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REFERENCE: TRIM 2017/31/374

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**Re: DA2024/0081 - 49 BLACKBUTTS ROAD FRENCHS FOREST -  
Proposed demolition of all existing structures on site..**

I refer to Northern Beaches Council development application DA2024/0081.

This letter is Ausgrid's response under section 2.48 of the State Environmental Planning Policy (Transport and Infrastructure) 2021.

The assessment and evaluation of environmental impacts for a new development consent (or where a development consent is modified) is undertaken in accordance with requirements of Section 79C of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979. One of the obligations upon consent authorities, such as local councils, is to consider the suitability of the site for the development which can include a consideration of whether the proposal is compatible with the surrounding land uses and the existing environment.

In this regard, Ausgrid requires that due consideration be given to the compatibility of proposed development with existing Ausgrid infrastructure, particularly in relation to risks of electrocution, fire risks, Electric & Magnetic Fields (EMFs), noise, visual amenity and other matters that may impact on Ausgrid or the development.

**With Regard to:**

**Proposed demolition of all existing structures on site. at 49 BLACKBUTTS ROAD FRENCHS FOREST**

- Plans - Demolition Management.PDF
- Appendix 2 - Demolition Works Plan - 49 Blackbutts Road and 21A Warili Road, Frenchs Forest.pdf

Ausgrid consents to the above mentioned development subject to the following conditions:-

**Proximity to Existing Network Assets**

**Underground Cables**

There are existing underground electricity network assets in 49 BLACKBUTTS ROAD FRENCHS FOREST.

Special care should also be taken to ensure that driveways and any other construction activities within the footpath area do not interfere with the existing cables in the footpath. Ausgrid cannot guarantee the depth of cables due to possible changes in ground levels from previous activities after the cables were installed. Hence it is recommended that the developer locate and record the depth of all known underground services prior to any excavation in the area.

Safework Australia – Excavation Code of Practice, and Ausgrid's Network Standard NS156 outlines the minimum requirements for working around Ausgrid's underground cables.

**Substation**

There are existing electricity substation S48656 within 49 BLACKBUTTS ROAD FRENCHS FOREST.

The substation ventilation openings, including substation duct openings and louvered panels, must be separated from building air intake and exhaust openings, natural ventilation openings and boundaries of adjacent allotments, by separation distances which meet the requirements of all relevant authorities, building regulations, BCA and Australian Standards including AS 1668.2: The use of ventilation and air-conditioning in buildings - Mechanical ventilation in buildings.

In addition to above, Ausgrid requires the substation ventilation openings, including duct openings and louvered panels, to be separated from building ventilation system air intake and exhaust openings, including those on buildings on adjacent allotments, by not less than 6 metres.

Any portion of a building other than a BCA class 10a structure constructed from non combustible materials, which is not sheltered by a non-ignitable blast-resisting barrier and is within 3 metres in any direction from the housing of a kiosk substation, is required to have a Fire Resistance Level (FRL) of not less than 120/120/120. Openable or fixed windows or glass blockwork or similar, irrespective of their fire rating, are not permitted within 3 metres in any direction from the housing of a kiosk substation, unless they are sheltered by a non-ignitable blast resisting barrier.

The development must comply with both the Reference Levels and the precautionary requirements of the ICNIRP Guidelines for Limiting Exposure to Time-varying Electric and Magnetic Fields (1 HZ – 100 kHz) (ICNIRP 2010).

For further details on fire segregation requirements refer to Ausgrid's Network Standard 141.

Existing Ausgrid easements, leases and/or right of ways must be maintained at all times to ensure 24 hour access. No temporary or permanent alterations to this property tenure can occur without written approval from Ausgrid.

For further details refer to Ausgrid's Network Standard 143.

#### **For Activities Within or Near to the Electricity Easement:**

##### **Purpose Of Easement**

This easement was acquired for the 11,000 volt distribution assets currently owned and operated by Ausgrid. The purpose of the easement is to protect the distribution assets and to provide adequate working space along the route of the cables for construction and maintenance work. The easement also assists Ausgrid in controlling works or other activities under or near the distribution cables which could either by accident or otherwise create an unsafe situation for workers or the public, or reduce the security and reliability of Ausgrid's network.

##### **The Following Conditions Apply for any Activities Within the Electricity Easement:**

1. Safework Australia – Excavation Code of Practice, and Ausgrid's Network Standard NS156 outlines the minimum requirements for working around Ausgrid's underground cables.
2. Ausgrid is not responsible for the reinstatement of any finished surface within the easement site.
3. Ausgrid requires 24 hour access along the easement for plant and personnel. For the purpose of exercising its rights under the easement, Ausgrid may cut fences and/or walls and install gates in them. Where the easements on a site do not provide practical access to all of Ausgrid's infrastructure, a suitable right of access at least 5m wide must be provided to each asset.
4. Access driveways shall withstand the weight of a heavy rigid truck when fully laden weighing 30 tonne.
5. Access gates, minimum 4.5 metres wide, may be required in all fences crossing the transmission line easement.
6. Driveways and other vehicle access must be capable of supporting the heaviest vehicle likely to traverse the driveway without damaging Ausgrid's assets.
7. All metal work within the easement site including metallic fencing, are to be locally earthed by a qualified electrician via a 50 sq. mm stranded copper, insulated earthwire bonded to a copper-clad earth-stake driven at least 1.6 metres into the ground.
8. Metallic fencing is generally not permitted to extend away from the easement site unless an insulating section is installed, at least 3 metres wide. This requirement maybe relaxed upon assessment of a supplied fencing design.
9. No buildings/structures or parts thereof constructed may encroach the easement.
10. No machine excavation is permitted within the easement without Ausgrid's express permission.

11. During building construction, adequate controls must be put in place to prevent vehicles and machinery from damaging the Ausgrid assets.
12. Bulk solids (e.g sand and gravels) are not to be stored within the easement area.
13. The proposed finished ground levels within the easement must provide a minimum of 600mm cover to the 11kV Distribution Cables.
14. No fill material or retaining walls are to be placed within the easement without Ausgrid's written approval.
15. Electric power should not be connected to the easement site without permission from Ausgrid.
  
16. Electric power should not be connected to the easement site without permission from Ausgrid, however electric power may be run through the easement under the conditions in the following point.
  
17. Any electrical services and metallic telecoms and metallic piping, whilst installed within easement are not to be run parallel with the overhead electricity mains for a combined total distance greater than 50m per service. Any parallel length greater than this will require additional Ausgrid consent when the services design is determined. Fibre communications cable does and plastic or concrete piping does not need to meet this requirement.

Please do not hesitate to contact Wei Yao on Ph: (02) 9394 6932 (please quote our ref: Trim 2017/31/374) should you require any further information.

Regards,

Wei Yao  
Asset Protection Officer