determined through the monitoring program developed in accordance with EPR GW06, including monitoring to confirm recovery of groundwater levels and quality, where required. • Management of materials to prevent contamination of groundwater, as required by EPR CL04. The groundwater management plan must be a sub plan to the OEMP and implemented during operation.
GW10	**Develop and implement practicable measures to avoid or control water pressure build up along cable conduits** Incorporate design measures to minimise so far as reasonably practicable, water pressure transmission along cable conduits. This may include risk assessments during detailed design to identify areas where potential head gradients may develop within the conduit and cause raised pressures. Measure may include, where practicable: • Engineering solutions to minimise ingress of water to the conduit where potential pressure differences may develop. This may include the use of barriers or seals. • Install drainage systems to manage and redirect groundwater away from cable trenches and conduits where water pressure risks are identified. Prior to commencement of project works, develop contingency measures as part of the construction method, to address unexpected water movement or pressure transmission issues during construction and operation.
	Land use and planning
LUP01	**Minimise land use impacts through design** Design the project to minimise the footprint and avoid, so far as reasonably practicable, impacts on the following land uses: • Agricultural, rural industry, and forestry properties • Townships and rural residential properties • Native vegetation, state parks and nature reserves • Significant landscapes • Other sensitive land uses such as tourism facilities and community recreational areas. • Crossing of other major services and utilities where possible. Prior to submission of Alignment Plans, identify any material changes to relevant strategic land use plans and planning policies that provide for current and future land use in the project area and that have occurred after planning approval for the project, and consider whether the Alignment Plans can respond to any such change.

EPR ID	Environmental Performance Requirements
LUP02	**Minimise disruption due to property and easement acquisition** Design the project to minimise property and easement acquisition where reasonably practicable and to provide for safe asset operation and maintenance. Engage with affected landholders to, where reasonably practicable, negotiate property and easement acquisition, and the terms of ongoing access arrangements to minimise impact on existing land uses, access, and amenity.
LUP03	**Minimise land use impacts during and post construction** Prior to commencement of project works, develop a plan to: • Minimise the construction footprint and any temporary land use impacts due to construction activities where reasonably practicable. • Undertake construction to minimise disturbance to ongoing use of land for existing purposes. • Reinstate land and access following construction to pre-construction conditions to enable existing land uses to resume, unless otherwise agreed with landholders (EPR A04).
LUP04	**Avoid and minimise impact on services and utilities** Prior to commencement of project works by each principal contractor, consult with asset owners and managers with the objective to: • Agree requirements when construction is proximate to other services, particularly high voltage powerlines and high-pressure gas lines. • Design requirements for crossing of other assets and services. • Minimise disruption to localised services and reinstate interrupted services as required. Where services are planned to be disrupted, advance notification must be provided to service users.
	Landscape and visual
LV01	**Design converter station buildings to minimise visual impacts from public locations** During the design of the converter station buildings, incorporate design outcomes to reduce the visual prominence of the buildings in views from the public roads. Design of the building facades will be documented in a Development Plan(s) and may include, but not be limited to: • Tapering of leading edges of the building and roofline. • Articulation of building facades. • Using colours such as dark greens, reflecting existing vegetation, or muted tones minimises contrast and prominence.
LV02	**Implement measures to establish and maintain a vegetative screen for public views of above ground components** During the design of above ground infrastructure at the location of the converter station and potential transition station, develop measures to ensure a vegetative screen is established to shield views from public roads. Strategies to achieve this may include, but not be limited to: • Ensuring sufficient setbacks along the road frontages. • Layered landscaping using endemic species.

EPR ID	Environmental Performance Requirements
LV03	**Design transition station to minimise visual impacts from public locations** During the design of above ground infrastructure at the location of the potential transition station, develop measures to provide screening from Waratah Road that is similar to, or better than that which is provided by existing vegetation and landforms. Strategies to achieve this may include, but not be limited to: • Retaining existing vegetation within the site. • Including vegetation or landscaping within the site boundaries to screen or filter views of project features using endemic species. • Locating perimeter fencing behind landscape plantings or landforms.
LV04	**Develop and implement measures to manage potential visual impacts in operation** As part of the OEMP, develop and implement measures to minimise visual impacts during the operation. The measures should address: • Monitoring vegetation screening and landscaping with site boundaries for at least two years ensuring establishment and long term viability of landscaping. • Replacement of any failed vegetation screens or landscaping with endemic species.
	Marine ecology and resource use
MERU01	**Monitor HDD activities for the shore crossing to avoid or minimise impacts to the marine environment** Prior to commencement of marine construction develop procedures for: • Monitoring HDD activities and drilling fluid pressures to minimise release of drilling fluid to the marine environment. • Extracting cuttings and drilling fluids from the HDD pilot boreholes for the shore crossing prior to breaking through to the sea floor. These procedures must be documented in a sub plan to the CEMP and implemented during construction.
MERU02	**Placement of final subsea project alignment to avoid or minimise impacts on benthic habitats** The subsea project alignment, should be located, to the extent reasonably practicable: • Within the sand-filled paleochannels and gutters in nearshore Tasmania and within the sandy seabed of Waratah Bay, in nearshore Victoria. • Away from nearshore areas of higher biological productivity (e.g., low- and high-profile reefs). • To avoid obstacles such as rocks and relocated to areas of soft-sediment seabed. • The final subsea project alignment must be informed by geophysical surveys and geotechnical investigations, and seabed sampling.
MERU03	**Undertake a pre-lay survey prior to subsea cable installation to minimise seabed disturbance** Prior to commencement of subsea cable installation, undertake a pre-lay survey to inform the final subsea project alignment so that it is clear of obstacles to the extent reasonably practicable, including low-profile reefs.

EPR ID	Environmental Performance Requirements
MERU04	**Minimise impacts from disturbing contaminated sediments around the disused tioxide pipeline** Prior to commencement of marine construction that could disturb contaminated sediments associated with the disused tioxide pipeline of the former tioxide factory at Heybridge, Tasmania, measures must be developed and documented in a sub-plan the CEMP to manage the release of contaminated sediments during construction activities (e.g., wet jetting operations) in the paleochannels and gutters in the Tasmanian nearshore and offshore waters. These measures should also manage the release of surface sediment contaminants if the tioxide pipeline, currently exposed and resting on the seabed, is to be removed, cut or collapsed during construction.
MERU05	**Develop and implement a cable crossing management plan** Prior to commencement of marine construction, develop a cable crossing management plan with measures to avoid impacts on existing third-party subsea cables during construction. The cable crossing management plan must: • Be developed through consultation with the owner of the Bass Strait 1 cable crossed by the project. • Be developed through consultation with the owner of the Indigo Central cable crossed by the project. • Describe the approach and key requirements for safe cable crossing. • Includes an engineering solution for the crossing with relevant infrastructure owners. • Includes requirements for informing the Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA) of the location, timing and duration of cable crossing works. • Be informed by guidelines published by the International Cable Protection Committee to assist the cable industry to adopt a harmonised approach in relation to crossings (ICPC 2023b). • Document the crossing point locations for the subsea cables, and the distances that the jet trencher will stop before crossing existing third-party subsea cable. • Outline the notification protocols for informing Bass Strait 1 and Indigo Central cable owners of the final design and construction approach. The plan must be implemented during construction.
MERU06	**Develop and implement a marine communication plan** Prior to commencement of marine construction, develop and implement a marine communication plan that includes: • Identification of relevant stakeholders. • Protocol for notifying the AMSA of the proposed locations, timing and duration of proposed marine construction activities. • The approach for compliance with AMSA Marine Orders Part 30 (Prevention of Collisions), AMSA Marine Orders Part 59 (Offshore Support Vessel Operations) and the convention on the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea, 1972 (COLREGs). • Protocol for informing the Australian Hydrographic Office of the locations, dates, times and duration of proposed marine construction activities. • A plan to engage with commercial and recreational fisheries on the project activities, schedule, locations and durations. • The approach for using guard vessels to enforce the temporary exclusion zone during cable laying across Bass Strait and at the shore crossings. • The approach for informing recreational users of marine activities, in accordance with the Community and Stakeholder Engagement Plan (EPR S03). This plan must be implemented during construction.

EPR ID	Environmental Performance Requirements
MERU07	**Develop and implement a marine fauna management plan** Prior to commencement of marine construction, develop a marine fauna management plan to avoid or minimise impacts to marine fauna. The management plan should outline the approach to: • Managing interactions with marine fauna where there is not a specific species management plan required under EPR MERU08 and MERU09. • Reporting and collation of information about siting of and interactions with marine fauna, including those covered by species specific management plans. • Protocols for incident management and reporting. • Protocols for managing injured seabird or coastal bird if discovered on a lit vessel. • Include species specific management plans as sub-plans. The measures in the plan must be consistent with the objectives of relevant EPBC Act recovery plans including: • Recovery Plan for Marine Turtles in Australia (DoEE 2017c) • National Recovery Plan for threatened Albatrosses and Giant Petrels 2011-2016 (DSEWPaC 2011c) • Recovery Plan for the White Shark (Carcharodon carcharias) (DSEWPaC 2013a) • Sub-Antarctic Fur Seal and Southern Elephant Seal Recovery Plan (DEH 2004) • Recovery Plan for the Australian Sea Lion (Neophoca cinerea) (DSEWPaC 2013b) The marine fauna management plan must be implemented during construction.

