

# Hunter Transmission Project

## Project update

May 2024

## Feedback from the Hunter community is helping to shape the Hunter Transmission Project (HTP).

### Community feedback informed the revised corridor

We placed the HTP preliminary corridor on public exhibition in late 2023. Community feedback has helped to refine the preliminary corridor, reducing potential impacts on people and the environment.

We've made significant changes. The number of potentially affected private landowners in the revised corridor is reduced from 78 (in the preliminary corridor) to less than 25.

To see the revised corridor map and a summary of changes please turn to pages 2 and 3.

We're in the planning stage for the HTP. This year we'll develop an environmental impact statement (EIS) and we'll continue engaging with the community to look for ways to reduce impacts and make sure the community benefits from the project.

**We encourage you to continue being part of the conversation and help refine the HTP.**

### HTP at a glance



A new overhead 500 kV double circuit transmission line of around 100 kilometres



Will connect Bayswater to Olney/Eraring



New supporting infrastructure, including 2 substations



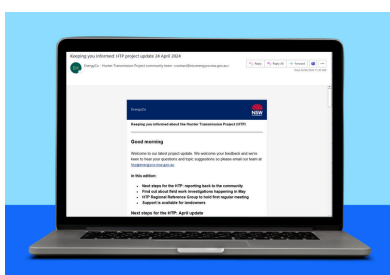
Will unlock electricity supply from the Central-West Orana and New England Renewable Energy Zones (REZs)



Critical as NSW's remaining coal-fired power stations close and must be operational by 2028



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



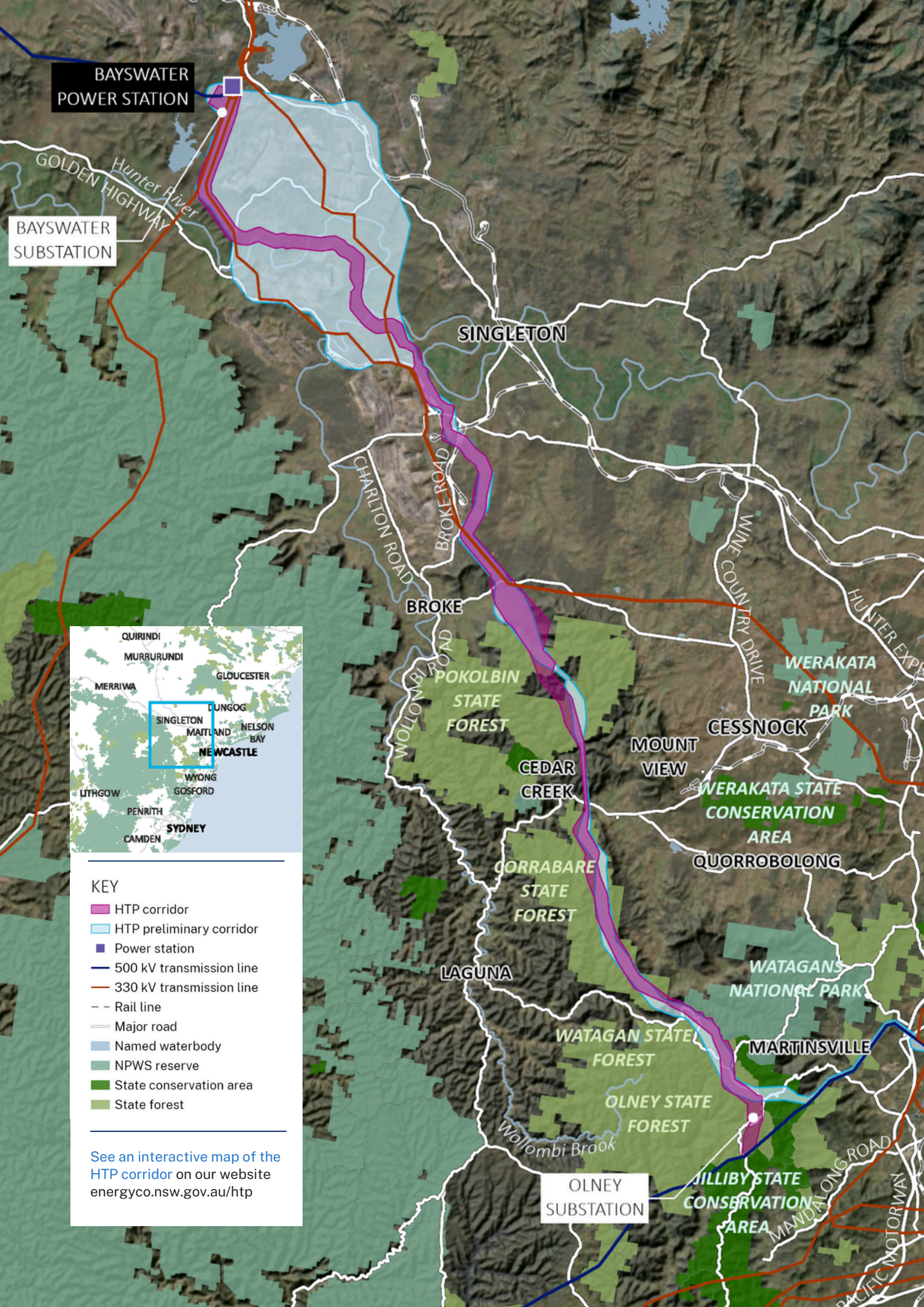
### How to stay informed

The best way to stay up to date on the HTP is to sign up for regular updates using this QR code.



