

Strategic Benefit Payment Guidelines

Commencement date:

1 July 2025

Acknowledgement of Country



Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water acknowledges the traditional custodians of the land and pays respect to Elders past, present and future.

We recognise Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' unique cultural and spiritual relationships to place and their rich contribution to society.

Artist and designer Nikita Ridgeway from Aboriginal design agency – Boss Lady Creative Designs, created the People and Community symbol.

Strategic Benefit Payment Guidelines

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Contents

Acknowledgement of Country	ii
Part 1: Introduction	5
1 Introduction	5
2 Commencement and amendment	5
Part 2: Definitions and key concepts.....	6
3 Definitions and interpretation	6
4 <i>Project Easements and the Centre Line</i>	14
5 <i>Relevant Line Length</i>	15
6 <i>Assessment Dates and SBP Payment Dates</i>	18
7 <i>Eligible Owners, joint owners and tenants in common</i>	19
Part 3: Establishing <i>Eligible Projects</i> and <i>Eligible Infrastructure</i>	20
8 How the <i>Minister</i> establishes <i>Eligible Projects</i> and <i>Eligible Infrastructure</i>	20
9 Information to support inclusion of projects and infrastructure in these <i>Guidelines</i>	20
Part 4: Obligation to make payments and related process requirements	21
10 Obligation to notify the <i>Energisation Date</i>	21
11 Obligation to identify <i>Eligible Owners</i>	21
12 Obligation to obtain <i>Payment Directions</i>	21
13 Payment calculation, timing and <i>Late Payments</i>	23
14 Calculation of <i>Strategic Benefit Payments</i>	24
15 Payments following a <i>Native Title Determination</i> or <i>Aboriginal Land Rights Grant</i>	26
16 Payment into trust.....	29
Part 5: Other <i>Licence Holder</i> obligations	31
17 <i>Project Easement Register</i>	31
18 Records and audit	31
19 Information for <i>Eligible Owners</i>	32
20 Payment administration and data management	33
21 Engagement with <i>Eligible Owners</i> and complaints	34
22 Annual reporting by a <i>Licence Holder</i>	35
23 No recovery of <i>Late Payment</i> interest or payment errors	36
Schedule 1: Property, title and owner eligibility	37
S1.1 Explanation of the <i>Property Interests Table</i>	37

S1.2	<i>Property Interests Table</i>	37
	Schedule 2: Interest calculations, with examples	41
S2.1	Explanatory note.....	41
S2.2	Examples of the calculation of default interest	41
	Schedule 3: Examples to illustrate the calculation of length	43
S3.1	Explanatory note.....	43
S3.2	Examples of the calculation of <i>Relevant Line Length</i>	43
	Schedule 4: Transitional provisions	48
S4.1	Transitional provisions for the initial <i>Guidelines</i>	48
	Appendix A: List of <i>Eligible Projects</i> and the <i>Eligible Infrastructure</i> for each <i>Eligible Project</i>	49
A.1	Explanatory notes.....	49
A.2	Project Energy Connect (PEC)	49
A.3	HumeLink.....	50
A.4	Victoria – New South Wales Interconnector West (VNI West)	51
A.5	Main Central West Orana Renewable Energy Zone network infrastructure project	52
A.6	Enabling Central West Orana Network Infrastructure Project	54
A.7	New England REZ Network Infrastructure Project	55
A.8	Sydney Ring North (Hunter Transmission Project)	56
	Delivery status legend	57

Part 1: Introduction

1 Introduction

- 1.1 These *Guidelines* are issued by the *Minister* for clause 6(2)(i) of Schedule 2 of the *ES Act*.
 - 1.2 A *Licence Holder* subject to an *SBP Condition* must make *Strategic Benefit Payments* and comply with these *Guidelines* as a condition of its *Licence*.
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2 Commencement and amendment

- 2.1 These *Guidelines* commence on 1 July 2025.
- 2.2 The *Minister* may at any time amend these *Guidelines* by reissuing them under the *ES Act*. The amendment will take effect on the date specified by the *Minister* when issuing the amended *Guidelines*.
- 2.3 The *Department* will review these *Guidelines* two years after the date of first publication and every five years after that.
- 2.4 The transitional rules that apply to these *Guidelines* are in Schedule 4.

Part 2: Definitions and key concepts

3 Definitions and interpretation

3.1 In these *Guidelines*, terms in italics have the meaning set out below.

<i>Aboriginal Land Rights Act</i>	The <i>Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983</i> (NSW).
<i>Adjustment Factor</i>	Has the meaning given in clause 14.5. Note: The <i>Adjustment Factor</i> is a variable to allow for pro-rating of payments in the first and last years that payments are made. Payments will be made on a <i>Financial Year</i> basis.
<i>AEMO</i>	Australian Energy Market Operator.
<i>Affected Land Title</i>	A title or other interest in land: (a) that is in one of the <i>Land Title Categories</i> listed in the <i>Property Interests Table</i> ; and (b) either: (i) the <i>Centre Line</i> of a <i>Project Easement</i> traverses the title or other interest; or (ii) where paragraph (b)(i) does not apply, an <i>Outer Line</i> of a <i>Project Easement</i> traverses the title or other interest.
<i>Applicable Land Registry</i>	The source of information that a <i>Licence Holder</i> must use to identify each <i>Eligible Interest</i> and its <i>Holder</i> , as specified in the <i>Property Interests Table</i> .
<i>Annual SBP Project Report</i>	An annual report prepared by a <i>Licence Holder</i> for its <i>Eligible Projects</i> that includes the information required under clause 22.
<i>Assessment Date</i>	For a <i>Project Section</i> , each <i>Assessment Date</i> determined under clause 6.1. Note: The <i>Assessment Date</i> is used to determine who is the <i>Eligible Owner</i> for each payment. The first <i>Assessment Date</i> is the <i>Energisation Date</i> and after that, each subsequent <i>Assessment Date</i> is 1 July each year.
<i>Audit Guidelines</i>	For a <i>Licence Holder</i> , has the meaning given in its <i>Licence</i> . Note: The <i>Tribunal</i> makes guidelines setting out compliance auditing requirements for the purpose of <i>Licences</i> .

<i>Business Day</i>	A day that is not a Saturday, Sunday or public holiday in New South Wales.
<i>Centre Line</i>	In relation to a <i>Project Easement</i> , a line determined under clause 4.3. Note: A centre line indicates the approximate centre of transmission line infrastructure on a <i>Project Easement</i> .
<i>Centre Line Method</i>	The method for measuring the <i>Relevant Line Length</i> for a <i>Holding</i> set out in the second row of the table in clause 5.2.
<i>Complaints Handling Policy</i>	A policy prepared by a <i>Licence Holder</i> under clause 21.4 that sets out the <i>Licence Holder's</i> process for handling complaints relating to these <i>Guidelines</i> .
<i>Data Management Arrangements</i>	Arrangements established by a <i>Licence Holder</i> under clause 20.3 covering the use, disclosure, protection and destruction of <i>Landholder Information</i> .
<i>Default Rate</i>	For calculating the interest that accrues with respect to a day falling in: (a) the period from 1 January to 30 June in any year — a nominal rate of 4% per annum above the cash rate last published by the Reserve Bank of Australia before that period commenced; and (b) the period from 1 July to 31 December in any year — a nominal rate of 4% per annum above the cash rate last published by the Reserve Bank of Australia before that period commenced.
<i>Department</i>	The NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water.
<i>Easement</i>	An easement, excluding a temporary construction easement, that permits the operation of an electricity power line, electricity works and other associated infrastructure, whether registered in an <i>Applicable Land Registry</i> or otherwise protected by the <i>ES Act</i> or at law. Note: A <i>Licence Holder</i> may acquire both construction easements and permanent easements. The <i>Strategic Benefit Payment</i> arrangements do not apply to construction easements.
<i>Electricity Infrastructure Investment Act</i>	The <i>Electricity Infrastructure Investment Act 2020</i> (NSW).
<i>Eligible Interest</i>	For an <i>Affected Land Title</i> , the type of interest specified in the <i>Property Interests Table</i> .

	Note: There may be many different types of interest in an <i>Affected Land Title</i> . Only the <i>Eligible Owner</i> of the type of interest identified in the <i>Property Interests Table</i> as an <i>Eligible Interest</i> will be eligible for a payment.
Eligible Infrastructure	Transmission infrastructure that forms part of an <i>Eligible Project</i> and is identified as <i>Eligible Infrastructure</i> in Appendix A to these <i>Guidelines</i> .
Eligible Owner	Has the meaning given in clause 7.1.
Eligible Project	A transmission infrastructure project identified as an <i>Eligible Project</i> in Appendix A to these <i>Guidelines</i> .
Energisation Date	For a <i>Project Section</i> , the date that a voltage is first applied to any part of that <i>Project Section</i> from an operating part of the national grid (as defined in the <i>National Electricity Rules</i>).
ES Act	The <i>Electricity Supply Act 1995</i> (NSW).
Financial Year	A period of 12 calendar months commencing on 1 July each year.
First Relevant Assessment Date	<p>For a <i>New Affected Land Title</i>:</p> <p>(a) if the <i>Licence Holder</i> makes a <i>Revenue Adjustment Application</i> before making the payments required under clause 15 with respect to that <i>New Affected Land Title</i> – the first <i>Assessment Date</i> occurring after the Australian Energy Regulator has determined the application; and</p> <p>(b) otherwise – the first <i>Assessment Date</i> occurring after the <i>Grant</i> or the <i>Native Title Determination</i>, as applicable.</p> <p>Note: For a <i>New Affected Land Title</i>, this is the <i>Assessment Date</i> for which <i>Strategic Benefit Payments</i> are first determined under the arrangements in clause 15.</p>
Grant	<p>With respect to land subject to a claim under the <i>Aboriginal Land Rights Act</i>, a <i>Grant</i> has occurred once:</p> <p>(a) the Crown Lands Minister (as defined in the <i>Aboriginal Land Rights Act</i>) has granted the claim for the land under section 36(5) of the <i>Aboriginal Land Rights Act</i>; and</p> <p>(b) the land has been transferred under section 36(9) or (9A) (as applicable) of the <i>Aboriginal Land Rights Act</i> to the Aboriginal Land Council (as defined in the <i>Aboriginal Land Rights Act</i>) to whom the grant was made.</p>
Guidelines	These strategic benefit payment guidelines issued by the <i>Minister</i> under clause 6(2)(i) of Schedule 2 of the <i>ES Act</i> .

Holder	For an <i>Eligible Interest</i> at any time, the person the <i>Property Interests Table</i> identifies as the holder of the <i>Eligible Interest</i> .
Holding	An <i>Affected Land Title</i> , a group of contiguous <i>Affected Land Titles</i> or a section of an <i>Affected Land Title</i> or group, for which the <i>Relevant Line Length</i> must be calculated, as specified in clause 5.1.
Interpretation Act	The <i>Interpretation Act 1987</i> (NSW).
Land Title Category	The titles or other interests in land described in the <i>Property Interests Table</i> .
Landholder Information	<p><i>Personal Information</i> provided to a <i>Licence Holder</i> in connection with <i>Strategic Benefit Payments</i>.</p> <p>Note: <i>Personal Information</i> includes information to identify a person and information in a <i>Payment Direction</i> given by or on behalf of a person.</p>
Late Payment	<p>A payment, or any part of a payment, required under clause 13.2 or clause 15.9, where:</p> <p>(a) the <i>Licence Holder</i> fails to pay on or before the applicable <i>SBP Payment Date</i> determined under clause 13.2 or clause 15.10 as applicable; and</p> <p>(b) clause 16.1 does not excuse that failure.</p>
Licence	Has the meaning given in the <i>ES Act</i> .
Licence Holder	A person that holds a <i>Licence</i> that is subject to the <i>SBP Condition</i> .
Minister	The Minister administering the <i>ES Act</i> .
National Electricity Rules	The rules of that name made under the National Electricity (NSW) Law.
National Native Title Register	Has the meaning given in the <i>Native Title Act</i> .
Native Title	Has the meaning given in the <i>Native Title Act</i> .
Native Title Act	The <i>Native Title Act 1993</i> (Cth).
Native Title Determination	A determination made under the <i>Native Title Act</i> which determines that native title exists on the relevant land.
New Aboriginal Land Rights Land Title	<p>Land within the boundaries of a <i>Project Easement</i> for a <i>Project Section</i> that:</p> <p>(a) on the first <i>Assessment Date</i> for the <i>Project Section</i> was not an <i>Affected Land Title</i> within either the category ‘Aboriginal land</p>

	<p>rights land (fee simple)’ or ‘Aboriginal land rights land (lease)’ in the <i>Property Interests Table</i>; and</p> <p>(b) as a result of a <i>Grant</i> after the first <i>Assessment Date</i> for the <i>Project Section</i>, becomes an <i>Affected Land Title</i> for the <i>Project Section</i> within one of those categories.</p>
New Affected Land Title	A <i>New Native Title Land Title</i> or a <i>New Aboriginal Land Rights Land Title</i> .
New Native Title Land Title	<p>Land within the boundaries of a <i>Project Easement</i> for a <i>Project Section</i> that:</p> <p>(a) on the first <i>Assessment Date</i> for the <i>Project Section</i>, was not an <i>Affected Land Title</i> within the <i>Land Title Category</i> ‘Easement land subject to Native Title’ in the <i>Property Interests Table</i>; and</p> <p>(b) because of a <i>Native Title Determination</i> after the first <i>Assessment Date</i> for the <i>Project Section</i>, becomes an <i>Affected Land Title</i> for the <i>Project Section</i> within that category.</p>
Outer Line	A line immediately inside the border of a <i>Project Easement</i> along its length.
Outer Line Method	The method for measuring the <i>Relevant Line Length</i> for a <i>Holding</i> described in the third row of the table in clause 5.2.
Payment Administration Arrangements	Arrangements established by a <i>Licence Holder</i> under clause 20.1 to obtain <i>Payment Directions</i> and make payments in a timely and accurate manner and to manage the risk of fraud.
Payment Direction	A direction that satisfies the requirements of clause 12.
Personal Information	Has the meaning given to ‘personal information’ in the <i>Privacy Act 1988</i> (Cth).
Project Easement	<p>Has the meaning given in clause 4.1.</p> <p>Note: <i>Project Easements</i> host <i>Eligible Infrastructure</i>.</p>
Project Easement Register	A register of <i>Project Easements</i> established under clause 17.1.
Property Interests Table	The table of property interests and related information in clause S1.2 of Schedule 1.
Project Operator	For an <i>Eligible Project</i> and each <i>Project Section</i> forming part of the <i>Eligible Project</i> , the <i>Licence Holder</i> designated in Appendix A as its <i>Project Operator</i> .

