

# Hunter Transmission Project

Environmental Impact Statement: Public exhibition  
engagement summary report

December 2025

The Hunter Transmission Project is one of the State's most critical projects for energy security. It will provide reliable, clean electricity to homes and businesses in NSW for generations to come.

## The project at a glance



**110 kilometres of new 500 kV double-circuit line between Bayswater and Olney**



**Two new switching stations and supporting infrastructure – unlocking energy from Central-West Orana and New England Renewable Energy Zones**



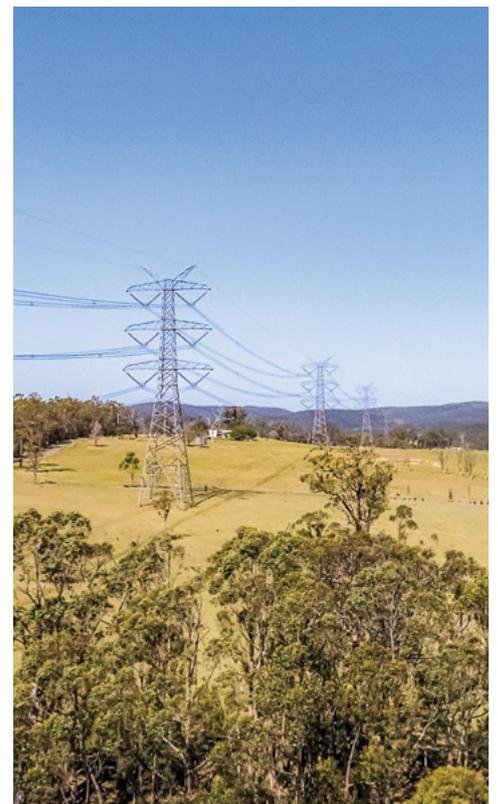
**Supplies reliable, renewable power to consumers across NSW**



**More than 89% of the project corridor is on industrial or government land, minimising impacts on communities and the environment, with fewer than 20 private properties affected**



**Will supply clean energy to the Hunter, Sydney and Illawarra regions where 80% of NSW's electricity is consumed**





Community Engagement Session in Millfield

## Engaging on the Environmental Impact Statement

The Hunter Transmission Project's Environmental Impact Statement public exhibition was designed to involve the community in the project's planning phase.

Our engagement during this exhibition period focused on explaining the project to the community, answering questions on the technical reports, and listening to feedback from all stakeholders.

**Community feedback has informed a number of project changes, with more than 89% of the transmission line now on government or mining company land.**

As we continue to plan the delivery of this critical new transmission line, we want to minimise the impact on people and the environment as much as possible.

We used a range of methods to encourage participation in the public exhibition.

## How we asked for feedback

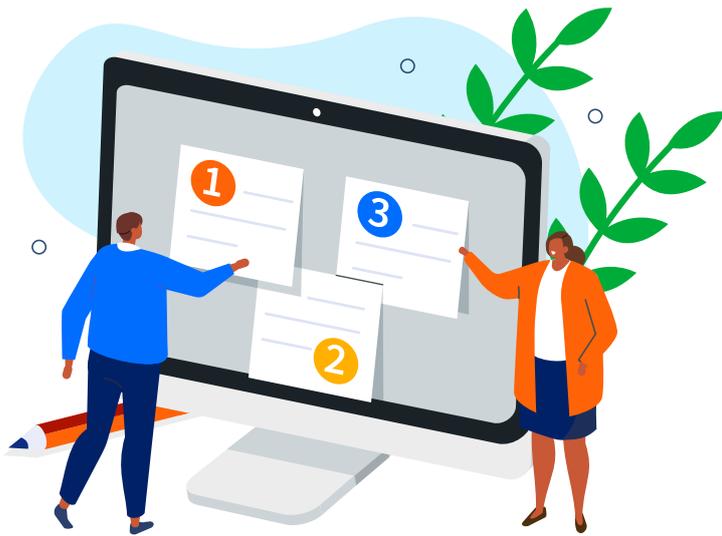
We invited the community to make a submission, call or email the Hunter Transmission Project team with their feedback, and/or attend an information session.

We held 7 information sessions, 4 pop-ups and 3 webinars for landowners and the local community to discuss the project with the Hunter Transmission Project team. We also held online briefings with stakeholders including environmental groups and recreational users.

This report summarises the feedback received.

As part of our response to submissions, we'll publish a detailed Submissions Report and an accompanying Amendment Report. These reports will summarise the issues raised by the community, government agencies, and other stakeholders, outline how EnergyCo has considered this feedback, and include updates to the project where appropriate.

The Amendment Report will describe specific refinements or updates to the project that have been made since exhibition, informed by technical studies and consultation feedback.



How we engaged

## 210 event attendees

We held 7 information sessions, 4 pop-ups and 3 webinars, with a total of 210 people attending.

## 55 stakeholder meetings

Our team met with a range of stakeholders including landowners, local businesses, the local Aboriginal community, Councils, MPs, environment groups and recreational user groups.

## 188 submissions

We received 188 submissions during the exhibition period. This includes 138 individual public submissions, 27 organisational and special-interest group submissions and 23 government submissions.



## 8 fact sheets

We published 8 fact sheets on specific topic areas including biodiversity, traffic and transport, and visual amenity. We also published a guide on how to lodge a submission.

## 750 users

750 unique users accessed the digital EIS and the interactive map of the proposed corridor. Most users returned at least twice.

## 1,000 neighbours

We sent letters to 1,000 near neighbours with project updates and invitations to attend information sessions.

