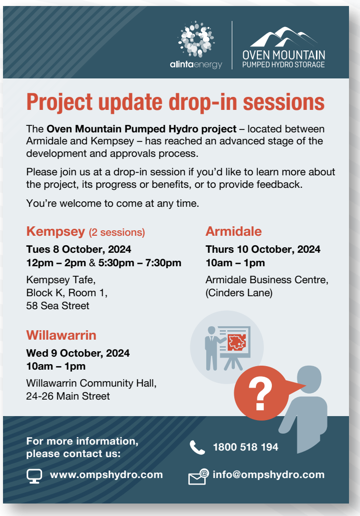
PROJECT NEWSLETTER

December 2024

Response to Submissions and Amendment Report community updates

We appreciate the submissions made by those interested in the project and we wanted to provide an opportunity for the local communities of Kempsey, Bellbrook, Willawarrin, Armidale and surrounds to meet with us to hear how we responded to the submissions and the amendments made.

In early October, our project team held a series of drop-in style sessions to provide updates to the community. Sessions were held in Kempsey, Willawarrin and Armidale, with representation from Save our Macleay River, newly elected Councillors, representatives from the Dunghutti community, the Thunggutti Local Aboriginal Land Council, Industry Capability Network, local media and members of the public.



OVEN MOUNTAIN
PUMPED HYDRO STORAGE

Project update drop-in sessions

The **Oven Mountain Pumped Hydro project** – located between Armidale and Kempsey – has reached an advanced stage of the development and approvals process.

Please join us at a drop-in session if you'd like to learn more about the project, its progress or benefits, or to provide feedback.

You're welcome to come at any time.

Kempsey (2 sessions)
Tues 8 October, 2024
12pm – 2pm & **5:30pm – 7:30pm**
Kempsey Tafe,
Block K, Room 1,
58 Sea Street

Armidale
Thurs 10 October, 2024
10am – 1pm
Armidale Business Centre,
(Cinders Lane)

Willawarrin
Wed 9 October, 2024
10am – 1pm
Willawarrin Community Hall,
24-26 Main Street

For more information, please contact us:
1800 518 194
www.ompshydro.com
info@ompshydro.com

Participants raised and discussed the following themes, separate from the proposed amendments:

- understanding the project timelines
- opportunities for employment and to supply goods and services to the project
- road and traffic management
- cultural heritage protection
- water management
- questions about pumped hydro technology
- the upgrade of the transmission line known as Line 965
- leaching and leachate management
- community benefit sharing
- how the project proposes to manage the risks of bushfire, and
- ways to improve our communication and ways to share information more broadly.

A summary report detailing the key takeaways from our latest drop-in sessions is available via **ompshydro.com/news**.

We will continue addressing community and interest group concerns from project planning through to operations. Thanks to all who have provided feedback to us on the project to date.

In the meantime, if you have any questions or feedback, please reach us toll-free on 1800 518 194 or email us at **info@ompshydro.com**.

To access the full reports, scan the QR code or visit **planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects/projects/oven-mountain-pumped-hydro-energy-storage** and refer to Response to Submissions and Amendments.

Early contractor involvement agreement signed for project

Oven Mountain Pumped Hydro appoints Gamuda Ferrovial to progress design and procurement

Alinta Energy is pleased to announce the selection of Gamuda and Ferrovial Construction as the Early Contractor Involvement (ECI) partners for the Oven Mountain Pumped Hydro project.

Working alongside Alinta Energy, Gamuda and Ferrovial will progress the project's design and undertake initial procurement discussions to better understand contractor capabilities and resources at every level - from national to local.

As the project has yet to receive its final approvals or reach a final investment decision, these discussions will be preliminary in nature and not a guarantee of future work with the project.

Alinta Energy's Project Director Anthony Wiseman said this project phase is about working through the project costs and constructability.

"It's the most advanced pumped hydro project in NSW - and one that we think is critical for the energy transition."

"In this phase, we're ensuring that we can get the parts, we can get the materials, we can get the labour, and at the right cost, so that construction can commence once we receive our remaining approvals and make a final investment decision.