MERU08	**Develop and implement a cetacean interaction management plan**
	Prior to commencement of marine construction, develop cetacean interaction management plan to avoid or minimise impacts to cetaceans during construction. The cetacean interaction management plan must:
	• Be developed in accordance with relevant guidelines including:
	  ○ *EPBC Act Policy Statement 2.1 – Interaction between Offshore Seismic Exploration and Whales: Industry Guidelines* (DEWHA 2008e)
	  ○ *Wildlife (Marine Mammals) Regulations 2019*
	  ○ *A guide to boating and swimming around whales, dolphins and seals* (DELWP 2022)
	  ○ *Wildlife Management. Whale and dolphin viewing guidelines* (DNRE 2019)
	• Define the area for visual monitoring for cetaceans that is appropriate for cable laying works.
	• Define precaution zones for maintaining a separation distance of cable laying works from cetacean and the distance at which works should be suspended when cetaceans approach.
	• Outline vessel-cetacean strike avoidance measures to minimise the potential for collision.
	• Include a procedure for marine mammal observations which may include the role of Marine Mammal Observers (MMOs) on construction vessels at or around active construction locations.
	The measures under the plan should be consistent with the goals of the EPBC Act *Conservation Management Plan for the Blue Whale* (DoE 2015a) and *Conservation Management Plan for the Southern Right Whale* (DSEWPaC 2012).
	The cetacean interaction management plan should be a sub-plan to the marine fauna management plan (EPR MERU07) and be implemented during construction.

EPR ID	Environmental Performance Requirements
MERU09	**Develop and implement a plan for managing interactions with sea turtles** Prior to commencement of marine construction, develop a sea turtle interaction management plan for managing interactions with sea turtles to avoid or minimise impacts during construction. The plan must: • Define the area for visual monitoring. • Document the approach to vessel based visual monitoring with a minimum visual monitoring buffer zone of 200 m. • Define exclusion and buffer zones for maintaining a separation distance of vessels from sea turtles, including the requirement for transiting vessels to maintain a minimum separation distance of 50 m from sea turtles. • Outline vessel-sea turtle strike avoidance measures to minimise the potential for collision with sea turtles, including if sea turtles are sighted within the 50 m separation distance, vessels must reduce speed and shift the engine to neutral, not engaging the engines until sea turtles are clear of the area. • Consider all construction vessels including guard vessels, small boats manoeuvring floated cables, crew transit vessels and dive boats. A plan is not required for slow moving vessels laying cable, towing gear or subsea machines. The sea turtle interaction management plan should be a sub-plan to the marine fauna management plan (EPR MERU07) and be implemented during construction.

MERU10	**Develop and implement measures to minimise impacts on marine fauna and avifauna due to lighting**
	Prior to commencement of marine construction, develop measures to minimise impacts on marine fauna due to artificial lighting for construction and operation. The measures must consider the following:
	• Australia's *National Light Pollution Guidelines for Wildlife* (DoEE 2020), to manage the effect of artificial light on marine turtles, seabirds, and migratory shorebirds that are listed under the EPBC Act, species that are part of a listed ecological community, and species protected under state or territory legislation for which artificial light has been demonstrated to affect behaviour, survivorship, or reproduction.
	• Australian Standard *AS/NZS 4282:2019 Control of the obtrusive effects of outdoor lighting* and recognise the impact of artificial light on living organisms.
	• EPBC Act *Policy Statement 3.21 - Industry Guidelines for avoiding, assessing and mitigating impacts on EPBC Act listed migratory shorebird species* (DoEE 2017a).
	• The measures must:
	  ○ Minimise lighting where practicable and where safety is not compromised, minimise the number of lights, the intensity of lights, and the amount of time lights are turned on.
	  ○ Direct lighting to where it is needed and avoid general area floodlighting.
	  ○ Limit area and deck lighting to the amount and intensity necessary to maintain deck crew safety.
	  ○ Direct lighting inboard and downward (where possible) to reduce the potential for seabird attraction.
	  ○ Avoid direct lighting of the sea surface and minimise indirect lighting on the sea surface to the extent practicable.
	  ○ Include routine inspection of lighted areas of the cable lay vessel and other night-time operating vessels for birds that may have been attracted.
	The measures must be addressed in the marine fauna management plan (EPR MERU07) and be implemented during construction

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MERU11	**Develop and implement a plan to avoid the introduction of invasive marine species**
	
	Prior to commencement of marine construction, develop a ballast water management plan and biofouling management requirements for each marine vessel to avoid the introduction of marine pests via ballast water and biofouling of the vessels hull and semi-enclosed spaces.
	
	Compliance with ballast water management requirements
	
	During construction and operation vessel owners must comply with the:
	• *Australian Ballast Water Management Requirements* (DAFF 2020)
	• *Biosecurity Act 2015* (Cwlth)
	• *International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments, 2004* (BWM Convention 2004)
	• *Australian Anti-fouling and in-water cleaning guidelines* (DoA, DoE 2015)
	• *Ballast Water Management Requirements* (DAFF 2020)
	• Maritime and Aircraft Reporting System (MARS) and the Vessel Compliance Scheme (VCS):
	  ○ Prepare and submit a Pre-arrival Report (PAR) for answering the ballast water questionnaire from DAFF.
	  ○ Non-First Point of Entry (NFP) application v16.
	  ○ Ballast Water (BW) report v108.
	
	International marine traffic must have a ballast water management plan for water and sediments that includes:
	• A ballast water record book.
	• An International Ballast Water Management certificate where ships are 400 gross tonnes and above in accordance with the BWM Convention and specifies which standard the ship is complying with, as well as the date of expiry of the Certificate.
	• Vessels with a ballast water management system must carry a type approval certificate specific to the type of ballast water management system installed
	• Complete and accurate record of all ballast water movements.
	• Detailed information regarding vessel maintenance history for treating biofouling.
	
	Compliance with biofouling management requirements
	
	During construction and operation vessel owners must comply with the:
	• *Biosecurity Amendment (Biofouling Management) Regulations 2021* (Cwlth) that require operators of all vessels to provide information on biofouling management practices prior to arriving in Australia.
	• *Australian Biofouling Management Requirements ('ABFMR')* (DAWE 2022) via:
	  ○ Biofouling Management Plan
	  ○ Biofouling Record Book.
	  ○ Alternatively, clean all biofouling within 30 days prior to arriving in Australia and submit a cleaning report to DAFF.
	• *Australian National Antifouling and In-water Cleaning Guidelines* (DoA, DoE 2015).
	The ballast water management plans and biofouling management requirements must be implemented during construction and operation.

EPR ID	Environmental Performance Requirements
MERU12	**Adopting a HVDC cable design that minimises the electromagnetic fields and heat emitted from the subsea and land cable** The cable and construction method must be designed to install and bury subsea cables in a manner that reduces the EMF emitted from the subsea cables at the seabed and overlying the water column. The cable design and installation must include: • Cable burial up to 1.5 metres. • Bundling the HVDC cables in each subsea circuit to cancel out or greatly reduce EMF. • Separating each subsea circuit to reduce interaction of electromagnetic fields.
MERU13	**Notification of the final subsea project alignment** At the completion of marine construction, MLPL must inform the Australian Hydrographic Office and the Victorian Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action of the locations and coordinates of the final subsea project alignment to enable the Australian Hydrographic Office to publish Notices to Mariners to inform maritime users of the presence of seabed power cables and mark them on navigation charts.
	Terrestrial noise and vibration
NV01	**Conduct additional background noise monitoring** Prior to commencement of project works, conduct additional background noise monitoring for onshore receivers in the vicinity of the following project components: • Shore crossing. • Construction locations where unavoidable works outside of normal working hours could occur for a period of five or more days. • Converter station. • Communications building and transition station (if required). The background noise monitoring data must: • Inform the assessment of construction noise (EPR NV02 and NV03) and operational noise (EPR NV04, NV05 and NV06). • Be conducted at a selection of locations which are representative of the receivers that could be impacted by construction of the project components listed above. • Be conducted at representative locations for the shore crossing in the townships of Sandy Point and Waratah Bay. The background noise monitoring and results analysis must be conducted in accordance with procedural guidance detailed in: • EPA Victoria Publication 1826.4 Noise limit and assessment protocol for the control of noise from commercial, industrial and trade premises and entertainment venues (the EPA Noise Protocol), • EPA Victoria Publication 1834.1 Civil construction, building and demolition guide; • EPA Victoria Publication 1997 Technical guide: Measuring and analysing industry noise and music noise • Australian Standard *1055:2018 Acoustics - Description and measurement of environmental noise* where relevant.

