

# Environmental Assessment Requirements

Section 5.16 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*

<b>Application Number</b>	SSI 9717
<b>Project</b>	The Snowy 2.0 Transmission Connection Project, which includes the development of transmission lines and associated infrastructure to connect the Snowy 2.0 Hydro project to the electricity grid.
<b>Location</b>	The Kosciuszko National Park (Lobs Hole and Ravine) and Nurenmerenmong in the Bago State Forest.
<b>Proponent</b>	TransGrid
<b>Date of Issue</b>	1 November 2019
<b>General Requirements</b>	<p>The Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the project must comply with the requirements in Schedule 2 of the <i>Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000</i> (EP&amp;A Regulation).</p> <p>In particular, the EIS must include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a stand-alone executive summary;</li> <li>• a summary of the background to the project, including alternatives that were considered to the project;</li> <li>• a full description of the project accompanied by suitable maps and plans, including the: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- disturbance area;</li> <li>- physical layout of the project over time, including sections of key components;</li> <li>- key uses and activities to be carried out on site;</li> <li>- likely timing of the project including any stages, the key phases within each stage (site preparation, construction, commissioning, operation, decommissioning and rehabilitation) and the sequencing of these stages and phases;</li> </ul> </li> <li>• the relevant strategic context for the project having regard to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- State and Commonwealth legislation, policies and guidelines, including the <i>Kosciuszko National Park Plan of Management 2006</i> and current initiatives to improve energy security and reliability in the National Electricity Market;</li> <li>- any other existing, approved or proposed projects that could result in cumulative impacts with the project;</li> </ul> </li> <li>• the relevant statutory context for the project, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- the assessment pathway for the project under the <i>Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979</i>;</li> <li>- the approvals required before the project may be carried out, including any approvals under the Commonwealth <i>Environment Protection &amp; Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i>;</li> <li>- the likely interactions between these approvals (if granted) and any obligations or rights under the <i>National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974</i>; and</li> <li>- any relevant matters for consideration;</li> </ul> </li> <li>• a description of the engagement that was carried out during the preparation of the EIS, the key issues raised during this engagement and the proposed engagement strategy for the project if it is approved;</li> <li>• an assessment of the likely economic, social and environmental impacts of the project having regard to the requirements in any relevant Government legislation, policies and guidelines (see below), including:</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- the state of the existing environment;</li> <li>- community views;</li> <li>- the measures that would be implemented to avoid or minimise impacts, including a consolidated summary of the proposed mitigation measures for the project;</li> <li>- the predicted impacts of the project, including any cumulative impacts;</li> <li>- actions proposed to deal with any uncertainties associated with the assessment;</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a detailed evaluation of the merits of the project as a whole.</li> </ul> <p>In addition to the matters set out in Schedule 1 of the <i>EP&amp;A Regulation</i>, the EIS must be accompanied by a signed report from a suitably qualified person that includes an accurate estimate of the capital investment value of the development (as defined in Clause 3 of the <i>EP&amp;A Regulation</i>).</p>
<p><b>Key Issues</b></p>	<p>The level of assessment of key matters must be proportionate to the likely significance of the impacts on the matter.</p> <p>In particular, the EIS must include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Biodiversity:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- an assessment of the biodiversity impacts of the project on terrestrial, aquatic and groundwater-dependent ecosystems, including listed Commonwealth and State threatened species and communities and listed Commonwealth migratory species;</li> <li>- a strategy to offset any residual impacts of the project focusing on enhancing the biodiversity values of the Kosciuszko National Park in the medium to long term;</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Heritage:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- an assessment of the cultural and heritage impacts of the project, including impacts on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o the listed heritage values of the Australian Alps National Parks and Reserves National Heritage Place;</li> <li>o the listed heritage values of the Snowy Mountains Scheme National Heritage Place;</li> <li>o the cultural values of the Kosciuszko National Park;</li> <li>o Aboriginal and historic heritage items;</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Water:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- a site water balance for the project, including water supply and wastewater disposal arrangements;</li> <li>- an assessment of the impacts of the project on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o the quantity of the region's surface and ground water resources, including Yarrangobilly River, Wallaces Creek, Talbingo Reservoir and the Tumut River;</li> <li>o hydrological flows on site, including any potential flooding impacts;</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Land:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- an assessment of impacts of the project on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o the soils and land capability of the site, including the potential impacts associated with the use of hydrocarbons and chemicals, disturbing land associated with naturally occurring asbestos;</li> <li>o the geodiversity values of the site, including potential impacts on Karst systems, fossil beds and boulder streams;</li> </ul> </li> <li>- a strategy to manage the progressive rehabilitation of the land disturbed by the project and enhance any new landforms created;</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Transport:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- an assessment of the impacts of the project on the capacity, condition, safety and efficiency of the local, national park and State road network, including a road safety audit of the proposed haulage route;</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- a strategy to enable regular and emergency management activities to be carried out on site within the Kosciuszko National Park during the project;</li> <li>- a strategy for managing these impacts having regard to existing road maintenance agreements (Original);</li> <li>• <b>Amenity:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- an assessment of the: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o construction, operational and road noise impacts of the project;</li> <li>o visual impacts of the project, including lighting impacts and potential impacts on views of the project from key vantage points in the Kosciuszko National Park;</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Air:</b> an assessment of the air quality impacts of the project;</li> <li>• <b>Hazards:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- an assessment of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o any potentially hazardous impacts of the project, including electric magnetic fields (EMF) having regard to the latest advice of the Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency (ARPANSA);</li> <li>o any public safety risks, including bushfire and flooding risks;</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Social:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- an assessment of the social impacts of the project on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o the demand for infrastructure and services in the Snowy Valleys local government area; and</li> <li>o users of the Kosciuszko National Park, including recreational fishing, bushwalking, camping and boating;</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Economic:</b> an assessment of the economic impacts of the project on the locality and NSW.</li> </ul>
<b>Legislation, Policies &amp; Guidelines</b>	<p>A list of some of the legislation, policies and guidelines that may be relevant to the assessment of the project can be found at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="https://www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects/assessments/policies-and-guidelines">https://www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects/assessments/policies-and-guidelines</a>; and</li> <li>• <a href="http://www.environment.gov.au/epbc/publications#assessments">http://www.environment.gov.au/epbc/publications#assessments</a></li> </ul>
<b>Consultation</b>	<p>During the preparation of the EIS, you should consult with the relevant local, State or Commonwealth Government authorities, service providers, community groups and affected landowners.</p>
<b>Further consultation after 2 years</b>	<p>If you do not lodge the EIS for the project within 2 years of the issue date of these requirements, you must seek revised requirements for the EIS for the project.</p>