	Note: A <i>Licence Holder</i> may be designated as the <i>Project Operator</i> for an <i>Eligible Project</i> under these <i>Guidelines</i> even if it is the owner of the <i>Eligible Project</i> but not the operator. There is only one <i>Project Operator</i> for each <i>Eligible Project</i> .
Project Section	<p>(a) For an <i>Eligible Project</i>, each section of transmission line forming part of the <i>Eligible Project</i> that is identified as a <i>Project Section</i> in Appendix A.</p> <p>(b) Despite paragraph (a), if different parts of a transmission line identified as a <i>Project Section</i> in Appendix A have different <i>Energisation Dates</i>, each part corresponding to each different <i>Energisation Date</i> is a different <i>Project Section</i> for the purposes of these <i>Guidelines</i>.</p>
Project Section Payment Period	For a <i>Project Section</i> , a period of 20 years commencing on the <i>Project Section's Energisation Date</i> .
Public Authority	<p>Does not include a Local Aboriginal Land Council constituted by the <i>Aboriginal Land Rights Act</i> or a <i>Registered Native Title Body Corporate</i>, but otherwise, any of the following:</p> <p>(a) in relation to New South Wales:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) the Crown, a Minister, a Government Department, a NSW Government agency or a statutory body representing the Crown; (ii) a State owned corporation within the meaning of the <i>State Owned Corporations Act 1989</i> (NSW) (iii) a council, a county council or a joint organisation within the meaning of the <i>Local Government Act 1993</i> (NSW); and (iv) any person authorised to acquire land by compulsory process; <p>(b) in relation to any other another Australian jurisdiction:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) the Crown in right of the jurisdiction, a Minister or Government Department of the jurisdiction; (ii) an agency of the jurisdiction or a statutory body representing the Crown in right of the jurisdiction; (iii) a Government-owned corporation of the jurisdiction; (iv) a council or other local government authority of the jurisdiction; and (v) any other entity owned by or funded by the jurisdiction for a public purpose; and

	(c) a foreign government investor within the meaning of the <i>Foreign Acquisitions and Takeovers Act 1975</i> (Cth).
Publish	For a <i>Licence Holder</i> , to make available in accessible form on a website maintained by the <i>Licence Holder</i> .
Registered Native Title Body Corporate	Has the meaning given in the <i>Native Title Act</i> .
Relevant Line Length	The length used to calculate <i>Strategic Benefit Payments</i> , determined under clause 5.
Reporting Manual	For a <i>Licence Holder</i> , has the meaning given in its <i>Licence</i> . Note: The <i>Tribunal</i> prepares a manual that sets out reporting requirements for the purposes of <i>Licences</i> .
Revenue Adjustment Application	An application made by a <i>Licence Holder</i> for the purposes of obtaining a cost pass through or adjustment, as applicable to the <i>Revenue Determination</i> .
Revenue Determination	A revenue determination made by the Australian Energy Regulator under Chapter 6A of the <i>National Electricity Rules</i> or Part 5 of the <i>Electricity Infrastructure Investment Act</i> .
Scheme Costs	A <i>Licence Holder's</i> costs of complying with the <i>SBP Licence Condition</i> and these <i>Guidelines</i> , including its administration costs and <i>Strategic Benefit Payments</i> .
SBP Condition	A condition of the <i>Licence</i> made under clause 6(2)(i) of Schedule 2 of the <i>ES Act</i> requiring the <i>Licence Holder</i> to: (a) make payments in relation to transmission infrastructure owned or operated by the <i>Licence Holder</i> in accordance with the <i>Guidelines</i> ; and (b) comply with the <i>Guidelines</i> .
SBP Payment Date	The date by which a payment must be made, determined for a <i>Project Section</i> and an <i>Assessment Date</i> under clause 6.2.
SBP Trust Account	The trust account established by the <i>Licence Holder</i> under clause 12 of Schedule 2 of the <i>ES Act</i> .
Strategic Benefit Payment	A payment calculated under clause 14 or clause 15 as applicable.

<i>Strategic Benefit Payment Rate</i>	For a <i>Financial Year</i> , the amount (in \$ per km of <i>Relevant Line Length</i>) calculated under clause 14.4.
<i>Tribunal</i>	Has the meaning given in the <i>ES Act</i> . Note: This is the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART).

3.2 Subject to this clause 3, the *Interpretation Act* applies to these *Guidelines*.

Note: Terms defined in the Dictionary to the *Interpretation Act* and used in these *Guidelines* include 'amend'; 'authorised deposit-taking institution'; 'document', 'Gazette', 'individual', 'National Electricity (NSW) Law' and 'person'.

3.3 The following interpretation principles apply in these *Guidelines*:

- (a) where any obligation under these *Guidelines* must be performed on a day that is not a *Business Day*, the obligation may be performed on the next *Business Day*;
- (b) reference to a person includes the person's executors and administrators;
- (c) the 'Notes', and the examples in Schedules 2 and 3 are only for information and do not form part of the *Guidelines* and, to avoid doubt, in the event of any inconsistency, the *Guidelines* prevail;
- (d) if a number is to be rounded to two decimal places, a 5 in the third decimal place must be rounded up; and
- (e) if a matter is to be determined as at a particular day, it is to be determined as at the end of that day.

Note: For example, under paragraph (e), if a title transfers on an *Assessment Date*, the *Title Holder* is the holder of the title at the end of that day.

3.4 To avoid doubt, clause 3.3(a) does not affect the way *Assessment Dates* and *SBP Payment Dates* are determined.

3.5 In these *Guidelines*, unless the contrary intention appears, a reference to a *Licence Holder's Eligible Project* or *Project Section* is a reference to an *Eligible Project* or *Project Section* (as applicable) for which the *Licence Holder* is the *Project Operator*.

3.6 In making these *Guidelines*, the intent is that *Strategic Benefit Payments* made with respect to an *Affected Land Title* subject to *Native Title*:

- (a) are separate from, and in addition to, any compensation entitlement owed to the *Registered Native Title Body Corporate* under the *Native Title Act*; and
- (b) are not 'compensation awarded under a law of a State or Territory' for the purposes of section 49(b) of the *Native Title Act*.

Note: *Strategic Benefit Payments* recognise that new energy infrastructure, which will power the State into the future, may be constructed on land subject to *Native Title*. The payments ensure *Native Title* holders benefit directly from this significant economic investment.

4 Project Easements and the Centre Line

Project Easements for single and dual transmission lines

- 4.1 A **Project Easement** is an *Easement* that hosts *Eligible Infrastructure*.
- 4.2 For the purposes of clause 4.1, if a *Project Easement* hosts two separate transmission lines running side by side, then:
- (a) if each separate transmission line is *Eligible Infrastructure*, the *Easement* is treated as two separate *Project Easements* of equal width, each hosting one of the transmission lines; and
 - (b) if only one of the transmission lines is *Eligible Infrastructure*, the *Easement* is treated as two separate *Easements* of equal width, with only the separate *Easement* that hosts the *Eligible Infrastructure* being a *Project Easement*.

Note: Clause 4.2 provides for *Easements* that host (for example) two 500kV or 330kV dual circuit lines, either or both of which may be *Eligible Infrastructure*. Clause 4.3 provides for *Easements* that host a single transmission line (for example a 500kV dual circuit line) where the line is separated into two for a section.

Location of the Centre Line

- 4.3 The location of the *Centre Line* on a section of *Project Easement* is determined under the following table.

Note: A dual circuit transmission line will typically be carried on a single set of towers along the length of the *Project Easement*, as provided for in Scenario A in the table. Sometimes, a section of the transmission line may be separated into two sets of towers, each carrying a single circuit, within a single *Project Easement*, as provided for in Scenario B in the table. Schedule 3 includes an illustrative example.

Scenario	Description	Centre Line
A	All sections of a <i>Project Easement</i> where the <i>Eligible Infrastructure</i> is a single length of transmission line infrastructure.	The <i>Centre Line</i> for the section is a line located approximately mid-way between the borders of the <i>Project Easement</i> and identified on the <i>Project Easement</i> plan as the centre line. If the relevant <i>Project Easement</i> plan does not identify the centre line, then it is a notional line located mid-way between the borders of the <i>Project Easement</i> .
B	A section (if any) of a <i>Project Easement</i> where the <i>Eligible Infrastructure</i> is separated into two lengths of transmission line	The section is taken to have two <i>Centre Lines</i> , one corresponding to each length of transmission line.

	infrastructure on that <i>Project Easement</i> .	<p>In each case, the <i>Centre Line</i> is taken to be a line located within the border of the <i>Project Easement</i> and identified on the <i>Project Easement</i> plan as the centre line for the length of transmission line infrastructure.</p> <p>If the relevant <i>Project Easement</i> plan does not identify the centre line for a length of transmission line infrastructure, then it is a notional line located one third of the distance between:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the border of the <i>Project Easement</i> that lies closest to the length of transmission line infrastructure; and (b) the other border edge of the <i>Project Easement</i>.
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5 Relevant Line Length

Note: Schedule 3 has worked examples to illustrate the calculation of the *Relevant Line Length* in different scenarios.

Calculating the *Relevant Line Length*

5.1 The *Relevant Line Length* is calculated for each **Holding** as defined in the following table.

Category	Description	What constitutes the <i>Holding</i>
A	<p>Single <i>Affected Land Title</i> where:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) all the <i>Eligible Infrastructure</i> hosted on the <i>Project Easement</i> traversing the <i>Affected Land Title</i> is part of the same <i>Project Section</i>; and (b) the <i>Affected Land Title</i> does not fall in any other category in this table. 	The <i>Affected Land Title</i> constitutes a single <i>Holding</i> .
B	<p>Single <i>Affected Land Title</i> where:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the <i>Eligible Infrastructure</i> hosted on the <i>Project Easement</i> traversing the <i>Affected</i> 	For each <i>Project Section</i> hosted on the <i>Affected Land Title</i> , there is a separate <i>Holding</i> .

	<p><i>Land Title</i> is part of two or more <i>Project Sections</i>; and</p> <p>(b) the <i>Affected Land Title</i> does not fall in category D in this table.</p>	
C	<p>Two or more contiguous <i>Affected Land Titles</i> where:</p> <p>(a) for all the <i>Affected Land Titles</i>, the <i>Holder</i> is the same person or persons; and</p> <p>(b) if the <i>Holder</i> is more than one person (through joint or several interests), each person's interest is the same for all the <i>Affected Land Titles</i>; and</p> <p>(c) all the <i>Eligible Infrastructure</i> hosted on the <i>Project Easement</i> traversing the <i>Affected Land Titles</i> is part of the same <i>Project Section</i>.</p>	The contiguous <i>Affected Land Titles</i> constitute a single <i>Holding</i> .
D	<p>Two or more contiguous <i>Affected Land Titles</i> where:</p> <p>(a) for all the <i>Affected Land Titles</i>, the <i>Holder</i> is same person or persons; and</p> <p>(b) if the <i>Holder</i> is more than one person (through joint or several interests), each person's interest is the same for all the <i>Affected Land Titles</i>; and</p> <p>(c) the <i>Eligible Infrastructure</i> hosted on the <i>Project Easement</i> traversing the <i>Affected Land Titles</i> is part of two or more <i>Project Sections</i>.</p>	For each <i>Project Section</i> hosted on the contiguous <i>Affected Land Titles</i> , there is a separate <i>Holding</i> .

