

PUBLIC

# Burrup Common User Transmission Infrastructure

Communication and Engagement Plan

**HORIZON**  
POWER



## Background

Horizon Power is proposing to build new 132 kilovolt (kV) common user transmission infrastructure to support the transfer of renewable energy from the Maitland Strategic Industrial Area (SIA) to the Burrup Peninsula (the Project). The proposed infrastructure is required to support the decarbonisation of industrial proponents on the Burrup Peninsula (Burrup) to achieve decarbonisation goals and obligations.

The transmission infrastructure is to be owned, operated and maintained by Horizon Power, providing a vital link for renewable energy transfer between the two precincts.

Horizon Power referred the Burrup portion of the Project to the WA Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) under Part IV (Section 38) of the Environmental Protection Act 1986 (EP Act) in November 2022, as the Project has the potential to impact on one or more of the EPA's key environmental factors.

The EPA concluded that all factors can be managed through avoidance and mitigation measures to meet the EPA's objectives. The EPA responded on 14 August 2023, confirming that the project does not require further assessment under Part IV of the EP Act and as such Horizon Power is seeking a Native Vegetation Clearing Permit under Pt V Division 2 of the EP Act.

Horizon Power also referred the Burrup portion of the Project to the Commonwealth Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW) under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Act 1999 (EPBC Act) in November 2022, due to potential impacts to a National Heritage Place and listed threatened species.

The new Burrup portion of the Project will include:

- approximately 7 kilometre (**km**) long 132 kV overhead transmission line;
- approximately 40 poles and maintenance access pads;
- a single, unsealed access track for operations and ongoing maintenance;
- a new Substation on the Burrup (inclusive of a Battery Energy Storage System (**BESS**), transformers, perimeter fencing and ancillary equipment);
- expansion of Horizon Power's Dampier Substation southern fence line (approx. 5 meters) to facilitate the inclusion of 132 kV switchgear and ancillary equipment; and
- associated electrical infrastructure.

## Heritage management

Horizon Power has conducted six cultural heritage site avoidance surveys in collaboration with the Traditional Owners, the Ngarluma Aboriginal Corporation, and the Murujuga Aboriginal Corporation on the proposed project. All places of cultural significance identified in these surveys will be avoided by the Project, as agreed with the Traditional Owners. Cultural heritage monitors will also be present for initial ground disturbance works as outlined in the Project's Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management Plan.

Horizon Power will avoid impacting on Aboriginal Cultural Heritage whenever and wherever possible when undertaking Project activities, including the creation of new assets, generation of energy, operation of networks, and managing legacy issues. For further detail on Horizon Power's commitments please reference our [Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management Policy](#) and our [Reconciliation Action Plan](#) which is available on our [website](#).

No Aboriginal Heritage sites are being impacted by this development, and the Heritage Management Plan has in place practices to monitor for any sites during construction.

## Environmental management

Biological survey has been undertaken for this project, and avoidance of significant environmental features has been undertaken in consultation with key environmental government agencies. The project will be constructed in accordance with the Environmental Management Plan and an Environmental professional will be assigned to the project, including supervising all clearing activities. Horizon Power will comply with all environmental approvals issued. Further information is available on the Horizon Power website including the [Preliminary Documentation](#) published under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999, and Horizon Power's [Environment Policy](#).

## Engagement Overview

This Communications and Engagement Plan provides an overview of the key communication and engagement objectives, stakeholders and activities to support the successful implementation of the project, including consultation regarding heritage and environmental matters both pre and post project implementation.

Horizon Power has been meeting with relevant stakeholders for this project since August 2020, as summarised later in this document.

## Communications principles

- Seek to listen and understand key concerns of our stakeholders.
- Where possible, communications with stakeholders will occur via a face-to-face channel to better facilitate two-way discussion.
- Regular meetings to occur with Traditional Owners and other stakeholders with significant interest in the project.
- Visual artist renders will be used in communications material to accurately convey the visual appearance and impact of the line to stakeholders.

- A dedicated local point of contact is available in Karratha for any stakeholders wishing to discuss the project or raise queries or concerns.

All Horizon Power project personnel and contractors are to undertake cultural inductions by the relevant Traditional Owner Groups to ensure appropriately culturally informed decision making.

