

Our ref: 25/668

Mr Tom Duncan
Clerk
ACT Legislative Assembly
London Circuit
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Dear Mr Duncan

Thank you for your letter concerning petition E-PET 057-25 and PET-070-25, lodged by Ms Fiona Carrick MLA regarding the request to relocate Traction Power Substation 8 (TPS8) as part of the Light Rail Stage 2B (LRS2B) project.

The ACT Government is progressing work on the early design and planning activities for LRS2B. The current focus for the project is the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). The ACT Government submitted the Draft EIS to Commonwealth and Territory environmental agencies in December 2024. The document was accepted by the Territory Planning Authority (TPA) and Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW), and commenced Public Exhibition on 7 July 2025 for a period of nine weeks and closed on 5 September 2025. At close of exhibition, 230 unique submissions were received.

As outlined in the Draft EIS and Public Domain Master Plan (PDMP) for the LRS2B project, several potential sites for TPS8 were assessed during the design development phase, including locations spanning from north of Hopetoun Circuit to south of Kent Street. These assessments considered technical feasibility, land use, ownership, environmental and heritage factors, and proximity to residential areas. Importantly, the site identified in the Draft EIS is indicative only and subject to further survey and design. An alternative site on the south side of Adelaide Avenue (between Denison Street and the Deakin car park) is also under consideration. The final location and design of TPS8 may change in response to community and stakeholder feedback.

Following the closure of the draft EIS public exhibition period on 5 September 2025, submissions from stakeholders and the community are now being considered to inform revisions to the draft EIS where appropriate. The revised, final EIS will include a summary report outlining the

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comments received, key issues raised, and responses to the matters and values identified, and will also present one route alignment.

Once this process is complete, the revised final EIS will be lodged again to both the Australian and ACT governments for consideration and approval. This process will determine whether the project can proceed, and if so, under what conditions. The final EIS will also be made publicly available.

The ACT Government is committed to minimising visual and environmental impacts and integrating infrastructure sensitively within precinct settings. Feedback plays a vital role in shaping the final design and ensuring the project aligns with community values and environmental stewardship.

Thank you for raising this matter. I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely



Chris Steel MLA
Minister for Transport
28/11/2025