

17.09.2025

EC Energco Hunter Transmission Project

Submission in Opposition to the route of HTP project

Judy Tynan
135 Mt Baker Rd
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To Whom It May Concern

My name is Judy Tynan and I am the owner of the property directly impacted by your proposed HTP route.

My house is situated on Mt Baker Rd Millfield, a key access road for oversize and overmass vehicles during construction from 2027-2029.

My objections can be summarised under the following headings.

FRUSTRATING COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT/LACK OF DETAIL

The community engagement stage of the HTP process has failed to provide any answers to many basic questions all access road effected property owners might ask.

Details around the proposed works:

- Road surface. Like for like? 100% gravel? 100% paved?
- Road widening. How wide? And do we have any input on which 'side' of the road might be widened?
- Volume of traffic expected during construction phase. How much?
- Replanting of trees/rehabilitation of surrounds once HTP has completed construction. Yes/No?
- Road maintenance once HTP has left Mt Baker Rd? Who's responsibility?

Having attended local meetings, emailed various personnel, called the helpline, hosted a meeting with neighbours in my street and your representatives and the questions I have asked from day one (see above) have yet to be answered. It's not good enough. Deadline for submissions is next week and I have yet to fully know the impact this project will have on my property and lifestyle. Based on insufficient information I can only speak broadly regarding impact on my street and property.

I DO know there will be an unavoidable increase in dust, traffic and noise, across 6 days per week (after assurances of traffic movement from Monday to Friday only) which will combine with tree clearing, loss of vegetation for wildlife and birds, resulting in an increase in fire hazard, and very likely crime, as more people come to know this very secluded part of the Hunter.

LOCATION OF ACCESS ROAD

Mt Baker rd is a single lane road- a mix of gravel and bitumen -winding with an 18% gradient up a hill, heavily forested with native eucalypts and mature grass trees on both sides.

During discussions, every resident of Mt Baker Rd suggested the same alternative easier access point to arrive at the designated location for the pylon construction.

Mitchell Rd, off Mt View Rd, but wider, flatter and requiring less deforestation should have been considered.

Your representatives sought the input of residents' long local knowledge spanning decades but to date there has been no answer to the neighbourhood proposal to consider this road in lieu of Mt Baker.

My understanding, Mitchell Rd has not been considered, reasons unknown.

DESTRUCTION OF HABITAT

The EIS summary paints a frightening picture of the loss of habitat to critically endangered flora and fauna. See extract below of the EIS summary:

38 threatened flora species, comprising:

æ 22 species listed under the both the NSW Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 and Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999

æ 14 species listed under the NSW Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 only

æ 2 species listed under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 only

æ Of these 38 threatened flora species, 8 are potential serious and irreversible impact entities

• 28 threatened fauna species, comprising:

æ 15 species listed under the both the NSW Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 and Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999

æ 13 species listed under the Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 only

æ Of these 28 threatened fauna species, 6 are potential serious and irreversible impact entities

If 6 endangered species of fauna are facing irreversible impact from your logging and land clearing, I believe it's safe to assume these species will be wiped out in this area. Irreversible changes to biodiversity, irreversible changes and a knock on effect across the native food chain. In the destruction of their habitat you assist in creating space for a multitude of introduced feral species already in evidence locally : foxes, wild dogs, rabbits and deer. I wonder what part of 'critically endangered' needs to be explained before government seriously investigates alternative routes.

Personally, we have recorded the following known endangered species on our 6 hectare bush block

- Regent Honeyeater bird
- Koalas
- Spotted Quolls

In addition to the usual kangaroos, wombats and wallabies.

HTP ALTERNATIVE ROUTE.

Serious consideration should be give to the Neath power line easement under 10kms away from the proposed route. Already in existence and ending in Singleton I fail to understand how this has been overlooked by HTP and government.

I should imagine on every level of consideration, flora/fauna biodiversity, disruption to community, financials the Neath option makes sense.

I request more community consultation and a very real discussion around alternative and existing routes towards Singleton.

I request more information be released prior to submissions for/against this project.

Regards

Judy Tynan
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