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	Data must be collected and analysed in formats which are suitable for the distinct assessment requirements of the EPA Noise Protocol and EPA Publication 1834.1. The results must be documented in a background noise report and made available to EPA Victoria on request.
NV02	**Develop and implement a construction noise and vibration management plan** Prior to commencement of project works, develop a construction noise and vibration management plan ~~in consultation with EPA Victoria~~ for onshore construction including the shore crossing. The construction noise and vibration management plan must describe the measures to be implemented during the onshore project works in Victoria to minimise the risk of harm from construction noise and vibration, so far as reasonably practicable, in accordance with the general environmental duty under the *Environmental Protection Act 2017* (Vic) (EP Act). ~~Investigate, assessed and, as necessary, avoid or otherwise minimise, so far as reasonably practicable, the risk of impact to the environmental value of 'human tranquility and enjoyment outdoors in natural areas', in accordance with the Category V indicator and objectives of the Environment Reference Standard. This assessment must have regard to the frequency spectrum of both the pre-existing noise and the noise from the Project, their potential character, and their variability.~~ The plan must document: • A description of all noise generating construction activities and their locations. This must include a schedule of equipment types and numbers for each activity and location. • A description of the proposed construction program including timing and duration of construction activities. This must include confirmation that the works will adhere to normal working hours specified in EPA Victoria Publication 1834.1 *Civil construction, building and demolition guide*, other than unavoidable works, low-noise works, or managed-impact works, that must occur outside normal working hours. • The results of additional background noise monitoring conducted under EPR NV01. • Details of the location, duration and type of unavoidable works, and details of any low-noise or managed-impact works, which may need to occur outside of normal working hours and the protocols that will apply for the management of ~~unavoidable~~ these works outside normal working hours. These protocols must include a process for the justification and approval of any unavoidable works, managed-impact works, or low noise impact works that may be planned to occur outside the normal working hours, consistent with EPA publication 1834.1 ~~and must:~~ ~~Include a clear rationale for the justification of both unavoidable works and managed-impact works (consistent with EPA publication 1834.1) and response strategies to reduce and minimise noise and vibration and their impacts, so far as reasonably practicable~~ ~~Ensure that all assessments for justification of out of hours works and their approval are conducted by a suitably qualified independent person, such as an Independent Environmental Auditor, who has no prior involvement in planning or delivery of the Project and is able to make decisions free from influence or pressure relating to the delivery of the Project~~ ~~Ensure that in respect of unavoidable works:~~ ~~The necessity for such works to be carried out outside of normal working hours is assessed and documented by a person with skills and expertise in risk / safety assessments;~~ ~~The mitigation measures to reduce noise and vibration are designed, specified and assessed by a person with skills and expertise in noise and vibration control; and~~ ~~The risk associated with residual noise and vibration is assessed and contingency measures are taken to address, so far as reasonably practicable, the residual noise and vibration impacts.~~ ~~Ensure in respect of managed-impact works:~~

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~~Measures are taken to manage impacts on noise sensitive receptors consistent with the definition of managed impact works in EPA publication 1834.1~~

~~These measures are designed, specified and assessed by a person with skills and expertise in noise and vibration control; and~~

~~A program is in place to verify that the measures to manage noise impacts meet the performance they have been designed to achieve.~~

~~Ensure in respect of low-noise impact works:~~

~~A list detailing planned works that are low-noise impact works (because they are inherently quiet or unobtrusive, consistent with the definition in EPA publication 1834.1) is established.~~

~~Ensure that any noise criteria that may be considered to manage the emergence of construction noise over background noise is established based on a background level that represents the background at the time of impact~~.

- The locations of the most sensitive working areas along the project alignment, including the extent of areas around unavoidable works where noise and vibration sensitive areas (receivers) need to be identified where risk controls for noise and vibration are most important, based on the predicted construction noise levels.
- A systematic evaluation of noise control options to minimise the risk of harm from operation noise so far as reasonably practicable.
- A framework for the selection and implementation of risk controls that are proportionate to the risk of harm from noise, informed by factors including the noise level, noise character, work timing, and work duration. The existing noise environment and the number of affected receivers may also be relevant factors at some sites.
- Details of all reasonable and practicable measures that are proposed to minimise the risk of harm as a result of noise and vibration associated with both on-site and off-site sources of construction activities (including heavy vehicle movements on local roads), including:
    - Requirement for the selection of major plant items with low noise emissions, characterised by sound power levels that are equivalent to, or lower than, the values/ranges indicated in AS 2436, *Guide to Noise and Vibration Control on Construction, Demolition and Maintenance Sites (Reconfirmed 2016)*, unless it can be demonstrated that adhering to these values would not be reasonably practicable.
    - Measures for the control of potentially annoying characteristics such as tonality, impulsive and low frequency noise (accounting for frequency spectrum as a prescribed characteristic where applicable).
    - A requirement ~~to~~that each HDD rig associated with the shore crossing (including ancillary plant) to achieve a total sound power level of 110 dB LWA or lower, unless it can be demonstrated that adhering to this value would not be reasonably practicable or would increase the duration of exposure.
    - Scheduling protocols for minimising the potential disruption caused by high noise levels as a result of transient construction activities which occur near to receivers for brief periods.
    - Details of any locations where temporary screens or enclosures are identified as a reasonably practicable control measure, informed by updated construction noise modelling.
- Details of any low-noise or managed-impact works which may need to occur outside of normal working hours and the protocols that will apply to the management of these works outside of normal working hours.
- Requirements for monitoring noise and vibration of construction works, including unavoidable works.
- The protocol for preparing detailed noise and vibration impact assessments (EPR NV03) including when they are required, format, timing and process for review. The protocol must address all project works and specifically:
    - The shore crossing.
    - Locations where there is prolonged unavoidable works, managed-impact works, or low noise impact works outside of normal working hours.
    - The converter station.

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- Vibration controls and monitoring requirements, including details of the locations and circumstances in which vibration noise monitoring would be conducted, for heritage structures including the cistern structure identified in Moores Road, Buffalo.
- Communication protocols for notifying landholders in advance of the works occurring.
- Noise complaint handling and response protocols, in accordance with the broader process for managing and responding to complaints received during construction (prepared under EPR S03).
- Protocols for continual improvement of the construction noise and vibration mitigation measures, informed by data sources including but not limited to audit findings, the community and stakeholder engagement framework (prepared under EPR S03), complaint reviews, noise modelling (e.g. as part of preparing detailed noise and vibration impact assessments under EPR NV03), and monitoring.

The construction noise and vibration management plan must address the requirements and guidance of:

- The general environmental duty under the EP Act.
- EPA Victoria Publication 1834.1.
- Australian Standard *AS 2436 - 2010*.
- EPA Victoria Publication 1996 *Noise guideline – assessing low frequency noise*

Both the construction noise and vibration management plan and the IEA review report of the plan must be made available to EPA Victoria on request.

The construction noise and vibration management plan must be a sub plan to the CEMP and implemented during construction.

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NV03	**Develop a detailed noise and vibration impact assessment for construction activities at specific sites** Prior to commencement of noise generating work that could impact onshore sensitive receivers, a detailed noise and vibration impact assessment must be completed for construction in accordance with the protocol contained in the construction noise and vibration management plan (EPR NV02): Each assessment must: • Identify all relevant sensitive locations (receivers). • Determine the sound power level for all noise generating plant and equipment planned to be used for the activities being assessed. • Include information to demonstrate the selection, or the processes for selection, of low noise equipment, including consideration of any potentially annoying characteristics of the noise such as tones, impulses or prominent low frequencies. • Model predicted noise levels for the activities and plant being assessed. • Assess noise and vibration impacts on sensitive receivers. This must include an objective assessment of the risk of low frequency noise, informed by indicative estimations of low frequency noise levels. • Include a systematic evaluation of noise control options to minimise the risk of harm from construction noise and vibration so far as reasonably practicable. For unavoidable works outside of normal working hours, the noise control options evaluated should account for any feedback from consultations with the nearest affected receivers. • Include details of all noise and vibration controls and management measures to be implemented to minimise the risk of harm from construction noise and vibration so far as reasonably practicable. • Describe construction noise and vibration monitoring requirements, including verification noise testing (if warranted) to assess the effectiveness of the noise controls before commencing continuous unavoidable works outside of normal working hours. • Include protocols for providing respite in circumstances where residents are affected by prolonged exposure to elevated noise levels as a result of unavoidable works out of hours. • Comply with the controls and protocols documented in the construction noise and vibration management plan. The detailed noise and vibration impact assessments must address the requirements and guidance of: • The general environmental duty under *the Environmental Protection Act 2017* (Vic). • *EPA Victoria Publication 1834.1 Civil construction, building and demolition guide.* • Australian Standard *AS 2436-2010 Guide to Noise and Vibration Control on Construction, Demolition and Maintenance Sites* (Reconfirmed 2016). • EPA Victoria Publication 1996 *Noise guideline – assessing low frequency noise*. Each detailed noise and vibration impact assessment must be reviewed by the independent environmental auditor (IEA), prior to commencement of the noise generating work under assessment. The detailed noise and vibration impact assessments and the IEA review reports must be made available to EPA Victoria on request. All of the recommended noise and vibration risk controls (including mitigation, management, monitoring and respite measures) established in the detailed noise and vibration impact assessment must be implemented during construction.

EPR ID	Environmental Performance Requirements
NV04	**Design the converter station to minimise the risk of harm from noise so far as reasonably practicable** In accordance with the general environmental duty under the *Environmental Protection Act* (EP Act), the design process for the converter station must include a systematic evaluation of noise control options to minimise the risk of harm from operation noise so far as reasonably practicable. The evaluation must: • Consider site layout, equipment selection, and built form to control noise. • Address both the level and character of the noise, accounting for the assessable characteristics defined in the EPA Noise Protocol and prescribed characteristics under the EP Act. • Address normal operation and routine equipment testing. Prior to installing the converter station plant and any enclosing structures, prepare a design noise assessment report for the final converter station design. The report must: • Document the systematic evaluation of noise control options. • Describe the measures to be implemented to control environmental noise levels, demonstrating that all reasonable and practicable measures will be implemented to minimise the risk of harm as a result of noise, as required by the general environmental duty under the EP Act. • Confirm the applicable noise limits (normal operation and routine equipment testing) determined in accordance with EPA Victoria Publication 1826.4 *Noise limit and assessment protocol for the control of noise from commercial, industrial and trade premises and entertainment venues* (EPA Noise Protocol), accounting for the background monitoring data obtained for EPR NV01 and cumulative noise considerations. • Provide details of the noise frequency characteristics of key items of plant such as the transformers and valve coolers, and assessment of whether character adjustments are warranted. • Present predicted noise levels at noise sensitive locations (receivers) from operation of the converter station. • Demonstrate that operational noise levels for the final design and equipment selections are predicted to comply with noise limits determined in accordance with the EPA Noise Protocol. • Present an assessment of the potential for prescribed characteristics under the EP Act. The design noise assessment report must be reviewed by the independent environmental auditor (IEA). Both the design noise assessment report and the IEAs review report must be made available to EPA Victoria on request.

