

Hunter Transmission Project

Project update

February 2026

The Hunter Transmission Project is a significant piece of NSW's future energy network. It's designed to connect new renewable energy zones, strengthen the existing grid and support a reliable, affordable electricity supply for homes and businesses across the region.

Overview

EnergyCo has now lodged the Submissions Report and Amendment Report with the NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (DPHI).

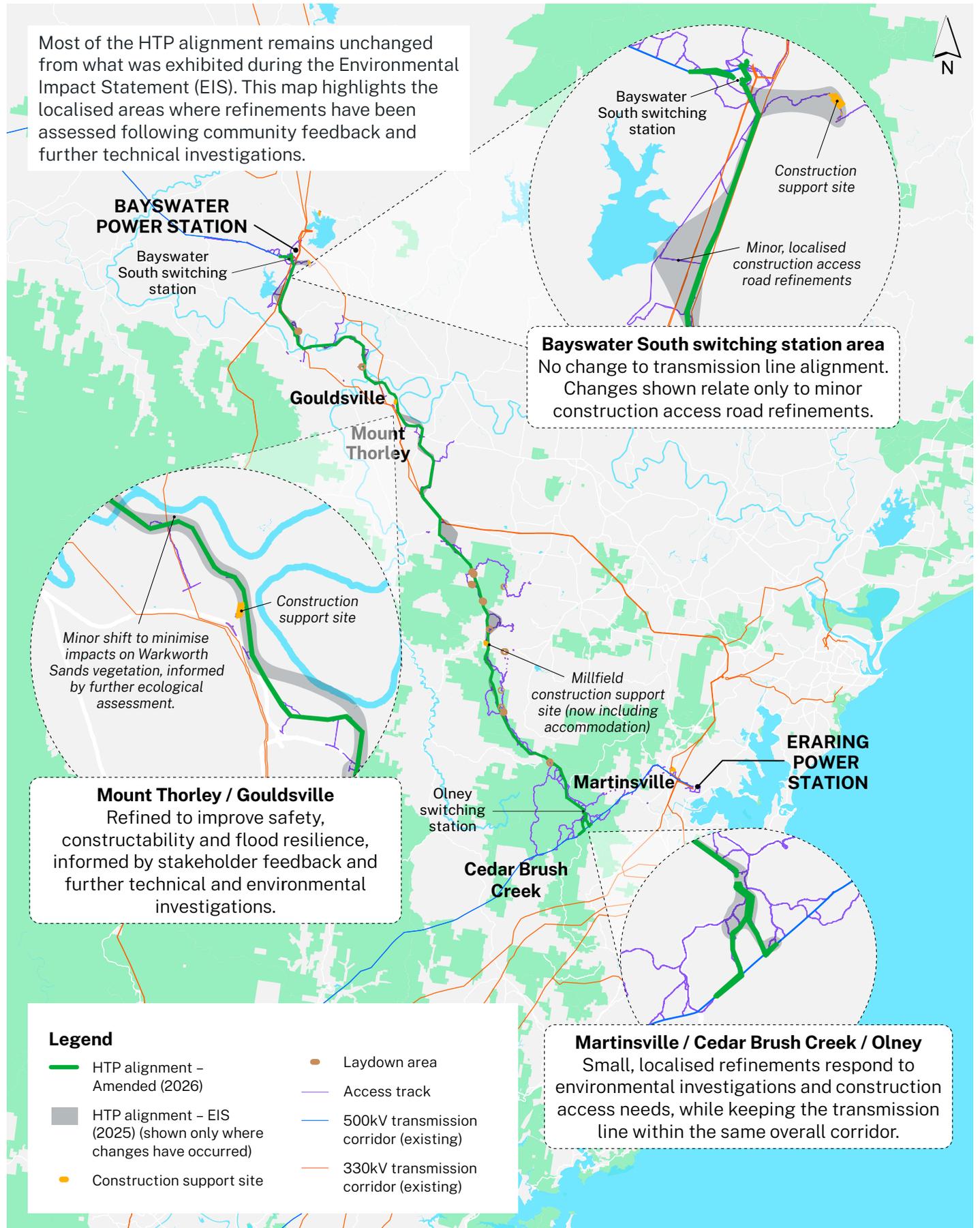
This marks an important milestone, transitioning the project from public exhibition of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) into formal government assessment.