### Communications objectives

Clearly communicate the below objectives to key stakeholders and obtain their feedback on:

- The Project and its role in facilitating decarbonisation of the Burrup Peninsula.
- The route, visual appearance and associated infrastructure of the transmission line.
- The Cultural Heritage Management process for the Project and special considerations to heritage values and sites of cultural significance.
- The Environmental approvals process for the Project and any environmental concerns or considerations.
- Timelines for the Project, as well as proposed implementation date.

## Stakeholders

### Traditional Owners

- Murujuga Aboriginal Corporation as the Approved Body Corporate for the Burrup Peninsula. MAC has members from five traditional custodial groups from the Pilbara region of Western Australia. These groups are the Ngarluma, Yaburara, Mardudhunera, Yindjibarndi, and Wong-Goo-Tt-Oo peoples.
- Ngarluma Aboriginal Corporation who are the governing body for Ngarluma Land.

### Environmental stakeholders

- Environmental Protection Authority – Western Australia
- Department of Climate Change, Energy, Environment and Water
- Department of Water and Environmental Regulation

### Government and community stakeholders

- City of Karratha
- Department of Jobs, Tourism, Industry, Science and Innovation (JTISI)
- Development WA
- Department of Premier and Cabinet
- Department of Planning, Land and Heritage
- Main Roads WA
- Water Corporation
- Broader City of Karratha community

### Industry stakeholders

- Woodside Energy
- Perdaman
- Rio Tinto

- Yara Pilbara
- Fortescue Metals Group
- APA
- Australian Gas Infrastructure Group (AGIG)
- Epic Energy
- Australian Gas Infrastructure Group (Dampier to Bunbury Pipeline)
- BHP Minerals

## Stakeholder feedback and resolution

### Heritage

During the process of engaging with Murujuga Aboriginal Corporation, several items of feedback were raised with Horizon Power regarding the heritage, environmental and visual impacts of the Project. These items are summarised below, along with the actions taken by Horizon Power in response.

**Feedback item:** Visual impact of transmission line and associated infrastructure

**Horizon Power response:**

- Horizon Power investigated the option of undergrounding the transmission line to reduce visual amenities on the Burrup landscape, however, informed MAC that this option poses significantly more environmental, and heritage impacts due to the higher level for ground disturbance required for construction and maintenance (resolving faults etc) and loss of flexibility in line route.
- The capital cost of undergrounding is also significant, and does not lend itself to further augmentation for other customers.
- Horizon Power proposed a solution for painting the power poles so that they blend in with the natural environment on the Burrup Peninsula.
- In response to feedback from Murujuga Aboriginal Corporation's Circle of Elders, Horizon Power amended designs of the distribution lines connecting from the proposed Burrup substation to Woodside's Pluto Facility. These changes reduced the number of power poles and maintenance access tracks required, reducing the overall impact on the surrounding landscape.

### Environmental

While preparing the Preliminary Documentation for DCCEEW in response to specific concerns regarding migratory birds, it has been identified that bird deterrents would be beneficial, as well as design of poles to prevent impacts to birds.

**Feedback item:** Consideration of impact of the project on migratory birds at Hearson Cove

**Horizon Power response:**

- Vertical line marking (bird 'flappers') will be incorporated in the design to make these more visible to birds and improve their ability to accurately perceive depth in relation to power lines.

- The design of both power lines and poles complies with recommendations developed by BirdLife International including cross arms to energised parts more than 60cm, and conductors spaced 140 cm apart. Hardware that is used to prevent arcing (“St. Elmo’s fire” on both sides of the insulators) will not be used.

## Key messages

- The Burrup Common User Transmission Infrastructure can support the transfer of renewable electricity from the Maitland SIA to industrial customers on the Burrup Peninsula.
- The transmission lines will have spare capacity making it publicly accessible for future customers.
- The infrastructure provides further opportunity to assist heavy industry to reduce carbon emissions by opening up access for renewable generation located away from the Burrup, helping preserve rock art and protect cultural heritage in the area.
- Construction of the project is proposed to commence in 2024, with the line expected to be energised in 2026.
- Woodside Energy is planned to be the first customer for the transmission line with its proposed 50MW Maitland solar farm.
- Horizon Power will continue to provide Project updates to interested parties and more broadly via Community Information Sessions and other channels during construction and commissioning of the project.
- A significant level of site scoping has been completed for the project including nominating environmental and heritage avoidance areas.

