

connell  
griffin

# Ensuring **Resilience and Recovery** for Australian Infrastructure

Disaster Recovery Capability Statement



# ConnellGriffin is excited about the future and empowering our clients **disaster resilience** in Australia.

“ We are Australia’s most trusted infrastructure advisory firm, providing strategic planning, compliance, commercial transaction, program and project management, and operational support to a diverse range of private and public sector clients on their most critical and complex resilience and recovery projects.

We have effectively managed the DRFA lifecycle (formerly NDDRA) for State Governments, overseeing all State and Commonwealth funding programs, including reconstruction, recovery, and resilience efforts. Our responsibilities include managing portfolios, programs, and applications across local, state, and federal levels, as well as handling commercial, schedule, and risk reporting. Additionally, we have managed capture, approvals, delivery, response, and recovery applications for Local Governments across all requirement categories.

We also have co-authored the Federally accepted and endorsed Plant and Equipment framework and understand the importance for maximised economic efficiencies in all applications in both State and Local Government capacities as both accessor and applicant.

ConnellGriffin empowers our disaster relief sector clients to achieve the best possible commercial and project outcomes that, most importantly, serve the interests of the community it represents that creates a positive legacy.

James Hayward  
Director & National Sector Lead



# Our Services and Expertise

ConnellGriffin is a specialist Australian owned commercial advisory firm with extensive expertise and experience in the infrastructure sector. From **project development** through to **procurement, delivery, operate** and **dispute** avoidance and resolution, ConnellGriffin provide advice across every sector and every stage of the project lifecycle.



Our team is committed to supporting our clients' projects by applying our experience and knowledge across a wide range of services and disciplines and working in partnership with our clients to design, create and implement the most effective solutions.

# Our Sectors: Leading Independent Advisory

ConnellGriffin currently provides advisory services for **complex infrastructure projects** with expertise across seven major sectors.



## ENERGY

ConnellGriffin provides innovative and practical commercial and project advice to owners and operators of utility infrastructure and assets.

Renewable Energy, Energy Storage, Power (transmission and distribution) and Gas (transmission and distribution).



## ROADS

ConnellGriffin's Advisors are leaders in the provision of commercial advisory services in the road sector, including transaction management, contract and commercial management and dispute resolution.

Urban & regional, brownfield & greenfield and surface & tunnel roads.



## RAIL

ConnellGriffin provides innovative, practical commercial and project advice to owners and operators of rail infrastructure and assets.

Metro, heavy rail, light rail, train networks (inc. train control and communications systems) and rolling stock.



## WATER

ConnellGriffin provides innovative, practical commercial and project advice to owners and operators of water infrastructure and assets.

Water and wastewater treatment and networks (trunk and reticulation) and Dams and Storage.



## SOCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE

ConnellGriffin provides innovative, practical commercial and project advice to owners and operators of social infrastructure and assets.

Schools & educational, health & aged care, housing and sporting facilities.



## DISASTER RECOVERY

ConnellGriffin provides innovative project advice to owners and operators of infrastructure damaged by natural disasters.

Roads, rail, infrastructure, power facilities, tunnels, schools, health and sporting facilities.



## PORTS & SERVICE CONTRACTS

ConnellGriffin provides innovative, practical commercial and project advice to owners and operators of infrastructure and assets.

Ports, harbours, ferry & cruise terminals/hubs, and ferry fleets.

Our team are qualified professionals who have delivered **complex infrastructure projects** as engineers, advisors, project managers, contractors, lawyers and commercial managers.

# Our Expertise in Practice



## DRFA BUSHFIRE RECONSTRUCTION, CUNNINGHAM HIGHWAY

The Cunninghams Gap Bushfire Reconstruction project is focused along a key section of the Cunningham Highway that crosses the Great Dividing Range. This location is a particularly steep and windy section of the road network and poses unique geotechnical hazards to road users. The 2019 bushfires caused significant slope damage and rock falls throughout the site while also greatly comprising the integrity of remaining slopes.

ConnellGriffin Director, Owen Smith was engaged as a Project Manager by the Department of Transport and Main Roads (DTMR) to assist with reconstruction, the project falls under the Commonwealth Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangement (DRFA). His role included project scoping and procurement, management of specialist geotechnical consultancy engagements, administration of interim safety and maintenance contracts at the site, management of technical and commercial project submissions for project funding.

**CLIENT:** DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT AND MAIN ROADS

**SERVICES PROVIDED BY CG:**

- Project Management
- Risk and Assurance



## QUEENSLAND RECONSTRUCTION AUTHORITY – TECHNICAL AND PORTFOLIO DIRECTORSHIP

ConnellGriffin were appointed as principal leader overseeing delivery and management of all State and Commonwealth-funded programs, including reconstruction, recovery, resilience, and statewide initiatives. Our advisors were responsible for the portfolio, program scope, commercial management, scheduling, and risk reporting for local, state, and federal government agencies.