The reports outline the key themes raised by the community and stakeholders, explain how feedback was considered, and details where the project has been further assessed, refined or strengthened in response.

EnergyCo thanks everyone who took the time to review the project and make a submission during exhibition.



Hunter Transmission Project (HTP) – as at February 2026



Why aren't submissions responded to one by one?

The NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure groups similar submissions into common themes so issues can be assessed consistently and transparently as part of the statutory process.



Where to read the reports

The Submissions Report and Amendment Report have been lodged with the NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (DPHI) and are available on the NSW Planning Portal at planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects.

Search for “Hunter Transmission Project” to view the full [Submissions Report](#) and [Amendment Report](#).

If you made a submission during exhibition, the Department will have emailed you with your submission identification number, which can be used to help locate where your feedback has been considered in the Submissions Report.



Understanding the Submissions and Amendment Reports

Submissions Report

The Submissions Report explains what was raised during exhibition of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and how feedback was considered. It:

- summarises key themes raised by the community and stakeholders
- provides detailed responses on matters such as traffic, access, noise, biodiversity, Aboriginal cultural heritage, land use, property impacts and cumulative impacts
- explains where feedback led to further assessment, refinements or strengthened mitigations
- clarifies how matters not included in the Amendment Report would be addressed through conditions of approval, management plans and ongoing engagement (if the project is approved).

Amendment Report

The Amendment Report documents the proposed amendments and refinements to the exhibited project (referred to as the amended project). These were developed in response to community, government and stakeholder engagement, consideration of submissions received during EIS exhibition, and the ongoing development of the project's design and construction methodology. It:

- documents additional technical investigations undertaken since the EIS
- assesses amendments and refinements to project elements, construction methods and mitigation measures
- strengthens assessment approaches in areas such as biodiversity, Aboriginal cultural heritage, traffic and transport, amenity and land use
- explains how engagement and feedback informed the scope, focus and outcomes of further assessment, including updates to mitigation and commitments.

Important

The Amendment Report does not reassess the entire project. It documents the proposed amendments and refinements to the exhibited project, developed in response to engagement and ongoing design development.

Frequently asked questions

What happens to my individual submission?

Every submission is formally considered as part of the statutory assessment process. Individual submissions are not responded to separately. NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (DPHI) considers all submissions, together with the Submissions Report and other assessment materials, as part of its independent review.

How will I be notified if I made a submission?

If you made a submission during exhibition, DPHI will notify you after the Submissions Report is published on the NSW Planning Portal.

Most submitters are notified by email, using the contact details provided at the time of submission. If a submission was made by post and no email address was provided, notification may be provided by letter.

The notification advises that the Submissions Report is available to view on the NSW Planning Portal.



Engagement during and after exhibition

During the EIS exhibition in August and September 2025, many people and organisations across the Hunter took the time to review the project and share their views.

EnergyCo heard from councils, Traditional Owners and Aboriginal organisations, community groups, landowners, government agencies, special interest groups and organisations, and other stakeholders.

After the exhibition closed, we continued to engage so we could better understand concerns and work through issues in more detail. From October 2025 to February 2026, EnergyCo held targeted, issue-based conversations while preparing the Submissions Report and Amendment Report.

Will there be another opportunity to provide feedback?

The Submissions Report responds to feedback already received.

Any further opportunities to provide feedback are determined by NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (DPHI) as part of the assessment process.

How did community feedback inform the assessment?