## Project milestones

- **April 2019** – Ethnographic Avoidance Survey by NAC, Karratha to Dampier
- **June 2019** – Archaeological Survey by NAC, Karratha to Dampier
- **August 2020** – Archaeological & Ethnographic Avoidance Survey by MAC, Burrup Peninsula
- **November 2021** - Introduce the Project to Murujuga and Ngarluma Aboriginal Corporations
- **March 2022** – Pluto Native Veg Clearing Permit submitted.
- **August 2022** – Archaeological and Ethnographic survey by NAC, Maitland to Karratha
- **October 2022** – Archaeological Survey by MAC, Burrup Peninsula
- **October 2022** – Ethnographic Survey by MAC, Burrup Peninsula
- **November 2022** – Burrup Environmental referrals submitted to EPA and DCEW
- **December 2022** – Tender for 132kV line construction released.
- **May 2023** – Tenders for 132kV line evaluated and shortlisted.
- **June 2023** – Maitland Environmental Permit received.
- **July 2023** – Native Vegetation Clearing Permit approved for Burrup Peninsula
- **August 2023** – EPA decision not to assess Environmental Referral
- **September 2023** - Pluto Native Veg Clearing Permit approved.
- **September 2023** – Land Application for Burrup Substation Management Order submitted to Land Gate
- **October 2023** – Tender negotiations completed, leading to conforming a contract.
- **October 2023** – Burrup to Dampier 132kV Native Veg Clearing permit application submitted.

- **April 2024** – Estimated Project endorsement by the Traditional Owners
- **June 2024** – Estimated environmental approvals received from DWER and DCCEEW
- **July 2024** – Commence Detailed Design
- **End 2024** – Construction commencement



## Communications activities

Date	Activity	Audience	Key messages	Responsible
<b>2020</b>				
1/08/2020	Meeting	Murujuga Aboriginal Corporation	High-level introduction to the common user infrastructure transmission from Burrup to Maitland	MR
14/10/2020	Meeting	Dept Jobs Tourism Science and Industry	High-level introduction to the common user infrastructure transmission from Burrup to Maitland	MR
19/11/2020	Meeting	Dept Jobs Tourism Science and Industry	Detailed introduction to the common user infrastructure transmission from Burrup to Maitland	MR
<b>2021</b>				
3/02/2021	Meeting	Dept Jobs Tourism Science and Industry	Project update and feedback	MR, SP
23/03/2021	Meeting	Rio Tinto Projects	Project briefing and feedback	MR, SP
3/06/2021	Meeting	Yara Pilbara and FMG	Project briefing and feedback	MR, SP
29/06/2021	Meeting	Dept Jobs Tourism Science and Industry and Development WA	Project briefing	MR, SP
29/07/2021	Meeting	Dept Jobs Tourism Science and Industry, Yara Pilbara and FMG	Project update and feedback	MR, SP
29/09/2021	Meeting	Yara Pilbara and FMG	Maitland Transmission Line route discussion	MR, SP
29/11/2021	On site discussions	Murujuga Aboriginal Corporation	Further discussions on project	MR, SP
<b>2022</b>				
18/01/2022	Meeting	Murujuga Aboriginal Corporation	Further discussions on project	MR
14/01/2022	Email	Ngarluma Aboriginal Corporation	Request for meeting to progress heritage survey in advance to native title negotiations.	MR and SP
2/02/2022	Meeting	Dept of Premier and Cabinet	Project briefing and feedback	MR and SP
9/02/2022	Phone call	Ngarluma Aboriginal Corporation	Engagement to discuss the project and the requirement for heritage survey.	MR and SP
Feb to May 2022	Email	Ngarluma Aboriginal Corporation	During this time multiple emails issued to discuss heritage agreement.	MR and SP



