



APPENDIX C – Environmental Impact Statement

Statutory compliance

Prepared for Lake Lyell Project Pty Ltd



C.1 Requirements of an EIS

A summary of the requirements of Sections 190, 191 and 192 of the NSW Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2021 (EP&A Regulation) and where they are addressed in this environmental impact statement (EIS), is provided in Table C.1.

Table C.1 Sections 190 and 192 EP&A Regulation – form requirements of an EIS

Requirement	Where addressed in the EIS
Section 190 – Form of EIS	
(1) An environmental impact statement must contain the following information —	
(a) the name, address and professional qualifications of the person who prepared the statement,	Certification page at the front of this EIS.
(b) the name and address of the responsible person [the applicant],	Certification page at the front of this EIS.
(c) the address of the land: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) to which the development application relates, or (ii) on which the activity or infrastructure to which the statement relates will be carried out, 	Certification page at the front of this EIS.
(d) a description of the development, activity or infrastructure,	Chapter 3
(e) an assessment by the person who prepared the statement of the environmental impact of the development, activity or infrastructure, dealing with the matters referred to in this Division.	Certification page at the front of this EIS.
(2) The person preparing the statement must have regard to— <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) for State significant development—the State Significant Development Guidelines, or (b) for State significant infrastructure—the State Significant Infrastructure Guidelines. 	This EIS has been prepared having regard to the <i>State Significant Infrastructure Guidelines – preparing an Environmental Impact Statement</i> (Appendix B, DPE November 2021).
(3) An environmental impact statement must also contain a declaration by a relevant person that— <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the statement has been prepared in accordance with this Regulation, and (b) the statement contains all available information that is relevant to the environmental assessment of the development, activity or infrastructure, and (c) the information contained in the statement is not false or misleading, and (d) for State significant development or State significant infrastructure—the statement contains the information required under the Registered Environmental Assessment Practitioner Guidelines. 	Certification page at the front of this EIS.
Section 191 – Compliance with environmental assessment requirements	
The environmental impact statement must comply with the environmental assessment requirements notified under section 176 or the Act, section 5.16(4),	This EIS complies with the environmental assessment requirements – see Appendix A.

Requirement	Where addressed in the EIS
Section 192 - Content of EIS	
(1) An environmental impact statement must contain the following—	
(a) a summary of the EIS,	EIS summary
(b) a statement of the objectives of the development, activity or infrastructure,	Chapter 1
(c) an analysis of feasible alternatives to the carrying out the development, activity or infrastructure, considering its objectives, including the consequences of not carrying out the development, activity or infrastructure,	Chapter 2
(d) an analysis of the development, activity or infrastructure, including:	
(i) a full description of the development, activity or infrastructure, and	Chapter 3 and Appendix B
(ii) a general description of the environment likely to be affected by the development, activity or infrastructure and a detailed description of the aspects of the environment that are likely to be significantly affected, and	Chapter 5 to Chapter 18 Appendix F to Appendix Y
(iii) the likely impact on the environment of the development, activity or infrastructure, and	Chapter 5 to Chapter 18 Appendix F to Appendix Y
(iv) a full description of the measures to mitigate adverse effects of the development, activity or infrastructure on the environment, and	Chapter 19
(v) a list of the approvals that must be obtained under another Act or law before the development, activity or infrastructure may lawfully be carried out,	Chapter 4
(e) a compilation, in a single section of the EIS, of the measures referred to in paragraph (d)(iv),	Appendix E
(f) the reasons justifying the carrying out of the development, activity or infrastructure, considering biophysical, economic and social factors, including the principles of ecologically sustainable development set out in section 193.	Chapter 20

C.2 Statutory compliance

A summary of statutory considerations and the project’s compliance is provided in Table C.2.