EPR ID	Environmental Performance Requirements
NV05	**Develop an operation noise management plan for the converter station and transition station sites** As part of the Operation Environmental Management Plan (OEMP), develop an operation noise management plan for the converter station and transition station (if required) sites ~~in consultation with EPA Victoria~~. The operation noise management plan must document: • The noise mitigation and management measures developed in design (EPR NV04) that apply to the operation and maintenance of the converter station. • The confirmed applicable noise limits determined in accordance with the EPA Noise Protocol, including for routine testing of plant that is used solely for emergencies (i.e. standby generators for the converter station and the transition station), determined under EPR NV04. • Procedures for, and timing of, noise monitoring to be carried out to assess compliance with the applicable noise limits when the converter station and transition station commences operation. • Details and timing of a noise compliance reporting to be submitted to EPA Victoria. • Details of any maintenance and monitoring measures that are required to maintain ongoing compliance with the *Environmental Protection Act 2017* (Vic) (EP Act) including the general environmental duty. • Procedures for routine testing of plant that is used solely for emergencies (e.g. regularity, days, and times of testing). • Procedures to investigate noise complaints or suspected noise compliance issues. • Protocols for continual improvement of the operation noise management plan, informed by data sources including but not limited to audit findings, complaint reviews and monitoring. The operation noise management plan must be made available to EPA Victoria on request. The operation noise management plan must be a sub plan to the OEMP and implemented during operation.
NV06	**Prepare an operation noise compliance assessment report** Prepare an operation noise compliance assessment report based on: • An inspection of the converter station and transition station to confirm that the noise mitigation and management measures documented in the operational noise management plan (EPR NV05) have been fully implemented. • The results of noise monitoring conducted in accordance with the operation noise management plan (EPR NV05), to assess compliance with the applicable noise limits. The report must be submitted to EPA Victoria within six months of each stage of the converter station becoming fully operational.
	Social
S01	~~**Develop and implement a social impact management plan**~~ ~~Prior to commencement of project works develop a social impact management plan. The plan must be developed in consultation with relevant government and local government agencies, key stakeholders, and directly affected parties to minimise social impacts across the project during construction.~~ ~~The social impact management plan should be location specific and address key components of the construction program, including the staging of land cable trenching and installation. The plan should be a public document and be readily available on the project website.~~ ~~The plan must include:~~

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	~~A high-level summary of community baseline conditions, a summary of the anticipated social impacts (positive and negative), potential residual impacts and consideration for cumulative impacts. The plan will be reviewed and updated to address any shifts in the socioeconomic environment on the baseline and impacts, and consider the ongoing cumulative impacts of projects in the region.~~ ~~Incorporate key strategies, their objectives for managing social impacts and the responsibilities for implementation of the strategies including the workforce and accommodation strategy (EPR S02), community and stakeholder engagement framework (EPR S03), community benefits sharing scheme (EPR S04), and industry participation plan (EPR S05).~~ ~~An employment and training performance strategy with a focus on providing local opportunities.~~ ~~Describe the requirement for first response medical capabilities on-site for both local and non-local employees and contractors to minimise the impact on local health services.~~ ~~Outline of a protocol to be developed for engaging with community and managing social impacts during an emergency that must be developed in consultation with local emergency response providers and referenced in the project's emergency response plan.~~ ~~Specific strategies to support local farming communities in the region to address potential impacts resulting from the project.~~ ~~The social impact management plan must be implemented during construction.~~ **Management of medical incidents and first response capabilities** Prior to commencement of project works, in preparing the project's worker health and safety plan, include: • Requirements and measures for responding to health, medical and safety incidents of construction personnel during the construction phase. • Strategies for provision of first response medical capabilities on-site for both local and non-local employees and contractors to minimise the impact on local health services. The plan must be implemented during construction.
S02	**Develop and implement a workforce and accommodation strategy** Prior to commencement of project works, ~~D~~develop a workforce and accommodation strategy to address the potential social impact from the project's workforce and accommodation requirements during construction. The strategy must: • Be developed in consultation with government, industry and other relevant providers. • Include a protocol for the identification and management of impacts due to accommodation requirements. • Address cumulative impacts on accommodation due to other large-scale construction and infrastructure projects in the identified local study areas. The outcomes of the strategy must be addressed during construction planning.

EPR ID	Environmental Performance Requirements
S03	**Develop and implement a community and stakeholder engagement framework** Prior to commencement of project works, develop a community and stakeholder engagement framework to outline the approach to engagement with community, stakeholders and First Peoples will be undertaken for project and by all contractors. The community and stakeholder engagement framework should be consistent with IAP2 principles and guidance in the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water National guidelines – Community engagement and benefits for electricity transmission projects, and must: • Identify key community and stakeholder groups- with a likely interest in the Project, including but not limited to property owners; residents of local and regional communities; business owners; business and industry associations; road users; tourists; commercial and recreational marine users, users of potentially affected community facilities, local Councils; and community facility managers.across the project. • Describe the approach for engaging the community, stakeholders and First Peoples. • Establish communication protocols and tools for communication that provide: o Early and ongoing information and notification to local communities and stakeholders, including users of affected community facilities, recreational sites, and public open spaces (e.g., Great Southern and Grand Ridge Rail Trails, regional reserves, State Forests, beaches, marine infrastructure) about details, timing and duration of proposed works, potential impacts, and proposed management measures. o Information on issues of community concern and proposed management measures, including but not limited to, electromagnetic fields (EMF), construction noise, vibration, and air quality, construction traffic, access changes, and biodiversity values. • Outline complaints policies and management procedures for recording, managing, and resolving complaints. The complaints management system must be consistent with *Australian Standard AS/NZS 10002: 2014 Guidelines for Complaints Management in Organisations*. Principal contractors must prepare a community and stakeholder engagement management plan in accordance with the framework for their works package, and ensure sub-contractors comply with the management plan. The community and stakeholder engagement framework and contractor's community and stakeholder engagement management plan must be updated annually to reflect any project or stakeholder changes and improvements identified. A register of complaints must be maintained by MLPL and provided to the Minister for Planning with annual audit reporting if requested. The community and stakeholder engagement framework must be implemented during construction.
S04	**Develop and implement a community benefits sharing scheme** Prior to the commencement of project works, develop a community benefits sharing scheme in consultation with communities and First Peoples in the local study area. The community benefits sharing scheme should be developed having regard to *Community Engagement and Benefit Sharing in Renewable Energy Development: A Guide for Renewable Energy Developers (July 2021)*.

EPR ID	Environmental Performance Requirements
S05	**Develop and implement an industry participation plan** Prior to the commencement of project works, develop an industry participation plan to integrate First People, females, youth and socially vulnerable groups into the project workforce. The purpose of industry participation plan is to stimulate entrepreneurship, business and economic development, providing First Peoples and vulnerable groups with more opportunities to participate in the economy. The plan must: • Set out an employment and supplier-use participation target within the project's locality. • Outline the project's social procurement policies and local procurement policies considering each component and phase of construction. • Be developed in conjunction with the requirements under the *Indigenous Employment and Supplier-use Infrastructure Framework* (February 2019). • Identify a range of potential opportunities for job-seekers and businesses to be involved in the project across the construction supply chain. • Set employment targets with reference to the local First Peoples working age population within the project area and consistent with the 'locals first principle'. • Identify opportunities for females, youth and other socially vulnerable groups to be involved in the project workforce. The plan must be implemented during construction and operation.
S06	**Engagement to be reflected in the project's emergency response plan and procedures** Prior to commencement of project works, engage with local emergency service providers in the preparation, planning, monitoring and review of the project's emergency response plan and procedures. The project's emergency response plan must outline protocols for: • Ongoing engagement with emergency services about changes to local access and project activities that have potential to cause delay or disruption to emergency response. • Engaging with the community and managing social impacts during an emergency incident. The protocols must form part of the project's emergency response plan and must be implemented during construction.
	Surface water

