

Mount Piper to Wallerawang Transmission Line Upgrade Project

Environmental Impact Statement Social and Economic Impact Assessment

FACT SHEET | AUGUST 2025



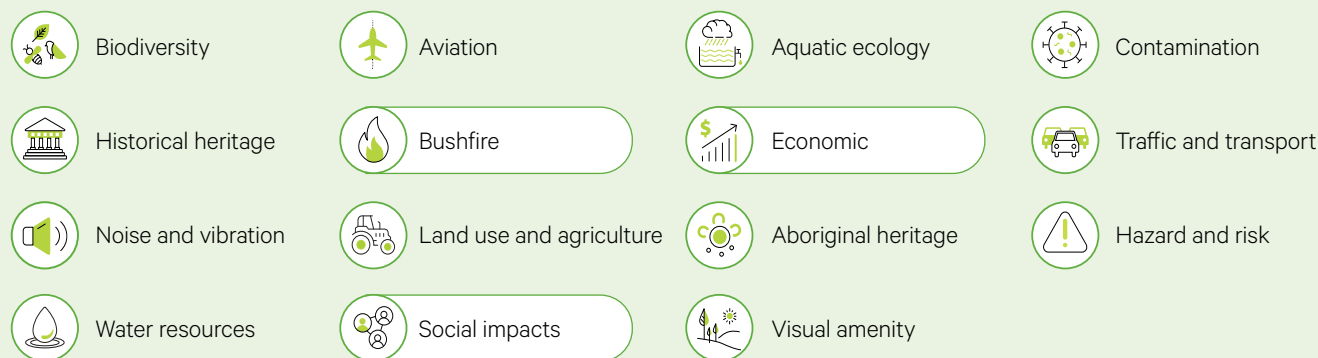
How can I provide feedback on the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIS)?

Local community members, councils, stakeholders, community groups and organisations are encouraged to view the EIS and to have a say by making a submission. You can view the EIS and

specialist studies online via the [NSW Major Projects Planning Portal](#) and search for unique ID SSI-70279722 or 'Mount Piper to Wallerawang Transmission'.

The Mount Piper to Wallerawang Transmission Line Upgrade Project (the Project) comprises the construction and operation of approximately 8 km of new 330 kV transmission line between the Mount Piper and Wallerawang 330 kV substations, on the lands of the Wiradjuri people.

The Project will carry out upgrades to our transmission network in the State's Central Tablelands to support the NSW Government's delivery of the Central-West Orana Renewable Energy Zone (CWOREZ).



What is a Social and Economic Impact Assessment?

As part of the EIS, a detailed assessment has been undertaken to assess the likely social and economic impacts of the Project. Social impacts include potential changes to way of life, community, culture, health and wellbeing while economic impacts include any jobs expected to be created or increases in economic activity because of the Project. The findings form the Social and Economic Impact Assessment.

What have we heard from the community so far?

We heard from local councils, community groups and the wider public that job creation and training opportunities are a top priority for the region. The community places a high value of the natural environment and would like minimal impacts to habitat loss and biodiversity. Some stakeholders have voiced concerns about how the transmission lines will be managed to mitigate the risk of bushfires.

What are the potential social and economic impacts during construction?

Key positive economic and social impacts

The Project is expected to have a positive impact on the economy of the Lithgow region as well as the rest of NSW.

It will create opportunities for local businesses and offer employment and skills development for the local and regional population.

There is likely to be increased spending at local businesses and procurement opportunities for local businesses including suppliers, labour hire and accommodation. Employment opportunities created during the construction phase are expected in the following sectors:

- construction
- transport
- safety
- environmental management
- community engagement.

Potential negative social impacts include:

- impacts to short term accommodation supply due to use by construction workers
- habitat loss and biodiversity impacts may impact communities which strongly value and care for the natural environment
- noise and vibration amenity impacts to residents located near the Project footprint which may impact human comfort.

How will the Project mitigate potential negative social impacts during construction?

The Project will develop the following tailored plans to manage specific impacts, deliver positive outcomes for the community and achieve a positive social legacy from the Project including:

- a Workforce Management Plan, which includes an accommodation plan to manage the accommodation requirements of the non-resident project workforce
- continuing the engagement with communities before and during construction
- industry and workforce participation strategies to promote procurement of local industries, Indigenous-owned businesses, and employment and skills development of Aboriginal peoples
- consultation and engagement with relevant stakeholders such as Lithgow City Council to understand opportunities for social benefit sharing, informed by Transgrid's Social Licence Program.

What are the likely social impacts once the new transmission line is operational?

Key positive social impacts once the transmission line is operational include:

- ongoing economic contribution to the region through maintenance work and stable electricity supply
- recovery and recording of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural heritage artefacts identified during the Project being managed in accordance with Traditional Owner preferences.

Some stakeholders have voiced concerns about how the transmission will be managed to mitigate the risk of bushfires during operation.

Transgrid operates and maintain the network to reduce risk of bushfires from electricity infrastructure. Our operating procedures and environmental management system detail how we operate and maintain assets and easements, prior to, and during the bushfire season.

Activities in reducing bushfire risks include:

- operating the network in normal and abnormal situations to ensure continuity of electricity supply
- operating the network within technical limits
- inspecting our transmission network assets to identify defects using ground, climbing, and aerial techniques (drones/helicopter and thermal imaging)
- conducting regular vegetation inspection of our easements using LiDAR imaging and routine ground inspection to identify vegetation growing too close to transmission lines that could create a public safety or bushfire risk
- managing 'hazard trees' outside the easement that pose a danger to our network and/or community safety
- managing vegetation within the easement to maintain safety clearances. Tower and pole base areas have additional clearing for maintenance access and to reduce the risk of impact by fire
- prioritisation of asset maintenance works to enable appropriate response if there is heightened bushfire risk.



Image: Two workers assess an easement along the planned Mount Piper to Wallerawang transmission route.

Connect with us

Transgrid is committed to working with landowners and communities through the development of the Project. Please connect with us for more information.



1800 222 537 (free call)
network.solutions@transgrid.com.au

Find out more at:
transgrid.com.au/wallerawang

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