Table C.2 List of statutory considerations

Legislation	Relevance to the project	Consistency/project compliance
<i>NSW EP&A Act 1979</i>	<p>When an application is made for the Minister’s approval for State significant infrastructure, the Planning Secretary is to prepare environmental assessment requirements and these must require an environmental impact statement to be prepared, in the form prescribed by the regulations (section 5.16).</p> <p>The proponent is to submit the environmental impact statement to the Planning Secretary for approval to carry out the State significant infrastructure (section 5.17).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This EIS addresses the environmental assessment requirements and is in the form prescribed by the regulations.
<i>Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i>	<p>The project is a controlled action under the <i>Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i> (EPBC Act) (for potential impacts on Matters of National Environmental Significance (MNES), namely threatened species and migratory species) and therefore requires assessment and approval under that Act. The Minister for the Environment is the relevant approval authority for the EPBC Act.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The EIS has addressed the assessment requirements under the Act as attached to the Secretary’s environmental assessment requirements (SEARs) for the project. Compliance with these requirements is provided at Appendix A of this EIS.
<i>NSW Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016</i>	<p>The project will impact threatened species protected under the <i>Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016</i> and a Biodiversity Development Assessment Report (BDAR) must be prepared for the project (section 7.7).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A BDAR has been prepared for the project and is attached at Appendix J.
<i>NSW Conveyancing Act 1919</i>	<p>An easement granted under section 88B is likely to be required for the transmission line connection to the Transgrid network.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An easement granted under section 88B will be sought if required by Lake Lyell Project Pty Ltd (LLP).
<i>NSW Biosecurity Act 2015</i>	<p>There are no biosecurity control orders relevant to the project. However, the general duties under the <i>Biosecurity Act 2015</i> apply.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any person who deals with any plant, who knows (or ought to know) of any biosecurity risk, has a duty to ensure the risk is prevented, eliminated or minimised, so far as is reasonably practicable. Several priority weeds were recorded within the construction envelope and duties relating to these species are outlined in Appendix J. The implementation of a biosecurity management plan to address the risk of pests, weeds, and disease spread is also addressed in Appendix T.

Legislation	Relevance to the project	Consistency/project compliance
NSW <i>Contaminated Land Management Act 1997</i>	<p>In NSW, contaminated land is regulated under the <i>Contaminated Land Management Act 1997</i> (CLM Act), as well as the <i>Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979</i> (NSW) (EP&A Act) and <i>State Environmental Planning Policy (Resilience and Hazards) 2021</i>.</p> <p>The CLM Act is administered by the NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA). The EPA is responsible under the CLM Act for regulating land that it declares to be 'significantly contaminated land'. However, the EPA also has a general duty to examine and respond to any information that it receives of actual or possible contamination of land. In cases where the EPA does not consider the land to be 'significantly' contaminated, the responsibility for regulating the site falls to the relevant local council through the planning and development process.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Based on the review of the existing environment and previous investigations, areas of potential contamination sources identified within the construction envelope were identified to be low risk, except for specific road upgrade areas and the site of the Town camp accommodation option, which were identified as presenting a moderate contamination risk. Potential and known sources of contamination within the construction envelope and management measures to address these are considered in the Contamination Preliminary Site Investigation (Appendix V of the EIS).
NSW <i>Crown Land Management Act 2016</i>	<p>There are no Crown roads or Crown land within the construction envelope. Farmers Creek is Crown waters and is adjacent to the construction envelope.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any work on Crown land or waters would require appropriate licence or land interest in favour of LLP for LLP to have rights to use these areas during construction and operation of the project.
NSW <i>Dams Safety Act 2015</i> and NSW Dams Safety Regulation 2019	<p>The dam (upper reservoir) to be constructed and operated as part of the project, will likely be "declared" as a dam under the <i>NSW Dams Safety Act 2015</i> (DS Act) because the dam walls meet the prescribed criteria in the regulation.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Once declared, LLP will need to comply with the DS Act and regulations with respect to ongoing safety management, in particular by implementing a dam safety management system, and preparing an operations and maintenance plan, and an emergency plan, for the dams.
NSW <i>Electricity Supply Act 1995</i>	<p>The project will both consume electricity from the electricity network and generate electricity that will be supplied into the network.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> During construction and operations, the project will be regulated under the <i>NSW Electricity Supply Act 1995</i>.
NSW <i>Fisheries Management Act 1994</i>	<p>The project includes construction of dams and reservoirs, and alteration of watercourses.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An assessment of aquatic impacts including consideration of the <i>NSW Fisheries Management Act 1994</i> has been undertaken for the project and is included as Appendix K to this EIS. A permit under sections 201, 205 and 219 of the Act is not required because of section 5.23(1)(b) of the EP&A Act.
NSW <i>Heavy Vehicle (Adoption of National Law) Act 2013</i>	<p>An oversize overmass (OSOM) permit will be required under this Act as some deliveries to the project area will exceed the use of legally laden vehicles.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An assessment of traffic and transport impacts has been undertaken for the project and is included as Appendix Q to this EIS.

