

Construction support sites and worker accommodation

Hunter Transmission Project

Fact Sheet | July 2026

The Hunter Transmission Project will deliver a new 110-kilometre 500 kilovolt (kV) transmission line between Bayswater (near Muswellbrook) and Olney (near Eraring), strengthening the NSW electricity network and supporting the transition to renewable energy.

Project status

Following detailed assessment by the NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure, the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces has granted planning approval for the Hunter Transmission Project and issued the Conditions of Approval.

The assessment considered environmental and technical studies, community and stakeholder feedback, and advice from councils and government agencies.

The project will now progress through detailed design and planning before construction can begin.

Subject to approvals and delivery planning:

- A network operator is expected to be appointed in 2026
- Detailed design and construction planning will continue
- Construction is expected to commence in early 2027.

Construction support sites

Planning approval has been granted for the Hunter Transmission Project, including approval for construction support sites and worker accommodation required during construction. The assessment considered:



Site locations and layouts



Workforce accommodation and capacity



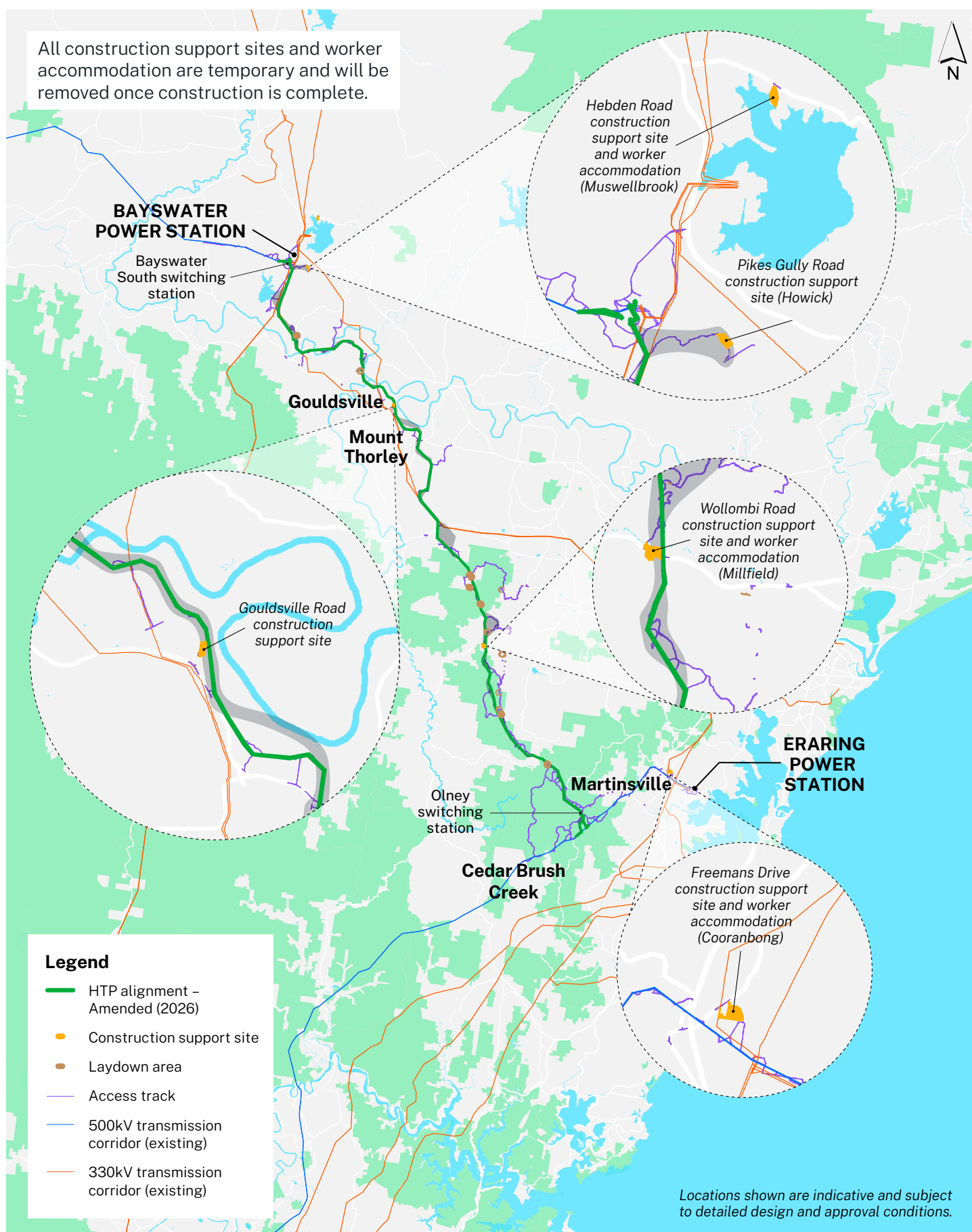
Traffic, noise and visual impacts



Environmental management and community safeguards

Conditions of Approval include requirements for the management of construction support sites and worker accommodation during construction.

Construction support sites and worker accommodation



Construction support sites

Five temporary construction support sites are proposed:

- Hebden Road, Muswellbrook
- Pikes Gully Road, Howick
- Wollombi Road, Millfield
- Gouldsville Road, Gouldsville
- Freemans Drive, Cooranbong.

During the planning assessment, refinements included:

- reconfiguration of the Wollombi Road construction support site
- changes to some laydown areas
- removal of one stringing site
- updates to helicopter landing arrangements.

