

Thursday, 24 April 2025

SSI-9717

Anthony Ko
Team Leader
Energy Assessments
Department of Planning, Housing and
Infrastructure

(submitted via Major Projects Portal)

Dear Anthony,

Snowy 2.0 Transmission Connection (SSI-9717): Notification for Commencement of Construction – Stage 2

Background

On 2 September 2022 the Minister for the Department of Environment and Planning granted the Proponent, Transgrid, infrastructure approval under State Significant Infrastructure (SSI) approval SSI-9717 for the Snowy 2.0 Transmission Connection Project (the Development), which has the primary purpose of connecting the Snowy 2.0 Hydro Project to the National Energy Market. Key infrastructure associated with the Project includes:

- A new 330 kV / 500 kV substation in Bago State Forest; and
- Two 9 km 330 kV transmission lines from Snowy 2.0 power station and the new substation.

Project Staging

Staging Approval for the Development was issued by the Department on 18 November 2022 for the delivery of the following activities (refer **Attachment A**):

- Stage 1 – All activities associated with the construction and operation of infrastructure related to the 330 kV grid connection, including:
 - All civil works associated with the new substation in Bago State Forest and the construction/installation of infrastructure associated with the 330 kV component of the substation.
 - Two new 9 km long 330 kV double-circuit overhead transmission lines from the Snowy 2.0 cable yard in Lobs Hole, National Park to a new substation.
 - 330 kV grid connection between the new substation and Transgrid's existing Line 64.
 - Upgrade and widening of an existing access road off Elliott Way to the substation.
 - Ancillary construction activities, including the establishment of tensioning and pulling sites for conductor and earth wire stringing, crane pads, site compounds and equipment laydown areas, water extraction and the transport and haulage of equipment and waste to and from the project area.
- Stage 2 – All activities associated with the construction and operation of infrastructure related to the 500 kV component of the substation, including:

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- The delivery of oversize/overmass (OSOM) components, construction/installation of infrastructure associated with the 500 kV component of the new substation in Bago State Forest (i.e. transformers, reactors, switchbays).
- The upgrade of roads and bridges to facilitate the transport of OSOM 500 kV componentry to the substation.

Current Situation

In accordance with the requirements noted by the Department in the Staging Approval, post-approval documentation (management plans) listed in Table 1 have been updated to address all activities associated with the construction and operation of infrastructure related to Stage 2 activities for the Development (500 kV component of the substation).

Table 1: Post-approval documentation amended to address Stage 2 activities

Condition	Report/Notification	NSW Planning Secretary Approval
B3	Out of Hours Work Protocol – addressed in Noise and Vibration Management Plan	Approved 11/02/2025
B8	Spoil Management Plan – addressed in Soil and Water Management Plan	Approved 11/02/2025
B16	Water Management Plan – addressed in Soil and Water Management Plan	Approved 11/02/2025
B21	Biodiversity Management Plan	Approved 14/02/2025
B24	Heritage Management Plan	Approved 07/02/2025
B32	Traffic and Transport Management Plan	Conditional Approval 04/04/2025 ¹
C1	Environmental Management Strategy	Approved 11/02/2025

¹ Conditional Approval requires further amendments to be applied to Traffic and Transport Management Plan and Transport Strategy (SSI-9717 Condition B27) in consultation with the relevant road authority/manager within six-months to address OSOM deliveries and associated upgrade of roads and bridges including update of B27 Transport Strategy.

Notification

Transgrid is writing to notify the Department of its intention to commence construction activities associated with Stage 2 of the Development, **excluding** OSOM deliveries associated with 500kV componentry of the substation and associated upgrades of roads and bridges, on 28 April 2025, pursuant to Condition C4 of State Significant Infrastructure (SSI) approval SSI-9717, being:

C4. Prior to commencing development, construction, operations, upgrading or decommissioning of the development, the Proponent must notify the Department in writing via the Major Projects website portal and NPWS and FCNSW of the date of commencing the relevant phase.

If any of these phases of the development are to be staged, then the Proponent must notify the Department in writing prior to commencing the relevant stage, and clearly identify the development that would be carried out during the relevant stage.

Please do not hesitate to contact Senior Environmental Advisor Jason Snape via email at jason.snape@transgrid.com.au or by phone on 0472 756 143 should you require any further information or wish to discuss.

Yours faithfully



Jason Snape

Cc

Stewart Ward – Australian Government Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water

Kelsey Boreham – NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service

Garth Nagle – Forestry Corporation of NSW

Attachment A

Oliver King
Project Director
The Trustee for the NSW Electrical Networks Operations
180 Thomas Street
Haymarket, NSW, 2000

18/11/2022

Subject: Staging Approval for Snowy 2.0 - Transmission Connection

Dear Mr. King

I refer to the Staging Approval Request Letter submitted in accordance with Schedule 2 Condition C3 of the Infrastructure Approval for the Snowy 2.0 - Transmission Connection (SSI-9717).

I note it is proposed that the delivery of the relevant plans and strategies be delivered in two stages and address the following activities:

- Stage 1 – All activities associated with the construction and operation of infrastructure related to the 330 kV grid connection, including:
 - All civil works associated with the new substation in Bago State Forest and the construction/installation of infrastructure associated with the 330 kV component of the substation.
 - Two new 9 km long 330 kV double-circuit overhead transmission lines from the Snowy 2.0 cable yard in Lobs Hole, National Park to a new substation.
 - 330 kV grid connection between the new substation and Transgrid's existing Line 64.
 - Upgrade and widening of an existing access road off Elliott Way to the substation.
 - Ancillary construction activities, including the establishment of tensioning and pulling sites for conductor and earth wire stringing, crane pads, site compounds and equipment laydown areas, water extraction and the transport and haulage of equipment and waste to and from the project area.
- Stage 2 – All activities associated with the construction and operation of infrastructure related to the 500 kV component of the substation, including:
 - The delivery of oversize/overmass (OSOM) components, construction/installation of infrastructure associated with the 500 kV component of the new substation in Bago State Forest (i.e. transformers, reactors, switchbays).

- The upgrade of roads and bridges to facilitate the transport of OSOM 500 kV componentry to the substation.

The Department has carefully reviewed the letter and is satisfied that it meets the requirements of the relevant conditions.

Accordingly, as nominee of the Planning Secretary, I approve the staged delivery of management plans.

However, the Department notes that the expectation is that the relevant management plan is updated to include the new stage as they are required rather than provision of separate management plans for each stage.

Please ensure you make this document publicly available on the project website at the earliest convenience.

If you wish to discuss the matter further, please contact Wayne Jones on (02) 6575 3406.

Yours sincerely



Nicole Brewer
Director
Energy Assessments
As nominee of the Planning Secretary