

Planning Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements

Section 5.16 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*

Application Number	SSI 9687
Project Name	The Snowy 2.0 Main Works Project, which includes the development of an underground pumped hydro power station and ancillary infrastructure.
Location	Lobs Hole, Ravine, Marica, Adaminaby, Rock Forest, Tantangara Reservoir and Talbingo Reservoir approximately 24 kilometres northwest of the town centre of Adaminaby primarily within the Kosciuszko National Park
Proponent	Snowy Hydro Ltd
Date of Issue	31 July 2019
General Requirements	<p>The Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the project must comply with the requirements in Schedule 2 of the <i>Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000</i> (EP&A Regulation).</p> <p>In particular, the EIS must include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a stand-alone executive summary; • a summary of the background to the project, including the alternatives that were considered to the project; • a full description of the project accompanied by suitable maps and plans, including the: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - disturbance area; - physical layout of the project over time, including sections of key components; - key uses and activities to be carried out on site; - likely timing of the project including any stages, the key phases within each stage (site preparation, construction, commissioning, operation, decommissioning and rehabilitation) and the sequencing of these stages and phases; • the relevant strategic context for the project having regard to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - State and Commonwealth legislation, policies and guidelines, including the <i>Kosciuszko National Park Plan of Management 2006</i> and current initiatives to improve energy security and reliability in the National Electricity Market; - key features of the environment that could affect or be affected by the project; - any other existing, approved or proposed projects that could result in cumulative impacts with the project; • the relevant statutory context for the project, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the assessment pathway for the project under the <i>Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979</i>; - the approvals required before the project may be carried out, including any approvals under the Commonwealth <i>Environment Protection & Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i>; - the likely interactions between these approvals (if granted) and any obligations or rights under the <i>Snowy Hydro Corporatisation Act 1997</i> and <i>National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974</i>; and - any relevant matters for consideration; • a description of the engagement that was carried out during the preparation of the EIS, the key issues raised during this engagement and the proposed engagement strategy for the project if it is approved;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an assessment of the likely economic, social and environmental impacts of the project having regard to the requirements in any relevant Government legislation, policies and guidelines (see below), including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the state of the existing environment; - community views; - the measures that would be implemented to avoid or minimise impacts, including a consolidated summary of the proposed mitigation measures for the project; - the predicted impacts of the project, including any cumulative impacts; - actions proposed to deal with any uncertainties associated with the assessment; • a detailed evaluation of the merits of the project as a whole. <p>In addition to the matters set out in Schedule 1 of the <i>EP&A Regulation</i>, the EIS must be accompanied by a signed report from a suitably qualified person that includes an accurate estimate of the capital investment value of the development (as defined in Clause 3 of the <i>EP&A Regulation</i>).</p>
Key Matters	<p>The level of assessment of key matters must be proportionate to the likely significance of the impacts on the matter.</p> <p>In particular, the EIS must include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - an assessment of the biodiversity impacts of the project on terrestrial, aquatic and groundwater-dependent ecosystems, including listed Commonwealth and State threatened species and communities and listed Commonwealth migratory species; - a strategy to offset the residual impacts of the project on these ecosystems, focussing on enhancing the biodiversity values of the Kosciuszko National Park in the medium to long term; • Heritage: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - an assessment of the cultural and heritage impacts of the project, including impacts on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ the listed heritage values of the Australian Alps National Parks and Reserves National Heritage Place; ○ the listed heritage values of the Snowy Mountains Scheme National Heritage Place; ○ the cultural values of the Kosciuszko National Park; ○ Aboriginal and historic heritage items; • Water: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a detailed site water balance for the project, including the water take from each surface and ground water source; - an assessment of the impacts of the project on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ the quantity and quality of the region's surface and ground water resources, including Yarrangobilly River, Wallaces Creek, and the Tantangara and Talbingo Reservoirs; ○ hydrological flows on site, including any potential flooding impacts; ○ key water features on site, including potential impacts on riparian land and the Tantangara and Talbingo Reservoirs; ○ water-related infrastructure, basic landholder rights and the entitlements of water users; - a description of the likely changes to the hydrological regime of the existing water storages of the Snowy Hydro Scheme up to the authorised full supply level, and any associated biodiversity impacts; - a strategy to manage the emplacement of spoil in the Tantangara and Talbingo Reservoirs and enhance any new landforms created; • Land: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - an assessment of impacts of the project on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ the soils and land capability of the site, including potential impacts associated with the use of hydrocarbons and chemicals, dealing with the

	<p>spoil generated by the project, disturbing land associated with previous mining activities and encountering any naturally occurring asbestos;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ the topography of the site, including the creation of any new landforms; ○ the geotechnical stability of the site; ○ the geodiversity values of the site, including potential impacts on Karst systems, fossil beds and boulder streams; <p>- a strategy to manage the progressive rehabilitation of the land disturbed by the project and enhance any new landforms created;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Transport: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - an assessment of the impacts of the project on the: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ capacity, condition, safety and efficiency of the local, national park and State road network, including a road safety audit of the proposed haulage route; ○ use of navigable waters in the Tantangara and Talbingo Reservoirs; ○ public access to recreational facilities in the Kosciuszko National Park; - a strategy to enable regular and emergency management activities to be carried out on site within the Kosciuszko National Park during the project; - a strategy to rationalise the road network within the Kosciuszko National Park following the construction of the project; ● Amenity: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - an assessment of the: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ construction, operational and road noise impacts of the project; ○ blasting impacts of the project; ○ visual impacts of the project, including lighting impacts and potential impacts on views of the project from key vantage points in the Kosciuszko National Park; ● Air: an assessment of the particulate matter and greenhouse gas emissions of the project; ● Hazards: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - an assessment of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ any potentially hazardous impacts of the project; ○ any public safety risks, including bushfire and flooding risks; ● Social: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - an assessment of the social impacts of the project on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ the locality, including Tumut, Talbingo, Adaminaby and Cooma; ○ the demand for infrastructure and services in the Snowy Valleys and Snow Monaro local government areas; ○ users of the Kosciuszko National Park, including recreational fishing, bushwalking, camping and boating; - a strategy to offset the impacts of the project on users of the Kosciuszko National Park; and ● Economic: an assessment of the economic impacts of the project on the locality and NSW.
Legislation, Policies & Guidelines	<p>A list of some of the legislation, policies and guidelines that may be relevant to the assessment of the project can be found at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● https://www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects/assessments/policies-and-guidelines; and ● http://www.environment.gov.au/epbc/publications#assessments
Consultation	<p>During the preparation of the EIS, you should consult with the relevant local, State or Commonwealth Government authorities, service providers, community groups and affected landowners.</p>
Revised Requirements	<p>If you do not lodge the EIS for the project within 2 years of the date of these requirements, you must seek revised requirements for the EIS for the project.</p>