



New South Wales

Environmental Planning and Assessment Amendment (New England Renewable Energy Zone Transmission) Order 2024

under the

Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979

I, the Minister of Planning and Public Spaces, make the following order under the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*, sections 5.12(4) and 5.13.

Dated 19 June 2024.

PAUL SCULLY, MP
Minister of Planning and Public Spaces

Explanatory note

The object of this order is to declare the New England Renewable Energy Zone Transmission project as State significant infrastructure and critical State significant infrastructure.

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1 Name of order

This order is the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Amendment (New England Renewable Energy Zone Transmission) Order 2024*.

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 clause numbering—

New England REZ Transmission project

- (1) Development for the purposes of the New England REZ Transmission project.
- (2) The New England REZ Transmission project is a program of works to construct and operate the high-voltage electricity transmission lines and associated infrastructure required to connect energy generation and storage projects within the New England REZ to the existing electricity network.
- (3) The New England REZ Transmission project includes the following—
 - (a) the construction and operation of new high-voltage electricity transmission lines between the existing electricity network near Bayswater Power Station to and within the New England REZ,
 - (b) the construction and operation of new electricity substations, switching stations and associated infrastructure,
 - (c) the construction and operation of new battery energy storage systems,
 - (d) ancillary development including the following—
 - (i) the carrying out of works to upgrade or augment existing electricity 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,
 - (iv) the installation and operation of construction accommodation and utilities infrastructure,
 - (v) the installation and operation of construction compounds, laydown areas, helicopter landing pads, temporary concrete batching plants and brake and winch sites.
- (4) The development is to be carried out on land in the following local government areas—
 - (a) Armidale Regional,
 - (b) Liverpool Plains,
 - (c) Muswellbrook,
 - (d) Singleton,
 - (e) Tamworth Regional,
 - (f) Upper Hunter Shire,
 - (g) Uralla,
 - (h) Walcha.
- (5) In this section—

development does not include—

 - (a) tests or investigations for the design or assessment of the New England REZ Transmission project, including the carrying out of the following—

- (i) surveys,
- (ii) sampling,
- (iii) environmental investigations,
- (iv) geotechnical borehole drilling,
- (v) test drilling,
- (vi) test excavations, or
- (b) the construction of temporary access tracks or temporary site facilities to allow for the carrying out of tests or investigations described in paragraph (a), or
- (c) minor works associated with existing electricity transmission infrastructure, or
- (d) upgrading, relocating or widening of existing public roads that is—
 - (i) carried out on land in the New England REZ, and
 - (ii) subject to a determination under the Act, Division 5.1.

New England REZ means the New England Renewable Energy Zone under the *Electricity Infrastructure Investment Act 2020*.