- 5.2 The *Relevant Line Length* for a *Holding* is calculated using either the *Centre Line Method* or the *Outer Line Method*, as specified in the following table, subject to clauses 5.3 and 5.4.

Method name	Method for calculating <i>Relevant Line Length</i>
<i>Centre Line Method</i>	<p>The <i>Centre Line Method</i> must be used for a <i>Holding</i> that is traversed at any point by the <i>Centre Line</i> of a <i>Project Easement</i>.</p> <p>The <i>Relevant Line Length</i> for the <i>Holding</i> is the length of the <i>Centre Line</i> of the <i>Project Easement</i> to the extent that the <i>Centre Line</i> traverses the <i>Holding</i>. Where the <i>Holding</i> contains a section of <i>Project Easement</i> with two <i>Centre Lines</i> (under scenario B in clause 4.3), the <i>Relevant Line Length</i> for the <i>Holding</i> is the total of all sections of <i>Centre Line</i> to the extent they traverse the <i>Holding</i>.</p> <p>If a <i>Centre Line</i> crosses outside the boundary of the <i>Holding</i> at a point (exit point) and then crosses back within the boundary at another point (re-entry point), then for each exit point:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) if the distance to the next re-entry point along the <i>Centre Line</i> is less than 100 meters, the <i>Relevant Line Length</i> includes that distance; and (b) otherwise, the <i>Relevant Line Length</i> does not include the distance to the next re-entry point along the <i>Centre Line</i>.
<i>Outer Line Method</i>	<p>The <i>Outer Line Method</i> must be used for a <i>Holding</i> that is not traversed at any point by a <i>Centre Line</i> of a <i>Project Easement</i> and is instead traversed by an <i>Outer Line</i>.</p> <p>The <i>Relevant Line Length</i> for the <i>Holding</i> is the length of the <i>Outer Line</i> of the <i>Project Easement</i>, to the extent that <i>Outer Line</i> traverses the <i>Holding</i>.</p> <p>If the <i>Outer Line</i> crosses outside the boundary of the <i>Holding</i> at a point (exit point) and then crosses back within the boundary at another point (re-entry point), then for each exit point:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) if the distance to the next re-entry point along the <i>Outer Line</i> is less than 100 meters, the <i>Relevant Line Length</i> includes that distance; and (b) otherwise, the <i>Relevant Line Length</i> does not include the distance to the next re-entry point along the <i>Outer Line</i>.

- 5.3 If the length measured for a *Holding* using either method is shorter than 100 metres, the *Relevant Line Length* for the *Holding* is 0.10 kilometres.
- 5.4 The *Relevant Line Length* must be expressed in kilometres to the nearest two decimal places.

Licence Holder to calculate Relevant Line Length

- 5.5 A *Licence Holder* must calculate the *Relevant Line Length* for each *Holding* for each of its *Eligible Projects*.
- 5.6 A *Licence Holder* must use the calculation method appropriate to the circumstances on the *Assessment Date*. If circumstances change between a previous *Assessment Date* and the current *Assessment Date* for which a payment is being calculated (for example, one of the *Affected Land Titles* in a *Holding* comprising multiple *Affected Land Titles* is sold), the *Licence Holder* must use the method that applies to the current circumstances.
- 5.7 For the *Centre Line Method*, the *Licence Holder* must calculate the *Relevant Line Length* using information recorded in the registered plan of the *Project Easement* in the *Applicable Land Registry*.
- 5.8 For the *Outer Line Method*, the *Licence Holder* must calculate the *Relevant Line Length* using:
- (a) if available, information in the registered plan of the *Project Easement* in the *Applicable Land Registry*;
 - (b) if the information in clause 5.8(a) is not available, a reasonable method determined by the *Licence Holder* that arrives at a result that is accurate to within +/- 10 meters, subject to clause 5.8(c); and
 - (c) if required by the *Tribunal*, a survey conducted by a qualified surveyor appointed and paid for by the *Licence Holder*.
-

6 Assessment Dates and SBP Payment Dates

- 6.1 The **Assessment Date** for a *Project Section* is:
- (a) for the first *Strategic Benefit Payment* for the *Project Section* – the *Energisation Date* of the *Project Section*; and
 - (b) for each subsequent payment – 1 July of the *Financial Year* in which the *Strategic Benefit Payment* is to be made.
- 6.2 Each **SBP Payment Date** for a *Project Section* is determined under the following table:

<i>Strategic Benefit Payment for the Project Section</i>	<i>SBP Payment Date</i>
<i>Strategic Benefit Payment</i> number 1 (first <i>Strategic Benefit Payment</i> for the <i>Project Section</i>)	The date falling 90 days after the <i>Energisation Date</i> of the <i>Project Section</i> .
<i>Strategic Benefit Payment</i> numbers 2 to 20 for the <i>Project Section</i>	30 September in each <i>Financial Year</i> in which the 1 st to the 20 th anniversaries of the <i>Energisation Date</i> of the <i>Project Section</i> falls.

Where applicable, <i>Strategic Benefit Payment</i> number 21 for the <i>Project Section</i>	30 September in the <i>Financial Year</i> in which the 21 st anniversary of the <i>Energisation Date</i> of the <i>Project Section</i> falls.
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Note 1: Each *Project Section* has a 20-year *Project Section Payment Period* starting on the *Energisation Date* for the *Project Section*. If the *Energisation Date* for a *Project Section* is 1 July of any year, there will be 20 *SBP Payment Dates*. For *Project Sections* where the *Energisation Date* is not 1 July, there will be 21 *SBP Payment Dates* because the payments in the first and last years are prorated to the number of days in the *Financial Year* during the *Project Section Payment Period*.

Note 2: For a *Holding* with two (or more) *Project Sections* with different *SBP Payment Dates*, the *Strategic Benefit Payments* will be made for each *Project Section* and its *SBP Payment Dates*.

7 Eligible Owners, joint owners and tenants in common

7.1 A person is an **Eligible Owner** of an *Affected Land Title* on the *Assessment Date* for a *Project Section* if, on the *Assessment Date*:

- (a) the person is a *Holder* of the *Eligible Interest* in the *Affected Land Title*; and
- (b) the person is not a *Public Authority*.

7.2 If, on an *Assessment Date*, a person is:

- (a) a *Holder* of the *Eligible Interest* in an *Affected Land Title* held as a tenant in common; and
- (b) an *Eligible Owner*,

the *Strategic Benefit Payment* to that person for that *Assessment Date* is a share determined under clause 14.3 by reference to the person's share in the tenancy in common.

7.3 If two or more persons are the *Holders* of the *Eligible Interest* in an *Affected Land Title* on an *Assessment Date* as:

- (a) joint tenants of the whole of the *Eligible Interest*; or
- (b) joint tenants of a share of an *Eligible Interest* held as tenant in common,

and all such persons are *Eligible Owners*, the *Strategic Benefit Payment* (or share) for that *Eligible Interest* for that *Assessment Date* must be made to those persons jointly, as a single payment.

7.4 If two or more persons are the *Holders* of the *Eligible Interest* in an *Affected Land Title* on an *Assessment Date* as:

- (a) joint tenants of the whole of the *Eligible Interest*; or
- (b) joint tenants of a share of an *Eligible Interest* held as tenant in common,

and any of those persons is not an *Eligible Owner*, then, despite clause 7.1, the *Strategic Benefit Payment* for that *Eligible Interest* and *Assessment Date*, calculated under clause 14.2 or clause 14.3 (as applicable), must be made to those persons jointly.

Part 3: Establishing *Eligible Projects* and *Eligible Infrastructure*

8 How the *Minister* establishes *Eligible Projects* and *Eligible Infrastructure*

8.1 Appendix A lists the *Eligible Projects* and *Eligible Infrastructure*.

8.2 The *Minister* may include new major transmission projects and related transmission infrastructure in Appendix A, or may amend Appendix A, by amending these *Guidelines*.

Note: The *Minister* has discretion whether to include a project or infrastructure in Appendix A. Projects that may be included include REZ network infrastructure projects and priority transmission infrastructure projects authorised or directed under the *Electricity Infrastructure Investment Act*, and transmission infrastructure projects identified in *AEMO's* Integrated System Plan as actionable ISP projects, or as committed and anticipated ISP projects. The transmission lines that may be included as *Eligible Infrastructure* include new major transmission lines installed as part of an *Eligible Project* with a voltage of at least 330kV, and transmission lines that are not new but where significant works will be undertaken as part of an *Eligible Project* to increase the voltage to at least 330kV.

9 Information to support inclusion of projects and infrastructure in these *Guidelines*

9.1 This clause applies where a *Licence Holder* proposes to develop or operate a major transmission project that is not included in Appendix A as an *Eligible Project*.

9.2 The *Licence Holder* must provide information to the *Department* so the *Minister* may consider including the project and related transmission infrastructure in Appendix A.

9.3 The information required under clause 9.2:

- (a) must be accompanied by supporting information;
- (b) must be in a form (if any) specified by the *Department* and published by the *Department*; and
- (c) must be provided as soon as practicable after the *Licence Holder* has the information required or as agreed with the *Department*.

9.4 The *Licence Holder* must provide information as requested by the *Department* to enable the *Minister* to assess whether to include the project as an *Eligible Project* and to identify transmission infrastructure to be included as *Eligible Infrastructure*.

Part 4: Obligation to make payments and related process requirements

10 Obligation to notify the *Energisation Date*

- 10.1 A *Licence Holder* must notify the *Tribunal* when the *Energisation Date* of each *Project Section* of its *Eligible Projects* occurs.
 - 10.2 A *Licence Holder* must give the notice under clause 10.1 as soon as practicable and in any event within 20 *Business Days* after the *Energisation Date* for the *Project Section*.
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11 Obligation to identify *Eligible Owners*

- 11.1 For each *Assessment Date* for each of its *Project Sections*, a *Licence Holder* must identify each person who was, on the relevant *Assessment Date*, an *Eligible Owner* of an *Affected Land Title* for the *Project Section*.
 - 11.2 A *Licence Holder* must use information from the *Applicable Land Registry* to identify *Eligible Owners*.
 - 11.3 A *Licence Holder* must use reasonable endeavours to identify each *Eligible Owner* as soon as practicable after the relevant *Assessment Date*.
 - 11.4 A *Licence Holder* must take reasonable steps to satisfy itself that a person who is the *Holder* of the *Eligible Interest* in an *Affected Land Title* is not a *Public Authority*.
 - 11.5 A *Licence Holder* may rely on information provided by a person to determine whether the person is a *Public Authority*, but only if it is reasonable to do so.
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12 Obligation to obtain *Payment Directions*

- 12.1 For each *Assessment Date* for each of its *Project Sections*, a *Licence Holder* must request a *Payment Direction* that complies with clause 12.3 from each person who was an *Eligible Owner* on the relevant *Assessment Date* for the *Project Section*.
- 12.2 A *Licence Holder* must:
 - (a) request the *Payment Directions* for each of its *Project Sections* as soon as practicable after the relevant *Assessment Date*; and
 - (b) use reasonable endeavours to obtain the *Payment Directions* in sufficient time to enable payments to be made by the relevant *SBP Payment Date*.

- 12.3 Each *Payment Direction* must:
- (a) nominate an account with an authorised deposit-taking institution for payment of the *Strategic Benefit Payment* to the *Eligible Owner*;
 - (b) be given by or on behalf of the *Eligible Owner* entitled to the payment; and
 - (c) be signed by or on behalf of the person giving the *Payment Direction*.
- 12.4 A *Payment Direction* may take the form of a confirmation of a prior valid *Payment Direction*. The provisions of this clause 12 apply to a confirmation in the same way they apply to the original *Payment Direction*.
- 12.5 Where a *Strategic Benefit Payment* is to be made to two or more persons jointly, the *Payment Direction* must be signed by or on behalf of all those persons.
- 12.6 A *Licence Holder* must use reasonable endeavours to ensure that each person signing a *Payment Direction*:
- (a) is the person they purport to be; and
 - (b) is the *Eligible Owner* or, if not the *Eligible Owner*, is authorised to give the *Payment Direction* on behalf of the *Eligible Owner*.
- 12.7 If an *Eligible Owner* is a protected individual (as described in clause 12.8), the *Licence Holder* may accept the *Payment Direction* from an authorised representative of the individual, being, subject to clause 12.9:
- (a) an attorney for the individual under an enduring power of attorney; or
 - (b) a guardian within the meaning of the *Guardianship Act 1987* (NSW), or a person responsible within the meaning of Part 5 of that Act; or
 - (c) a person having parental responsibility for the individual, if the individual is a child; or
 - (d) a person who is otherwise empowered under law to exercise any functions as an agent of or in the best interests of the individual.
- 12.8 A person is a protected individual if the person is incapable (despite the provision of reasonable assistance by another person) by reason of age, injury, illness, physical or mental impairment of:
- (a) understanding the general nature and effect of an act authorised, permitted, requested or required of the individual (such as providing a *Payment Direction* or authorising another person to give the *Payment Direction* on the individual's behalf); or
 - (b) communicating the individual's intentions with respect to the act.
- 12.9 A person is not an authorised representative of an individual for the purposes of clause 12.7 to the extent that acting as an authorised representative of the individual is inconsistent with an order made by a court or tribunal.

