

Our ref: HMS ID 11586

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Letter uploaded to the Major Projects Planning Portal

Advice on Environmental Impact Statement – State Significant Infrastructure

Proposal: Mount Piper to Wallerawang Transmission Project

Major Project reference: SSI-70279722

Received: 22 August 2025

Dear Ms Matarazzo,

Thank you for seeking advice from the Heritage Council of NSW regarding the above State Significant Infrastructure (SSI) proposal. It is understood that the project involves the construction of a 330kV transmission line between the Mount Piper and Wallerawang 330kV substations, approximately 8km in length.

In preparing this advice Heritage NSW has reviewed the following documents:

- Relevant sections of *Mount Piper to Wallerawang Transmission Line Upgrade Project Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)*- prepared by Transgrid, dated 21 August 2025.
- *Historic Heritage Assessment and Statement of Heritage Impact Report: Mount Piper to Wallerawang Transmission Line Upgrade (SoHI)* - prepared by OzArk Environment & Heritage, dated 21 August 2025.
- Relevant sections of *Mount Piper to Wallerawang Transmission Line Upgrade Noise and Vibration Impact Assessment (NVIA)* - prepared by GHD, dated 20 August 2025.

The proposed SSI affects the State Heritage Register (SHR) item *Wallerawang Rail Bridges over Cox's River* (SHR no. 01064), and it is noted that the *St. John the Evangelist Church* (SHR no. 01702) is also in the vicinity of the proposed SSI site.

Following review of the above documents, comments from Heritage NSW regarding the proposal are provided in **Attachment A**.

As the site contains a local heritage item, and other local items are in the vicinity, advice should be sought from the relevant local council.

Please note that this response relates only to environmental heritage regulation matters. If you have any questions about this correspondence, please contact James Cole, Senior Assessments Officer at Heritage NSW on (02) 9873 8500 or heritagemailbox@environment.nsw.gov.au

Yours sincerely,

Alison Lamond

Alison Lamond
Manager
Major Projects
Heritage NSW
Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water
As Delegate of the Heritage Council of NSW
22 September 2025

Attachment A – Detailed environmental heritage advice

Prior to approval

Prior to approval, Heritage NSW recommends that the Department request additional information from the proponent in relation to the matter outlined below. This information is requested to ensure that the impacts of the proposed works are clearly identified to assist in determining whether the EIS adequately addresses the Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements for the project, including the associated recommendations for the management of environmental heritage.

Impacts to the Wallerawang Rail Bridges over Cox's River

1. Please provide additional information on the following matters to clarify the potential impacts of the proposed works in relation to the *Wallerawang Rail Bridges over Cox's River* (SHR no. 01064):
 - a. Table 4-1 of the SoHI states that the nearest proposed works to the SHR item is the construction of a transmission structure 36m to its north, however Table 6.5 of the NVIA indicates that works are anticipated to include vibratory rolling, excavation and piling between 0m and 6m from the item.
 - b. The SoHI states that the access route which runs under the bridges will be limited to light vehicle usage and does not reference any proposed upgrades to this access route, however Figure E.2c of the EIS indicates that this track will be upgraded and widened.

Post approval

Following approval, Heritage NSW advises that the Historic Heritage Management Plan (HHMP) must include additional information relating to the following matters. This information is requested to ensure that appropriate and actionable mitigation measures are in place to avoid potential impacts to the Wallerawang Rail Bridges over Cox's River.

Historic Heritage Management Plan

2. Noting that the recommendations of the NVIA may result in the requirement for additional actions such as monitoring of the *Wallerawang Rail Bridges over Cox's River* (SHR no. 01064), the HHMP should include a requirement that methodologies for these works are completed in consultation with a suitably qualified heritage specialist to avoid impacts to the SHR item.