Legislation	Relevance to the project	Consistency/project compliance
<i>NSW Heritage Act 1977</i>	An approval under Part 4 or an excavation permit under section 139 of this Act, is not required (see section 5.23(1)(c) EP&A Act) except for where avoidance of relics associated with the State heritage listed Lithgow Valley Colliery and Pottery Site (SHR#00078) cannot be avoided.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Statement of Heritage Impact prepared for the project (Appendix L) identifies that there are no State listed heritage items within the PHES project area, however there is one State listed heritage item in the disturbance footprint for the alternative accommodation camp (i.e. the Town camp). This is the State significant Lithgow Valley Colliery & Pottery Site (SHR#00078). It recommends avoidance of the site and/or the areas of high archaeological significance, and where avoidance is not possible then further archaeological research and design is required in consultation with Heritage NSW. No historical sites or relics were identified from research or survey across the remainder of the construction envelope and excavation of relics is not required.
<i>Commonwealth National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting Act 2007</i>	The <i>National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting Act 2007</i> (NGER Act), administered by the Commonwealth Government, establishes a national framework ('NGER Scheme') for corporations to report greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, energy consumption and energy production. The framework covers the measurement, reporting and verification of GHG emissions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The NGER Act defines a facility threshold for combined scope 1 and scope 2 emissions of 25,000 t CO₂-e/year. The project is predicted to exceed this threshold. LLP would therefore have an obligation to report emissions from the project under the NGER scheme. A Greenhouse Gas Assessment has been prepared for the project and this addresses the application of the requirements of the NGER Act to the project (Appendix S2 and Chapter 13 of the EIS). The GHG emission sources included in the assessment of the project's construction and operation are summarised in Table 4.2 of Appendix S2.
<i>NSW National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974</i>	Aboriginal heritage items are known to occur within the construction envelope.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An assessment of potential impacts on Aboriginal cultural heritage has been undertaken for the project, as required by the SEARs. The Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHA) is included as Appendix L to the EIS. A permit under section 90 of the <i>NSW National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974</i> is not required because of section 5.23(1)(d) of the EP&A Act.
<i>Commonwealth Native Title Act 1993</i>	There is one active (accepted for registration) claim that includes the Project area – Warrabingawiradjuri #7 (NC2018/002).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Representatives of the claimant organisation were consulted as part of the ACHA.
<i>NSW Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997</i>	The project involves the scheduled activity of electricity generation. A number of ancillary activities may also be regulated under an environmental protection licence (EPL), including chemical storage, concrete batching, process water treatment, extractive activities and sewage treatment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> LLP, or the construction contractor, would obtain an EPL for scheduled activities during construction. LLP would obtain the EPL for scheduled activities during operation. Water discharges have been assessed in the Surface Water Assessment for the project and provided in Appendix F of this EIS. All waste will be managed in accordance with the requirements of the <i>NSW Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997</i> and <i>NSW Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Act 2001</i>.