13 Payment calculation, timing and *Late Payments*

- 13.1 On or before each *SBP Payment Date* for each of its *Project Sections*, a *Licence Holder* must calculate, under clause 14, the *Strategic Benefit Payment* payable to each person who was, on the relevant *Assessment Date* for the *Project Section*, an *Eligible Owner* of an *Affected Land Title* for the *Project Section*.
- 13.2 A *Licence Holder* must pay each *Strategic Benefit Payment* to the relevant *Eligible Owner* on or before the *SBP Payment Date* corresponding to the relevant *Assessment Date*.
- 13.3 A *Licence Holder* must only pay a *Strategic Benefit Payment* payable to an *Eligible Owner* to the account specified in a valid *Payment Direction* given by or on behalf of the *Eligible Owner* or, where clause 12.7 applies, by the individual's authorised representative.
- 13.4 A *Licence Holder* must make all *Strategic Benefit Payments* free of any set off, withholding or other claim.
- 13.5 A *Licence Holder* must not make any *Strategic Benefit Payment* for a *Project Section* for any period after the end of the applicable *Project Section Payment Period*.
- Note: The final payment may occur after the end of the *Project Section Payment Period*, but only in respect of the period before that date.
- 13.6 To avoid doubt, eligibility for a *Strategic Benefit Payment* is determined as at each *Assessment Date* and the amount of the payment covers the whole of the *Financial Year*, or, where applicable, part of a *Financial Year*, for which it is made. A *Licence Holder* must not:
- (a) apportion *Strategic Benefit Payments* to account for change in ownership or eligibility during the period for which it is made; or
 - (b) make a *Strategic Benefit Payment* for a period to a person unless:
 - (i) the person is an *Eligible Owner* on the *Assessment Date* for that period; or
 - (ii) the payment is under clause 15 for a *New Affected Land Title*.

Note: Paragraph (b) means that no payments are made for earlier periods in relation to a title or person that becomes eligible part way through the 20-year *Project Section Payment Period* except where provided for under clause 15 when a new *Native Title Determination* or a new *Grant* occurs. It also means that payments cease if a title or person ceases to be eligible part way through the 20-year *Project Section Payment Period*.

Interest on *Late Payments*

- 13.7 A *Licence Holder* that makes a *Late Payment* must also pay interest to the *Eligible Owner* on the amount of the *Late Payment*.
- 13.8 Interest under clause 13.7:
- (a) is payable for the period from and including the relevant *SBP Payment Date* until but excluding the actual date of payment, subject to clause 13.9;
 - (b) must be calculated using the *Default Rate*, and compounds and accrues daily;

- (c) must be calculated based on the actual number of days elapsed and a 365-day year, unless the period includes 29 February, in which case, it must be calculated based on a 366-day year; and
- (d) must be paid as soon as practicable after the *Licence Holder* becomes aware of the *Late Payment* (together with the amount of the *Late Payment*).

Note: Schedule 2 contains the formulae for calculation of interest and an illustrative example.

- 13.9 Despite clauses 13.7 and 13.8(a), in the case of a *Strategic Benefit Payment* relating to the first *Assessment Date* for a *Project Section*, a *Licence Holder* is not required to pay interest on a *Late Payment* for the period from and including the relevant *SBP Payment Date* until but excluding the day falling 90 days after the *SBP Payment Date*.

14 Calculation of *Strategic Benefit Payments*

- 14.1 A *Licence Holder* must calculate each *Strategic Benefit Payment* for an *Assessment Date* under clause 14.2, unless the *Eligible Interest* is held by tenants in common, in which case the *Licence Holder* must calculate the *Strategic Benefit Payment* for the *Assessment Date* for each tenant in common under clause 14.3.

- 14.2 The *Strategic Benefit Payment* for an *Assessment Date* payable to an *Eligible Owner* of a *Holding* (or, where the *Eligible Interest* is held by joint tenants, as a single payment to all the *Eligible Owners* of the *Holding* jointly) must be calculated as follows:

$$SBP_{i,y} = L_i \times R_y \times AF_y$$

where:

$SBP_{i,y}$ is the amount of the *Strategic Benefit Payment*;

subscript i refers to the *Holding* for which the calculation is being made;

subscript y refers to the *Financial Year* in which the *Assessment Date* falls;

L_i is the *Relevant Line Length* for the *Holding*;

R_y is the *Strategic Benefit Payment Rate* for the *Financial Year* in which the *Assessment Date* falls, determined under clause 14.4; and

AF_y is the *Adjustment Factor* for the *Financial Year* to which the payment relates, determined under clause 14.5.

- 14.3 The *Strategic Benefit Payment* for an *Assessment Date* payable to an *Eligible Owner* (or, where the share in the *Eligible Interest* is held as joint tenants, as a single payment to all those *Eligible Owners* of that share jointly) who has (or jointly have) a share in a *Holding* as a tenant in common must be calculated as follows:

$$SBP_{i,y,p} = L_i \times R_y \times AF_y \times RS_{i,y,p}$$

where:

$SBP_{i,y,p}$	is the amount of the <i>Strategic Benefit Payment</i> ;
subscript i	refers to the <i>Holding</i> for which the calculation is being made;
subscript y	refers to the <i>Financial Year</i> in which the <i>Assessment Date</i> falls;
subscript p	refers to the <i>Eligible Owner</i> or <i>Eligible Owners</i> jointly of the relevant share, as applicable;
L_i	is the <i>Relevant Line Length</i> for the <i>Holding</i> ;
R_y	is the <i>Strategic Benefit Payment Rate</i> for the <i>Financial Year</i> in which the <i>Assessment Date</i> falls, determined under clause 14.4;
AF_y	is the <i>Adjustment Factor</i> for the <i>Financial Year</i> to which the payment relates, determined under clause 14.5; and
$RS_{i,y,p}$	is equal to the share of the <i>Eligible Owner</i> (or owners, where the share is held jointly) in the entirety of the <i>Eligible Interest</i> in the <i>Holding</i> as at the <i>Assessment Date</i> as specified in the <i>Applicable Land Register</i> .

14.4 The **Strategic Benefit Payment Rate** for a *Financial Year* is calculated as follows:

$$R_y = B_o \times \frac{CPI_{y-1}}{CPI_o}$$

where:

R_y	is the <i>Strategic Benefit Payment Rate</i> for the <i>Financial Year</i> ;
subscript y	refers to the <i>Financial Year</i> for which the calculation is being made;
subscript o	refers to the base year used for the calculation;
B_o	is the base benefit payment rate of \$10,000 per km of <i>Relevant Line Length</i> per year;
CPI_{y-1}	is the all groups consumer price index for the weighted average of eight capital cities published by the Australian Bureau of Statistics for the March quarter immediately preceding the start of the <i>Financial Year</i> for which the calculation is being made; and
CPI_o	is the all groups consumer price index for the weighted average of eight capital cities published by the Australian Bureau of Statistics for March 2022.

14.5 The **Adjustment Factor** (AF_y) is a variable to allow for pro-rating of payments in the first and last *Financial Years* for which *Strategic Benefit Payments* are made for a *Project Section*, and

is a number determined under the following table. The *Adjustment Factor* must always be less than or equal to 1.

<i>Financial Year</i>	<i>Adjustment factor</i>
The <i>Financial Year</i> for which payment number 1 (first payment) is made	The product of: (a) the number of days in the period from the <i>Energisation Date</i> to the end of the <i>Financial Year</i> in which the <i>Energisation Date</i> falls; and (b) 1/365, or, if the <i>Financial Year</i> includes 29 February, 1/366.
The <i>Financial Year</i> for which payment numbers 2 to 20 are made	1
The <i>Financial Year</i> for which payment number 21 is made (where applicable)	The product of: (a) the number of days from the start of the <i>Financial Year</i> in which the 20 th anniversary of the <i>Energisation Date</i> falls to the end of the <i>Project Section Payment Period</i> ; and (b) 1/365, or if the <i>Financial Year</i> includes 29 February, 1/366.

Note: As an example, if the *Energisation Date* for a *Project Section* is 1 December 2028:

- (a) the first payment would cover the period from 1 December 2028 to 30 June 2029 and, due to the *Adjustment Factor* (212/365), would be paid at the rate of \$5808.21 per km, indexed for inflation;
- (b) payments 2 to 20 would cover each of the *Financial Years* between 1 July 2029 and 30 June 2048; and
- (c) payment 21 would cover the period from 1 July 2048 to 30 November 2048 and, due to the *Adjustment Factor* (153/365), would be paid at the rate of \$4191.78 per km, indexed for inflation.

15 Payments following a *Native Title Determination* or *Aboriginal Land Rights Grant*

Note: This clause outlines the back payment arrangements to be provided following a new *Native Title Determination* or new *Grant* under the *Aboriginal Land Rights Act*. A *Native Title* holder is eligible to receive *Strategic Benefit Payments* paid back to the *Energisation Date* of the *Project Section*. Holders of a *Grant* under the *Aboriginal Land Rights Act* are eligible to be paid back to the date of the *Grant*.

- 15.1 This clause applies where, because of a *Native Title Determination* or *Grant* occurring after the first *Assessment Date* for a *Project Section*, there is a *New Affected Land Title* for the *Project Section*.

- 15.2 As soon as practicable after becoming aware of a *New Affected Land Title*, the *Licence Holder* for the *Project Section* must decide:
- (a) whether to make a *Revenue Adjustment Application* for the payments required under this clause 15 in relation to the *New Affected Land Title*; and
 - (b) if making a *Revenue Adjustment Application*, whether that will occur before making the payments.

- 15.3 Despite clause 13, to avoid double counting, the *Licence Holder* must not make any payment under clause 13 to the *Eligible Owner* of a *New Affected Land Title* for the *First Relevant Assessment Date* or any *Assessment Date* prior to the *First Relevant Assessment Date*.

Note: For the *First Relevant Assessment Date* and prior *Assessment Dates* for the relevant *Project Section*, *Strategic Benefit Payments* for the *New Affected Land Title* are calculated under clause 15. If the *Licence Holder* makes a *Revenue Adjustment Application* before paying, the payments are only payable on the first *SBP Payment Date* after the AER decides the application. For later *Assessment Dates*, the *Strategic Benefit Payments* for the *New Affected Land Title* are calculated and payable under clause 13 in the usual way.

- 15.4 For a *New Native Title Land Title*, the *Licence Holder* must calculate the amount provided for in clause 15.5 for the *Holding* constituted by the *New Native Title Land Title* for each of the following *Assessment Dates*:
- (a) the *First Relevant Assessment Date*; and
 - (b) each *Assessment Date* for the relevant *Project Section* that occurred before the *First Relevant Assessment Date*.

- 15.5 The calculation for each *Assessment Date* in clause 15.4 is as follows:

$$SBP_{i,c,y} = L_i \times R_c \times AF_y$$

where:

$SBP_{i,c,y}$ is the amount of the *Strategic Benefit Payment*;

subscript i refers to the *Holding* for which the calculation is being made;

subscript y refers to the *Financial Year* in which the *Assessment Date* for which the calculation is being made occurred;

subscript c refers to the *Financial Year* in which the *First Relevant Assessment Date* falls;

L_i is the *Relevant Line Length* for the *Holding*;

R_c is the *Strategic Benefit Payment Rate* for the *Financial Year* in which the *First Relevant Assessment Date* falls, determined under clause 14.4; and

AF_y is the *Adjustment Factor* for the *Financial Year* in which the *Assessment Date* for which the calculation is being made occurred, determined under clause 14.5.

- 15.6 For a *New Aboriginal Land Rights Land Title*, the *Licence Holder* must calculate the amount provided for in clause 15.7 for the *Holding* constituted by the *New Aboriginal Land Rights Land Title* for each of the following *Assessment Dates*:
- the *First Relevant Assessment Date*;
 - the *Assessment Date* immediately preceding the date of the *Grant*; and
 - each *Assessment Date* (if any) for the relevant *Project Section* that fell in the period between the date of the *Grant* and the *First Relevant Assessment Date*.
- 15.7 The calculation for each *Assessment Date* in clause 15.6 is as follows:
- $$SBP_{i,c,y} = L_i \times R_c \times MAF_y$$
- where:
- $SBP_{i,c,y}$ is the amount of the *Strategic Benefit Payment*;
- subscript i refers to the *Holding* for which the calculation is being made;
- subscript y refers to the *Financial Year* in which the *Assessment Date* for which the calculation is being made occurred;
- subscript c refers to the *Financial Year* in which the *First Relevant Assessment Date* falls;
- L_i is the *Relevant Line Length* for the *Holding*;
- R_c is the *Strategic Benefit Payment Rate* for the *Financial Year* in which the *First Relevant Assessment Date* falls, determined under clause 14.4; and
- MAF_y is the modified *Adjustment Factor* for the *Financial Year* in which the *Assessment Date* for which the calculation is being made occurred, determined under clause 15.8.
- 15.8 For clause 15.7, the modified *Adjustment Factor* (MAF_y) is:
- for the *First Relevant Assessment Date* and each *Assessment Date* for the relevant *Project Section* that occurred between the date of the *Grant* and the *First Relevant Assessment Date* – the *Adjustment Factor* for the *Financial Year* to which the payment relates, determined under clause 14.5; and
 - for the *Financial Year* in which the *Assessment Date* immediately preceding the date of the *Grant* falls, the product of:
 - the number of days in the period from the date of the *Grant* to the end of that *Financial Year*; and
 - 1/365, or, if the *Financial Year* includes 29 February, 1/366.
- 15.9 The *Licence Holder* must pay the sum of the amounts calculated under clause 15.5 or clause 15.7, as applicable, to the *Eligible Owner* of the *Holding* constituted by the *New Affected Land Title*.