EPR ID	Environmental Performance Requirements
SW01	**Develop and implement an erosion and surface water management plan** Prior to commencement of project works, develop a plan to manage erosion and surface water. The plan must: • Be developed in consultation with West Gippsland Catchment Management Authority • Document the existing condition (including habitat) of all waterways ~~and drainage lines~~ potentially affected by construction (including their immediate surrounds) to establish baseline conditions and inform development of measures to manage potential impacts. • Describe sediment and erosion controls and monitoring requirements in accordance with EPA Victoria Publication 1834.1 Civil construction, building and demolition guide, and with reference to the IECA Best Practice Erosion and Sediment Control Guidelines 2008. • Identify controls to: ○ Maintain the key hydrologic and hydraulic functionality and reliability of existing waterways~~flow paths and drainage channels~~. ○ Retain existing flow characteristics to maintain waterway stability downstream of construction. ○ ~~o~~ Minimise impacts to fluvial geomorphology, erosion and acceleration of stream processes (including bank erosion, channel adjustment, avulsion and incision to protect bank and bed stability of waterways ~~and drainage channels~~ that could be ~~affected by~~ directly or indirectly affected by construction activities, in accordance with West Gippsland Catchment Management Authority requirements and having regard to EPR GM09. ○ Manage surface water flow to minimise site runoff and avoid and/or minimise impacts to ground and slope stability having regard to EPR GM08 as appropriate. ○ Detail~~s of~~ measures for revegetation and reinstatement of the beds and banks of waterways ~~and drainage lines~~ in accordance with West Gippsland Catchment Management Authority requirements. The measures should be appropriate for the different categories of waterways ~~and drainage channels~~ considering if they are subject to shear stress that exceeds the boundary material resistance thresholds, and the extent of existing native vegetation and aquatic habitats in and around the ~~stream~~ waterway that will be impacted. • Detail the ~~L~~location for storage of contaminated material, hazardous substances or stockpiled soil outside an appropriate flood level and to the requirements of EPA Victoria and the relevant drainage authority. • Detail the ~~P~~protocol for scheduling of works to minimise or avoid flood related risks (see EPR SW03). • Detail~~s of~~ the stormwater drainage system and spills containment measures for construction areas to manage the risk of hazardous spills and runoff to waterways from paved or trafficable surfaces. This must include requirements for bunding of excavations including joint pits to avoid contamination of stormwater. • Detail ~~M~~measures for minimising, the handling, classifying, treating, disposing and otherwise managing wastewater. Wastewater from the site may be subject to approval by the relevant authority prior to discharges occurring and subject to classification under the Environment Reference Standard requirements in accordance with the EP Act. • Detail ~~E~~emergency response protocol for flooding events and frac out during HDD construction under waterways. Methods for HDD drilling to prevent frac out and the use of non-toxic drilling fluids are described in EPR GW03. • Review and update of the plan annually to address the outcomes of water quality monitoring as required by EPR ~~SW03~~SW04. • Consider the timing and duration of mitigation measures for any proposed interim periods between construction staging. The plan must be a sub plan to the CEMP and implemented during construction.

EPR ID	Environmental Performance Requirements
SW02	**Minimise flood risk due to permanent infrastructure** Prior to commencement of project works, develop a design for permanent infrastructure to address the requirements outlined in the *Guidelines for Development in Flood Prone Areas* (West Gippsland Catchment Management Authority, 2020), that demonstrates how the project has been designed to mitigate the overall flood risk and incorporate flood protection measures where required. The design must: • Be developed in consultation with West Gippsland Catchment Management Authority. • Be assessed and informed by a hydraulic flood model prepared for the design of permanent works to assess overall flood risk to the community and the project, predict changes to waterway flow regimes, and to demonstrate the resultant flood levels and risk profile. • Include a flood modelling report prepared to document the modelling and how it has addressed current climate conditions and the potential effects of climate change considering pre and post work scenarios as predicted at the end of assets design life using RCP4.5 and RCP8.5 projections (Ball, et al., 2019). The report must also outline how the hydraulic modelling has been scoped in consultation with West Gippsland Catchment Management Authority. • Document the measures to manage overland ~~stormwater~~ flows and provide protection of joint pits, the converter station, transition station and any other permanent works from flood waters. • Document the events and scenarios modelled to inform the overall flood risk to the community and the project, and assess potential flood damage to permanent works. • Document mitigation measures develop to address areas of predicted increase flood risk and the engagement undertaken with the relevant drainage authority or asset owner to seek acceptance of the measures.
SW03	**Minimise impacts due to flooding during construction** Prior to commencement of project works, develop a flood risk management plan to address the requirements outlined in the *Guidelines for Development in Flood Prone Areas* (West Gippsland Catchment Management Authority, 2020), that demonstrates how the project has been designed to mitigate the overall flood risk and incorporate flood protection measures where required. The plan must: • Be developed in consultation with West Gippsland Catchment Management Authority. • Be assessed and informed by a hydraulic model prepared to assess overall flood risk and flow regime that could affect temporary work sites, and to demonstrate the resultant flood levels and risk profile during construction. • Include a flood modelling report that document the events and scenarios modelled to inform the overall flood risk to the community and the project and assess potential flood damage to construction works. • Document the measures and work scheduling requirements to minimise or avoid or minimise flood related risks for construction sites and temporary structures. • Consider flood risks for any proposed interim periods between construction staging. The flood risk management plan must be a subplan to the CEMP and implemented during construction.

EPR ID	Environmental Performance Requirements
SW04	**Develop and implement a surface water monitoring program** Prior to commencement of project works, develop a surface water monitoring program to assess water quality and waterway conditions during construction. The monitoring program must: • Be developed in consultation with ~~the EPA Victoria and~~ West Gippsland Catchment Management Authority • Include waterway monitoring locations at suitable distances both upstream and downstream of works to establish baseline conditions prior to construction. • Include parameters, frequency, durations of water quality monitoring and waterway condition inspections. • Be implemented for up to 12 months after commencement of operation, or a lesser period agreed with EPA Victoria (refer to EPR SW05) • Outline requirements for data to be reviewed to assess the discharges and runoff from the project against Environment Reference Standard requirements and confirm the effectiveness of environmental controls. • Monitor the condition of reinstated waterway crossings and riparian vegetation to confirm the re-establishment of vegetation (EPR SW01). • Consider ongoing monitoring for any proposed interim periods between construction staging. • Be developed with reference to applicable policies and guidelines, including: ○ EP Act ○ Environment Reference Standard ○ Victorian Stormwater Committee's Victoria *Best Practice Environmental Management Guidelines for Urban Stormwater* (as published by CSIRO in 1999 with assistance from EPA Victoria and others) ○ EPA Victoria Publication 596 Point source discharges to streams: protocol for in-stream monitoring and assessment, ○ Industrial Waste Resource Guideline 701 Sampling and analysis of waters, wastewaters, soils and wastes ~~The surface water monitoring program must be implemented during construction with results used to inform the development, review and updating of the plan prepared to manage erosion and surface water (EPR SW01).~~
SW05	**Develop and implement measures to manage potential impacts to surface water in operation** As part of the OEMP, develop and implement measures to avoid or minimise impacts to ~~surface water~~ waterways during the operation, in accordance with West Gippsland Catchment Management Authority requirements. The measures must include: • Ongoing surface water quality monitoring requirements, as outlined in the surface water monitoring program (EPR ~~SW03~~SW04). • Controls for management of sites and materials to prevent erosion, runoff of contamination and sediments entering waterways • Requirements for monitoring the establishment of revegetation at waterway crossings.
	Traffic and transport

EPR ID	Environmental Performance Requirements
T01	**Develop a transport management plan** Prior to commencement of project works, develop a transport management plan/s to document how disruption to affected local land uses, traffic, car parking, public transport (rail and bus), pedestrian and cycle movements and existing public facilities will be managed during all stages of construction. The transport management plan/s may be split into locations / areas where appropriate or aligned with construction methodology. The transport management plan/s must: • Be developed in consultation with relevant road authorities. • Include requirements for maintaining transport capacity and appropriate performance for all travel modes in the peak travel demand periods. • Identify where traffic management is required to lower the speed limit during construction, such as at the intersections to Strzelecki Highway if they are utilised to access the following locations: JP61, JP62, JP 65, JP66, HDD49a, JP67 (and any additional locations where it may be required). • Identify the requirements for the provision of intersection treatments at the following locations if they are used by construction vehicles: South Gippsland Highway access to HDD15b, JP27, HDD16a; Strzelecki Highway access to LA07, and any additional locations where it may be required. • Describe measures to manage any temporary or permanent full or partial traffic lane closures or impacts to property access. • Include requirements for limiting the amount of construction heavy vehicles and haulage during the peak traffic periods with specific regard for sensitive land uses such as schools, school bus routes and during any local public events. • Include requirements for the delivery or removal of oversize and over mass loads. • Include a construction parking management plan to provide for adequate parking at appropriate works locations, including containing all worker car parking demands within the construction sites and laydown areas where practicable. • Outline measures to manage impacts and coordinate activities where necessary with other relevant major projects occurring at the same time. • Confirm and document the proposed route of the transformer transporter, including any necessary measures and works required to accommodate the height, weight and geometric requirements, and manage any associated impacts, during the transport. This must be informed by consultation with the relevant road authorities. • Document construction vehicle routes including the transformer travel route and the transport of hazardous goods / materials, and prioritise the use of higher order roads, approaching the study area via the South Gippsland Highway and Princes Highway where possible. • Identify construction vehicle staging areas and/or construction methodologies to minimise potential impacts of truck movements on residents and businesses. • Describe methods investigated and adopted to reduce impact of project generated traffic i.e. shuttle bus for workers, stagger start / finish times. • Include ~~R~~requirements for the provision of adequate temporary road lighting over night at required intersections to access the construction site during HDD operations. • Include ~~P~~policies to ensure staff comply with relevant industry standards and guidelines with regards to safe practice, including managing driver fatigue. These policies should outline induction requirements for all workers, identifying site specific safe practice, such as identified locations on the road network with a known safety risk.

EPR ID	Environmental Performance Requirements

- Outline measures to manage the project interface with recreational rail trails and provide for the continuous operation / access of the recreational rail trails.
- Document how any road closures will be managed to ensure access is maintained, especially on roads that operate as a single point of access for private properties. These measures must be informed by engagement with affected properties, relevant road authorities and emergency services. The design and construction staging approach should aim to not close any public roads during construction, so far as reasonably practicable.
- Outline induction requirements for all workers, identifying site specific safe practice, such as identified locations on the road network with a known safety risk.
- Outline the inspections to be undertaken to assess the effectiveness of the transport management plans on all modes of transport. Where inspections identify adverse impacts, implement practicable and appropriate mitigation measures.
- Outline the requirements for worksite construction traffic management that are activity and location specific to manage day-to-day activities and the requirements of the transport management plan. This includes the movement of the transformer transporter.
- Include a consultation plan for the engagement with local authorities, impacted landholders and the broader community. This consultation will include, but not be limited to:
    - Informing affected parties of the level of traffic generated by the project construction and any road closures.
    - Engaging with local road authorities to coordinate construction vehicle movements to avoid school bus routes during their time of operation.
    - Engaging with road authorities and emergency services about any partial or full road closures.

