



Your ref: SSD-63345458

Our ref: DOC26/390847

Pragya Mathema
Principal Planning Officer
Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure

Via Major Projects Portal: PAE- 131618751

Dear Pragya

Subject: Wattle Creek Battery Energy Storage System (SSD-63345458), RTS amended BDAR

Thank you for inviting comments from the Conservation Programs, Heritage and Regulation (CPHR) Group of the NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water on the amended Biodiversity Development Assessment Report (BDAR) for the Wattle Creek Battery Energy Storage System response to submission (RtS).

We have reviewed the RtS amended BDAR, dated 25 March 2026, against our advice on the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) provided on 6 June 2025.

The biodiversity issues raised in our EIS response have been addressed. Threatened species surveys are now consistent with the Biodiversity Assessment Method (BAM), the Plant Community Type (PCT) selection has been revised, and the transmission line alignment finalised.

The BDAR was certified on 25 March 2026 and the BAM-C credit reports were finalised on 24 March 2026, more than 14 days prior to submission of the RtS on 1 July 2026. This is not consistent with section 6.15(1) of the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016*. We have confirmed that the biodiversity impacts, development footprint and credit obligations presented in the BDAR are consistent with those described in the Amendment Report.

If you have any questions about this advice, please contact Simon Maffei, Senior Project Officer, via rebs@dcceew.nsw.gov.au or (02) 6022 0646.

Yours sincerely

Dr Michelle Cox

Manager, Renewable Energy Biodiversity Support & Manager Offset Assessment and Systems

Conservation Planning and Offsets Division

NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water

13 July 2026