Legislation	Relevance to the project	Consistency/project compliance
NSW Roads Act 1993	A consent under section 138 of the NSW Roads Act 1993 will be required because the project involves works within public road reserves. Therefore prior to those works being carried out, consent will be obtained from the relevant roads authority.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consideration of road impacts has been undertaken and provided in a Traffic Impact Assessment in Appendix Q of this EIS, with requirements to consult with Transport for NSW and Lithgow City Council who will be the relevant roads authority/s.
NSW Rural Fires Act 1997	The project occurs within bushfire prone land.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The project has been designed with consideration of the Rural Fire Service (RFS) Planning for Bushfire Protection (PBP) 2019. Consideration of bushfire risk and management has been undertaken and provided in Section 15 and Appendix U of this EIS.
NSW Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Act 2001	Waste generated from the project is expected to include a mixture of general liquid waste, general solid waste (putrescible and non-putrescible), hazardous waste, and, during construction, may include materials classified as special waste.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consideration of the waste hierarchy has been undertaken and is provided in Appendix Y of this EIS. A Construction Waste Management Plan (CWMP) will be developed prior to works commencing. All waste will be managed in accordance with the requirements of the NSW Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Act 2001 and NSW Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997.
NSW Water Management Act 2000	<p>The project involves the use of a water resource to generate electricity. Construction of the project involves the take of surface and groundwater and will be undertaken within and adjacent to a waterbody.</p> <p>EnergyAustralia's ongoing use of water from Lake Lyell is regulated by the NSW Government in accordance with the Water Sharing Plan for the Greater Metropolitan Region Unregulated River Water Sources 2023 as per the Water Management Act 2000 and EnergyAustralia's water access licence (WAL).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The project requires consideration against the NSW Water Management Act 2000 because of the requirement to source water for construction, initial storage fill, and operations through WALs. WALs are required for surface water and groundwater take. Impacts on water resources has been assessed as part of the critical State significant infrastructure (CSSI) process. The Surface Water Assessment is documented in Appendix F, the Groundwater Impact Assessment is documented in Appendix G, and the Water Licensing Strategy is documented in Appendix H. A water use approval under section 89, a water management work approval under section 90 or an activity approval (other than an aquifer interference approval) under section 91 of the Act is not required because of section 5.23(1)(g) of the EP&A Act.

Legislation	Relevance to the project	Consistency/project compliance
NSW <i>Work Health and Safety Act 2011</i> and <i>Work Health and Safety Regulation 2025</i>	Hazards and risks are associated with the project and relate to the transport of dangerous goods, location of the project in a bushfire prone area, contamination, electromagnetic field (EMF) and safety of workers and the public during construction.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An assessment of potential hazards and public safety risks from the project has been completed for the project (see Chapter 15 of the EIS) and shows that potential impacts can be appropriately managed. • Licences under the NSW <i>Work Health and Safety Act 2011</i> will be required to transport dangerous goods such as explosives. • A Fire Management Plan and Emergency Management and Evacuation Plan will be developed and implemented for the project to manage bush fire risk and response. • An assessment of the project against the Resilience and Hazards SEPP determined that the project is not a potentially hazardous development or a potentially offensive industry and compliance with the storage and handling of dangerous or hazardous goods will form part of the project's Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP). • Similarly, potential contaminants of concern have been identified and can be appropriately managed through mitigation measures and protocols. • There is no EMF risk to the public as the switchyard and transmission connection will be on private land and inaccessible to the public.

In accordance with section 5.22(2) of the EP&A Act, environmental planning instruments do not apply to SSI except to the extent that they apply to the declaration of infrastructure as CSSI and to enabling development to be carried out in accordance with an approval granted under Part 5, Division 5.2 of the EP&A Act. Therefore, these instruments are not applicable to the project. Notwithstanding this, the following environmental planning instruments which would have applied, but for section 5.22(2) of the EP&A Act, have been considered for completeness.

<i>State Environmental Planning Policy (Resilience and Hazards) 2021</i>	Storage and transport of dangerous goods during the construction of the project.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A preliminary risk screening in accordance with <i>State Environmental Planning Policy (Resilience and Hazards) 2021</i> was undertaken with regard to proposed transport and storage of dangerous and hazardous materials (see Section 15 of the EIS). • An assessment of the project against the <i>State Environmental Planning Policy (Resilience and Hazards) 2021</i> determined that the project is not a potentially hazardous development or a potentially offensive industry and compliance with the storage and handling of dangerous or hazardous goods will form part of the project's CEMP.
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Legislation	Relevance to the project	Consistency/project compliance
<i>State Environmental Planning Policy (Biodiversity and Conservation) 2021</i>	<p>Chapters 3 and 4 of the <i>State Environmental Planning Policy (Biodiversity and Conservation) 2021</i> aim to encourage the proper conservation and management of areas of natural vegetation that provide habitat for Koalas.</p> <p>Part 6.5 of the <i>State Environmental Planning Policy (Biodiversity and Conservation) 2021</i> provides for healthy water catchments that will deliver high quality water to the Sydney area while also permitting compatible development that will have a neutral or beneficial effect on water quality.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A biodiversity assessment has been prepared to determine impacts to biodiversity values. This assessment is documented in the BDAR. A copy of the BDAR is provided in Appendix J of this EIS. • Noting that this SEPP does not apply to the project due to its designation as CSSI, consideration has nonetheless been given to the potential occurrence and impacts upon Koalas within the BDAR. • Impacts on Sydney Drinking Water Catchment have been assessed in the Surface Water Assessment for the project and provided in Appendix F of this EIS.
<i>Lithgow Local Environmental Plan 2014</i>	The Project is being carried out on land within the Lithgow local government area (LGA).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The land zoning under the LEP does not affect the permissibility of the project. • A land use assessment has been completed and a copy is provided in Appendix T of this EIS.