The transport management plan/s must be updated when there are significant changes in construction methodology, including changes in construction traffic volumes or roads closures that requires further analysis to confirm adequacy and appropriateness of management measures.

The transport management plan/s must be implemented throughout construction.

EPR ID	Environmental Performance Requirements
T02	**Design transport infrastructure to maintain safety in operation** Design all roadworks, construction staging, and site access arrangements as stipulated in the transport management plan (EPR T01) to meet relevant design standards and provide for safe movement of operational vehicles. The project design must: • Be developed in consultation with the relevant road management authorities. • Meet all relevant road and transport authority requirements with respect to transport network user safety. • Be informed by appropriate transport analysis with the objective to maximise performance for all modes where necessary. • Address the reinstatement of vehicle and pedestrian access that is to be altered during construction, in accordance with relevant road design standards. • Consider any services relocations and the requirements of services authority approvals. • Be audited by an independent road safety auditor during the preparation of the design, at design stages to be agreed upon with the relevant road authority. In addition, the project is to agree upon authority requirements as it relates to road safety audits during construction and post construction. • Be informed by inspection and assessment of existing road and pavement conditions by suitably qualified engineers. • Provide for appropriate upgrades of pavement, bridges, intersections and other road infrastructure, in line with the recommendations of the road safety audit and condition inspections.
	Terrestrial ecology

EPR ID	Environmental Performance Requirements
EC01	**Avoid or minimise native vegetation and habitat loss and degradation** Prior to commencement of project works and to inform the design: • Complete vegetation quality assessments at locations that could be impacted by the areas of disturbance of the final design and require further assessment to confirm vegetation type and extent. Areas to be surveyed, if impacted, include those shown in Figure 6 of Technical Appendix V: Terrestrial Ecology Assessment. • Complete habitat assessments and targeted surveys at locations that could be impacted by the areas of disturbance of the final design and required further assessment to determine habitat suitability and/or presence/absence of threatened species. Areas to be surveyed, if impacted, include those shown in Figure 5 of EIS/EES Technical Appendix V as 'Native vegetation (unassessed)'. • Complete fauna utilisation surveys of all impacted hollow-bearing trees within areas of priority habitats shown in Figure 5 of EIS/EES Technical Appendix V, to identify nesting sites and minimise removal of hollow bearing trees. • Develop and implement measures to avoid or otherwise minimise impacts on native vegetation and priority habitats, so far as reasonably practicable, through detailed design and appropriate construction methods, at locations shown in Figure 67 of EIS/EES Technical Appendix V. Where feasible, measures will include: ○ Minor realignment of the Area of Disturbance. ○ Reducing the width of the Area of Disturbance. ○ Use of trenchless technologies such as HDD. • Develop and implement construction methods that avoid impacts to the Gippsland Red Gum (*Eucalyptus tereticornis subsp. mediana*) Grassy Woodland and Associated Native Grassland Threatened Ecological Community including the related FFG Act listed Threatened Ecological Community located along McFarlane Road, Hazelwood as shown in Figure 5.42 of EIS/EES Technical Appendix V. • Prior to construction and to inform detailed design, complete an arboriculture assessment of trees impacted due to consequential losses and encroachment of tree protection zones, as shown in Figure 6 of EIS/EES Technical Appendix V. Inspections by qualified arborists must be undertaken to inform measures which may minimise the likelihood of trees being lost. • Obtain native vegetation offsets in accordance with the *Guidelines for removal, destruction or lopping of native vegetation* (DELWP 2017) for the native vegetation to be removed based on the detailed design.

EPR ID	Environmental Performance Requirements

EC02	**Develop and implement a biodiversity management plan**
	Prior to commencement of project works develop a biodiversity management plan to avoid or otherwise minimise impacts to flora and fauna values.
	The vegetation and habitat management measures must cover, but not be limited to:
	• Identification and protection of native vegetation and priority habitats to be retained as shown in Figures 5 and 6 of EIS/EES Technical Appendix V and in accordance with EPR EC01. This must include pre-construction assessment to flag vegetation to be removed and retained and establishment of no-go zones to a standard suitable to prevent access during construction.
	• Implementation of tree protection measures identified in accordance with EPR EC01.
	• Implementation of appropriate measures to manage the risk of the introduction and spread of environmental weeds and diseases during construction in areas supporting native vegetation, priority habitats and threatened ecological communities, as shown in Figures 5 and 6 of EIS/EES Technical Appendix V including relevant approved EPBC Act threat abatement plans.
	• Manage all work areas to maintain landform stability and avoid or minimise erosion and sedimentation, and avoid storage of excess soil or fill material upslope or adjacent to native vegetation and priority habitats (to the extent not already addressed under EPR GM02, GM03, GM06, GM07, GM08).
	• Use of sedimentation and pollution controls to prevent uncontrolled releases into retained native vegetation and priority habitats, as shown in Figures 5 and 6 of EIS/EES Technical Appendix V (to the extent not already addressed under EPR GM08 and SW01).
	• Use of locally indigenous species in revegetation or plantings, particularly in areas where habitat is removed that is suited to the landscape context and associated native species requirements.
	• Where possible, avoid removal or disturbance of root systems associated with native vegetation in areas of priority habitat, to prevent impacts to ground-dwelling fauna (e.g. crayfish).
	• Incident management protocols for addressing accidental clearing of vegetation or habitat through assisted regeneration or additional offsets.
	The flora and fauna species management measures must cover, but not be limited to:
	• Undertaking pre-clearing inspections by a suitably qualified ecologist to confirm the on-site location of fauna immediately prior to habitat removal.
	• Salvage and re-location of fauna, if required prior to construction, in accordance with the *Wildlife Act 1975* (Vic) and *EPBC Act* (Cwlth) where required.
	• Daily inspections of open trenches or pits for trapped animals, such as reptiles and small-ground dwelling mammals.
	• Utilising night lighting to a minimum amount required to safely operate the site and to reduce light pollution and adverse effects to nocturnal species in accordance with Night Light Pollution Guidelines for Wildlife (DCCEEW 2023). This must include using:
	  ○ light shields to direct light and reduce light spill.
	  ○ low beam vehicle lights except where safety is compromised.
	• Work restrictions during sensitive life-stages (e.g. breeding, nesting, etc.) within 100m of priority habitats, as shown in Figure 5 of EIS/EES Technical Appendix V, to avoid and minimise disturbance to native fauna (with a particular focus on noise and light pollution). This may include restrictions on work activities during a season (e.g., spring), species life stage (e.g., breeding or nesting) or time of day (e.g., night-time), based on the ecology of the species and proximity to habitats. Where work restrictions are not feasible, develop and implement alternative control measures (e.g. light shields).
	• Installation of temporary wildlife barriers near priority habitats to prevent the movements of ground-dwelling fauna into high-risk areas, such as access tracks.
	• Ensuring speed limits within works areas are restricted to appropriate levels, and enforced, to minimise the risk of faunal strikes.
	• Managing native fauna that may be displaced due to habitat removal, in compliance with the *Wildlife Act 1975* (Vic).
	• Procedures if unexpected threatened species are identified during construction.
	The biodiversity management plan must be a sub plan of the CEMP and must be implemented during construction.

EPR ID	Environmental Performance Requirements
EC03	**Implement aquatic habitat protection measures** Avoid and minimise impacts to aquatic habitat, so far as reasonably practicable, through adopting preference for trenchless construction methods (such as HDD) or project alignment changes where reasonably practicable at the following waterway crossing locations: Morwell River, Tarwin River East Branch, ~~tributaries~~ Tributary of the Tarwin River East Branch (northern). Tributary of the Tarwin River East Branch (southern),~~,~~ Stony Creek, Buffalo Creek and Fish Creek, as shown in Figure 6 of EIS/EES Technical Appendix V, and the Little Morwell River. Where trenching works across the unnamed waterways at KP66.7 and 67 can not be limited to the existing, built-up crossing points associated with the existing tracks, consider alternative design and construction approaches as appropriate to avoid disturbance of the waterways. If any additional flowing or ephemeral waterways that are deemed to be potential habitat for threatened species are proposed to be open-cut or directly impacted, conduct aquatic surveys prior to commencement of project works to inform design and construction methods. Where direct impacts to waterways are likely to occur, prepare a site environmental management plan with reference to the plan prepared to manage erosion and surface water in accordance with EPR SW01 and the plan prepared to manage fluvial geomorphology at waterway crossings in accordance with EPR GM09, and in consultation with the West Gippsland Catchment Management Authority, covering: • Details for retention and protection of riparian and instream vegetation, dead and alive standing trees and fallen timber and other habitat values. • Requirements for salvage and translocation of aquatic fauna prior to construction, in accordance with the *Wildlife Act 1975* (Vic). • Approach for the implementation of appropriate measures to manage the risk of the introduction and spread of environmental weeds, ~~and~~ diseases and pathogens during construction in aquatic habitats. • Document the locations of where measures must be applied. The plan must be a sub~~p~~ plan of the CEMP and be implemented in construction.
	Underwater cultural heritage
UCH01	**Undertake a magnetometer survey for the final Victorian shore crossing project alignment and additional geophysical surveys if the alignment is revised to be outside the study area** Prior to commencement of marine construction, undertake a magnetometer survey of the project alignment to assess the potential for maritime heritage sites for the final Victorian shore crossing. If the alignment is revised to a location outside the areas where geophysical surveys have been completed, undertake geophysical surveys for the revised section to the same standard as the rest of the alignment, prior to commencement of construction. Identified anomalies that cannot be avoided are to be assessed and managed as per EPR UCH02. Any additional geophysical survey must be done to the same standard, that is, the same data acquisition parameters, interpretation and presentation as the surveys completed by MLPL in 2019 and 2020 in the development of the subsea project alignment. That data must be reviewed by a suitably qualified maritime archaeologist with experience in maritime heritage and submerged Aboriginal heritage. The outcomes of these surveys must inform the development of the management plan for underwater cultural heritage (EPR UCH04).