14/02/2022	Meeting	Dept Jobs Tourism Science and Industry	Project update and feedback	MR, SP
25/02/2022	Meeting	Rio Tinto Projects team	Further discussions on project	MR and SP
2/03/2022	Meeting	Dept Jobs Tourism Science and Industry and Development WA	Project update and line route discussion	MR, SP
28/03/2022	Meeting	Dept Jobs Tourism Science and Industry, Development WA and Main Roads	Project discussion with focus on Burrup Substation land tenure	MR, SP
1/04/2022	Meeting	Dept Planning Land and Heritage	Project update and feedback	MR, SP
27/04/2022	Meeting	Rio Tinto Projects team	Further discussions on project	MR and SP
11/05/2022	Meeting	Dept Jobs Tourism Science and Industry	Project update and feedback	MR, SP
24/05/2022	Meeting	Ngarluma Aboriginal Corporation	Presented update on the project, Burrup (Common User) Transmission Project	MR and SP
16/06/2022	Meeting	Dept Jobs Tourism Science and Industry, Development WA, Main Roads and Woodside	Maitland access road discussion	MR, SP
2/06/2022	Meeting	Murujuga Aboriginal Corporation	Further discussions on project	MR
2/06/2022	Meeting	Ngarluma Aboriginal Corporation	Presented update on the project, Burrup (Common User) Transmission Project	MR and SP
3/06/2022	Meeting	Dept Jobs Tourism Science and Industry	Project update and feedback	MR, SP
28/06/2022	Meeting	Dept Jobs Tourism Science and Industry	Project update and feedback	MR, SP
1/07/2022	Meeting	Dept Jobs Tourism Science and Industry, Development WA, Main Roads and Woodside	Follow up discussion on Burrup Substation	MR, SP
21/07/2022	Email	Murujuga Aboriginal Corporation	Heritage scope of works and transmission line fly-through	MR
2/08/2022	Email	Murujuga Aboriginal Corporation	Request to schedule heritage site avoidance survey	MR
9/08/2022	Meeting	Dept of Employment and Workplace Relations	Pre-referral meeting	MR, SP
26/08/2022	Meeting	Ngarluma Aboriginal Corporation	Project briefing and update - High-level introduction to the common user infrastructure transmission from Burrup to Maitland	MS, SP
29/08/2022	Meeting	Development WA	Discussion on Pluto to Burrup line corridor	MR, SP
5/10/2022	Meeting	Woodside Energy	Project update and feedback	MR, MS and SP

5/10/2022	Murujuga Cultural Induction	Murujuga Aboriginal Corporation	Cultural Induction for key Horizon Power Project team members	MR, SP, MR
6/10/2022	Meeting	Water Corporation	Project briefing and feedback	MR, SP
6/10/2022	Meeting	Australian Gas and Infrastructure Group (DBNGP)	Project briefing and feedback	MR, SP
6/10/2022	Meeting	Water Corporation	All	MR, DH, MS and SP
7/10/2022	Meeting	City of Karratha Mayor and CEO	Project briefing and feedback	MR, SP, MS
11/10/2022	Meeting	Main Roads WA	Project Update and feedback	MR, SP, MS
17/10/2022	Meeting	Woodside	Project Update and feedback	MR, MS, SP
26/10/2022	Project update and feedback	Murujuga Aboriginal Corporation	Further discussions on project	MR, MS, SP, DH
26/10/2022	Meeting	Murujuga Aboriginal Corporation	Further discussions on project	MR, SP, MS
12/12/2022	Meeting	Ngarluma Aboriginal Corporation	Project update and feedback	MR, DH and SP
<b>2023</b>				
25/01/2023	Presentation	Murujuga Aboriginal Corporation Board and Circle of Elders	Project briefing and feedback	MR, DH, MS and SP
14/02/2023	Meeting	Murujuga Aboriginal Corporation Acting CEO	Follow up discussions from Board Meeting	MR, DH, MS and SP
April to June 2023	Monthly meetings	Environmental Protection Authority	Ongoing consultation with MAC around endorsement of Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management Plan	RL
5/04/2023	Project update and feedback	Murujuga Aboriginal Corporation Acting CEO	Further discussions on project	MR, SP, MS
17/04/2023	Meeting	Murujuga Aboriginal Corporation Acting CEO	Further discussions on project	MR, SP, MS, SU, DH
17/04/2023	Site visit	Environmental protection Authority	Discussion on project location, environmental constraints, priority ecological communities and avoidance areas	MR

