



Essential Services Commission Statement of Expectations Monthly Report

20 December 2023 to 31 January 2024

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Responsibilities

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Acronyms and Abbreviations

ESC	Essential Services Commission
Marinus Link	Marinus Link Pty Ltd
Statement of Expectations	Essential Services Commission Electricity Transmission Company Land Access Statement of Expectations, 17 May 2022

1 Introduction

1.1 Report Purpose

On 20 December 2023, the Essential Services Commission (ESC) granted Marinus Link Pty Ltd (Marinus Link) a Victorian electricity transmission licence. A condition of the transmission licence is for Marinus Link to report on performance against the principles outlined in the *Electricity Transmission Company Land Access Statement of Expectations* (Statement of Expectations). Marinus Link is to submit a monthly report to the ESC, due on the 10th business day of each month. This reporting requirement will be superseded once the Land Access Code of Practice comes into effect on 1 March 2024, therefore only two written reports against the Statement of Expectations will be required.

The ESC publishes non-confidential versions of monthly reports on its website at www.esc.vic.gov.au. Marinus Link therefore provides the ESC with two versions of the monthly report:

- A confidential version, with relevant parts clearly marked as 'confidential' or 'personal'.
- A public version, with confidential information redacted.

1.2 Reporting Period

This is Marinus Link's first report. This report covers the period 20 December 2023 to 31 January 2024 (**reporting period**).

1.3 Report Overview

The ESC has stated that the monthly report is to include the following information:

- The number of voluntary access agreement negotiations underway, and how principles 2-14 of the statement of expectations are being applied where negotiation has occurred subsequent to 20 December 2023.
- The number of voluntary access agreements entered subsequent to 20 December 2023, and how principles 2-14 of the statement of expectations were applied.
- The number of notices issued regarding proposed access under section 93 of the *Electricity Industry Act 2000* (the Act), and how principles 2-14 of the statement of expectations were applied before each notice was issued (and if they were not, details as to why).
- The number of times land was accessed pursuant to section 93 of the Act, and in each instance:

- whether each access was pursuant to a notice issued
- the time between issuing a notice and access occurring; and
- how principles 15-20 of the statement of expectations were applied and if they were not, details as to why.

Note: each instance of land access is required to be counted separately, even if multiple instances of land access are conducted pursuant to a single notice. For instance, if a survey requires land to be accessed on three consecutive days, twice a day, it will be recorded that there were six instances of land access. The description of how the principles were applied, if common to the multiple instances of land access, do not need to be repeated and may simply refer to the relevant description provided for another instance of access. Where there are multiple instances of access pursuant to a single notice, that should be identified.

- The number and nature of complaints received (including those forwarded to the Energy and Water Ombudsman Victoria) in relation to section 93 access, the time taken to resolve each complaint, and actions taken – if any – in response to the complaint.

2 Reporting Information

The number of voluntary access agreement negotiations underway, and how principles 2-14 of the statement of expectations are being applied where negotiation has occurred subsequent to 20 December 2023.

The number of Access Licence negotiations underway during the reporting period totalled 11 and application of principles 2-14 are included in Table 2. It should be noted that negotiations with 9 of these landowners were via their legal representatives.

The number of voluntary access agreements entered subsequent to 20 December 2023, and how principles 2-14 of the statement of expectations were applied.

During the reporting period, Marinus Link executed one new Access Licences.

Application of principles 2-14 for access agreements entered are included in Table 3.

The number of notices issued regarding proposed access under section 93 of the Electricity Industry Act 2000 (the Act), and how principles 2-14 of the statement of expectations were applied before each notice was issued (and if they were not, details as to why).

Marinus Link did not issue any notices regarding proposed access under section 93 of the *Electricity Industry Act 2000*.

The number of times land was accessed pursuant to section 93 of the Act, and in each instance:

- ***whether each access was pursuant to a notice issued***
- ***the time between issuing a notice and access occurring; and***
- ***how principles 15-20 of the statement of expectations were applied and if they were not, details as to why.***

Marinus Link did not access any land pursuant to section 93 of the *Electricity Industry Act 2000*.

The number and nature of complaints received (including those forwarded to the Energy and Water Ombudsman Victoria) in relation to section 93 access, the time taken to resolve each complaint, and actions taken – if any – in response to the complaint.

No complaints were received by Marinus Link in relation to section 93 access during the reporting period.

The basic information required by the ESC has been summarised in Table 1 on the following page, while application of the principles 2-14 of the statement of expectations are included in Tables 2 and 3.

Table 1: Summary of Reporting Requirements

Item	Previous reporting period	Current reporting period	Variance	Comments
Number of voluntary access agreement negotiations underway	N/A	11	N/A	Negotiations with 9 of these landowners were through their chosen legal representative
Number of voluntary access agreements entered	N/A	1	N/A	This doesn't include agreements that were renewed after expiring
Number of notices issued regarding proposed access under section 93	N/A	0	N/A	N/A
Number of times land was accessed pursuant to section 93	N/A	0	N/A	N/A
Number of complaints received in relation to section 93 access	N/A	0	N/A	N/A



Table 3 - Voluntary access agreements finalised and application of principles 2-14 of the Statement of Expectations

Landowner ID	Principle 2 Ensure staged, timely engagement and consultation	Principle 3 Be accessible and responsive	Principle 4 Use accessible, readable communications.	Principle 5 Employ respectful two-way communication	Principle 6 Identify and contact those affected	Principle 7 Provide identification on contact	Principle 8 Outline access rights and obligations	Principle 9 Make clear when and why access is required	Principle 10 Explain the process involved	Principle 11 Commit to detail on how access will occur	Principle 12 Give reasonable notice of proposed access	Principle 13 Keep records	Principle 14 Maintain confidentiality and respect privacy
█	Landowner was provided with an introduction to the project and engagement since then has been regular and timely.	A Land Access Agent was assigned to the landowner early on in the project and they have remained accessible and responsive since.	Most of the communication material supplied in hardcopy to landowners has been accessible through the Marinus Link website and all communications are readable.	All face-to-face and phone conversations have involved respectful two-way communication.	All landowners potentially impacted by the proposed route were contacted once properties had been identified and contact details obtained.	Land Access Agents identified themselves upon first meeting and contact details have been supplied.	Access rights and obligations are clearly outlined in the Access Licence supplied to the landowner.	Requirements for access and timing is explained in the Access Licence. Further explanation has been provided over the phone and face-to-face by the designated Land Access Agent.	The Land Access Agent has attempted to explain the process for access during meetings and phone calls over the past 12 months.	Details on how access will occur is included in the Access Licence.	Notice requirements are clearly stated in the Access Licence.	All communication, interaction and engagement is recorded concisely in Borealis.	Confidentiality and privacy are maintained at all times in accordance with Marinus Link's policies and the Privacy Act.