

## Project Approval – Planning













## **Agenda**

#### Context

#### Why does the Project need planning approval?

- Planning Scheme Definitions
- Zones, overlays and other planning provisions
- How is the Project proposed to be approved?

#### **Preferred Approval Option**

- Conditions of Approval
- Other Matters being investigated

## Western Victoria transmission network project

## Context: three primary pieces of legislation

- Environment Effects Act 1978 An EES is required and is currently being prepared
- Environment Protection and Biodiversity Act Project is a 'controlled action' and requires assessment under this Act
- Planning and Environment Act 1987 Planning approval is required under the Northern Grampians, Pyrenees, Ballarat, Hepburn, Moorabool and Melton Planning Schemes

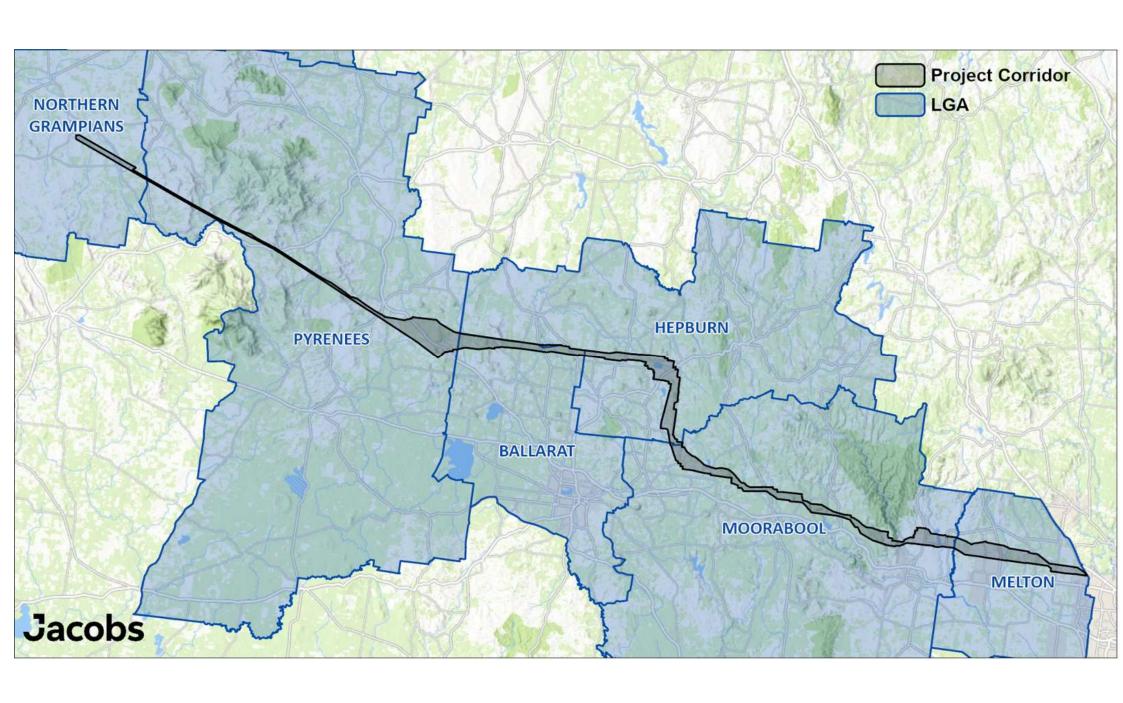


# Why does this project need planning approval?









## **Planning Scheme Definitions**

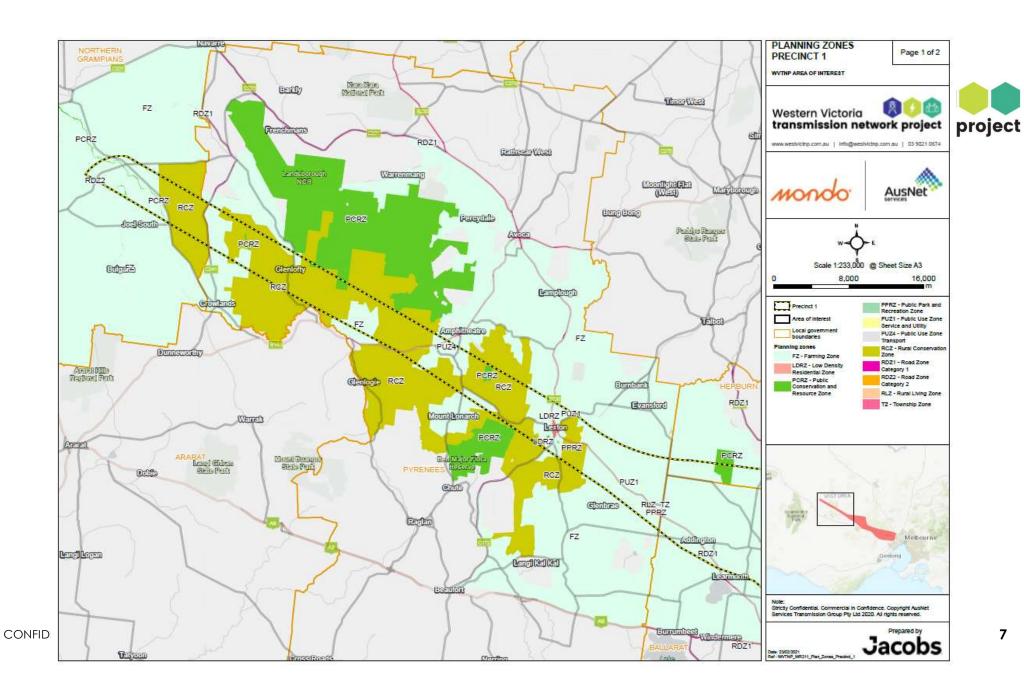


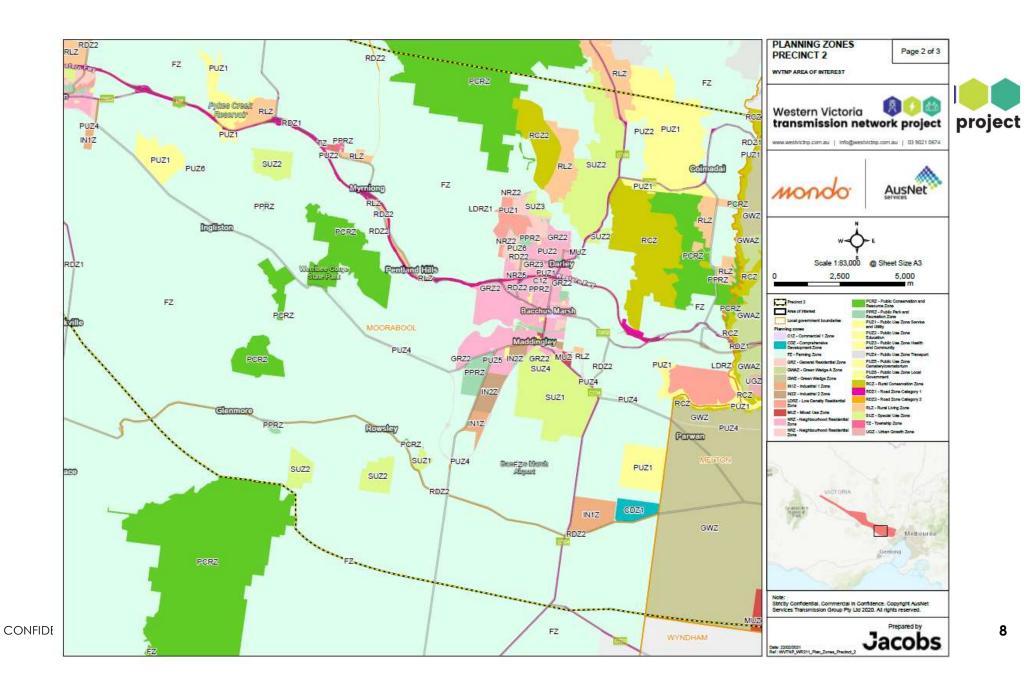
#### AusNet Services are defined as a 'utility service provider'

