

[REDACTED]

Subject: Armidale 150 MW BESS
Date: Thursday, 23 November 2023 6:57:23 PM

Good evening Planner [REDACTED]

ARMIDALE BESS*
Development of a 150 MW Battery Energy Storage System with Associated Infrastructure - SSD-23515853

[REDACTED]

The initial questions that I would like answered by the proponent, in detail are the following:

1. BESS are large installations, requiring large amounts of primary materials such as copper, nickel, cobalt, aluminium, steel, graphite, as well as lithium. All of these materials have to be mined, refined and fabricated, requiring vast amounts of energy, supplied by the burning of fossil fuels. What are the likely CO2 emissions resulting from the manufacture and supply of this battery technology and has the proponent supplied this information in the project proposal. These CO2 emissions are to be subtracted from any CO2 emissions reductions claimed by the proponent.
2. Given that one of the nations that is a major supplier of BESS technology has a policy of institutional slavery affecting many thousands of its own people, can the proponent guarantee that slavery is not involved in any aspect of its equipment supply chains?
3. BESS are NOT generators. They are batteries that require recharging. Being connected to the electricity grid, the only way to ensure that they are recharged from renewable generation such as solar and/or wind is that a Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) is put in place, and enforced by the Department at all times. Has the proponent put in place such a PPA?
4. Batteries are energy storage devices. The Project Proposal Title does not include the battery storage capacity, usually defined in "MWh", not "MW". This discrepancy should be addressed.

These are to be regarded as preliminary comments. I would like to provide further, detailed comment when time and circumstances permit.

Yours sincerely,
Paul Miskelly

[REDACTED]