

Statement of Reasons

Declaration of State Significant Infrastructure and Critical State Significant Infrastructure

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| Project name | |
| Application number | SSI-8441 |
| Applicant | WaterNSW |
| Minister making the order | The Hon Anthony Roberts, Minister for Planning and Homes |
| Declaration by order | State Significant Infrastructure and Critical State Significant Infrastructure |
| Date of declaration | 13 September 2022 |

Decision

The Minister for Planning and Public Spaces has declared Warragamba Dam Project (Project) as State significant infrastructure (SSI) and critical State significant infrastructure (CSSI) in accordance with s5.12 and s5.13 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*. To view the order visit: <https://legislation.nsw.gov.au/view/pdf/asmade/si-2022-617>

Reasons

The key reasons why the Project has been declared SSI and CSSI are:

- The Project is for a public purpose and is of significance to the State. The Project is an action of the Hawkesbury-Nepean Valley Flood Management Strategy 2017, prepared by Infrastructure NSW, and the intended outcome of reducing flood risk in the Valley is of strategic priority for the State.
- According to the recommendations of the Hawkesbury-Nepean Valley Flood Risk Management Strategy 2017, the Project would prevent economic damage resultant from flood risks in the Hawkesbury Nepean Valley by reducing annual flood damages by 75% on average.
- The Project is essential to the on-going social wellbeing of the State as it would achieve higher levels of public safety during flood events in the Hawkesbury Nepean Valley by increasing the likelihood of successful and safe evacuation of persons from flood affected areas.
- The Project would create approximately 1,350 construction jobs and associated flow-on social benefits to the region and to NSW.
- The Project is essential to the State for economic and social reasons. It is necessary for the orderly function of the State and the NSW public would significantly benefit from the Project for economic or social reasons, and that the circumstances of the Project are unique and the public benefit of the project is considered significant.

The considerations taken into account when making the Declaration are consistent with the principles outlined in the “*Guideline on the declaration of State Significant Infrastructure and Critical State Significant Infrastructure*”.