Our role included disaster cost estimates for Queensland's funding programs and initiatives, (currently exceeding \$3 billion), acting as a key representative at the State Disaster Management Centre, ensuring coordination and alignment with government agencies and stakeholders. We provided oversight to ensure successful implementation and reporting of these critical programs, while managing risks and maintaining accountability across all levels of government.

**CLIENT:** QUEENSLAND RECONSTRUCTION AUTHORITY

**SERVICES PROVIDED BY CG:**

- Project Design & Management
- Commercial Management



## BRISBANE CITY COUNCIL, FLOOD RECOVERY PROGRAM

After floods ravished through Brisbane, local council, in accordance with the council's disaster recovery guidelines, needed to re-build and re-open a greenspace bikeway. Projects within the program included the reconstruction of bikeways and culvert crossings, a new bridge, reconstruction of eroded embankments, repair of bridge abutment, and installation of bikeway ancillary infrastructure, such as lighting, railing, signage and drainage.

ConnellGriffin were engaged to provide project management services according to a program of works for both the planning and delivery of the greenspace bikeway. Our role was to determine the scope of the project, undertake design, environmental planning, co-ordinate community engagement, manage the procurement of materials, engage specialist consultants and contractors, and manage the co-ordination and planning of construction works.

**CLIENT:** BRISBANE CITY COUNCIL

**SERVICES PROVIDED BY CG:**

- Project Design & Management
- Transaction & Commercial Management
- Program & Portfolio Management



## NATIONAL DISASTER PROGRAM TECHNICAL ADVISOR

As the National Disaster Program Technical Advisor, the role involves consulting between the governing Department of Transport and Main Roads (DTMR) and the Queensland Reconstruction Authority (QRA) to address damage to state and federal assets both before and after natural disasters. Key responsibilities encompass ensuring quality assurance, analysing and providing fit-for-purpose resolutions and options, and assessing value for money through cost engineering.

Our advisor's duties include evaluating technical solutions to ensure they meet necessary standards and provide value, facilitating effective communication between various stakeholders, and ensuring that funding processes adhere to regulatory requirements. Through these, our advisor plays a pivotal role in enhancing the resilience and efficiency of disaster recovery efforts, ensuring scenarios are managed effectively and in line with state and federal guidelines.

**CLIENT:** DEPARTMENT TRANSPORT AND MAIN ROADS

**SERVICES PROVIDED BY CG:**

- VfM Assessment & Cost Engineering
- Funding Submissions Review & Guidance

# Meet the ConnellGriffin Team

Our diverse team are qualified professionals who have delivered complex infrastructure projects as engineers, advisors, contractors, lawyers and commercial managers. This combination of technical knowledge and commercial expertise enables our team to provide best practice advisory services and reliable commercial advice, which is founded on practical experience.



## STATE DRFA PLANT COSTING EXECUTION FRAMEWORK

ConnellGriffin Director, James Hayward was engaged by both the Victorian Department of Transport and Planning and the Queensland Reconstruction to assist in the development and integration of a DRFA plant costing assessment and management framework with supplementary training and stakeholder engagement for both the Victorian and Queensland State Governments.

The role required extensive stakeholder engagement to gather insights and align the framework with individual government needs. This included the collection and interrogation of relevant data, performing gap analysis, and estimating rates to ensure accuracy and comprehensiveness. ConnellGriffin was responsible for creating and presenting the costing framework, facilitating its approval and endorsement by applicable government authorities. Additionally, the role involved developing communication materials to support the commercial framework, ensuring clear and effective dissemination of information to all relevant parties.

**CLIENT: QUEENSLAND RECONSTRUCTION AUTHORITY**

**SERVICES PROVIDED:**

- Development of Commercial Framework
- Funding Approval and Endorsement



## BALONNE SHIRE - TRANSACTION AND DELIVERY MANAGEMENT

ConnellGriffin was engaged to provide disaster recovery program support to Balonne Shire Council for the 2020 Natural Disaster Reconstruction Program which was delivered under a Managing Contractor delivery model.

The role involved conducting condition assessment establishment, preparation of reconstruction submissions, delivery management and associated completion activities under the DRFA, cost, risk and schedule management, and procurement support and strategy.

**CLIENT: BALONNE SHIRE COUNCIL**

**SERVICES PROVIDED BY CG:**

- Transaction and Delivery Management



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DIRECTOR



Owen Smith  
DIRECTOR



David Barnard  
DIRECTOR



Steven Park  
EXECUTIVE ADVISOR



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