You can also visit our website [energyco.nsw.gov.au/htp](https://energyco.nsw.gov.au/htp) to see details of upcoming local drop-in sessions as well as maps, project documents, frequently asked questions and more.





#### KEY

- HTP corridor
- HTP preliminary corridor
- Power station
- 500 kV transmission line
- 330 kV transmission line
- Rail line
- Major road
- Named waterbody
- NPWS reserve
- State conservation area
- State forest

See an interactive map of the HTP corridor on our website [energyco.nsw.gov.au/htp](http://energyco.nsw.gov.au/htp)



## HTP corridor changes at a glance

- ✓ The number of potentially affected private landowners is reduced from 78 to less than 25.
- ✓ Avoiding Cooranbong and Martinsville in HTP South is made possible by building a new substation on a site in the Olney State Forest that was previously used for growing commercial timber.
- ✓ Refining the corridor footprint through Cedar Creek, Millfield and Laguna minimises impacts on landowners in HTP Central.
- ✓ Running the transmission corridor through the Hunter Valley Operations mine narrows the corridor in HTP North and minimises impacts on the Maison Dieu community.
- ✓ The revised corridor minimises impacts in parts of the State forests that are culturally significant for the Aboriginal community and traditional owners, including scenic landscapes or sightlines.
- ✓ Moving the corridor further west in the Pokolbin and Corrabare State forests requires less vegetation clearing and avoids impacts on threatened plants and animals such as the sooty owl, brush-tailed rock wallaby and scrub turpentine (a tree).

## The HTP corridor has 3 zones

**HTP North** is the northern section of the corridor for the new transmission infrastructure between Bayswater and Broke. Most of HTP North runs through power station, mining, industrial and Department of Defence land.

**HTP Central** runs mainly through the Pokolbin and Corrabare State forests and some privately owned land.

**HTP South** runs through the Olney State Forest and the revised corridor includes a new substation to be built on a site that used to be a commercial timber plantation. The new Olney substation allows Cooranbong and Martinsville to be completely removed from the corridor.

## Issues, impacts and opportunities

The HTP corridor avoids private properties as much as possible while also looking to protect environmentally sensitive areas, Aboriginal cultural heritage and other places of high community value. These and other issues, impacts and opportunities will be the subject of detailed investigations during 2024. We'll also continue engaging with stakeholders to identify ways to manage issues such as the temporary effects of construction, traffic and workers accommodation.

Temporary workers accommodation facilities will be built to ensure there are no major impacts on local services, housing supply and infrastructure. They'll be removed when the HTP is complete.

## Community benefits

The goal of a Hunter-first benefits package is to make sure the community sees lasting, meaningful benefits in return for hosting the HTP during and after its construction. This targeted program is under development and we look forward to sharing more information in coming months.

## Community views



**Protecting the environment and biodiversity as we build the HTP is the community's top priority, particularly in the State forests.**

This is closely followed by:

- protection of Aboriginal cultural heritage
- impacts to private land
- protecting scenic landscapes
- route selection.

Scenic landscapes and views throughout the Hunter Valley are valued by the general community. They're also very important to the local Aboriginal community and traditional owners whose feedback was to make sure the HTP doesn't interrupt ridgelines and sightlines because these are an important part of their cultural heritage.

These are just some of the issues, impacts and opportunities that will be investigated in detail as part of the HTP's environmental impact assessments.

We'll report back to the community with a mid-year project update. We'll also continue to keep you informed through our monthly newsletters and ongoing website updates for more detailed information.

Feedback is welcome and you can contact the community team on the details below.

## Project timeline

- ✓ **July 2022 to October 2023**  
Investigations to identify where the HTP should be located including consultation with local councils, members of parliament and government agencies
- ✓ **Late 2023**  
Seek community feedback on the HTP preliminary corridor
- ✓ **May 2024**  
Present revised corridor to the community and start environmental assessment process
- **During 2024**  
Develop detailed HTP design, assess impacts and prepare EIS
- **Mid 2024**  
Report back to the community for mid-year project update
- **Late 2024**  
Public exhibition of the EIS
- **Early 2025**  
Publish report on community feedback received on the EIS
- **Mid to late 2025**  
Ministers make final decisions
- **2026**  
Start construction
- **2028**  
Start operation

## 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](https://energyco.nsw.gov.au)

## Contact us

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