15/06/2023	Meeting	Ngarluma Aboriginal Corporation	Project update and discussions	MR and SP
20/07/2023	Meeting	Murujuga Aboriginal Corporation Acting CEO	Further discussions on project	MR, SP, MS, DH
31/07/2023	Email	Murujuga Aboriginal Corporation Acting CEO	Requesting MAC's feedback on Aboriginal Cultural heritage Management Plan	MS
Aug – Oct 2023	Monthly meetings	Department of Climate Change, Energy, Environment and Water	Progression of preliminary documentation, heritage consultation and migratory birds assessment	RL
15/08/2023	Meeting	City of Karratha Executive	Project briefing and feedback	MR, SP, MS, DH
24/08/2023	Email	Ngarluma Aboriginal Corporation	Following up NAC's remittance advice assumably for Horizon Power's meeting with CEO (Emil) & Legal support team	MR and SP
26/08/2023	Meeting	Ngarluma Aboriginal Corporation	Project update and discussions	MR, MS and SP
1/08/2023	Email	Ngarluma Aboriginal Corporation	Email to NACs EA requesting monthly meeting dates for Sept, Oct, Nov & Dec	MR and SP
31/08/2023	Email	Murujuga Aboriginal Corporation Acting CEO	Follow up email on recent meeting actions	MS
31/08/2023	Email	Murujuga Aboriginal Corporation Heritage Manager	Follow up email on Cultural Heritage Management Plan feedback	MS
1/09/2023	Phone call	Murujuga Aboriginal Corporation Acting CEO	Follow up email on recent meeting actions	MS
11/09/2023	Email	Ngarluma Aboriginal Corporation	Follow up on NAC's remittance advice to cover NAC expenses	MR and SP
5/09/2023	Meeting	Ngarluma Aboriginal Corporation	Follow up discussions on project	MR and SP
12/09/2023	Meeting	City of Karratha Executive	Briefing and feedback	MS and SP
10/09/2023	Meeting	Woodside	Project update	MS and SP
4/10/2023	Meeting	Ngarluma Aboriginal Corporation	Project update and discussions	SP, DH and MS
6/10/2023	Meeting	DWER	Clearing permit application and avoidance work undertaken on project to date	RL
9/10/2023	Meeting	Ngarluma Aboriginal Corporation	Project update and discussions	SP, DH
16/10/2023	Meeting	Dept Jobs Tourism Science and Industry	Project update and discussions	SP, MS, DH



19/10/2023	Meeting	Murujuga Aboriginal Corporation (new CEO)	Project briefing and feedback	MS, SP, DH
26/10/2023	Presentation	Murujuga Aboriginal Corporation Board and Circle of Elders	Project update and seek feedback	MS, SP, DH, SU
1/11/2023	Meeting	Murujuga Aboriginal Corporation	Gather feedback	MS, SP
3/11/2023	Phone	Murujuga Aboriginal Corporation Heritage Senior Advisor	Follow up phone call on Cultural Heritage Management Plan feedback	MS
30/11/2023	Meeting	Ngarluma Aboriginal Corporation	Project update and gather feedback	SP, DH, MS
4/12/2023	Meeting	Murujuga Aboriginal Corporation CEO	Follow up discussions on project and seeking feedback on proposal	SP, DH, MS
19/12/2023	Email	Ngarluma Aboriginal Corporation	Follow up discussions on project	SP, DH, MS
20/12/2023	Email	Ngarluma Aboriginal Corporation	Horizon requesting opportunity to present the Project to NAC's board	SP
<b>2024</b>				
7/02/2024	Meeting	Ngarluma Aboriginal Corporation	Project update and discussions	SP,DH,MS,S U
1/03/2024	Meeting	Murujuga Aboriginal Corporation CEO & Chairman	Project briefing and gather feedback	SP,MS,SU
21/03/2024	Email	Murujuga Aboriginal Corporation CEO	Projects Benefit Sharing Agreement	SP
28/03/2024	Presentation	Murujuga Aboriginal Corporation Board and Circle of Elders	Presented Project Benefit Sharing Agreement	MAC
<b>Project construction phase</b>				
Dates TBC – discussing with MAC presently	Regular meeting	Murujuga Aboriginal Corporation	Project update and address any queries or concerns	MS, SP
Dates TBC– discussing with NAC presently	Regular meeting	Ngarluma Aboriginal Corporation	Project update and address any queries or concerns	MS, SP
<b>Post project construction</b>				

Dates TBC – discussing with MAC presently	Regular meeting	Murujuga Aboriginal Corporation	General Horizon Power update and address any queries or concerns	MS
Dates TBC – discussing with NAC presently	Regular meeting	Ngarluma Aboriginal Corporation	General Horizon Power update and address any queries or concerns	MS