- 15.10 The *Licence Holder* must pay under clause 15.9 on or before the *SBP Payment Date* for the *First Relevant Assessment Date* for the relevant *Project Section*.
- 15.11 The *Licence Holder* must only pay under clause 15.9 to the account specified by or on behalf of the *Eligible Owner* in a valid *Payment Direction*.
- 15.12 A *Licence Holder* must pay under this clause 15 free of any set off, withholding or other claim.
- 15.13 A *Licence Holder* that makes a *Late Payment* of an amount payable under clause 15.9 must also pay interest to the *Eligible Owner* on the amount of the *Late Payment*.
- 15.14 Interest under clause 15.13:
- (a) is payable for the period from and including the relevant *SBP Payment Date* until but excluding the actual date of payment;
 - (b) must be calculated using the *Default Rate*, and compounds and accrues daily;
 - (c) must be calculated based on the actual number of days elapsed and a 365-day year, unless the period includes 29 February, in which case it must be calculated based on a 366-day year; and
 - (d) must be paid as soon as practicable after the *Licence Holder* becomes aware of the *Late Payment* (together with the amount of the *Late Payment*).
- Note: Schedule 2 contains the formulae for calculation of interest and an illustrative example.
- 15.15 To avoid doubt, the payment under clause 15.9:
- (a) is only payable once for each *Holding* constituted by a *New Affected Land Title*;
 - (b) is not intended to result in multiple payments for the same period to the same *Holder* for the same *Holding*; and
 - (c) subject to these *Guidelines*, may result in multiple payments for the same period and the same *Eligible Infrastructure* on a *Project Easement* to different *Eligible Owners*, if in relation to land hosting a particular *Project Easement*, *Native Title* coexists with another *Land Title Category* and *Eligible Interest*.
-

16 Payment into trust

- 16.1 A *Licence Holder* is not in breach of its obligation under clause 13.2 or clause 15.10 to make a payment on or before the applicable *SBP Payment Date* if:
- (a) the *Licence Holder* is unable to make the payment by the applicable *SBP Payment Date* due to circumstances beyond the *Licence Holder's* reasonable control; and
 - (b) the *Licence Holder* has instead paid into its *SBP Trust Account* no later than:
 - (i) in the case of the first *SBP Payment Date* for the relevant *Project Section*, 90 days after the applicable *SBP Payment Date*; and
 - (ii) otherwise, 20 *Business Days* after the applicable *SBP Payment Date*.

- 16.2 For clause 16.1, circumstances beyond a *Licence Holder's* reasonable control may include where:
- (a) despite the *Licence Holder's* best endeavours, the *Eligible Owner* has not given a valid *Payment Direction* on or before the applicable *SBP Payment Date*; or
 - (b) a *Payment Direction* is the subject of a dispute; or
 - (c) the identity of the *Holder* of an *Eligible Interest* is in dispute.
- 16.3 For clause 16.1, circumstances beyond a *Licence Holder's* reasonable control do not include lack of funds.
- 16.4 A *Licence Holder* that has made a payment into its *SBP Trust Account* under clause 16.1(b) must:
- (a) use reasonable endeavours to identify promptly when the circumstances leading to its inability to pay no longer apply; and
 - (b) as soon as practicable after the *Licence Holder* becomes aware that those circumstances no longer apply, arrange for the payment to be made from the *SBP Trust Account* to the person who, but for clause 16.1, would have been entitled to the payment by the applicable *SBP Payment Date*.

Part 5: Other *Licence Holder* obligations

17 *Project Easement Register*

- 17.1 A *Licence Holder* must, for each of its *Eligible Projects*, establish, maintain and *Publish* a register (the **Project Easement Register**) that satisfies the requirements of this clause 17.
- 17.2 A *Project Easement Register* must record the following information for each *Eligible Project*:
- (a) the *Eligible Project* that it relates to;
 - (b) each *Project Section* for the *Eligible Project*;
 - (c) the *Energisation Date* for each *Project Section*;
 - (d) each *Project Easement*;
 - (e) each *Affected Land Title* for each *Project Easement*;
 - (f) the *Land Title Category* for each *Affected Land Title*;
 - (g) the *Eligible Interest* for each *Affected Land Title* (but not the *Holder* of an *Eligible Interest*);
 - (h) each *Holding* (but not the *Holder* of the *Holding*);
 - (i) for each *Holding*, whether the *Relevant Line Length* for the *Holding* is measured using the *Centre Line Method* or the *Outer Line Method* and whether any part of the *Holding* has more than one *Centre Line* under clause 4.2 or Scenario B of clause 4.3; and
 - (j) the *Relevant Line Length* for each *Holding*.
- 17.3 A *Project Easement Register* must be in a form specified by the *Tribunal*.
- 17.4 A *Licence Holder* must employ its best endeavours to:
- (a) complete the initial *Project Easement Register* for each *Project Section* of an *Eligible Project* no later than 90 days before the *Energisation Date* for the *Project Section*; and
 - (b) amend the *Project Easement Register* if any information in it is incorrect or incomplete as soon as practicable after becoming aware of the need for an amendment.
- 17.5 A *Licence Holder* must provide any information sought by the *Tribunal* relating to the *Project Easement Register* within 20 *Business Days* of a request by the *Tribunal*.
-

18 *Records and audit*

Records

- 18.1 A *Licence Holder* must make and maintain records:

- (a) to demonstrate how it determined eligibility for *Strategic Benefit Payments*;
- (b) of *Strategic Benefit Payments* made, including the identity of the payees and the amount and date of each payment and the basis of calculation; and
- (c) for the *SBP Trust Account*.

18.2 A *Licence Holder* must provide the records under clause 18.1 to the *Tribunal* on request.

Audit

18.3 A *Licence Holder* must, in accordance with the *Audit Guidelines*, arrange for an audit of the *Licence Holder's* activities and records, for the purpose of assessing the *Licence Holder's* compliance with its eligibility assessment and payment obligations under these *Guidelines*.

18.4 A *Licence Holder* must ensure that an audit under clause 18.3 is conducted by a suitably qualified independent person.

18.5 A *Licence Holder* must provide the audit results to the *Tribunal* on request.

18.6 In performing its obligations under this clause 18, a *Licence Holder* must comply with the *Reporting Manual* and the *Audit Guidelines* to the extent consistent with the requirements of this clause.

18.7 Unless these *Guidelines* specify otherwise, a *Licence Holder* must retain all records and documents prepared by it for or in connection with *Strategic Benefit Payments* for a period of at least 7 years.

19 Information for *Eligible Owners*

19.1 A *Licence Holder* must prepare and *Publish*, and keep up to date and accurate, information about *Strategic Benefit Payments*.

19.2 The information *Published* under clause 19.1 must include:

- (a) information about how to contact the *Licence Holder* to submit enquiries about *Strategic Benefit Payments* and typical response times;
- (b) information to identify the *Licence Holder's Eligible Projects*;
- (c) the current *Project Easement Register* for each of the *Licence Holder's Eligible Projects*;
- (d) information about the *Licence Holder's procedures for identifying Eligible Owners* and obtaining valid *Payment Directions*;
- (e) the *Licence Holder's privacy policy relating to Landholder Information*; and
- (f) the *Complaints Handling Policy* of the *Licence Holder*.

- 19.3 A Licence Holder must Publish:
- (a) the initial information under clauses 19.2(a) and 19.2(b) within 30 days of first becoming subject to these *Guidelines*; and
 - (b) the remaining information under clause 19.2 as soon as practicable after the information is available.
-

20 Payment administration and data management

Payment Administration Arrangements

- 20.1 A Licence Holder must establish and implement **Payment Administration Arrangements**, including policies, procedures, training, systems and controls, to ensure that:
- (a) *Payment Directions* are obtained in a timely manner;
 - (b) *Strategic Benefit Payments* are made accurately, including through correctly assessing eligibility, correctly identifying *Eligible Owners* and paying to the correct bank account;
 - (c) *Strategic Benefit Payments* are made on time; and
 - (d) the risk of fraud is managed.
- 20.2 A Licence Holder must establish and implement its initial *Payment Administration Arrangements* by the first *Energisation Date* for the first of its *Eligible Projects* to be energised.

Data Management Arrangements

- 20.3 A Licence Holder must establish and implement **Data Management Arrangements** with the objective of ensuring that *Landholder Information*:
- (a) is used and disclosed only as permitted by these *Guidelines*;
 - (b) is protected from:
 - (i) misuse, interference and loss; and
 - (ii) unauthorised access, modification or disclosure; and
 - (c) is destroyed or de-identified when the *Licence Holder* no longer needs the information for any purpose.
- 20.4 A Licence Holder must establish and implement its initial *Data Management Arrangements* by the first *Energisation Date* for the first of its *Eligible Projects* to be energised.
- 20.5 A Licence Holder must ensure that *Landholder Information* held by it or on its behalf is used or disclosed only for the purpose of enabling the *Licence Holder* to perform its obligations under the *SBP Condition* and these *Guidelines*.

- 20.6 A *Licence Holder* must ensure that its *Data Management Arrangements* comply with the *Privacy Act 1988* (Cth) and any conditions of its *Licence* applicable to *Personal Information*.
- 20.7 Nothing in these *Guidelines* is intended to derogate from a *Licence Holder's* obligations under the *Privacy Act 1988* (Cth).

Updates and assessments

- 20.8 A *Licence Holder* must regularly review and where necessary update its *Payment Administration Arrangements* and its *Data Management Arrangements*.
- 20.9 A *Licence Holder* must, if required by the *Tribunal*, engage one or more suitably qualified persons independent of the *Licence Holder* to assess and report on whether the *Licence Holder's Payment Administration Arrangements* and *Data Management Arrangements* comply with the requirements of this clause 20.
- 20.10 A *Licence Holder* must provide to the *Tribunal* each compliance report prepared under clause 20.9.

21 Engagement with *Eligible Owners* and complaints

Community engagement

- 21.1 In its dealings with *Eligible Owners*, a *Licence Holder* must communicate in a timely and appropriate manner.
- 21.2 For clause 21.1, a *Licence Holder* must be guided by the **Australian Government's National Guidelines for Community Engagement and Benefits for Electricity Transmission Projects**, and the **NSW Energy Planning Framework's Transmission Guideline**.
- 21.3 A *Licence Holder* must ensure that its employees and representatives responsible for dealing with *Eligible Owners* in relation to *Strategic Benefit Payments*:
- (a) are adequately trained, qualified or experienced to perform their role; and
 - (b) understand the *Licence Holder's* obligations with respect to protection of confidentiality and privacy of *Landholder Information*.

Complaints Handling Policy

- 21.4 A *Licence Holder* must develop, implement, and keep up to date, a policy (***Complaints Handling Policy***) that provides:
- (a) a means to communicate to the *Licence Holder* any complaints in connection with:
 - (i) the *Licence Holder's* obligations to make *Strategic Benefit Payments*; and
 - (ii) other matters arising under these *Guidelines*; and
 - (b) a process for responding to the complaints in a timely manner.

- 21.5 A *Licence Holder* must develop and implement its initial *Complaints Handling Policy* by the first *Energisation Date* for the first of its *Eligible Projects* to be energised.
- 21.6 A *Licence Holder's Complaints Handling Policy* must be in accordance with Australian Standard AS 10002:2022 Guidelines for complaint management in organisations, as updated or amended from time to time.
-

22 Annual reporting by a *Licence Holder*

- 22.1 A *Licence Holder* must prepare and provide to the *Tribunal* annual reports relating to its *Eligible Projects* (***Annual SBP Project Report***).
- 22.2 Despite clause 22.1, a *Licence Holder* is not required to prepare an *Annual SBP Project Report* for a *Financial Year* in which there is no *Assessment Date* for any of its *Eligible Projects*.
- 22.3 A *Licence Holder* must include in an *Annual SBP Project Report* the following information for the relevant *Financial Year*:
- (a) an overview of any changes to its *Project Easement Registers* during the course of the *Financial Year* and the reasons for the changes;
 - (b) for each of its *Eligible Projects*, for the *Financial Year*:
 - (i) the amount that was included in the *Licence Holder's Revenue Determination* on account of the *Licence Holder's Scheme Costs*;
 - (ii) the total amount of the *Strategic Benefit Payments* made by the *Licence Holder*;
 - (iii) the number and value of *Strategic Benefit Payments* that could not be made, with an overview of the reasons payments could not be made and steps taken by the *Licence Holder* to address those matters; and
 - (iv) the number and value of *Strategic Benefit Payments* that were made late, and the total amount of interest paid on *Late Payments*;
 - (c) the number and nature of complaints or disputes during the course of the year and a summary of how they were resolved;
 - (d) information about measures adopted by the *Licence Holder* to improve its administration of *Strategic Benefit Payments* or address any issues identified; and
 - (e) any other information required to be included by the *Reporting Manual*.
- 22.4 *Annual SBP Project Reports* must be in a form specified by the *Tribunal*.
- 22.5 A *Licence Holder* must provide its *Annual SBP Project Reports* to the *Tribunal* by 31 August after the end of the *Financial Year* the report relates to, or any later date permitted by the *Reporting Manual*.

