

What's ahead for pumped hydro feasibility?

Assessing Tasmania's pumped hydro potential

Three potential pumped hydro sites have emerged as the most promising from studies we've done over the past 20 months. Lake Cethana, Lake Rowallan and Tribute pumped hydro opportunities are moving to the next stage of assessment.

Hydro Tasmania is progressing its feasibility study, gathering detailed information that lets us select the first site to progress to building.

Selecting a suitable pumped hydro site for future development is a complex process! There are many different factors that we need to look at and we need to determine how to prioritise all of this information.

We use a process called "multi-criteria analysis". This uses a number of technical, environmental and social criteria to assess sites.

The criteria used are:

- Environment:
 - Avoiding high conservation and world heritage reserved areas
 - Environmental impacts
 - Water impacts
- Social and cultural
- Technical:
 - Engineering risks and costs
 - Constructability (a range of engineering criteria)
 - Access
- Topography
- Geology
- Transmission

The diagram on Page 2 provides more detail about the types of questions we look at in each area.

We collect the best available information from each site and assess it against these criteria using both quantitative and qualitative methods to identify the best sites. Feedback was gathered from the community during our pre-feasibility study and that has helped shape the site selection and design process.

In the feasibility stage, more detailed, field based information will be collected to confirm assumptions, assess the suitability of the sites for development and to narrow down a preferred project design and layout.

The goal is to achieve an outcome that balances social, environmental, technical and cost.

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Contact us

We welcome feedback! You can reach us on 1300 360 441 or pumpedhydro@hydro.com.au

The latest information is available at www.hydro.com.au/clean-energy/battery-of-the-nation.

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