

EXHIBITION OF CRITICAL STATE SIGNIFICANT INFRASTRUCTURE APPLICATION

Oven Mountain Pumped Hydro Energy Storage

Application No	SSI-12422997
Location	Adjacent to Kempsey Armidale Road and Macleay River near Georges Junction, Carrai approximately 60 km south-east of Armidale and 75 km north-west of Kempsey
Proponent	OMPS Pty Ltd
Council Area	Armidale Regional
Approval Authority	Minister for Planning and Public Spaces

Description of proposal

Development of a new 900 megawatt underground pumped hydro-electric power station, upper dam and reservoir, lower dam and reservoir, main access tunnels, water intake structures, spillway, Macleay River pump facility, grid connection and ancillary infrastructure.

About the exhibition

An exhibition process allows any individual or organisation to have their say about a proposed development.

The Department of Planning and Environment (Department) has received a Critical State significant infrastructure application for the abovementioned proposal. The application, environmental impact statement, and accompanying documents are on exhibition from **Tuesday 19 September 2023** until **Monday 16 October 2023**. You can view these documents online at planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects.

At the time of publishing this advertisement, the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces has not directed that a public hearing should be held.

Controlled Action under *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act)

Development in NSW can be subject to Commonwealth legislation, depending on the circumstances.

The Commonwealth Minister for the Environment and Water has decided that the proposed development – known as Oven Mountain Pumped Hydro Energy Storage Project (2020/8850) for Commonwealth purposes – is a “controlled action” under the EPBC Act.

The EPBC Act Part 3, Division 1 controlled provisions are:

- Sections 12 and 15A (World Heritage);
- Sections 15B and 15C (National Heritage); and
- Sections 18 and 18A (Listed threatened species and communities).

The proposed development (2020/8850) will be assessed under Part 5 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*. The assessment will be in accordance with the Bilateral Agreement between NSW and the Commonwealth, made under the EPBC Act. The assessment will be done in the manner specified in Schedule 1 of the Bilateral Agreement. This means the project will be assessed against the requirements of both acts.

The public notice for the project may be found at epbcpublicportal.awe.gov.au/all-referrals.

Have your say

The Department encourages online submissions. To have your say online, search for this project at planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects and click on 'Make a submission'. You will need to log in or create a user account.

If you cannot submit online, post or drop your submission to the address below, to arrive before the close of exhibition. If you would like your personal information to be withheld from publication, please clarify this in a separate cover sheet and only provide your personal information in that cover sheet. Do not include personal information in your submission as your submission will be published in full.

If you choose to send a paper-based submission, it is important that both the submission and mailing envelope are addressed to the nominated contact person below.

Please be aware that if you choose to send a paper-based submission and it is not addressed to the nominated contact person, the submission will not be received by the Department and will instead be returned to sender.

Before making your submission: You should read the Department's:

- disclaimer and declaration at planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects/help/disclaimer-and-declaration; and
- privacy statement at planning.nsw.gov.au/privacy.

Please call 1300 305 695 if you wish to be provided with a copy. Your submission will be published on the NSW planning portal in accordance with our privacy statement and disclaimer and declaration.

In your submission, please include:

- your name and address (please ensure your personal details are provided in a separate cover sheet if you would like your details to be withheld from publication);
- the name of the project and the application number;
- a statement on whether you 'support' or 'object' to the application or if you are simply providing comment;
- the reasons why you support or object to the application;
- a declaration of any reportable political donations you have made in the last two years (visit planning.nsw.gov.au/assess-and-regulate/development-assessment/planning-approval-pathways/donations-and-gift-disclosure or phone 1300 305 695 to find out more); and
- a statement indicating you acknowledge and accept the Department's disclaimer and declaration.

For more information, including a copy of the Department's submissions policy, please go to planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects/have-your-say.

For more information: Contact (02) 8217 2022 or 1300 305 695

Address: Director – Energy Assessments, Development Assessment, Department of Planning and Environment, Locked Bag 5022, Parramatta NSW 2124 or 4 Parramatta Square, 12 Darcy Street, Parramatta NSW 2150