23 No recovery of *Late Payment* interest or payment errors

- 23.1 A *Licence Holder* must seek to ensure that the following comply with the principle in clause 23.2 to the extent consistent with the *National Electricity Rules* and the *Electricity Infrastructure Investment Act*:
- (a) its revenue proposals (as defined in the *National Electricity Rules*) and any equivalent proposals under the *Electricity Infrastructure Investment Act*;
 - (b) its *Revenue Adjustment Applications*; and
 - (c) any *Revenue Determinations* applicable to it.
- 23.2 The principle is that the amount included in a *Revenue Determination* of a *Licence Holder* on account of the *Licence Holder's Scheme Costs* should not include any amount on account of interest on *Late Payments* or the *Licence Holder's* payment errors.
- 23.3 A *Licence Holder* must:
- (a) maintain records to demonstrate how the *Licence Holder* has sought to ensure compliance with the principle in clause 23.2; and
 - (b) provide the records to the *Tribunal* on request.

Schedule 1: Property, title and owner eligibility

S1.1 Explanation of the *Property Interests Table*

In the *Property Interests Table*:

- (a) the first column lists *Land Title Categories*;
- (b) the second column describes what is included in that *Land Title Category*;
- (c) the third column identifies the *Applicable Land Registry* that is the source of information that a *Licence Holder* must use to determine who holds the *Eligible Interest* in the relevant *Land Title Category*, together with, where appropriate, other information needed to determine eligibility;
- (d) the fourth column lists the *Eligible Interest* in an *Affected Land Title* by reference to the *Land Title Category* into which the *Affected Land Title* falls;
- (e) the final column identifies who is to be taken to be the *Holder* of the *Eligible Interest* on an *Assessment Date* for the purposes of these *Guidelines*.

S1.2 *Property Interests Table*

<i>Land Title Category</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Applicable Land Registry</i>	<i>Eligible Interest in an Affected Land Title</i>	<i>Holder</i>
Old system land	Land known as 'old system land' or 'old title land' and subject to the <i>Registration of Deeds Act 1843</i> (NSW) or the	The General Register of Deeds kept under the <i>Conveyancing Act 1919</i> (NSW)	The current estate in fee simple as owner as recorded by reference to the indexes held by the General Register	Owner as recorded in the General Register of Deeds

	<i>Conveyancing Act 1919</i> (NSW)		of Deeds (including the ADIS)	
Torrens title land	Land under the provisions of the <i>Real Property Act 1900</i> (NSW) (not being strata title land or community title land)	The Register maintained by the Registrar-General under the <i>Real Property Act 1900</i> (NSW)	Registered proprietor of the estate in fee simple in the land by reference to the folio for the title	Registered proprietor as recorded in the folio for the title
Strata scheme land	Land subject to a strata scheme as defined in the <i>Strata Schemes Management Act 2015</i> (NSW)	The Register maintained by the Registrar-General under the <i>Real Property Act 1900</i> (NSW)	Registered proprietor of the common property as defined in the <i>Strata Schemes Development Act 2015</i> (NSW) for the strata scheme and recorded on the folio of the common property	The owners' corporation being "The Owners – Strata Plan No X" constituted under section 8 of the <i>Strata Scheme Management Act 2015</i> (NSW) for the strata scheme recorded on the folio of the common property
Community, Neighbourhood or Precinct title land	Land the subject of a community scheme, precinct scheme or neighbourhood scheme as defined in the <i>Community Land Development Act 2021</i> (NSW)	The Register maintained by the Registrar-General under the <i>Real Property Act 1900</i> (NSW)	Registered proprietor of the Community, Neighbourhood or Precinct property folio (usually Lot 1 being the Association Property vested in the Community, Neighbourhood or Precinct Property Association DP)	The Community, Neighbourhood or Precinct Association for the relevant community title scheme held on behalf of the members in the scheme constituted under Part 3 of the <i>Community Land Management Act 2021</i> (NSW) for the folio of the community scheme

Western lands lease	Crown land subject to a Western lands lease within the meaning of Schedule 3 to the <i>Crown Land Management Act 2016</i> (NSW)	The Department from time to time administering the <i>Crown Land Management Act 2016</i> (NSW) via the e-planning portal	Leasehold interest under a Western lands lease	Lessee
Other perpetual lease land	Land held under perpetual lease from the Crown under the <i>Crown Land Management Act 2016</i> (NSW) that can be converted to freehold under that Act	The Department from time to time administering the <i>Crown Land Management Act 2016</i> (NSW) via the e-planning portal	Leasehold interest under a perpetual lease	Lessee
Easement land subject to <i>Native Title</i>	Land, within the boundaries of a <i>Project Easement</i> in respect of which a determination has been made under the <i>Native Title Act</i> that <i>Native Title</i> exists and has not been extinguished	The <i>National Native Title Register</i>	Determined <i>Native Title</i> under the <i>Native Title Act</i>	The <i>Registered Native Title Body Corporate</i> holding native title rights and interests on trust under the <i>Native Title Act</i> as recorded in the determination registered on the <i>National Native Title Register</i>
Aboriginal land rights land (fee simple)	Land within the boundaries of a <i>Project Easement</i> transferred under the <i>Aboriginal Land Rights Act</i> as an estate in fee simple	The Register maintained by the Registrar-General under the <i>Real Property Act 1900</i> (NSW) or, for old system title, the General Register of Deeds kept under the <i>Conveyancing Act 1919</i> (NSW)	Registered proprietor of the estate in fee simple	Registered proprietor as recorded in the folio for the title

Aboriginal land rights land (lease)	Land within the boundaries of a <i>Project Easement</i> transferred under the <i>Aboriginal Land Rights Act</i> as a lease in perpetuity	The Register maintained by the Registrar-General under the <i>Real Property Act 1900</i> (NSW) or the General Register of Deeds kept under the <i>Conveyancing Act 1919</i> (NSW)	Leasehold interest under the perpetual lease	Lessee
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Schedule 2: Interest calculations, with examples

S2.1 Explanatory note

Clause S2.2 sets out the formula for calculation of interest on *Late Payments* and an illustrative example.

S2.2 Examples of the calculation of default interest

Formula used to calculate the amount of interest

The amount of interest payable is calculated using the following formulae:

$$AP = P \left(1 + \frac{r}{n} \right)^{nt}$$
$$I = AP - P$$

where:

AP is the value of the amount payable including both the principal and interest;

P is the amount of the principal;

I is the amount of the interest;

r is the annual interest rate (expressed as a decimal);

n is the number of times interest is compounded per year, which will be 366 in a period that includes 29 February and otherwise, 365;

t is the time in years for which interest is payable under clause 13 or clause 15 (as applicable), using a 366-day year for a period including 29 February and otherwise, a 365 day year.

Example

A *Licence Holder* is 7 days late making a *Strategic Benefit Payment* worth \$10,000. At the time, the applicable *Default Rate* (applied nominally) is equal to 8.35%. The 7 day period does not include 29 February.

The total amount payable (the *Strategic Benefit Payment* plus the interest on the late payment) is equal to:

$$AP = SBP \left(1 + \frac{D}{365} \right)^{365 \times \frac{7}{365}}$$

so:

$$AP = \$10,000 \left(1 + \frac{0.0835}{365} \right)^7$$

making an amount of \$10,016.02. This amount includes the interest payable, which can also now be calculated separately as follows:

$$I = AP - SBP$$

so:

$$I = \$10,016.02 - \$10,000$$






which equals \$16.02.

Schedule 3: Examples to illustrate the calculation of length

S3.1 Explanatory note

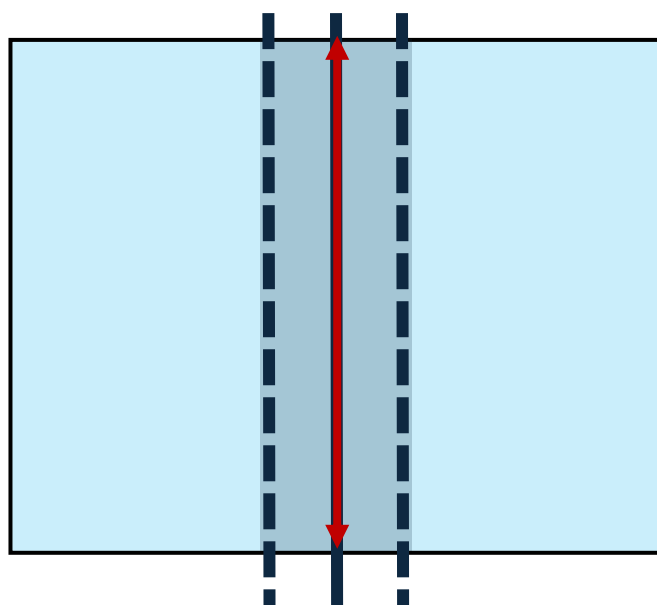
The examples in clause S3.2 depict *Project Easements* traversing one or more *Holdings*.

Legend

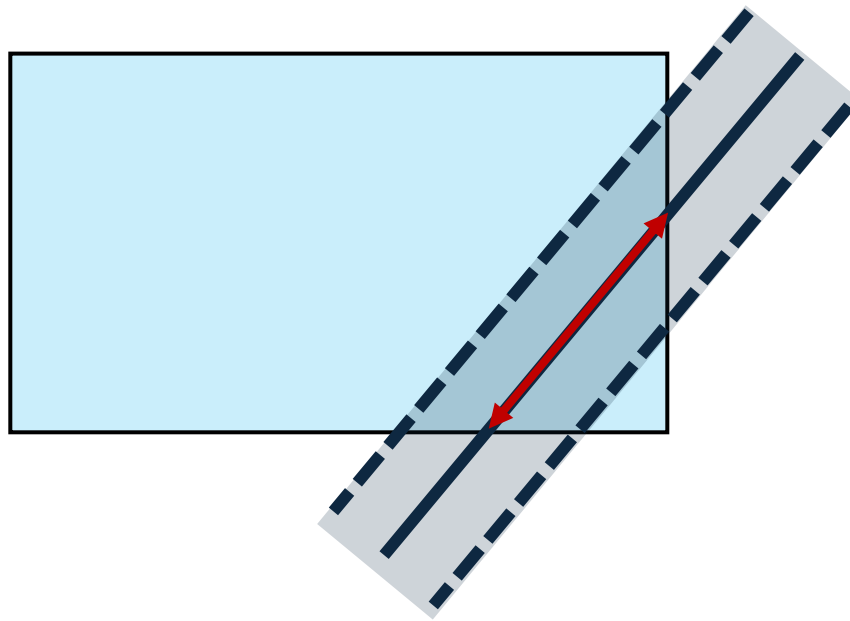
	<i>Outer Line</i>		<i>Holding</i>		<i>Centre Line</i>
	<i>Relevant Line Length</i>		<i>Project Easement</i>		

Note: The examples in the schedule are not to scale and show only part of a *Project Easement* and *Eligible Infrastructure*.