C.3 Objects of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*

A summary of how the project meets the objects (section 1.3) of the EP&A Act is provided in Table C.3.

Table C.3 Objects of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*

Objects of the Act (section 1.3 of the EP&A Act)	Project considerations
(a) to promote the social and economic welfare of the community and a better environment by the proper management, development and conservation of the State's natural and other resources	<p>The strategic context of the project is described in Chapter 2 of the EIS, including its status as CSSI for economic, environmental and social reasons. The avoidance and minimisation measures incorporated into the selection of the site and design of the infrastructure included consideration of conserving the State's natural resources (such as avoiding direct impacts to Marrangaroo National Park).</p> <p>The project provides long term certainty for the management of Lake Lyell and re-purposes land and assets consistent with existing uses for power generation. The project therefore provides long term positive social and economic welfare of the community through provision of renewable energy and ongoing availability of recreational uses of a project asset (Lake Lyell). Proper management of the environment will be demonstrated through the implementation of mitigation measures (Appendix E).</p>
(b) to promote the supply, delivery and maintenance of housing, including affordable housing	Not relevant as the project is not proposing to provide public housing. However, housing has been considered in development of the project and justifies the need for a workforce accommodation camp to avoid impacting the availability of housing and accommodation in the Lithgow community.

Objects of the Act (section 1.3 of the EP&A Act)	Project considerations
<p>(c) to promote productivity through the development and management of the State and its resources</p>	<p>The project involves the development of a large-scale renewable energy project that utilises existing energy assets as much as possible. It supports NSW government policy and supports the transition from a coal-based to renewable-based energy network. Lake Lyell currently provides the cooling water for Mount Piper power station which is due to close as part of the energy transition. The project re-purposes this asset for energy generation.</p> <p>It is estimated that between 60 to 70% of the capital cost of the project will be invested in goods, services, and resources produced, manufactured, or supplied within Australia and New Zealand. The project will also provide economic activity to a region that has only been experiencing modest growth over time. In particular, it will create a demand in the region for a suitably qualified construction workforce. The economic assessment completed for the project estimates around \$400 million in annual direct and indirect regional output during construction and \$290 million during operation, and generation of \$72 million in annual direct and indirect household income during construction and \$4 million during operation.</p>
<p>(d) to protect the environment, including the conservation of threatened species of native animals and plants and ecological communities and their habitats</p>	<p>The project has been designed in a manner that has sought to avoid and minimise impacts to the environment as much as possible while maintaining feasibility of the project. The project has involved an iterative design integration and assessment approach (refer Section 3.2 of the EIS) to allow for early identification and avoidance of environmental constraints through design or changes to construction methods.</p> <p>Detailed ecological surveys were completed in accordance with the Biodiversity Assessment Method (BAM) and confirmed the absence of threatened ecological communities and threatened flora species, however confirmed the presence of several threatened fauna species. Mitigation measures have been developed to respond to the nature of potential impacts and identify opportunities to improve or enhance habitats for these species within the broader catchment (as described in the BDAR, Appendix J of the EIS).</p>
<p>(e) to promote resilience to climate change and natural disasters through adaptation, mitigation, preparedness and prevention</p>	<p>A dam failure and consequence assessment has been completed in line with the requirements for Dams Safety NSW and has been factored into the design of the project. Further, the operational principles developed for the project include objectives that will avoid accentuating natural flood events. A Climate Change Risk Assessment (CCRA) has been completed as part of the EIS (Appendix X). The CCRA demonstrates the project is prepared and resilient to climate change and has identified further adaption and mitigation measures that could be implemented in future.</p>
<p>(f) to promote the sustainable management of built and cultural heritage, including Aboriginal cultural heritage</p>	<p>Assessments of Aboriginal cultural heritage and built heritage have been completed and provided with the EIS (Appendix L and M, respectively). The measures proposed for the sustainable management of heritage are included in Appendix E.</p> <p>The project has avoided areas of significant cultural value where possible, determined through consultation with registered Aboriginal parties (RAPs). Of the 21 discrete sites/places within the project area, the project would result in direct impacts to five sites/places and partial loss of two places of cultural value.</p> <p>An Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management Plan, a Cultural Values Mitigation Strategy, and a Heritage Interpretation Strategy and Plan are proposed to further inform management and mitigation of cultural values and places and to explore Aboriginal interpretive opportunities from the project. These would be developed with the project's RAPs.</p> <p>No historical items of significance are located within the footprint needed to build the pumped hydro infrastructure. However, the alternative Town camp would impact the archaeological values of State and local heritage listings associated with the former Lithgow Colliery and Pottery Estate. Further consultation and mitigation would be explored with Heritage NSW should this option become the preferred option.</p>

