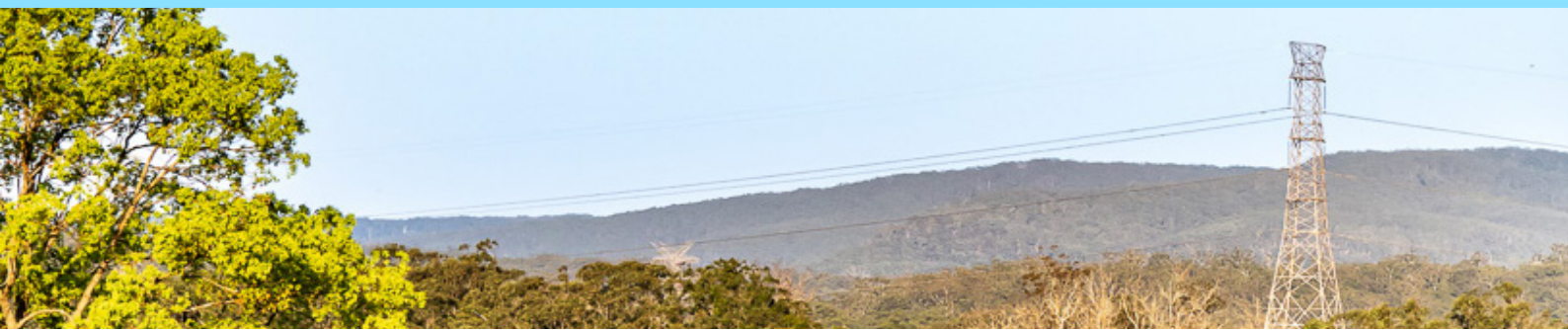


Hunter Transmission Project

Plan on a page – November 2023



The Hunter Transmission Project (HTP) 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 to provide cleaner, more affordable and reliable energy to consumers.

EnergyCo is coordinating the delivery 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 HTP to deliver clean energy from the REZs to consumers.