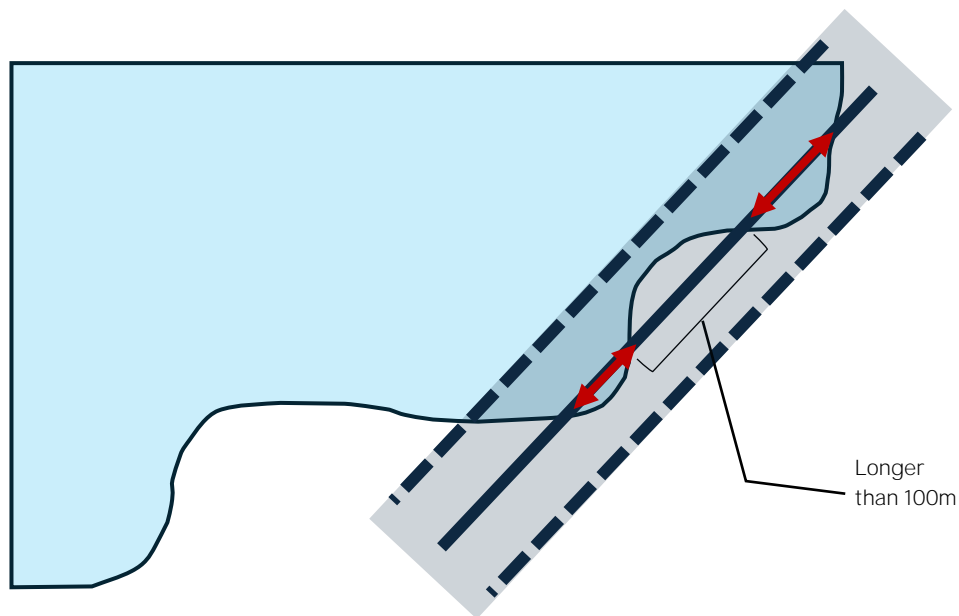
S3.2 Examples of the calculation of *Relevant Line Length*



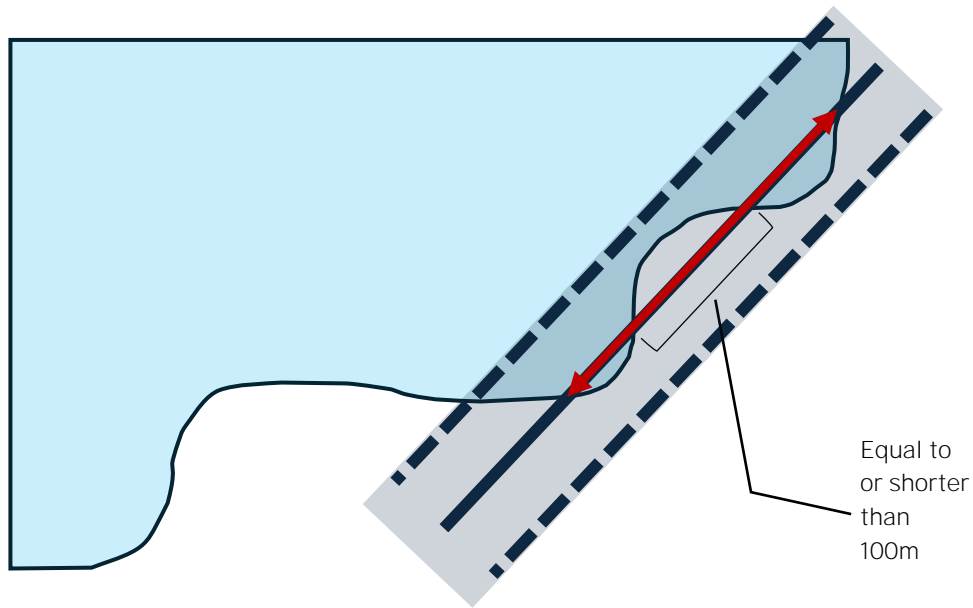
Example 1: The *Relevant Line Length* must be calculated using the *Centre Line* to the extent it traverses the property.



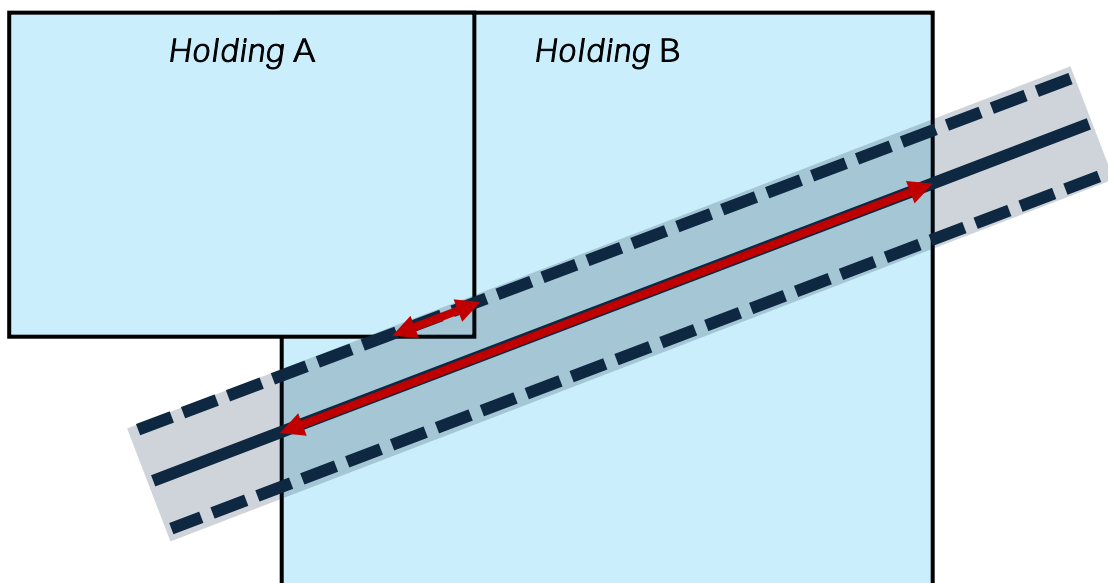
Example 2: The *Relevant Line Length* must be calculated using the *Centre Line* to the extent it traverses the property.



Example 3: The *Centre Line* traverses land in two locations. The gap between these locations is longer than 100 metres. The *Relevant Line Length* calculation does not include the length of the *Centre Line* traversing the gap.



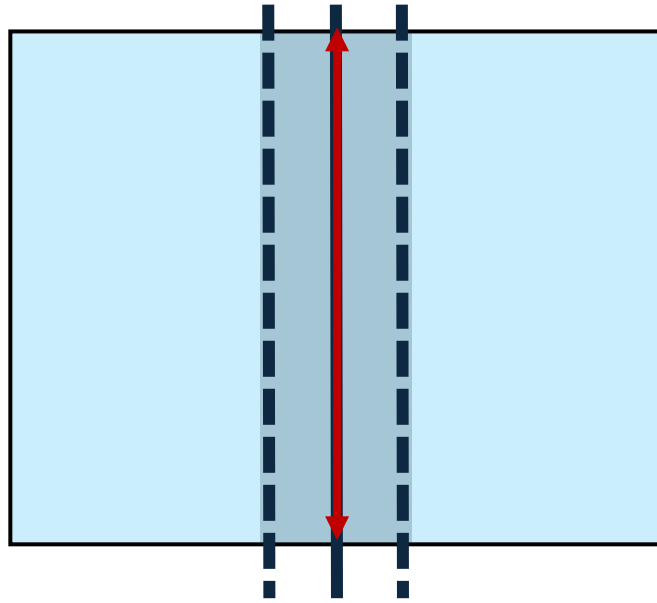
Example 4: The *Centre Line* traverses the land in two locations. The gap between these locations is equal to or shorter than 100 metres. The *Relevant Line Length* calculation includes the length of the *Centre Line* traversing the gap.



Example 5:

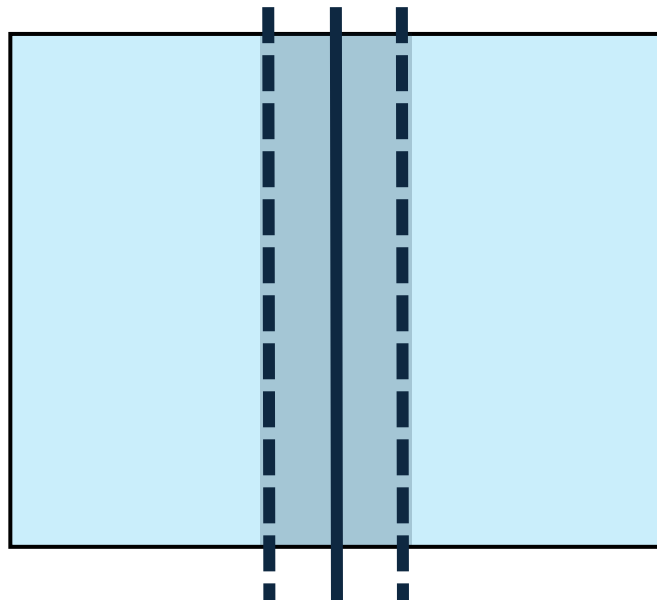
For *Holding A* not traversed by the *Centre Line*, the *Relevant Line Length* must be calculated using the section of *Outer Line* to the extent it traverses the property.

For *Holding B* traversed by the *Centre Line*, the *Relevant Line Length* must be calculated using the *Centre Line* to the extent it traverses the property.



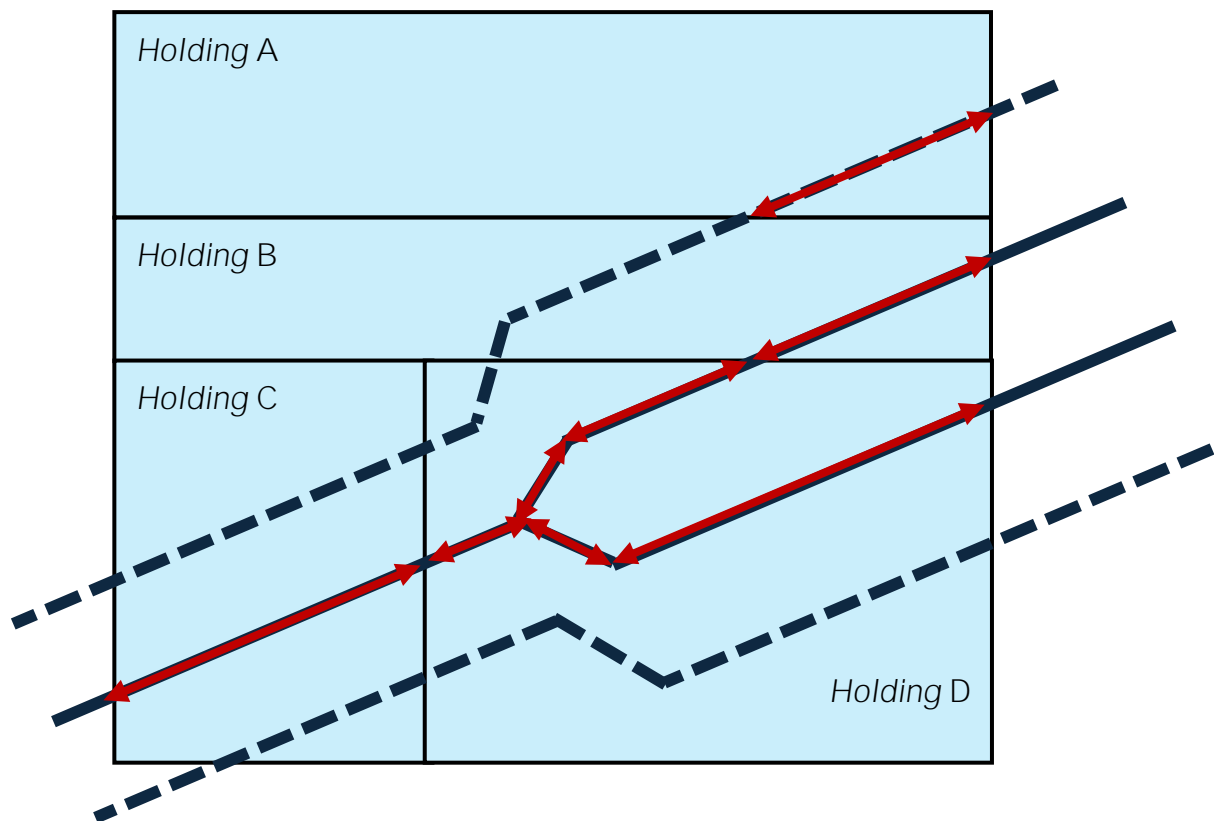
Example 6:

A section of a *Project Easement* is in an area subject to *Native Title*, and *Native Title* exists within the boundaries of the *Project Easement*. *Strategic Benefit Payments* are payable with respect to this section.



Example 7:

A section of a *Project Easement* is in an area subject to *Native Title*, but *Native Title* has been extinguished within the boundaries of the *Project Easement*. No *Strategic Benefit Payments* are payable with respect to this section.



Example 8:

A double circuit transmission line on a *Project Easement* separates into two single circuits for a section.

Holding A is traversed by the *Project Easement* only, so the *Relevant Line Length* must be calculated using the *Outer Line Method* to the extent it traverses the *Holding*.

Holding B is traversed by the *Centre Line* for one of the sections of transmission line where it separates into two single circuits, so the *Relevant Line Length* must be calculated as the length of that *Centre Line* that traverses the *Holding*.

Holding C is traversed by the *Centre Line* for the double circuit transmission line, so the *Relevant Line Length* must be calculated using the *Centre Line* to the extent it traverses the *Holding*.

Holding D is traversed by the *Centre Line* for a short section of the double circuit transmission line and then by both *Centre Lines* for the section of transmission line where it separates into two single circuits. The *Relevant Line Length* must be calculated using the sum of the *Centre Lines* for each of those sections, to the extent they traverse the *Holding*.