Feedback received during exhibition helped shape the focus of further assessment and, where relevant, led to refinements to the project, strengthened mitigation measures and updates to commitments.

Why are there two reports?

The Submissions Report explains what issues were raised and how they were considered.

The Amendment Report outlines what was reassessed, refined or strengthened as a result of that feedback.

This ongoing engagement helped us:



Understand local issues and constraints more clearly



Identify where further investigation was needed



Test refinements and strengthen mitigation measures.



On-site engagement supporting assessments

What was raised and how it shaped the project

Issue raised	How feedback shaped assessment, refinements and mitigations
Traffic, construction access and road safety	Feedback identified specific road and access concerns. This informed additional traffic modelling, road assessments and refinements to construction access, staging and traffic management.
Property impacts, land use and primary industries (including farming, mining and forestry)	Engagement informed location-specific refinements where practicable and strengthened mitigation measures and commitments to ongoing property-level consultation.
Noise, visual impacts and amenity	Sensitive receivers and key viewpoints were identified. Assessments were updated for amended elements, with mitigation tailored to local conditions.
Biodiversity and threatened species	Further investigations focused on specific habitats and species. Refinements to clearing limits, avoidance measures and biodiversity mitigation were assessed in the Amendment Report.
Aboriginal cultural heritage and land access	Engagement informed additional surveys, refined assessment methods and strengthened cultural heritage management and participation frameworks.
Cumulative impacts and construction staging	Feedback shaped how overlapping activities and construction timing were assessed, including how impacts would be managed through staging and mitigation.

What's changed in the Amendment Report

Location / area	What changed in the Amendment Report	Why the change was made
Mount Thorley / Hunter River area	Transmission alignment locally shifted further south	Refined to improve safety, constructability and flood resilience, informed by stakeholder feedback and further technical and environmental assessment.
Wollombi Road area	Construction support site reconfigured to include temporary worker accommodation	To reduce workforce travel, traffic movements and local road impacts
Warkworth Sands Woodland	Design refinements and strengthened mitigation measures	To reduce potential impacts on a threatened ecological community
Littlejohn's Tree Frog habitat areas	Additional assessment and design refinements	To further minimise disturbance to breeding habitat and waterways
State forest sections (including Olney State Forest)	Construction access updated to prioritise existing tracks	To minimise vegetation clearing and environmental disturbance
Across the project corridor	Additional technical investigations, updated mitigation measures and clarified commitments	To respond to issues raised during exhibition and strengthen impact management



Join an online community information session

EnergyCo will host online community information sessions in early March to walk through the Submissions Report and Amendment Report. These sessions provide an opportunity to hear directly from the project team and gain a clearer understanding of the next steps. During the sessions, we will cover:

- What the Submissions Report and Amendment Report are
- How feedback from the community and stakeholders was reviewed and grouped
- How this input informed further assessment, amendments and mitigations
- What happens next in the NSW Government's assessment process.

Upcoming online community information session

Session details and registrations are available on the Hunter Transmission Project website.

Webinars

- **Tuesday 17 March 2026:** 6pm–6:45pm
- **Thursday 19 March 2026:** 12pm–12:45pm

Sessions will be recorded and made available on the project website. Visit energyco.nsw.gov.au/htp or scan the QR code.



What happens next

The NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (DPHI) will review the reports as part of its statutory assessment.

This may include consultation with government agencies and requests for further information.

Following this process, the NSW Government will decide whether the project is approved and, if so, what conditions of approval would apply.

Contact us

EnergyCo is the NSW Government statutory authority responsible for delivering the HTP as a critical part of transitioning to a cleaner future under the Electricity Infrastructure Roadmap.

 htp@energyco.nsw.gov.au

 1800 645 972 (9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday)

 energyco.nsw.gov.au/htp

 Scan the QR code for more information.



If you need help understanding this information, please contact the Translating and Interpreting Service on **131 450** and ask them to call us on **1800 645 972**.