

**snowyhydro****Hunter  
Power Project**

20 April 2026

Joel Fleming  
Senior Compliance Officer  
Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure  
Via Major Projects Portal

Dear Joel,

**SSI 12590060 – Hunter Power Project: Snowy Hydro's Response to the February 2026 Independent Environmental Audit Findings**

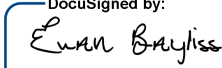
Ken Holmes of Barnett & May was engaged by Snowy Hydro to conduct the February 2026 Independent Audit of the Hunter Power Project as required by Conditions C15 to C19.

The audit, undertaken in accordance with the Department's Independent Audit Post Approval Guidelines (May 2020), covered the period from 8 September 2025 to 23 February 2026 and identified 3 non-compliances. The Independent Environmental Audit Report dated 4 April 2026 is attached. The table below provides Snowy Hydro's response to the non-compliance contained in the Independent Environmental Audit Report along with updates on the outstanding recommendations from the March and September 2025 IEAs.

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.

Should you require anything further on this matter, please do not hesitate to contact Angela van der Kroft on [angela.vanderkroft@snowyhydro.com.au](mailto:angela.vanderkroft@snowyhydro.com.au) or 0488 785 137.

Kind regards,

DocuSigned by:  
  
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**Evan Bayliss**  
**Employer's Representative - Hunter Power Project**  
**Snowy Hydro Limited**

Condition Number	Compliance Requirement	IEA Finding	IEA Recommendation	Proposed Action	Proposed Action Due Date
<b>February 2026 - Non-compliances</b>					
B6	The final design, installation and operation of the power station must not preclude the ability for air pollution emissions controls to be retrofitted.	No information was available to the Auditor to verify compliance with this condition.	Obtain written confirmation from the design team to confirm that the final design of the plant does not prevent the retrofiting of air quality emission controls on the two units.	As recommended	August 2026
B10	For each monitoring/discharge point specified by Table 3 below (or alternative points as permitted by the applicable EPL) the concentration of a pollutant discharged at that point, must not exceed the concentration limits specified for that pollutant in the table (or alternative limits as permitted by the applicable EPL).	Two air quality non-compliances (limit exceedances) were recorded during this audit period. Those non-compliances were reported to DPHI and were investigated.	Review the commissioning plan for Unit 2 and ensure that the conditions that caused the two non-compliances during the commissioning of Unit 1 are not duplicated.	Exemption has been applied for to increase air emissions limits contained in EPL 21627 for the duration of remaining commissioning activities.	Completion of commissioning
EPBC 1	To ensure there is no adverse impact on the environment as a result of the action, the approval holder must comply with conditions A8-A12 of Part A, B1-B11, B19-B20, B35-40, B41-B43, B46 of Part B, C1-C4 of Part C of the State development consent (to the extent the conditions in Part C relate to environment).	Refer to Conditions B10 of the Planning Approval.  Non-compliances against the air quality conditions of the planning approval were identified during this audit period.	Refer to recommendations provided under Condition B10.	As above.	As above
<b>September 2025 - Recommendations for Improvement</b>					
C1	The Proponent must prepare and implement an Environmental Management Strategy for the project to the satisfaction of the Secretary.	While the communications section of the CEMS was complied with, the Auditor recommends that the project ensure that the broader community is notified of any future commissioning or operational activities that have the potential to impact those communities.	Ensure that the broader community is notified of any future commissioning or operational activities that have the potential to impact those communities	Notify the broader community of future commissioning activities.	Ongoing

Condition Number	Compliance Requirement	IEA Finding	IEA Recommendation	Proposed Action	Proposed Action Due Date
March 2025 - Recommendations for Improvement					
N/A	N/A	N/A	Review and retire any construction related environmental management plans and communicate this to DPPI prior to the commencement of operations. Remove retired plans from the Project website.	As a part of the transition from the construction/commissioning phase of the Project to the operational phase, all environmental management plans will be retired or updated as required and the website updated accordingly.	During transition from construction/commissioning to operations.
N/A	N/A	N/A	Review the Project's Environmental Protection Licence (EPL 21627) and seek to vary the licence to remove any construction related conditions.	As a part of the transition from the construction/commissioning phase of the project to the operational phase, the Project's EPL will be reviewed and a variation sought to remove construction related conditions.	During transition from construction/commissioning to operations.
N/A	N/A	N/A	Review and update the Project Pollution Incident Response Management Plan to account for operational project risks.	As a part of the transition from the construction/commissioning phase of the Project to the operational phase, all environmental management plans will be retired or updated as required and the website updated accordingly.	During transition from construction/commissioning to operations.
N/A	N/A	N/A	Induct any new personnel or organisations into the action plan, to ensure they are aware of their operational compliance obligations.	This has been occurring since July 2024 as a part of the Operational Readiness process.	Ongoing