

Environment Fact Sheet

National Parks Protocol



Key message	All works in national park lands must comply with the National Parks Protocol .
Applies to	All Ausgrid workers who enter national park lands.
Background	<p>The National Parks Protocol commenced on 1 November 2016 and is accompanied by a Consent that provides legal authority for Ausgrid to undertake certain activities in national park lands.</p> <p>The allowed activities generally include inspection, maintenance and emergency works. The protocol outlines controls to avoid and mitigate potential environmental harm and details the assessment and notification process required before starting works.</p>
Definitions	<p>Emergency works include “emergency works” as defined by CI5 of the Infrastructure SEPP.</p> <p>Maintenance works include “exempt development” as defined by CI43(1)(a)-(g), (i), (k)-(l) and Schedule 1 of the State Environmental Planning Policy (Infrastructure) 2007.</p> <p>National park lands include national parks, nature reserves, historic sites, Aboriginal areas, state conservation areas, regional parks and karst conservation reserves.</p> <p>WebGIS EL is Ausgrid’s environmental geographic information. An internal WebGIS EL is available to Ausgrid employees only and an external WebGIS EL is available to all Ausgrid workers.</p>
Key requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Check project documentation and the WebGIS EL to see if works are in national park lands.• All works must comply with the controls in NS174C Environmental Handbook.• All works must comply with the Consent (generally covered by NS174C) and any additional controls specified by OEH.• The notification, Conservation Risk Assessment (CRA) (for maintenance works) and NS174C must be available onsite.• Any incidents or breaches of the protocol must be notified to OEH within 48hrs. Contact Environmental Services prior to contacting OEH. <p>Inspection works</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Require at least 4 days’ notice prior to entry. This excludes inspections that are undertaken by foot or passenger vehicle and do not require the use of equipment.• Notification can be provided using EGN 540.• Works may proceed if OEH advises that works may proceed or does not respond within 2 days. <p>Maintenance works</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Require a CRA and at least 2 weeks’ notice to OEH prior to commencing.• The CRA can be generated using the WebGIS EL and can be used to provide notification to OEH.• Works may proceed if OEH advises that works may proceed or does not respond within 7 days. <p>Emergency works</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Emergency works require verbal notification as soon as possible, followed by written notification.
More information	Please email environmentalservices@ausgrid.com.au or call 9394 6659. Ausgrid employees can refer to the Environmental Index on The Wire.
