

Environmental Planning and Assessment Amendment (Hunter Transmission Project) Order 2022

under the

Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979

I, the Minister for Planning, make the following Order under the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*, sections 5.12(4) and 5.13.

Dated 21 July 2022.

ANTHONY ROBERTS, MP Minister for Planning

Explanatory note

The object of this Order is to amend the *State Environmental Planning Policy (Planning Systems) 2021* to declare certain development for the purposes of the Hunter Transmission Project to be State significant infrastructure and critical State significant infrastructure. The relevant development involves—

- (a) upgrading transmission infrastructure between the existing substations at Bayswater Power Station and Eraring Power Station in the Hunter region including by construction and operation of new high voltage electricity transmission lines, and
- (b) augmentation of the existing substations, and
- (c) the construction and operation of new electricity substation infrastructure, and
- (d) ancillary development.

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1 Name of Order

This Order is the Environmental Planning and Assessment Amendment (Hunter Transmission Project) Order 2022.

2 Commencement

This Order commences on the day on which it is published on the NSW legislation website.

Schedule 1 Amendment of State Environmental Planning Policy (Planning Systems) 2021

Schedule 5 Critical State significant infrastructure

Insert at the end of the Schedule, with appropriate section numbering—

Hunter Transmission Project

- (1) Development for the purposes of the Hunter Transmission Project, including the following—
 - (a) construction and operation of up to 150km of new high voltage 500kV transmission lines between the existing substations at Bayswater Power Station and Eraring Power Station,
 - (b) upgrading and replacing existing transmission line infrastructure between the existing substations at Bayswater Power Station and Eraring Power Station,
 - (c) the construction and operation of new electrical substation infrastructure,
 - (d) augmentation of the existing substations at Bayswater Power Station and Eraring Power Station,
 - (e) ancillary development, including the following—
 - (i) the carrying out of works to upgrade or augment existing transmission lines and substation infrastructure,
 - (ii) the upgrade, construction and operation of access tracks and roads,
 - (iii) the installation and operation of communication infrastructure and facilities, excluding microwave technology,
 - (iv) the installation and operation of construction accommodation, compounds and power supplies,
 - (v) the installation and operation of construction crane pads, helicopter landing pads and brake and winch sites.
- (2) The development is to be carried out on land in the following local government areas—
 - (a) Central Coast,
 - (b) City of Cessnock,
 - (c) City of Lake Macquarie,
 - (d) City of Maitland,
 - (e) City of Newcastle,
 - (f) Dungog,
 - (g) Muswellbrook,
 - (h) Port Stephens,
 - (i) Singleton,
 - (j) Upper Hunter Shire.
- (3) The development does not include the following—
 - (a) tests or investigations for the assessment of the Hunter Transmission Project, including surveys, sampling, environmental investigations, geotechnical borehole drilling, test drilling and test excavations,

- (b) the construction of temporary access tracks and temporary site facilities to allow for the carrying out of tests or investigations described in paragraph (a),
- (c) minor works within existing switchyards.