The Conditions of Approval include requirements for the size, operation and management of construction support sites during detailed design and construction.

Worker accommodation

Temporary worker accommodation facilities have been approved to support construction activities during peak construction periods. The approved worker accommodation sites include:

- Hebden Road: Up to 300 workers
- Wollombi Road: Up to 300 workers
- Freemans Drive: Up to 300 workers.

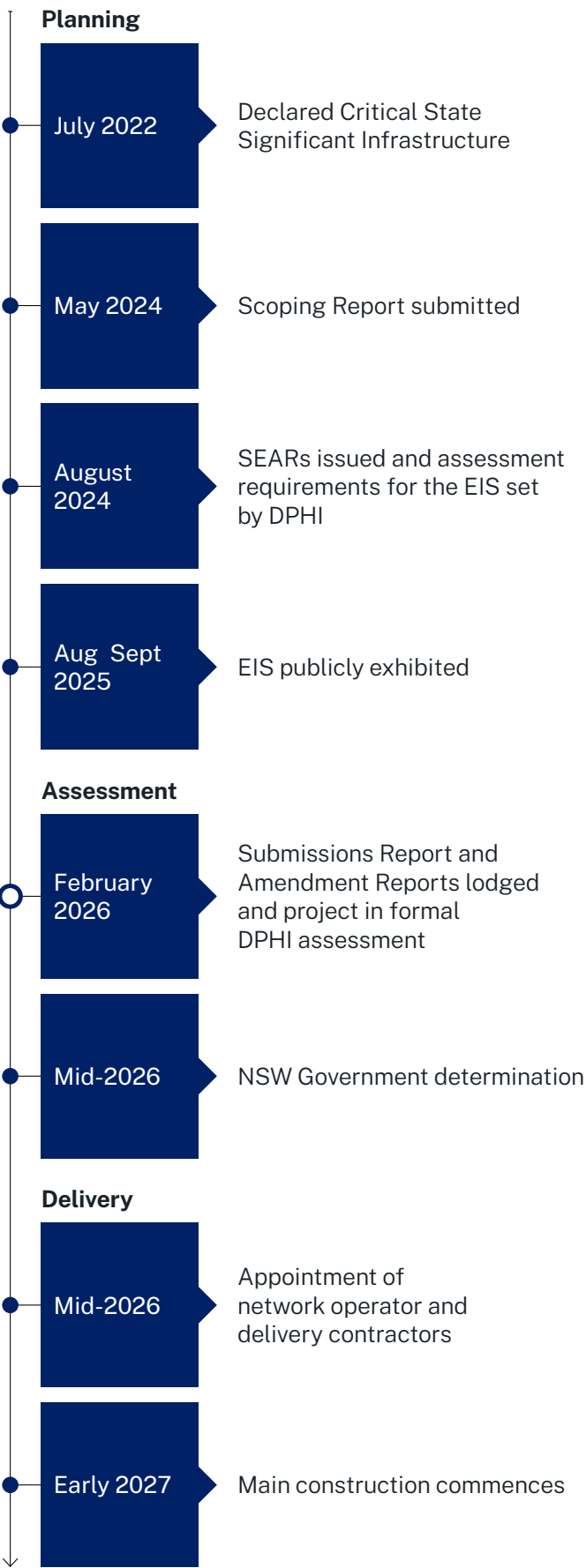
Worker accommodation facilities may:

- operate 24/7 during construction activities
- provide on-site catering and recreation facilities
- use shuttle buses to reduce private vehicle travel where feasible
- include secure, managed access arrangements.

There is currently no proposal for permanent workforce housing as part of the Hunter Transmission Project.

Providing accommodation closer to work areas helps reduce daily commuting, support road safety and minimise pressure on local roads during peak construction activities.

Key milestones



*Timeframes are indicative and subject to planning approvals and project delivery requirements.

What to expect during construction

During construction, nearby communities may notice:

- temporary fenced construction compounds
- increased heavy vehicle movements
- shuttle buses during worker shift changes
- site lighting designed to minimise light spill
- short-term construction noise and activity.

These impacts will be temporary and managed in accordance with the Conditions of Approval and approved management plans.

How impacts will be managed

Conditions of Approval require measures to help minimise impacts during construction, including approved work hours, traffic management, noise and dust controls, fire safety planning, maintaining property access and environmental monitoring.

Temporary construction sites and facilities will be removed and rehabilitated once works are complete.

What happens next

Planning approval has been granted for the Hunter Transmission Project, with Conditions of Approval now in place. The project will now progress through detailed design, pre-construction planning and delivery preparation. Before construction can commence, a range of management plans and additional approvals required under the Conditions of Approval must be prepared and approved.

In 2024, Transgrid was identified as the preferred network operator for the Hunter Transmission Project. Subject to final approvals and contractual arrangements, a network operator is expected to be formally appointed in 2026.

EnergyCo, Transgrid and future delivery partners will continue working with communities, councils, landholders and stakeholders as the project progresses.



How to stay informed

All project documentation, including links to the NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), Submissions Report, Amendment Report and Conditions of Approval, is available on the Hunter Transmission Project website.

You can also sign up to receive project updates and e-newsletters. Visit energyco.nsw.gov.au/http



Scan the QR code to access the Hunter Transmission Project webpage.



Contact us

EnergyCo is the NSW Government statutory authority responsible for delivering the Hunter Transmission Project as a critical part of transitioning to a cleaner future under the Electricity Infrastructure Roadmap.



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