

30 October 2024

NSW Department of Planning, Infrastructure & Housing  
Director Resource Assessments  
Attention: Steve O'Donoghue

Dear Steve,

**SSI 12590060 – Hunter Power Project: Snowy Hydro's Response to the September 2024 Independent Environmental Audit Findings**

Ken Holmes of Barnett & May was engaged by Snowy Hydro to conduct the September 2024 Independent Audit of the Hunter Power Project as required by Conditions C15 to C19.

The audit, undertaken in accordance with the Department's Independent Audit Post Approval Guidelines (May 2020), covered the period from 18 March 2024 to 3 September 2024 and did not identify any non-compliances. The Independent Environmental Audit Report dated 30 October 2024 is attached. The table below provides Snowy Hydro's response to the recommendation contained in the Independent Environmental Audit Report.

With reference to Condition C5, no revisions to the suite of approved Management Plans will be required as a result of this Independent Environmental Audit.

Yours sincerely,

DocuSigned by:  
*Daryl Young*  
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Daryl Young  
Project Director  
Hunter Power Project

Condition Number	Compliance Requirement	IEA Finding	IEA Recommendation	Proposed Action	Proposed Action Due Date
S3 B36	The Proponent must ensure that all surface water discharges from the site comply with all relevant provisions of the POEO Act, including any discharge limits (both volume and quality) set for the development in any EPL.	<p>At the time of the audit inspection the works on Basin 1 that resulted in a decrease in capacity of that basin were complete (Photograph 5). That basin was almost empty (water level) although sediment was observed in the basin. It is noted that a sediment depth indicator was not installed in the basin.</p> <p>The works on Basin 2 were nearing completion. The basin contained a significant quantity of sediment and likewise it is noted that sediment depth indicator was not installed in that basin.</p>	It is recommended that sediment depth indicators be installed in both basins and that inspections of each basin are undertaken following each major rainfall event to ensure that the available volume of both basins are maintained.	<p>A sediment depth indicator was installed in Basin 1 on 24 October 2024.</p> <p>Basin 2 is not under the operational control of Snowy Hydro. The recommendation to install a sediment depth indicator has been passed on to the entity with operational control of this Basin.</p> <p>Weekly and post rainfall inspections of the surface water management infrastructure, including Basins 1 and 2 will continue.</p>	<p>Complete</p> <p>Complete</p> <p>Ongoing</p>