

REF Addendum Determination Report



Hunter-Central Coast REZ Network Infrastructure upgrades

The *Review of Environmental Factors Addendum (REF Addendum) - Hunter-Central Coast REZ Network Infrastructure upgrades 17 September 2026, V1.0* has been prepared in accordance with Part 5 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act), Clause 171 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2021*.

In considering the proposed activity, this determination has examined and taken into account to the fullest extent possible, all matters affecting or likely to affect the environment by reason of that activity as addressed in the REF Addendum and associated investigations and studies.

As an authorised person on behalf of Ausgrid, who did not prepare the REF, I discharge the duty as a determining authority under section 5.5 of the EP&A Act and conclude that the proposed activity:

- is not an activity prescribed by the EP&A Regulation as designated development
- is not likely to significantly affect the environment (including critical habitat) or threatened species, populations or ecological communities, or their habitats
- will not be carried out on land that is, or is part of a declared area of outstanding biodiversity value

Further, the proposed activity is not likely to have a significant impact on a matter of National Environmental Significance, or a significant impact on the environment where the actions affect, or are taken on, Commonwealth land.

The proposed activity, as described in the REF Addendum, is approved on behalf of Ausgrid and may proceed without further assessment subject to compliance with the following conditions:

- Mitigation measures in *REF– Hunter-Central Coast REZ Network Infrastructure upgrades 28 August 2025, V1.0*
- Mitigation measures in *REF Addendum – Hunter-Central Coast REZ Network Infrastructure upgrades 17 September 2026 (refer to Attachment 1 below)*.
- All relevant statutory requirements, including approvals, licences, notifications, permits and authorisations.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'DS', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Daniel Sartor
Head of Major Projects

Ausgrid

Date: 18/9/2026

Attachment 1 Mitigation measures – REF Addendum – Hunter-Central Coast REZ Network Infrastructure upgrades September 2026 V1.0

Impact	Mitigation measures	Design	Construction	Operation
Aboriginal heritage	Apply for a variation to the existing Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) #5498 to permit impact to AHIMS site #37-3-1201. The variation should include permission to undertake surface collection of any artefacts on the ground surface within the proposed impact area, with the items reburied on site. If the surface artefacts cannot be relocated, the AHIP should permit unmitigated impact to the site location.	✓	✓	
	MushroomC-AS-01, must be identified and barricaded to prevent impact during construction.		✓	
	The Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management Plan (ACHMP) should be updated to include the additional survey undertaken and the recommendations made should be implemented during construction works.	✓	✓	✓
	One digital copy of the Addendum ACHA report should be forwarded to Heritage NSW to support the required AHIP application for the project, along with required supporting documentation. One digital copy of the Addendum ACHA should be forwarded to Heritage NSW for inclusion on the Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System (AHIMS). One copy of the Addendum ACHA report should be forwarded to each of the registered Aboriginal stakeholders for the project.	✓		
Non-Aboriginal heritage	If unexpected non-Aboriginal heritage/archaeological items are uncovered during construction, the work within the vicinity of the find should cease immediately. The site management shall be immediately notified to co-ordinate a response, which may include direction to seek appropriate advice from a suitably qualified and experienced Heritage Advisor.		✓	
	Vibration levels from construction plant and equipment should be assessed for potential impacts to the heritage item prior to commencing works. Mitigation measures should be put in place to avoid physical impacts.		✓	
	A condition survey of the Brick Farm House should be undertaken at the beginning and end of the works to ensure no damage has occurred to structures. Any damage to buildings should be avoided. If any repairs are necessary they should be undertaken under the guidance of a Heritage Architect.		✓	
	As part of the site induction, a heritage induction should be provided to workers prior to construction, informing them of the location of known heritage items and guidelines to follow if unexpected heritage items or deposits are located during construction.		✓	