



Australian Government

Department of Climate Change, Energy,
the Environment and Water

Ms Kylie Fitzpatrick
A/Director Environmental Assessment
Department of Lands, Planning and Environment
16 Parap Road, Parap
Darwin NT 0820

Via: eia.consult@nt.gov.au

Response to invitation to comment – EP Act (NT) referral – Muckaty Solar Precinct

Dear Ms Fitzpatrick

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the referral of the proposed action under section 48 of the *Environment Protection Act 2019* (EP Act).

As noted in the department's letter of 19 November 2025 to the Chair of the NT EPA, the department has received a referral for the proposed action (EPBC 2025/10357). The department notes the following difference between the two referrals:

- The referral under section 48 of the EP Act indicates a Project Area of 105,000 ha and a preliminary disturbance footprint of 49,300 ha.
- The referral under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) indicates a Project Area of 135,857.03 ha and a Preliminary Disturbance Footprint of 54,437.83 ha.

Should the project be determined a controlled action pursuant to section 75 of the EPBC Act, these differences mean it may not be eligible for assessment under the Northern Territory Assessment Bilateral Agreement. The department recommends that AAPowerLink Australia Assets Pty Ltd consider varying the proposed action under the EP Act so that it is consistent with the referral under the EPBC Act.

The department will inform the NT EPA of the referral decision outcome once it has been made.

If you have any questions about these comments, please contact the project manager, Michael Weiss, by email to EADSAandNTSection@dcceew.gov.au and quote EPBC reference number 2025/10357.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Bray'.

Dr Joshua Bray
A/Director SA & NT Assessment Section
Environment Assessments West Branch
24 November 2025

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