EPR ID	Environmental Performance Requirements
UCH02	**Avoid impacting unverified seabed anomalies identified in the marine geophysical survey** Prior to commencement of marine construction, refine the subsea project alignment to ensure unverified seabed anomalies are avoided and apply a buffer of 10 to 50 m depending on the nature of the anomalies (Refer to Table 12-1 of EIS/EES Technical Appendix I for recommended buffer distances from identified anomalies). The buffer must be determined in consultation with a qualified maritime archaeologist. Where anomalies cannot be avoided by more than 10 m, further investigations should be undertaken to assess their cultural heritage values. These further investigations should include: • Visual inspections by diving in waters less than 30 m or a remotely operate vehicle in deeper water. • The assessment of the maritime heritage values of an anomaly must be undertaken by a qualified maritime archaeologist. • If culturally significant anomalies cannot be avoided, appropriate mitigation measures should be developed and implemented. Mitigation could take the form of a detailed survey and/or archaeological excavation which may require a permit. The outcomes of these investigations must inform the development of the management plan for underwater cultural heritage (EPR UCH04).
UCH03	**Minimise potential impacts to the submerged beach ridge landforms** Prior to commencement of marine construction, obtain sufficiently detailed information about the submerged beach ridge formations, which occur at the locations shown in Figure 9-2 and Table 9-3 of EIS/EES Technical Appendix I, to assist in refinement of design to minimise potential impact to cultural heritage values associated with the landscape prior to inundation. The sufficiently detailed information includes obtaining high resolution video and multi-beam data along the route where it crosses the beach ridges. By the completion of construction, have a 3D model prepared using the detailed information collected prior to construction to contribute to the interpretation of these formations as they could have appeared prior to sea level rise. This will be provided to the relevant First Peoples groups. If construction requires trenching through the beach ridge landform, the impacts must be assessed and minimised during construction, and mitigation measures implemented where required. These measures must be overseen by a qualified maritime archaeologist and inform the development of the management plan for underwater cultural heritage (EPR UCH04).

EPR ID	Environmental Performance Requirements
UCH04	**Manage impacts and unexpected finds by developing and implementing a management plan for Underwater Cultural Heritage**. Prior to commencement of marine construction, develop an underwater cultural heritage management plan detailing measures to avoid and minimise impacts on underwater cultural heritage and archaeology for both First Peoples and maritime heritage. The plan must be prepared by an experienced and qualified maritime archaeologist, informed by all available data collected for the alignment and be informed by engagement with First Peoples (EPR EM08). The plan must include: • An unexpected finds protocol. • Artefact and site recognition guide. • Artefact and site recording standards that conform to relevant State and Commonwealth requirements. • Detailed maps of no anchoring zones. • Inductions prepared for contractors and criteria for when different inductions are required to address separate work activities. • The required approach and frequency for site/sea floor inspections before, during construction and after construction (if required) where anomalies can't be avoided with a 10 m buffer or if significant sites are identified along the alignment. The plan must be implemented during construction.

2. Recommended ecology and Social mitigation measures for Tasmania to address EPBC Act matters

EPR ID	Environmental Performance Requirements and mitigation measures
	Social
S01 Tas	~~**Develop and implement a social impact management plan**~~ ~~Prior to commencement of project works develop a social impact management plan. The plan must be developed in consultation with relevant government and local government agencies, key stakeholders, and directly affected parties to minimise social impacts across the project during construction.~~ ~~The social impact management plan should be location specific and address key components of the construction program, including the staging of land cable trenching and installation. The plan should be a public document and be readily available on the project website.~~ ~~The plan must include:~~ ~~– A high-level summary of community baseline conditions, a summary of the anticipated social impacts (positive and negative), potential residual impacts and consideration for cumulative impacts. The plan will be reviewed and updated to address any shifts in the socioeconomic environment on the baseline and impacts and consider the ongoing cumulative impacts of projects in the region.~~ ~~– Incorporate key strategies, their objectives for managing social impacts and the responsibilities for implementation of the strategies including the workforce and accommodation strategy (EPR S02 Tas), community and stakeholder engagement framework (EPR S03 Tas), community benefits sharing scheme (EPR S04 Tas), and industry participation (EPR S05 Tas).~~ ~~– An employment and training performance strategy with a focus on providing local opportunities~~ ~~– Describe the requirement for first response medical capabilities on-site for both local and non-local employees and contractors to minimise the impact on local health services.~~ ~~– Outline of a protocol to be developed for engaging with community and managing social impacts during an emergency that must be developed in consultation with local emergency response providers and referenced in the project's emergency response plan.~~ ~~The social impact management plan must be implemented during construction.~~Prior to construction commencing, in preparing the project's worker health and safety plan, include: • Requirements and measures for responding to health, medical and safety incidents of construction personnel during the construction phase. • Strategies for provision of first response medical capabilities on-site for both local and non-local employees and contractors to minimise the impact on local health services.

EPR ID	Environmental Performance Requirements and mitigation measures
S02 Tas	~~Develop and implement a workforce and accommodation strategy~~ Develop a workforce and accommodation strategy to address the potential social impact from the project's workforce and accommodation requirements during construction. The strategy must: • Be developed in consultation with government, industry and other relevant providers. • Include a protocol for the identification and management of impacts due to accommodation requirements. • Address cumulative impacts on accommodation due to other large-scale construction and infrastructure projects in the identified local study areas. The outcomes of the strategy ~~must~~ will be considered during construction planning.
S03 Tas	~~Develop and implement a community and stakeholder engagement framework~~ Prior to ~~commencement of project works~~construction commencing, develop a community and stakeholder engagement framework for the whole project, which~~to~~ outlines the approach to engagement with community, stakeholders, ~~and~~ First Peoples and the Tasmanian Aboriginal Community that will be undertaken for the project and by all contractors. The community and stakeholder engagement framework must • be consistent with IAP2 principles and guidance in the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water *National guidelines – Community engagement and benefits for electricity transmission projects*, and *Renewable energy development in Tasmania: A guideline for community engagement, benefit sharing and local procurement, May 2024* (Department of State Growth, 2024). It must: • Identify key community and stakeholder groups with a likely interest in the Project, including but not limited to property owners, local residents, business owners, business and industry associations, road users, and local Council ~~across the project~~. • Describe the approach for engaging the community, stakeholders, ~~and~~ First Peoples and the Tasmanian Aboriginal Community. • Establish communication protocols and tools for communication that provide:~~.~~ o Early and ongoing information and notification to local communities and stakeholders, including users of public open spaces about details, timing and duration of proposed works, potential impacts and proposed management measures. o Information on issues of community concern and proposed management measures, including but not limited to, project scope, construction noise (including from after hours works), construction air quality, construction traffic, operational noise and electromagnetic fields (EMF). • Outline complaints policies and management procedures for recording, managing, and resolving complaints. The complaints management system must be consistent with Australian Standard *AS/NZS 10002: 2014 Guidelines for Complaints Management in Organisations*. Principal contractors must prepare a community and stakeholder engagement management plan in accordance with the framework for their works package. The community and stakeholder engagement framework and contractor's community and stakeholder engagement management plan ~~must~~ will be updated annually to reflect any project or stakeholder changes and improvements identified. The community and stakeholder engagement framework ~~must~~ will be implemented during construction.
S04 Tas	~~Develop and implement a community benefits sharing scheme~~ Prior to the ~~commencement of project works~~construction commencing, develop a Tasmanian community benefits sharing scheme in consultation with communities, ~~and First Peoples~~ and the Tasmanian Aboriginal Community in the identified local study area.

