

SNOWY 2.0 DOESN'T STACK UP

Environmental impacts; Snowy 2.0 should not even be contemplated in the first place, due to its permanent environmental damage to Kosciuszko National Park on a massive scale:

the project covers one-third of Kosciuszko National Park (twice the area of Greater Sydney)

100 square kilometres of the Park permanently damaged (equivalent to the area of 25 Lane Cove National Parks)○

1,000 ha of habitat for 14 threatened species permanently wiped out

14,000,000 cubic metres of excavated rock dumped in the Park (enough to cover a football field to a height of 3 km):▪some has naturally occurring asbestos, and some is acidic, unbelievably, 8,000,000 cubic metres dumped in Talbingo and Tantangara Reservoirs, decreasing their storage capacities; 6,000,000 cubic metres dumped on land (some for roadworks)

2 side-by-side high voltage transmission lines traversing 10 km of the Park, with a 120-metre easement swathe and associated access tracks

an accommodation camp (1,650 workers), rock dump and works areas at Lob's Hole, clearing and 're-forming' 400 ha along 8km of the Yarrangobilly River, other accommodation camps and works area at Marica (100), Tantangara (500) and Talbingo.

building, widening and upgrading 100 kms of roads and tracks, some through sensitive environmental areas: constructing a major two-lane sealed road down the precipitous mountain side to Lob's Hole, requiring extensive cutting and land-reforming

depressing the water table above the 27 km tunnel by over 50 m in some sections, drying up streams and bogs, and reducing inflows to Snowy dams and downstream rivers; spreading weeds and pests (land and aquatic), transporting pest fish, including Redfin Perch (a Class 1 Noxious Fish), Eastern Gambusia and Wild Goldfish (and fish diseases), from Talbingo up to Tantangara Reservoir (pest-free) and the Murrumbidgee catchment, and thence throughout the Snowy Scheme and downstream rivers

fluctuations in the water level of Tantangara Reservoir of up to 5 metres a day, resulting in shoreline movements of hundreds of metres, dramatically affecting the aquatic ecology and public amenity: when empty Tantangara will be a small puddle surrounded by an extensive mud/dirt shoreline over 2,000 ha, the reservoir will become nothing more than a holding tank and an eyesore .

power and communication cables throughout the project .

visual blight on the pristine Park landscape from vantage points over hundreds of square kilometres.

Snowy 2.0 will be a net consumer of electricity, with 'round-trip' losses of 30%, plus another 10% for transmission• For the next decade or so most pumping electricity will come from coal-fired power stations, not renewables• If Snowy 2.0 ever generated its claimed 350 GWh of energy, it would take 500 GWh of pumping energy to re-charge, incurring 150 GWh of losses. Uneconomic ever-increasing cost estimates, now approaching \$10 billion (5 times the original \$2 billion)•Snowy 2.0 couldn't possibly generate sufficient returns to pay its interest cost, let alone make a profit.

It's beyond belief that an all destructing project like this could be ever considered by a responsible government.

Signed Arie Romijn