## 2,034 newsletters

We emailed project eNewsletters to more than 2,030 people to announce the exhibition and provide links to the digital Environmental Impact Statement.

## 400 emails

Our community team sent out more than 400 emails to known stakeholders including landowners, near neighbours, environment and recreational groups, schools, councils and MPs, government agencies and interest groups.

## 43 questions

We responded to 43 emails and phone calls from a range of stakeholders with questions including the exhibition process, details for community information sessions, and how to be further involved during the construction period as a supplier.

## 40 landowner meetings

We also had more than 40 meetings with impacted landowners.

## What we heard

Community feedback received during the public exhibition period will help to inform the final design of the project.

Here's a summary of some of the key themes raised through the exhibition period.

### Property access

People shared concerns about how construction traffic and access routes might affect local roads, properties and daily activities. Many asked for clearer information about proposed access tracks, road upgrades and safety measures for residents, visitors and livestock. Landowners also requested early notice of works and for access arrangements to be developed collaboratively to minimise disruption.

EnergyCo will continue to work directly with each landowner to ensure safe and agreed property access.

### Environment and biodiversity

Through the recent engagement, we learned that our community has concerns around vegetation clearing for the transmission corridor and about potential impacts on specific threatened species such as the Swift Parrot and the Littlejohn's Tree Frog.

We are working through the issues raised and will address specific concerns through the Submissions Report and Amendment Report.

### Community engagement

Community members want more detailed information about the Hunter Transmission Project. People asked for more advertising, a greater number of engagement activities and more access to the project team and project updates.

We're improving by holding more events and pop-ups in the local community, and online webinars for those unable to make it in person.

### Property acquisition

Landowners are worried about the effects of compulsory land acquisition. This includes changes to how land can be used for farming as well as cultural and social values.

We have allocated a specific contact person in the project team to each landowner. They will continue to work with landowners to address their questions and concerns.

### Landscape character and visual amenity

Some community members are concerned about the visual impact of the transmission lines. These concerns are particularly focused on elevated areas and along tourist routes.

We're improving by reviewing tower locations to reduce visual impact. We continue to work on reducing these impacts wherever possible.

### Traffic and transport

Our community told us that they are concerned about increased traffic movements during the construction period, retaining emergency vehicle access and increased travel times. Landowners on highly impacted roads have also asked about improvements to road surfaces, passing lanes and intersection upgrades arising from the project.

We're improving by updating traffic modelling, using more existing roads, planning targeted upgrades, and working closely with councils and Transport for NSW.

### Bushfire risk

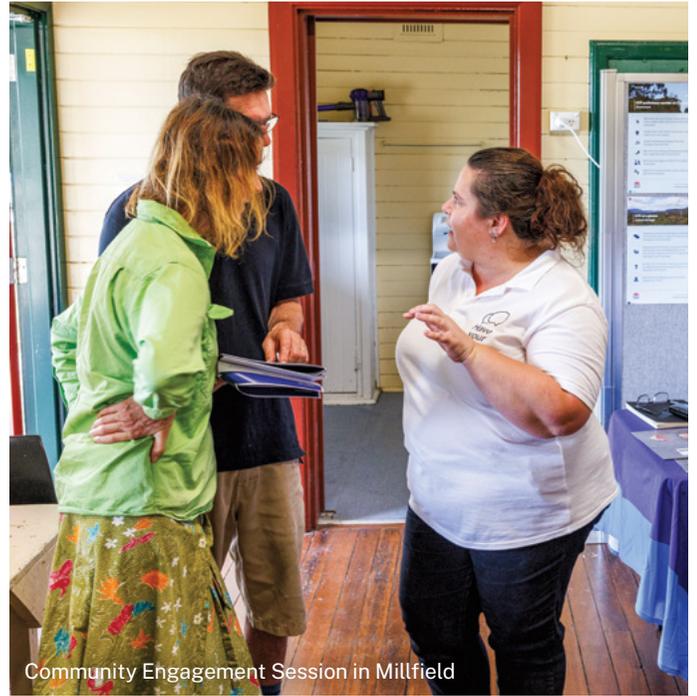
Our community raised concerns around the potential impacts of bushfires during the construction phase and during ongoing operation of the transmission lines. These concerns include access to water sources for firefighting services if they are located close to the corridor.

We're improving by strengthening bushfire controls with input from Rural Fire Service and local communities. We will address specific concerns through the Submissions and Amendment Reports.





Community engagement session in Singleton



Community Engagement Session in Millfield

## Next steps

Now that the Environmental Impact Statement public exhibition period has finished, all submissions have been published on the [NSW Planning Portal](#).

We'll use your feedback to:

- 
**refine the design of the Hunter Transmission Project**

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- 
**inform our decision on the final corridor**

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- 
**improve our community engagement on the project**

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**identify matters requiring further investigations, surveys or studies**

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- 
**minimise the project impacts on people and the environment**

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**maximise the project benefits for the Hunter community**

The NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure will then assess the Environmental Impact Statement, Submissions Report, and the Amendment Report. Following this, the NSW Minister for Planning and Public Spaces will make a decision (called a project determination) about whether to approve the Hunter Transmission Project and set any conditions.

Once the NSW decision is made, the Australian Government Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water will then review the Environmental Impact Statement and decide whether to grant Commonwealth approval, including any conditions.

If both governments approve the project, construction is expected to begin in 2026. The project will need to be built and operated in accordance with any conditions set out in the planning approvals.



## Key planning milestones



Note: All dates are estimates and may change as the project progresses.



## 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](mailto:htp@energyco.nsw.gov.au)

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

 [energyco.nsw.gov.au/htp](http://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**.