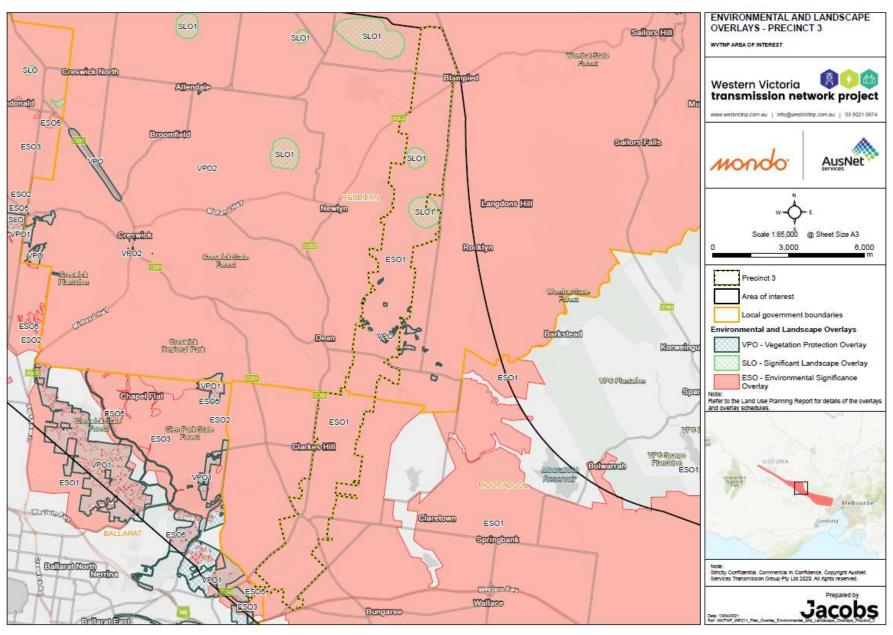
A person, other than a public authority or municipal council, having responsibility under an Act for the generation, transmission, distribution or supply of electricity, gas, power, telecommunications, water supply, drainage or sewerage services.

A transmission line and a terminal station are defined as a 'utility installation'