Schedule 4: Transitional provisions

S4.1 Transitional provisions for the initial *Guidelines*

- (a) In this clause:
 - (i) **First Commencement Date** means the date these *Guidelines* first commence, as provided for in clause 2.1;
 - (ii) **initial Eligible Project** means an *Eligible Project* that is listed in Appendix A in the form published on the First Commencement Date; and
 - (iii) **Transitional Period** means the period ending 180 days after the First Commencement Date.
- (b) If the *Energisation Date* determined under the definition in clause 3.1 for a *Project Section* is before the First Commencement Date, then despite anything to the contrary in clause 3.1, for the purposes of these *Guidelines* (other than this paragraph), the *Energisation Date* for the *Project Section* is taken to be the First Commencement Date.
- (c) Despite clause 17.4(a), the time for completion of the initial *Project Easement Register* for a *Project Section* forming part of an initial *Eligible Project* is the end of the Transitional Period.
- (d) During the Transitional Period, the *Project Operator* for an initial *Eligible Project*:
 - (i) is not required to demonstrate compliance with its obligations under clause 20 (Payment administration and data management) or clause 21 (Engagement with Eligible Owners and complaints) of the *Guidelines*; and
 - (ii) despite paragraph (i), must use its best endeavours to be in a position to demonstrate compliance with those clauses on and from the end of the Transitional Period.

Appendix A: List of *Eligible Projects* and the *Eligible Infrastructure* for each *Eligible Project*

A.1 Explanatory notes

- (a) This Appendix lists the *Eligible Projects* and related *Eligible Infrastructure*, arranged by *Project Section*.
- (b) For some *Eligible Projects*, as at the date of publication of this version of the *Guidelines*, the *Project Operator* had not been appointed. The *Guidelines* will be updated with information on the appointed *Project Operator* when they are next reissued.
- (c) The ‘Date of first listing’ and ‘Delivery status’ are included for information purposes and do not affect the operation or interpretation of the *Guidelines*.
- (d) The information about ‘Delivery status’ is correct as at the date of publication of this version of the *Guidelines*. If current information about the Delivery status of a project is needed, it should be obtained from another source such as the relevant *Project Operator* or *AEMO’s* website.
- (e) A legend explaining the categories of ‘Delivery status’ is at the end of this Appendix.

A.2 Project Energy Connect (PEC)

<i>Eligible Project</i>	Project Energy Connect
Description of <i>Eligible Project</i>	A 330 kV double-circuit interconnector between South Australia and New South Wales, with a 220 kV double-circuit line to Victoria.
<i>Project Operator</i>	NSW Electricity Networks Operations Pty Limited (ACN 609 169 959) as trustee for the NSW Electricity Networks Operations Trust (trading as Transgrid)
Date of first listing:	Date of commencement of version 1 of the <i>Guidelines</i>

Table A2: *Eligible Infrastructure* forming part of the *Eligible Project* arranged by *Project Section*

<i>Project Section</i>	<i>Eligible Infrastructure</i>		Delivery status
	Description	Voltage (kV)	
L1	Transmission line between: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• NSW-SA border• Buronga substation	330	Energised

L4	Transmission line between: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Buronga substation The NSW-VIC Border 	220	Energised
L2	Transmission line between: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Buronga substation Dinawan substation 	330	Construction
L5	Transmission line between: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dinawan substation Wagga Wagga substation 	330	Construction

Note: *Affected Land Titles* for the *Eligible Project* can be found on the *Project Easement Register* established under the *Guidelines* and published on the *Licence Holder's* website following the *Energisation Date*.

A.3 HumeLink

Eligible Project	HumeLink
Description of Eligible Project	A 500 kV transmission upgrade connecting Project EnergyConnect and the Snowy Mountains Hydroelectric Scheme to Bannaby.
Project Operator	NSW Electricity Networks Operations Pty Limited (ACN 609 169 959) as trustee for the NSW Electricity Networks Operations Trust (trading as Transgrid)
Date of first listing:	Date of commencement of version 1 of the <i>Guidelines</i>

Table A3: *Eligible Infrastructure* forming part of the *Eligible Project* arranged by *Project Section*

Project Section	Eligible Infrastructure		Delivery status
	Description	Voltage (kV)	
5C1	Transmission line between: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bannaby substation Maragle substation 	500	Construction
5C2	Transmission line between: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bannaby substation Gugaa substation 	500	Construction
5C3	Transmission line between:	500	Construction

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maragle substation Gugaa substation 		
6R & 6P	Transmission line between: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gugaa substation Wagga Wagga substation 	500	Construction

Note: *Affected Land Titles* for the *Eligible Project* can be found on the *Project Easement Register* established under the *Guidelines* and published on the *Licence Holder's* website following the *Energisation Date*.

A.4 Victoria – New South Wales Interconnector West (VNI West)

Eligible Project	Victoria – New South Wales Interconnector West (VNI West)
Description of Eligible Project	A high capacity 500 kV double-circuit line to connect Western Renewables Link (from Bungana) with Project EnergyConnect and HumeLink via a new substation near Kerang.
Project Operator	NSW Electricity Networks Operations Pty Limited (ACN 609 169 959) as trustee for the NSW Electricity Networks Operations Trust (trading as Transgrid)
Date of first listing:	Date of commencement of version 1 of the <i>Guidelines</i>

Table A.4: *Eligible Infrastructure* forming part of the *Eligible Project* arranged by *Project Section*

Project Section	Eligible Infrastructure		Delivery status
	Description	Voltage (kV)	
VNI West	Transmission line between: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wagga Wagga substation NSW-Vic border (Murray River) 	500	Environmental Impact Statement

Note: *Affected Land Titles* for the *Eligible Project* can be found on the *Project Easement Register* established under the *Guidelines* and published on the *Licence Holder's* website following the *Energisation Date*.

A.5 Main Central West Orana Renewable Energy Zone network infrastructure project

Eligible Project Main Central West Orana Renewable Energy Zone network infrastructure project

Description of Eligible Project Transmission project consisting of 500 kV and 330 kV circuits to provide additional capacity to the Central West Orana REZ.

Project Operator ACERREZ Partnership (ABN 48 205 081 299)

Date of first listing: Date of commencement of version 1 of the *Guidelines*

Table A5: *Eligible Infrastructure* forming part of the *Eligible Project* arranged by *Project Section*

Project Section	Eligible Infrastructure		Delivery status
	Description	Voltage (kV)	
L1A	Transmission line between: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Barigan Creek Switching Station Merotherie Energy Hub 	500	Construction
L1B	Transmission line between: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Barigan Creek Switching Station Merotherie Energy Hub 	500	Construction
L2A	Transmission line between: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Merotherie Energy Hub North Uarbry East- Liverpool Range Wind Farm Switching Station 	330	Construction
L2B	Transmission line between: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Merotherie Energy Hub North Uarbry West- Valley of the Winds Wind Farm Switching Station 	330	Construction
L2C	Transmission line between: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continuation from L2B 	330	Construction

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MER C4-1 (Valley of the Winds Wind Farm Switching Station) 		
L3A	Transmission line between: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Merotherie Energy Hub South • Elong Elong Energy Hub 	500	Construction
L3B	Transmission line between: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Merotherie Energy Hub South • Elong Elong Energy Hub 	500	Construction
L5A	Transmission line between: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Merotherie Energy Hub South • Future MER C3 Switching Station 	330	Construction
L5C	Transmission line between: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuation from L5A (Future MER C3 Switching Station) • MER-C3-2 (Tallawang Solar Farm Switching Station) 	330	Construction
L7A	Transmission line between: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Merotherie Energy Hub North • MER C1-1 (Birrawa Solar Farm Switching Station) 	330	Construction
L8A	Transmission line between: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elong Elong Energy Hub • ELO C1-2 (Cobbora Solar Farm Switching Station) 	330	Construction
L9A	Transmission line between: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elong Elong Energy Hub • ELO C2-1 (Sandy Creek Solar Farm Switching Station) 	330	Construction
LXO	Transmission line between: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elong Elong Energy Hub • ELO C3-1 (Dapper Solar Farm Switching Station) 	330	Construction

LX1	Transmission line between: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continuation from LX0 (Dapper Solar Farm Switching Station) ELO C3-2 (Spicer Creek Wind Farm Switching Station) 	330	Construction
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Note: *Affected Land Titles* for the *Eligible Project* can be found on the *Project Easement Register* established under the *Guidelines* and published on the *Licence Holder's* website following the *Energisation Date*.

A.6 Enabling Central West Orana Network Infrastructure Project

Eligible Project	Enabling Central West Orana Network Infrastructure Project
Description of Eligible Project	Transmission project to increase the transfer capability between central and northern New South Wales, enabling more transfer capacity out of the Queensland New South Wales Interconnector, and expand the New England REZ.
Project Operator	To be appointed
Date of first listing:	Date of commencement of version 1 of the <i>Guidelines</i>

Table A6: *Eligible Infrastructure* forming part of the *Eligible Project* arranged by *Project Section*

Project Section	Eligible Infrastructure		Delivery status
	Description	Voltage (kV)	
33/34	Transmission line between: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Liddell Substation Bayswater Substation 	330	Construction
81	Transmission line between: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Newcastle Substation Bayswater Substation 	330	Construction
8R	Transmission line between: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Liddell Substation Bayswater Substation 	330	Construction
73/74	Transmission line between: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Liddell Substation 	330	Construction

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bayswater Substation 		
5A3	Transmission line between: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Barigan Creek Switching Station Existing line 5A3 	500	Construction
5A5	Transmission line between: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bayswater Substation Mount Piper Substation 	500	Construction
70	Transmission line between: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mount Piper Substation Wallerawang Substation 	330	Construction
71	Transmission line between: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mount Piper Substation Wallerawang Substation 	330	Construction
7G	Transmission line between: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mount Piper Substation Wallerawang Substation 	330	Construction

Note: *Affected Land Titles* for the *Eligible Project* can be found on the *Project Easement Register* established under the *Guidelines* and published on the *Licence Holder's* website following the *Energisation Date*.

A.7 New England REZ Network Infrastructure Project

Eligible Project	New England REZ Network Infrastructure Project
Description of Eligible Project	Transmission project to increase the transfer capability between central and northern New South Wales, enabling more transfer capacity out of the Queensland New South Wales Interconnector, and expand the New England REZ.
Project Operator	To be appointed
Date of first listing:	Date of commencement of version 1 of the <i>Guidelines</i>

Table A.7: *Eligible Infrastructure* forming part of the *Eligible Project* arranged by *Project Section*

Project Section	Eligible Infrastructure		Delivery status
	Description	Voltage (kV)	

NE – Stage 1	Transmission line between: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bayswater substation • Central Hub 	500	Network planning
NE – Stage 1	Transmission line between: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Central Hub • North Hub 	500	Network planning
NE – Stage 1	Transmission line between: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Central Hub • Central South Hub 	500	Network planning
NE – Stage 1	Transmission line between: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Central Hub • East Hub 	330	Network planning
NE – Stage 2	Transmission line between: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bayswater substation • Central South Hub 	500	Network planning

Note: *Affected Land Titles* for the *Eligible Project* can be found on the *Project Easement Register* established under the *Guidelines* and published on the *Licence Holder's* website following the *Energisation Date*.

A.8 Sydney Ring North (Hunter Transmission Project)

Eligible Project	Sydney Ring North (Hunter Transmission Project)
Description of Eligible Project	High capacity 500 kV transmission line of around 100 kilometres between Bayswater in the Upper Hunter and Olney in the Lower Hunter to connect the State's existing 500 kV transmission lines.
Project Operator	To be appointed
Date of first listing:	Date of commencement of version 1 of the <i>Guidelines</i>

Table A.8: *Eligible Infrastructure* forming part of the *Eligible Project* arranged by *Project Section*

Project Section	Eligible Infrastructure		Delivery status
	Description	Voltage (kV)	
HTP-1	Transmission line between: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eraring Power station 	500	Network planning

	• Bayswater substation		
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Note: *Affected Land Titles* for the *Eligible Project* can be found on the *Project Easement Register* established under the *Guidelines* and published on the *Licence Holder's* website following the *Energisation Date*.

Delivery status legend

Delivery status	Description
Network planning	For <i>Eligible Projects</i> being progressed under the <i>National Electricity Rules</i> , a Regulatory Investment Test for Transmission application is being prepared for submission and determination by the Australian Energy Regulator. For <i>Eligible Projects</i> being progressed under the EII Act, a Transmission Efficiency Test application is being prepared for submission and determination by the Australian Energy Regulator.
Environmental Impact Statement	The <i>Licence Holder</i> is in the process of completing its Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the <i>Eligible Project</i> or has submitted its EIS application for the <i>Eligible Project</i> to the NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (DPHI) and is awaiting its decision.
Construction	The <i>Eligible Project</i> has received environmental approval from the NSW DPHI and the Australian Government, meaning the <i>Project Section</i> can be or is in the process of being constructed.
Energised	The <i>Project Section</i> has passed the <i>Energisation Date</i> triggering the obligation for the <i>Licence Holder</i> to make <i>Strategic Benefit Payments</i> to <i>Eligible Owners</i> in accordance with the <i>Guidelines</i> .