

SSI and CSSI - Assessment Pathway

A proposed development may be declared to be State significant infrastructure (SSI) by a State environmental planning policy (SEPP) or by an order of the Minister that amends a SEPP for that purpose

The Minister may also declare development that is SSI to be critical State significant infrastructure (CSSI) if it is considered essential to the State for economic, environmental or social reasons

If development is declared to be SSI or CSSI, the proponent may lodge an application with the Department. The application is usually accompanied by a preliminary environmental assessment of the project

The Secretary then prepares and notifies the proponent of environmental assessment requirements and places them on the Department's website

The proponent prepares an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) which addresses the Secretary's environmental assessment requirements

The proponent lodges the EIS with the Department

The Department publicly exhibits the EIS and seeks submissions from council, agencies and the community

The Department forwards submissions to the proponent and requests a response from the proponent and a Preferred Infrastructure Report (if changes to the project are required)

The proponent lodges its response to submissions (and a Preferred Infrastructure Report if required)

The Department finalises its assessment and any conditions of approval in accordance with applicable NSW Government policies and guidelines, and in consultation with council and agencies

The Minister makes a determination to approve or disapprove the carrying out of the SSI or CSSI
Any approval would be subject to a range of conditions to avoid, minimise and manage the potential impacts of the project

The Department then issues a notice of determination