

NOTICE OF DECISION AND STATEMENT OF REASONS

Regulations 274(b) and 275 of the Environment Protection Regulations 2020 (EP Regulations)

Name of proposed action	Australia-Asia PowerLink Project (AAPowerLink)
Proponent	AA Powerlink Assets Pty Ltd
NT EPA reference	EP2020/002
Description of proposed action	To establish a large-scale solar farm and energy storage facility in the Barkly region, NT, with power exported via a high-voltage direct current transmission network to Murrumujuk on Gunn Point Peninsula, north-east of Darwin, and then sub-sea cable through Northern Territory, National and International waters to Singapore.
Nature of proposed action	Energy (renewable)
Decision	To extend the specified period for consultation on the supplement to the draft EIS, by 21 business days
Person authorised to make decision	Dr Paul Vogel AM – Chairperson, as delegate of the Northern Territory Environment Protection Authority (NT EPA)
Signature	1 log it
Date of decision	December 2022
Matters considered	The NT EPA has decided to extend the specified period for consultation on the supplement to the draft EIS by 21 business days. In making its decision, it considered:
	the substantial size of the documentation
	 the timing of consultation on the supplement to the draft EIS

Statement of Reasons

The NT EPA considers that an extension of consultation on the supplement is necessary to meet the objects of the Act (section 3 of the *Environment Protection Act 2019*). In particular, the extension is necessary:

Section 3(d) to provide for broad community involvement during the process of environmental impact assessment

The NT EPA considers that an extension of a specified period is consistent with the purpose of the assessment process under section 42 of the Act. In particular, the extension is necessary to ensure that:

Section 42(d) the community is provided with an opportunity to participate, and have its views considered, in decisions on proposed actions

Conclusion

The NT EPA considers that the extension of the specified period for consultation on the referral by 21 business days is necessary.