

21 May 2024

Contact: Alison Kniha Telephone: 0407 088 372 Our ref: D2024/35426

Lauren Clear Department of Planning, Housing & Infrastructure 4 Parramatta Square 12 Darcy Street PARRAMATTA NSW 2150

Dear Ms Clear,

Request for SEARs – Hunter Transmission Project (SSI-70610456)

Thank you for your Major Projects Planning Portal referral dated 15 May 2024, requesting WaterNSW's advice in relation to the above SEARs. It is understood that the project will involve the development of:

- two new substations at Bayswater and Olney;
- a new double circuit 500 kV overhead transmission line between the proposed substations; and
- associated works including upgrades to the existing Bayswater and Eraring substations, adjustments to existing transmission lines, road upgrades, access tracks, temporary construction facilities such as laydown areas, stringing sites, construction support sites and workers accommodation.

WaterNSW has reviewed the Scoping Report and draft SEARs, and notes that the subject site is not located close to any WaterNSW-owned land. However, there are a large number of WaterNSW water quality and flow monitoring sites along the proposed route. As such we request that the applicant considers the potential impacts on this infrastructure as part of the development of the EIS, including for ongoing WaterNSW access to the sites.

WaterNSW would appreciate being advised when the EIS is exhibited for further review, and requests the Department continues to consult with us on any development that may impact on our assets, infrastructure or land, using the email address Environmental.Assessments@waternsw.com.au.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact me at <u>alison.kniha@waternsw.com.au</u>.

Yours sincerely

ALISON KNIHA Environmental Planning Assessments and Approvals Manager