Objects of the Act (section 1.3 of the EP&A Act)	Project considerations
(g) to promote good design, amenity and the proper construction and maintenance of built environments, including the protection of the health and safety of the occupants of buildings	<p>Potential amenity impacts have been considered through the iterative design of the project, the construction methods and mitigation measures developed to minimise those impacts. This includes the use of blast doors at tunnel entrances to minimise blasting noise impacts, water suppression to minimise dust, and rehabilitation strategy to reduce long term visual impacts where possible. The upper reservoir is the most visually prominent infrastructure associated with the project, and this was re-located from the peak and south ridge of Mount Walker, to below the ridge within a gully. This re-location avoided significant visual impacts from residents in Lithgow. While the upper reservoir will still be visible from several residents, it is possible to reduce these impacts in consultation with the landowner. Mitigation measures have been provided in Appendix E of the EIS for noise, air quality and visual impacts.</p> <p>Site buildings and accommodation will be designed and built in accordance with the relevant Australian Standards, including consideration of RFS Planning for Bush Fire Protection. The health, safety and wellbeing of project workers will be managed by the project's environmental management system (EMS) and requirements of Dams Safety NSW.</p>
(h) to provide opportunities for participation in environmental planning and assessment	<p>Community engagement has been ongoing since 2021 when the project was initially announced to the community, as described in Chapter 5 of the EIS and Appendix D. There have been several opportunities for participation and feedback and community views have been incorporated into the preparation of the EIS and development of mitigation measures. This also includes through targeted community workshops to develop ideas for shared benefits the project could provide.</p> <p>The EIS will also be placed on public exhibition to allow stakeholders and the community to make a submission. This process allows further opportunity for participation in the environmental planning and assessment of the project.</p>
(i) to facilitate ecologically sustainable development by integrating relevant economic, environmental and social considerations in decision-making about environmental planning and assessment	<p>This EIS (refer to Chapter 20) has considered and addressed the principles of ecologically sustainable development (ESD) as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) the precautionary principle b) inter-generational equity c) conservation of biological diversity and ecological integrity d) improved valuation, pricing and incentive mechanisms.
(j) to promote a proportionate and risk-based approach to environmental planning and assessment	<p>As described in Chapter 3 of the EIS, a design integration and assessment approach has allowed for early identification and avoidance of environmental constraints and risks where possible. Mitigation measures have been identified and the residual risks of the project assessed. Chapter 19 of the EIS provides a description of the environmental risk assessment and management process followed in development of the EIS.</p>
(k) to promote the orderly and economic use and development of land	<p>The majority of land on which the project will be built and operate is owned by EnergyAustralia and is zoned SP2 Electricity Generating Works. Other land zones impacted include RU1 Primary Production and RU2 Rural Landscape. The use of the land by the project would promote and continue its intended purposes for energy generation. The development of ancillary infrastructure (temporary and/or permanent) on adjacent land provide opportunity for long term benefits, such as permanent road upgrades (to improve access) or the potential for legacy uses as part of shared benefits, such as re-purposing infrastructure or services established for the accommodation camp.</p> <p>The project would engage with Lithgow City Council as a key stakeholder throughout the development, construction and operation of the project, to provide ongoing opportunities for economic development and long-term benefits of the project to be realised.</p>

