# EnergyCo



# Hunter Transmission Project

Project overview Fact sheet – Spring 2023



The Hunter Transmission Project is one of the State's most critical energy projects and will help provide clean and reliable electricity to consumers for generations to come.

### NSW is transitioning to a cleaner future

Our ageing coal-fired power stations are reaching the end of their life. Some are closing faster than expected with most due to shut in the next 10 years. At the same time, our demand for electricity is increasing as our population grows and we electrify our vehicles, homes, businesses and industry.

The NSW Government has a plan to ensure this demand is supplied by renewable energy and to provide cleaner, more affordable and reliable energy to consumers.

EnergyCo is leading the implementation of this plan, which involves:

- generating electricity (wind and solar) in Renewable Energy Zones (REZs) across NSW
- improving the reliability of the grid with new storage capacity (batteries and pumped hydro)
- building transmission infrastructure such as the Hunter Transmission Project to deliver clean energy to consumers.

## About the Hunter Transmission Project

#### HTP at a glance

A new above-ground 500 kV double circuit transmission line of around 115 kilometres



Will connect Bayswater to Eraring, strengthening the backbone of the existing electricity grid



Over 85% of the HTP will be on mining and government land



Will unlock electricity supply from the Central-West Orana and New England REZs



Urgent and must be operational by 2027/2028



Will supply clean energy to the Hunter, Sydney and Illawarra where 80% of electricity is consumed

As coal-fired power stations close the HTP is critical for energy security in NSW. It involves building a new above-ground 500 kilovolt (kV) transmission line between Bayswater and Eraring in the Hunter region to connect the State's existing 500 kV transmission lines. This will help create a 500 kV ring of transmission infrastructure (see diagram over page) that will strengthen the backbone of the State's electricity grid for generations to come.

Importantly, it will unlock electricity supply from the Central-West Orana and New England REZs, allowing it to be imported to the electricity grid via Bayswater. From here it will be delivered to consumers in the Hunter, Sydney and Illawarra where 80% of electricity is consumed.

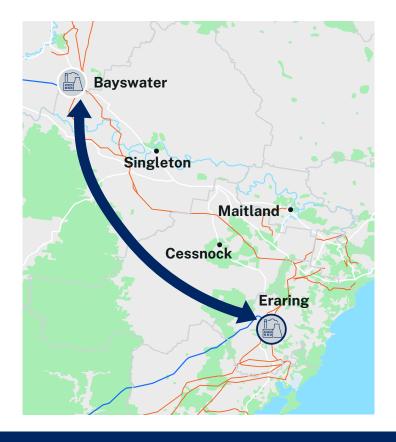
#### Finding a suitable route

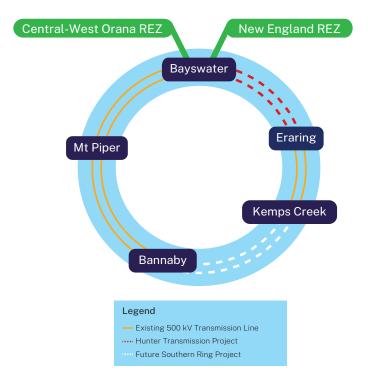
In a region as diverse as the Hunter, it's difficult to find a suitable route between Bayswater and Eraring.

After extensive investigations, we've identified a preliminary corridor where the HTP could be located that seeks to strike a reasonable balance between different land uses in the Hunter. We'll seek public submissions on the preliminary corridor soon. Your input will be important in helping us to refine the design and make a final decision on the corridor.

While impacts on private land can't be avoided, the preliminary corridor affects as few private properties as possible. It also provides flexibility to avoid environmentally sensitive areas important for biodiversity and Aboriginal cultural heritage.

Over the next 18 months, we'll work with you to improve the design of the HTP, minimise its impacts on people and the environment, and ensure the Hunter shares in the benefits of the project.





#### **Strategic importance**

Both the NSW Government and Australian Government recognise the strategic importance of the HTP.

At the State level:

- the Minister for Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Heritage has classified it as a Priority Transmission Infrastructure Project
- the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces has declared it Critical State Significant Infrastructure.

That means the HTP needs the approval of both Ministers following extensive public consultation before it can go ahead.

It also requires the approval of the Australian Government Minister for the Environment and Water.

To register for project updates, visit our website or use the QR code below.

# About EnergyCo

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.

You can read more about EnergyCo on our website: energyco.nsw.gov.au

## Contact us

1800 645 972
htp@energyco.nsw.gov.au
energyco.nsw.gov.au/htp



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.