Tarraleah redevelopment

Environmental Impact Statement Fact Sheet

Construction overview

Hydro Tasmania

We are proposing to redevelop the Tarraleah hydropower scheme. The Project includes major underground and above-ground construction works. This fact sheet explains what construction would involve and how potential impacts would be managed.

At a glance

- More workers, vehicles and activity during construction
- Some work outside normal daytime hours
- Most works occur in remote areas
- Construction impacts are short term
- Minimal activity once operating

Why this matters to the community

Construction would increase activity in and around Tarraleah, including more workers, vehicles and machinery. These changes may affect how people travel, use the area and experience their surroundings during construction. We assessed these potential changes as part of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

Project works

What would be built

Permanent infrastructure would be built to generate and transmit power, and temporary infrastructure to support construction.

Permanent Project components

Energy generation

- Water pipelines and underground tunnels
- Surge tower and underground surge shaft
- Power station
- Pumping station

Transmission

- Grid connection equipment
- High-voltage power line
- Local power supply line

Access and spoil

- Access tunnels and roads
- Rock and soil stockpile areas

Temporary construction components

- Workforce accommodation facility located within the Tarraleah Village area
- Construction compounds at Tarraleah Village, tunnel portals and the new power station
- Secure explosive storage off Butlers Gorge Road
- Temporary bridge over the Nive River

All temporary infrastructure would be removed after construction, and areas rehabilitated.

How construction would be carried out

Construction methods

Underground works would be completed by using either drill-and-blast techniques or a tunnel boring machine. This will be decided during the procurement stage. Above-ground works would use standard excavation and earth-moving equipment.

Construction hours

Above-ground works:

- 7 am to 6 pm Monday to Friday
- 8 am to 1 pm Saturday

Underground works and essential support services:

- 24 hours a day, 7 days a week

At times, work may occur outside standard hours, including weekends and public holidays.

What was studied and what was found

We've heard from the community that traffic, noise and air quality impacts during construction are of interest. The EIS found that:

- most construction would occur in remote areas
- traffic would increase, but key intersections are not expected to be significantly impacted
- dust and air emissions are expected to be low
- apart from short-term helicopter use, construction noise is not predicted to affect sensitive locations not owned by Hydro Tasmania
- noise and vibration during operation are expected to be minimal.

How impacts would be managed

Construction impacts would be managed through approved management plans, including:

- a Construction Traffic Management Plan
- an Air Quality Management Plan
- controls on above-ground working hours
- removal of temporary infrastructure and site rehabilitation.

The EIS assessed potential construction impacts across many areas so please refer to our other EIS fact sheets and documents for more detail on what we found and proposed mitigations.

Construction activity at a glance

Construction timeframe: about **6 years**

Peak workforce: **250–330** people

Above-ground works: daytime hours, 5½ days per week

Underground works: **24** hours a day, 7 days a week

About the Environmental Impact Statement

We have prepared a range of documents to provide information at different levels of detail, so you can choose what best suits your interests and needs.

Separate, topic specific fact sheets are available for key aspects of the EIS. They explain what was studied, what was found, and how potential impacts would be managed, in plain English. The fact sheets don't cover all aspects of the proposal or all potential impacts assessed as part of the EIS.

A Summary EIS is available and provides an overview of all topics assessed as part of the EIS. The Full EIS contains detailed technical studies, data and assessments considered as part of the environmental assessment process.

Have your say

The EIS is on public exhibition, and submissions are welcomed from anyone in the community. All feedback received will form part of the EPA's assessment of the project.

Scan the QR code to visit our website:

- View the Summary EIS and full EIS
- View our Fact Sheets on a range of EIS topics
- Find out how to make a submission.

Questions or concerns?

You are welcome to contact us by phone or email if you would like more information or have a question about the project.

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