

Mount Piper to Wallerawang Transmission Line Upgrade Project

Environmental Impact Statement Biodiversity Development Assessment

FACT SHEET | AUGUST 2025



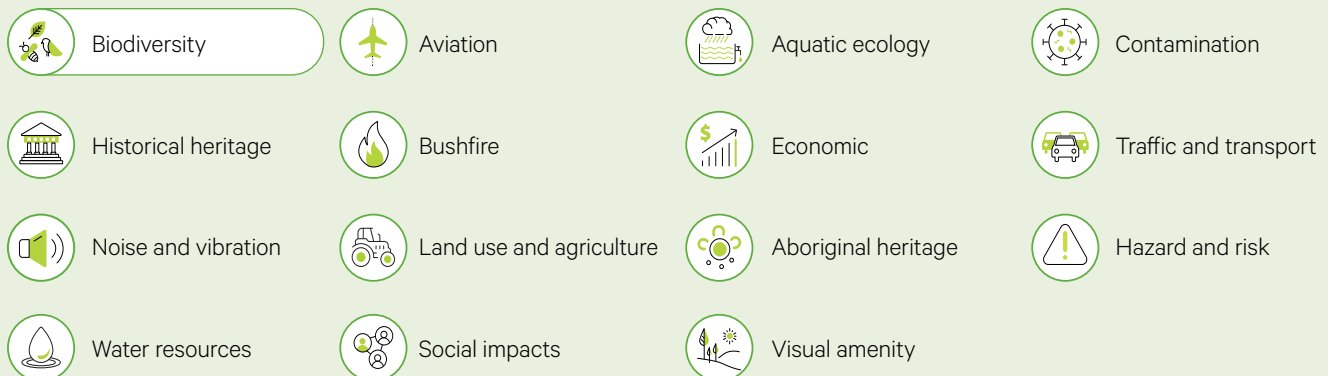
How can I provide feedback on the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)?

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 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 Biodiversity Development Assessment Report (BDAR)?

A detailed assessment has been prepared to identify and assess the potential impacts of the Project in relation to biodiversity.

The assessment evaluates the potential impacts to biodiversity from construction and operation of the Project. It describes the extensive ecology investigations that have been undertaken to identify flora and fauna species and plant community types along the transmission line easement, including any threatened species that need to be avoided.

The BDAR forms an important part of the biodiversity assessment and identifies biodiversity offset requirements as well as the measures proposed to address the offset obligations.

What have we heard so far?

Extensive stakeholder consultation has been undertaken during project planning to understand views regarding biodiversity. National Parks, landowners and community groups have raised concerns relating to vegetation clearing in the Gardens of Stone State Conservation Area. They would like to see vegetation clearing minimised.

Transgrid is committed to minimising biodiversity impacts during the development of the Project. We have taken stakeholder feedback into account and selected preferred route that widens an existing cleared easement and is located adjacent to an operational coal mine. Please see the Projects preferred route report for further details.

What will the BDAR include?

The BDAR evaluates the potential impacts to biodiversity from construction and operation of the Project. It includes:

- reviewing data and reports relevant to existing vegetation and threatened flora and fauna
- mapping existing native vegetation and flora
- field surveys which verify vegetation communities, assess threatened flora and fauna habitats, survey for presence of threatened species, and assess and survey bushfire affected lands
- assessing aquatic habitat condition and suitability for threatened aquatic species
- assessing potential direct, indirect, prescribed and serious and irreversible impacts – see below
- identifying management and mitigation measures to address potential impacts and determining the need for biodiversity offset requirements to address any residual impacts.



Ecology surveys to date

On-site ecology surveys were carried out by independent accredited ecologists between August 2023 and February 2025. They surveyed the Project footprint and identified flora and fauna species and plant community types, including any threatened species that need to be avoided.

The on-site ecology surveys confirmed that no 'serious and irreversible' impacts are likely. However, several threatened flora and fauna species were identified including:

- Gang-gang Cockatoo
- South-eastern Glossy Black-Cockatoo
- Large-eared Pied Bat
- Speckled Warbler
- Varied Sittella
- Black Gum
- Capertee Stringybark
- Black Falcon
- Eastern False Pipistrelle
- Little Lorikeet,
- White-bellied Sea-eagle
- Large Bent-winged Bat
- Southern Myotis
- Barking Owl
- Powerful Owl
- Scarlet Robin
- Squirrel Glider
- Yellow-bellied Sheathtail Bat.

Proposed mitigation measures

During detailed design and construction planning, biodiversity impacts will be avoided where practicable with priority given to avoiding recorded threatened species and their habitat.

A Biodiversity Management Plan (BMP) will be prepared as part of the Project's Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP). This plan will include ways to evaluate, report on and implement flora and fauna and fauna management during construction.

Transgrid is continuing to consult with all landowners, including Centennial Springvale Coal Services Facility and National Parks and

Wildlife Service, on any refinements to further avoid and minimise impacts as the Project proceeds through the detailed design phase.

Will biodiversity offsets be applied?

Biodiversity offsets are measures taken to compensate for the impacts on biodiversity of certain developments and some types of land clearing. Under the EPBC Act Environmental Offsets Policy, the Project is required to implement biodiversity offset measures to compensate for significant residual impacts on Matters of National Environmental Significance. Matters of National Environmental Significance includes threatened species that are listed by the department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW).

Biodiversity offsets are applied through the NSW Government's Biodiversity Offsets Scheme, which provides a mechanism to avoid, minimise and offset the impacts of development and some types of clearing on biodiversity in New South Wales.

Offset measures will be determined as part of project approval.



Image: Threatened fauna species recorded in the study area include the Gang-gang Cockatoo.

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.



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Find out more at:
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