"It's exciting, but we still have a lot of work to do to make this project a reality," he said.

For further information, please contact: **info@ompshydro.com**.

About Gamuda and Ferrovial

For more information on **Gamuda's** operations, visit **gamuda.com.au** or **gamuda.com.my**

For more information on **Ferrovial Construction**, visit **www.ferrovial.com/en-au/construction**

Gamuda

Since establishing itself in Australia in 2019 as a fully owned local subsidiary of international engineering, property and infrastructure company Gamuda Berhad, Gamuda has secured three major Australian road and rail projects with a combined value of $4.5 billion. The company is now focused on the energy sector, leveraging its local team, relationships and track record with its energy and water infrastructure experience across several projects globally.

Ferrovial

Ferrovial is a global infrastructure leader designing, building and operating energy generation, transmission and transport infrastructure assets for over 72 years. Ferrovial has been successfully tendering and delivering more than $6 billion major projects in Australia since 2011, including partnering with Gamuda for the current delivery of the regionally significant Coffs Harbour Bypass project.

Above and left: Artist's impressions of the proposed works.

Renewable energy industry careers

TAFE NSW launches new Microskill course

Alinta Energy is one of eight collaborators proud to work with TAFE NSW to develop this new Microskill.

'Prepare to work in the renewable energy sector,' is an introductory Microskill that aims to increase interest in careers in the renewable energy sector, especially relevant for people living in regional areas.

Microskills are short, self-directed online courses aimed at developing a specific skill. By completing this course, learners become aware of the long-term opportunities and benefits to start or transition their career to the renewable energy sector.

"We were thrilled to have an opportunity to help contribute to the pumped hydroelectric power section of the TAFE NSW course," said Project Director, Anthony Wiseman.

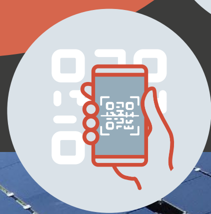
"We've provided as much input as possible to help shape a high-level overview with interesting facts, visuals and digital media to help engage learners and generate interest including the types of roles and career opportunities available in our sector," he said.

The Microskill is designed for school students, recent school graduates, people located in or near the Renewable Energy Zones, as well as workers looking to change careers and leverage their existing skills. It will be a great launchpad for tradespeople, final-year apprentices, school leavers and those looking to switch careers.

We're also excited that this course will be beneficial to people living close to the Oven Mountain Pumped Hydro Project and interested in learning more about kick-starting a career in renewable energy.

Learn more:

Scan the QR code or visit:
store.training.tafensw.edu.au/product/prepare-to-work-in-the-renewable-energy-industry



Recent project activity update

Geological mapping investigation exercise

In the last week of October, the project completed a non-intrusive geological mapping exercise along the proposed internal access tracks. The team aimed to identify and detail ground surface features, such as rocky outcrops, that are relevant to the next stage of design of the access tracks.

This investigation will facilitate a more detailed design and cost estimation to be completed. One of the goals of the exercise was to map the route of the upper dam access road, which leads up the incredibly steep escarpment above Fingerboard Creek. The primary goal, however, was for everyone to return home safely, and both the study team and project site officers successfully achieved both goals. It definitely can't be said they did this without breaking a sweat!

Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Timeline

WE ARE HERE (Nov 2023 - Q2 2024)

Sept 2020	Jan 2021-ongoing	Aug 2023	Q3 2023	Nov 2023 - Q2 2024	TBC	Target mid 2025	Target 2030
CRITICAL STATE SIGNIFICANT INFRASTRUCTURE DESIGNATION	Scoping Report and SEARS submissions. Site investigations	EIS submission to Department of Planning and Environment (DPE)	Formal exhibition of the EIS	EIS response to submissions	**MINISTERIAL DETERMINATION**	**CONSTRUCTION COMMENCEMENT**	**COMMERCIAL OPERATIONS**

To find out more about the **Oven Mountain Pumped Hydro Project**, or to sign up for our mailing list visit: **www.ompshydro.com**

You can also contact the team at: **info@ompshydro.com** or on **1800 518 194**.

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