EPR ID	Environmental Performance Requirements and mitigation measures
	The Tasmanian community benefits sharing scheme ~~should~~ will be developed having regard to *Renewable energy development in Tasmania: A guideline for community engagement, benefit sharing and local procurement* (~~*Draft 2022,*~~ *Department of State Growth, 2024*).
S05 Tas	~~**Develop and implement an industry participation plan**~~ Prior to construction commencing~~Prior to the commencement of project works~~, develop an industry participation plan to integrate First Peoples, the Tasmanian Aboriginal Community females, youth and socially vulnerable groups into the project workforce. The purpose of industry participation plan is to stimulate entrepreneurship, business and economic development, providing First Peoples, the Tasmanian Aboriginal Community and vulnerable groups with more opportunities to participate in the economy. The~~-~~ plan ~~must~~will: • Set out an employment and supplier-use participation target within the project's locality. • Outline the project's social procurement policies and local procurement policies considering each component and phase of construction. • Be developed in conjunction with the requirements under the Indigenous Employment and Supplier-use Infrastructure Framework (February 2019) • Identify a range of potential opportunities for jobseekers and businesses to be involved in the project across the construction supply chain. • Set employment targets with reference to the local First Peoples or the Tasmanian Aboriginal Community working age population within the project area and consistent with the 'locals first principle'. • Identify opportunities for females, youth and other socially vulnerable groups to be involved in the project workforce. • ~~The plan must be implemented during construction and operation.~~
S06 Tas	Prior to construction commencing, engage with local emergency service providers in the preparation, planning, monitoring and review of the project's emergency response plan and procedures. The project's emergency response plan must outline protocols for: • Ongoing engagement with emergency services about changes to local access and project activities that have potential to cause delay or disruption to emergency response. • Engaging with the community and managing social impacts during an emergency incident. The protocols will form part of the project's emergency response plan and will be implemented during construction.
	Terrestrial ecology
EC01 Tas	~~**Minimise vegetation removal and implement and implement vegetation protection measures**~~ Develop and implement measures to protect the area of *Eucalyptus amygdalina*, coastal forest and woodland, present at the Heybridge converter station site, primarily by implementing a no-go zone.~~ To inform the project design, develop and implement measures to avoid and otherwise minimise to the extent practicable impacts on native vegetation.~~ ~~The design must avoid the eucalyptus woodland vegetation in the northeast corner of the site.~~ ~~Prior to commencement of project works, develop a vegetation management plan to avoid and otherwise minimise impacts to vegetation, covering as a minimum:~~ • ~~Identification of areas of important flora and fauna habitat to be protected during construction.~~

EPR ID	Environmental Performance Requirements and mitigation measures
	~~• Fencing protected areas and no-go zones to prevent access during construction.~~ ~~• Pre-construction site assessment to confirm that vegetation and trees to be retained have been adequately protected from impact.~~ ~~• Vegetation clearing controls and protection measures.~~ ~~• Implementation of appropriate measures to manage the risk of spread and introduction of weeds and pathogens during construction.~~ ~~• Procedures if unexpected threatened species are identified.~~ ~~The vegetation management plan must be a sub plan of the CEMP and implemented during construction.~~
EC02 Tas	**Implement measures to protect ~~fauna~~biodiversity** Prior to commencement of project works, develop a ~~fauna management~~ biodiversity management plan. Measures will include ~~plan to avoid and otherwise minimise impacts to fauna, covering~~ as a minimum: • Pre-works inspection of the Heybridge Converter Station site to confirm protection of the area of Eucalyptus amygdalina and to detect for presence of threatened fauna species, undertaken by a suitably qualified ecologist. • Salvage and re-location of fauna from Heybridge Converter Station site, if required, prior to construction. • Procedures for the management of injured fauna at the Heybridge Converter Station site. • Procedures if unexpected threatened species are identified at the Heybridge Converter Station site. • Measures detailing the identification and management of weeds, developed in accordance with the Weed and Disease and Planning and Hygiene Guidelines (DPIPWE 2015b), the relevant Statutory Weed Management plans associated with the declared weeds on site, and the Tasmanian Biosecurity Act 2019 • Mitigation measures to address potential roadkill, developed in accordance with Tasmanian Devil Survey Guidelines and Management Advice for Development Proposals, including, but not limited to: o Protection measures for the Tasmanian devil and Spotted-tailed quoll with a focus on construction traffic and awareness regarding roadkill included in site inductions. o Establishing and implementing a recording and reporting process for roadkill on Minna Road between intersection with Bass Highway and the entry to site, where vehicles associated with the proposal will travel, especially for reporting Tasmanian devils and spotted-tail quoll roadkill incidents to NRE. o Construction vehicles to maintain low speeds between dusk and dawn. o Removing roadkill mortalities off the road within a specified distance of the site to reduce attracting carnivorous fauna during the construction period. ~~• Protection measures for Tasmanian devils and Spotted-tail quolls with a focus on construction traffic and awareness regarding roadkill included in site inductions.~~ ~~• Recording and reporting process for incidents of vehicle strikes and/or roadkill of Tasmanian devils and Spotted-tail quolls on Minna Road between intersection with Bass Highway and the entry to site, where vehicles associated with the project will travel. Reporting of roadkill of Tasmanian devils and Spotted-tail quolls to the Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania. Removing mortalities off the road within a specified distance of site to reduce attracting carnivorous fauna.~~ • Any night-time lighting associated with construction works must adhere to the guidance principles outlined in the National Light Pollution Guidelines for Wildlife. These measures would include, but are not limited to: o Night-time lighting required for the 24-hour operation of the HDD works will be minimised to the greatest extent practicable.

EPR ID	Environmental Performance Requirements and mitigation measures
	○ Red light will be used at night where possible. • ~~Utilisation of night lighting to a minimum amount required to safely operate the site and to reduce light pollution and adverse effects to fauna species.~~ • Management procedures to avoid animals entering trenches or being recovered from trenches and excavated areas. • ~~Preclearance surveys of construction areas for threatened fauna species prior to vegetation removal and undertaken by a suitably qualified ecologist.~~ The ~~fauna management plan must be a sub-plan of the CEMP and~~biodiversity management plan will be implemented during construction.
EC03 Tas	**Implement measures to protect raptors** Prior to ~~commencement of project works~~construction commencing and every year during construction, confirm that there are no active Tasmanian wedge-tailed eagle nor White-bellied sea-eagle nests within a distance of 500 m of the Heybridge Converter Station site boundary, or within 1 km line-of-sight ~~prior to construction~~of the site boundary, ~~-~~using eagle nest search data collected within one year of construction commencing. ~~Undertake further nest survey if there is no current (within one year) survey of nest presence and to avoid impacts to raptors outside of the breeding season, as per the Threatened Tasmanian Eagles Recovery Plan 2006-2010 and the Environment Protection Authority's Guide to Eagle Nest Searching and Nest Activity Checks.~~ ~~If a nest is observed within a distance of 500 m of the site boundary, or within1 km line-of-sight prior to construction the following will be required:~~ • ~~Avoid project activities within a distance of 500 m, or within 1 km line of sight of active eagle nests during breeding season in accordance with guidelines outlined in the FPA Fauna Technical Note No. 1.~~ At any time prior to or during construction, if an eagle nest is observed within 500 m, or within 1 km line-of-sight of the Heybridge Converter Station site boundary, works will cease until activity checks and other measures have been implemented in accordance with the Tasmanian Forest Practices Authority's Fauna Technical Note No. 1 Eagle nest searching, activity checking and nest management (FPA 2023), the Threatened Tasmanian Eagles Recovery Plan 2006-2010, and the EPA Guide to Eagle Nest Searches and Activity Checks. If activity checks are required, the following measures will be implemented: • Activity checks are to be conducted between mid-October and the end of December by a suitably qualified, FPA/NRE accredited assessor. • Activity checks are considered likely to disturb a breeding pair, potentially leading to breeding failure and would only be conducted under exceptional circumstances following consultation with NRE Tasmania and EPA Tasmania. Construction ~~to~~ will be deferred until outside of the ~~breeding season~~eagle next management constraint period if a nest within ~~a distance of~~ 500 m, or within 1 km line-~~-~~of-~~-~~sight of the Heybridge Converter Station site is determined to be active as per FPA Fauna Technical Note No. 1. ~~All nests are to be treated as active during the breeding season until determined as inactive by a suitable qualified person.~~
EC04 Tas	Prepare and implement an eagle nest management strategy if a new eagle nest is identified within 500 m or 1 km line-of-sight of the Heybridge Converter Station site boundary during construction, in accordance with FPA Fauna Technical Note No. 1, the Threatened Tasmanian Eagles Recovery Plan 2006-2010, and the EPA Guide to Eagle Nest Searches and Activity Checks. This strategy will be prepared in consultation with NRE Tasmania and EPA Tasmania.

EPR ID	Environmental Performance Requirements and mitigation measures
~~EC04 Tas~~	~~**Operational implementation of vegetation protection measures**~~ ~~As part of the OEMP, develop a vegetation management plan for operations to avoid and otherwise minimise impacts that covers:~~ ~~• Demarcation of areas of important flora and fauna habitat to be protected during normal maintenance and operations.~~ ~~• Implementation of appropriate measures to manage the risk of spread and introduction of weeds and pathogens during normal maintenance and operations.~~ ~~The vegetation management plan must be a sub plan to the OEMP and implemented in operation.~~
~~EC05 Tas~~	~~**Operational implementation of measures to protect raptors**~~ ~~As part of the OEMP, develop a nest management strategy to avoid impacts to raptors during major operational and maintenance activities (e.g. long term increase in site activity that includes use of crane/s for lifting and replacing large components and equipment)~~ ~~Prior to major operational and maintenance activities, confirm that there are no nests within a distance of 500 m of the site boundary or within1 km line of sight prior to activities, using data collected within one year prior to the commencement of construction.~~ ~~Undertake a further nest survey if there is no recent (within one year) survey data of nest presence outside of the breeding season, as per the T*hreatened Tasmanian Eagles Recovery Plan 2006-2010* and the Environment Protection Authority's *Guide to Eagle Nest Searching and Nest Activity Checks*.~~ ~~If a nest is observed within a distance of 500 m or within 1 km line of sight prior to major operational/maintenance activities the following will be required:~~ ~~• Avoid major activities within a distance of 500 m or within 1 km line of sight of active eagle nests during breeding season in accordance with guidelines outlined in the FPA Fauna Technical Note No. 1~~ ~~• Defer major activities until outside of the breeding season if a nest within a distance of 500 m, or within 1 km line of sight is determined to be active as per FPA Fauna Technical Note No. 1. All nests are to be treated as active during the breeding season until determined as inactive by a suitable qualified person.~~