Land used to transmit, distribute or store power, including battery storage

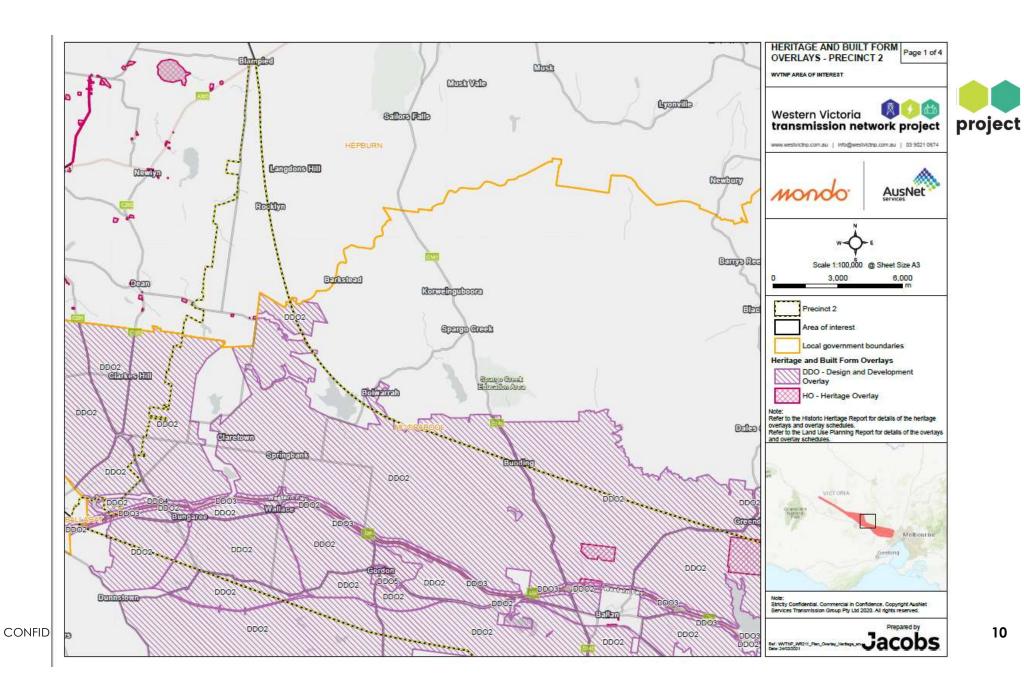


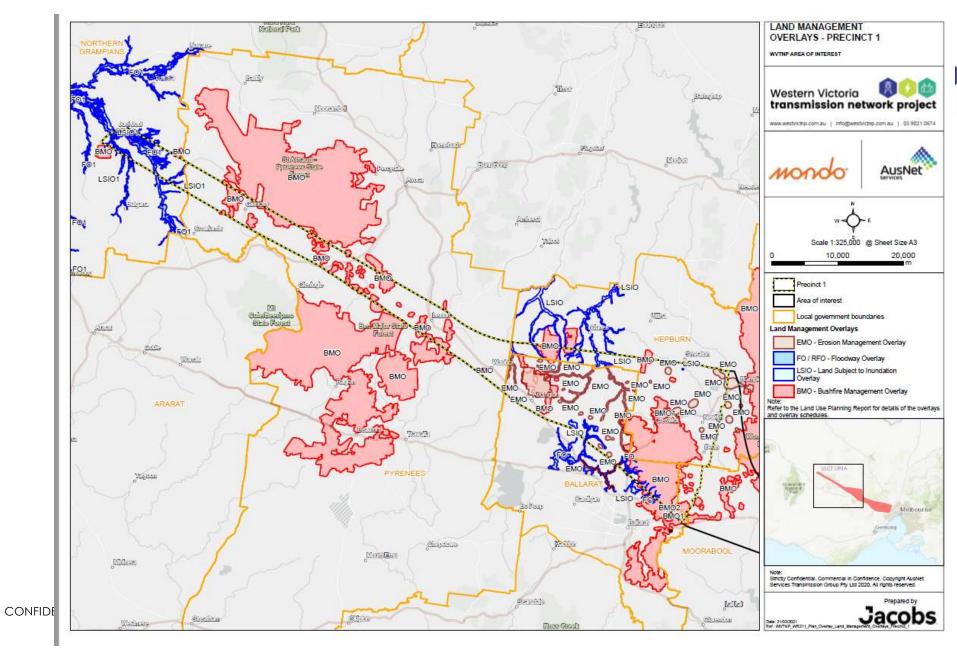




CONFIDE











## Zones, overlays and other planning provisions

Lots of zones and overlays across the six planning schemes and therefore planning triggers:

- Use of the Project as a utility installation
- Buildings and works associated with development of a utility installation
- Removal of native and non-native vegetation
- Earthworks
- Subdivision of land
- Ancillary matters such as access to Road Zone 1



# How is the Project proposed to be approved?







## **Preferred Approval Option**



Amend 6 planning schemes via a GC (Group of Councils) amendment:

- Specific Controls Overlay and Incorporated Document
- Exhibited concurrent to the EES
- Approved by the Minister for Planning

Incorporated Document will contain conditions of approval including, but not limited to:

- Development Plans
- Environmental Management Framework



## Environmental Management Framework





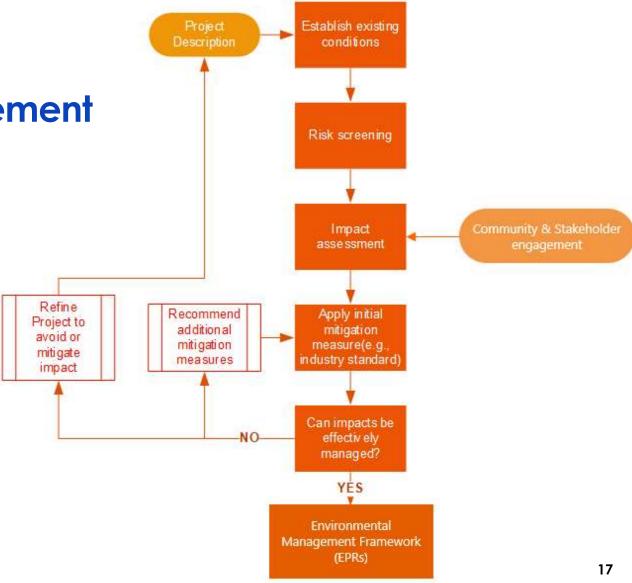


## Western Victoria transmission network project

### **Environmental Management** Framework

- Sets out a framework for how AusNet Services plans to manage the Project's identified environmental impacts
- Applies to construction, operation and decommissioning
- Sets clear accountabilities for the delivery and monitoring of compliance.

Development of the Environmental Management Framework



## Western Victoria transmission network project

## Content of the Environmental Management Framework

- Context of approvals and consents
- Prescribes the need for an environmental management system and environmental risk assessment process
- Contingency measures
- Proposed Environmental Performance Requirements
- Requirements for monitoring, auditing and reporting
- Framework for community consultation, stakeholder engagement and communications



# Environmental Performance Requirements (EPRs)

- EPRs are intended to minimise potential impacts and the risk of harm to human health and the environment
- EPRs set the outcomes to be achieved through the implementation of mitigation measures during construction, operation and decommissioning
- Where ever possible, EPRs should be performance based.
  - This means they describe the outcomes to be achieved rather than prescribing the manner in which they should be achieved.
  - This allows for flexibility in achieving the environmental outcomes, which encourages innovation.
- EPRs will be recommended by technical specialists as an outcome of the impact assessment process

## **Next Steps**



- Write to the Minister for Planning seeking approval to prepare and exhibit planning scheme amendment concurrent to the EES
- Review existing and develop draft Incorporated Document
- Engage with DELWP Planning, Councils, TRG
- Exhibit draft planning scheme amendment including the EMF / EPRs alongside EES
- Panel recommendations to the Minister for Planning
- Assessment by the Minister for Planning