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



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



Urgent and must be operational by 2027/2028

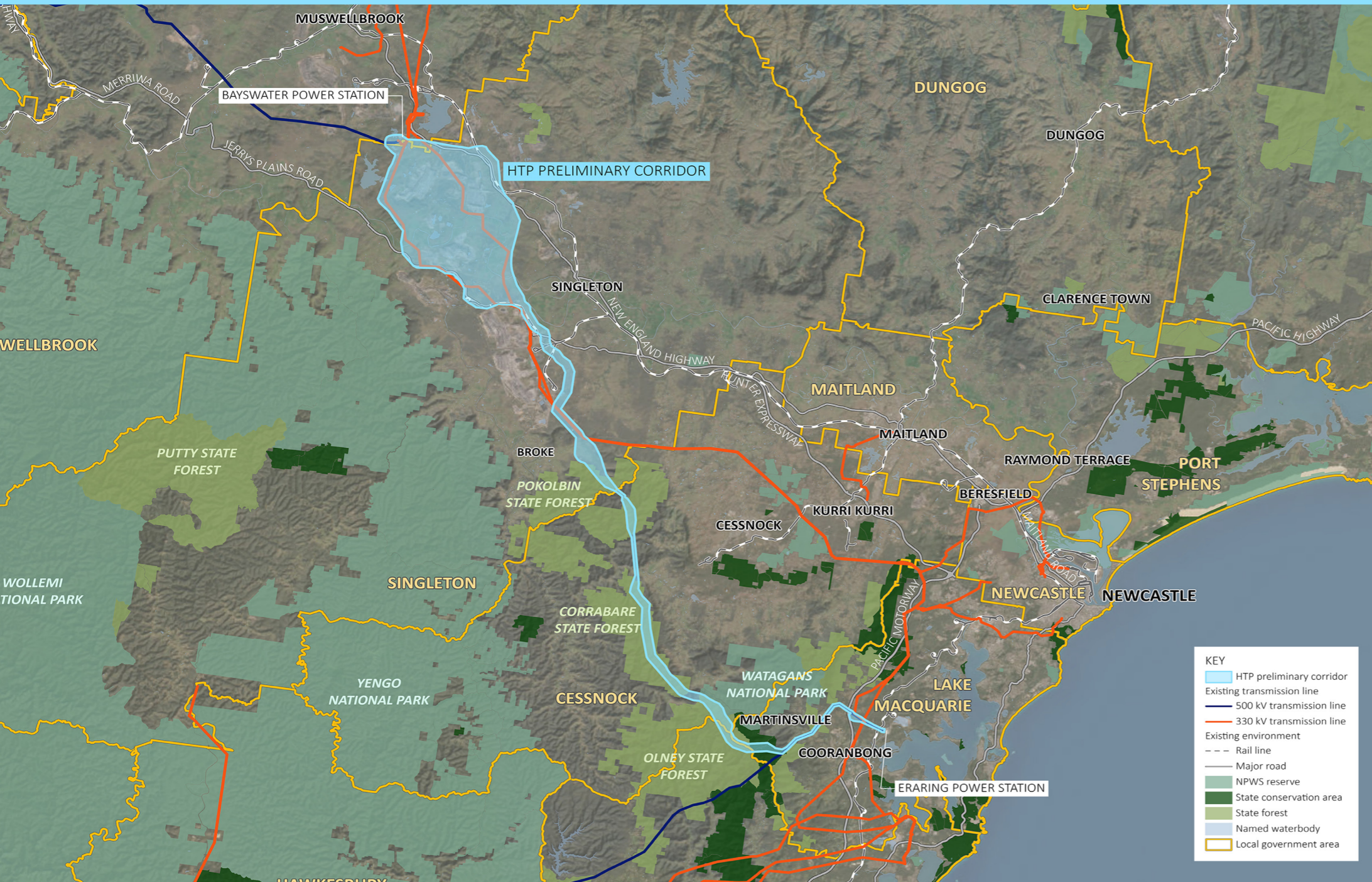


Will supply clean energy to the Hunter, Sydney and Illawarra where 80% of electricity is consumed

About the Hunter Transmission Project

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 ring of 500 kV transmission infrastructure (see diagram over page) that will be 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 delivered to consumers in the Hunter, Sydney and Illawarra where 80% of the State's electricity is consumed. It is urgent and must be built by early 2028.



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 are seeking public submissions on the preliminary corridor by 18 December 2023. Your input will be important in helping us refine the design and make a final decision on the corridor.

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.

Most of the **northern section** of the corridor runs through power station, mining and Australian Department of Defence land to minimise impacts on private landowners and the local community.

Most of the **central section** of the corridor runs through the Pokolbin and Corrabare State forests to minimise impacts on the local community.

The **southern section** of the corridor runs mostly through the Olney State Forest before joining and then running alongside the existing 500 kV transmission line through Martinsville and Cooranbong to Eraring.

While impacts to private land can't be avoided completely, we'll work closely with the small number of potentially affected landowners, making every effort to minimise impacts.

HTP timeline

- Early 2023
Early engagement with key stakeholders
- Early 2023
Investigation of corridor options to minimise impacts
- October 2023
Consultation with potentially affected landowners and community begins
- November and December 2023
Public exhibition of the HTP preliminary corridor
- Early 2024
Feedback report released
- Early 2024
Consultation for Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) begins
- Early 2024
Engagement on community benefit initiatives
- Late 2024
EIS public exhibition
- Early 2025
Submissions report released
- Late 2025
Project approval (NSW Government and Australian Government)
- Early 2026
Construction
- Early 2028
Transmission line operational

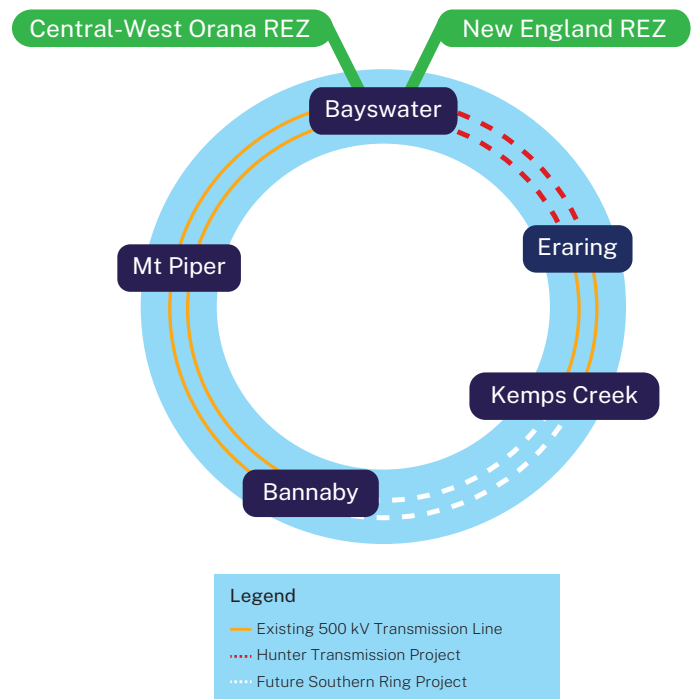
Working with the community

We're committed to genuine community engagement. That means working closely with all stakeholders to minimise the impacts of the HTP on people and the environment and to maximise the benefits of the project for the Hunter community.

With the community's help, we want to get the details right as we refine the design of the project over the next 18 months.

We have a dedicated local team available to provide information to you and answer questions. There are also key dates when we'll ask for formal feedback. The first is currently underway, and we are seeking public submissions on the HTP preliminary corridor by 18 December 2023.

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



More information

Please visit HTP online at energyco.nsw.gov.au/htp to access a range of frequently asked questions and fact sheets, including:

- Strategic Benefit Payments Scheme
- Living and working near an easement
- Compensation and easement acquisition
- Electric and magnetic fields
- Alternative preliminary corridor options
- HTP fact sheet – North
- HTP fact sheet – Central
- HTP Fact sheet – South

Strategic importance

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

At the State level:

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

This 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 Environment and Water.

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

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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.