

NSW Government Airborne Surveys – Cobar-Yathong Area and Seismic Survey, Cobar.

The NSW Government is organising this survey. This work is a collaboration between the Geological Survey (GSNSW) and Geoscience Australia (GA), a Commonwealth agency who will coordinate an [airborne electromagnetic \(AEM\) survey](#) to measure the natural electrical properties of rocks and soil to a depth of about 400 m. These properties vary depending on the type of rocks and soil, as well as the water content and salinity. This survey will take approximately 2 weeks.

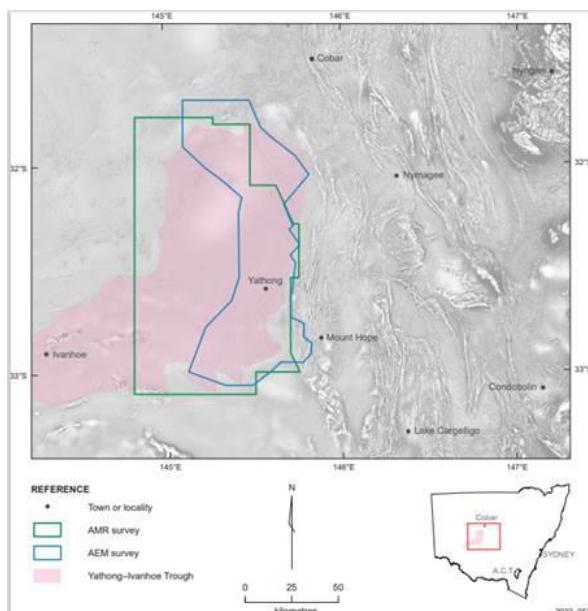
An [airborne magnetic and radiometric \(AMR\) survey](#) will begin at the same time and will be completed over 3 months. It will detect the Earth's magnetic field, (which is influenced by magnetic minerals in the ground), and natural radiation coming from the ground.

For each survey, an aircraft will fly at a height of 60 to 120 m above the ground, along east–west lines, over the greater Cobar–Yathong area. For the AEM survey the lines will be spaced up to 2.5 km apart. For the AMR survey the lines will be spaced 200m apart.

The information collected will improve our knowledge of the geology and groundwater resources of the area, which will inform government, mineral explorers and farmers.

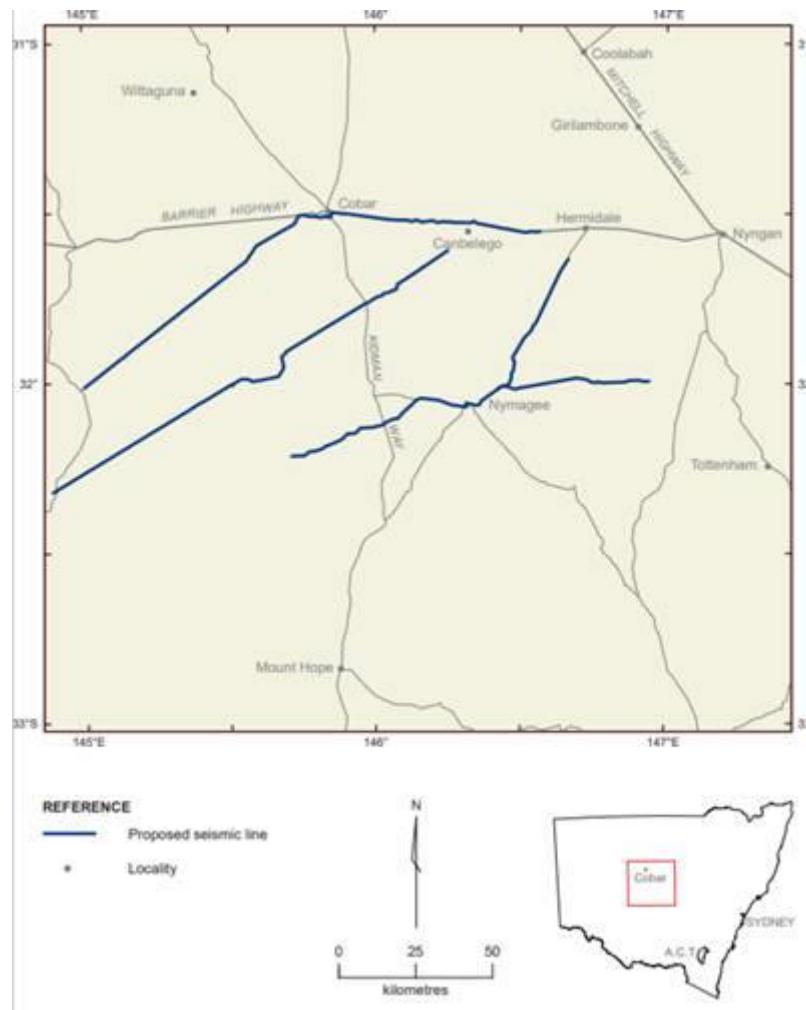
We are contacting you as part of our community engagement activities. Our comprehensive community engagement plan includes:

- emails with stakeholders
- webpages with information about AEM and AMR surveys, plus maps
- a media release
- radio interviews
- radio advertisements
- newspaper advertisements
- social media posts
- flyer drop to residents in the survey area
- letters to land holders in the survey area
- flyers at libraries, local councils and police stations
- a possible community information webinar.



Seismic Survey – Cobar Area

The Geological Survey of NSW is also planning a seismic survey in the Cobar area. It will follow up to 400 km of existing roads (proposed route shown on the map below) and take about 5 weeks to finish, weather permitting.



Our community engagement activities include:

- meetings (some virtual) and emails with stakeholders
- a community information session (possibly webinars)
- newspaper advertisements
- social media posts
- flyer drop to residents in the survey area
- letters to land holders in the survey area
- a webpage with factsheets, videos and maps
- flyer drop at libraries, pubs, local councils and police stations.

This survey operates under 2 larger projects: the NSW Government's [Future Ready Regions](#) Strategy, focussed on drought-proofing NSW with emergency groundwater to support agriculture, towns and industry; and [MinEx CRC](#), a national collaboration that focuses on mineral resources.

Data will be collected using vibrator trucks on existing road verges and trails. The trucks emit seismic waves that bounce off rock formations underground and the returning signals are collected by geophones at or below ground level.

The survey data will be used by local and state government, explorers and landholders to expand their knowledge of the geology, and potential groundwater and mineral resources in the region. Survey data will also be made publicly available via [MinView](#) later this year.

For more information and an interactive map with survey progress visit: www.regional.nsw.gov.au/groundwater

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