

Lander.Robinson@planning.nsw.gov.au

Dear Mr. Robinson

Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) - Heritage NSW - Aboriginal Cultural Heritage - Eraring Battery Energy Storage System (SSD-15950052) (Lake Macquarie City)

Thank you for your referral on 17 November 2021, inviting comments from the Heritage NSW on the above SSD proposal with respect to Aboriginal cultural heritage.

Heritage NSW has reviewed Appendix F - *Eraring Battery Energy Storage System, Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report (ACHAR), prepared for Origin Energy Eraring Pty Limited, prepared by Jacobs, 12 October 2021* and make the following comments.

Heritage NSW understands that an archaeological survey of the development footprint was undertaken on 3 May 2021, in conjunction with on-site consultation with the Registered Aboriginal Parties (RAPs). The ACHAR documents that there were no previously recorded sites and no new Aboriginal sites or Potential Archaeological Deposits (PADs) were identified during this process. Heritage NSW notes that based on the archaeological survey and consultation with the RAPs, no site-specific management recommendations with respect to Aboriginal cultural heritage are required.

The ACHAR does recommend that an '*Unanticipated Finds Protocol*' be implemented, should any unidentified Aboriginal objects or sites be identified during the proposed works, and that Aboriginal cultural heritage awareness training be provided to workers involved in clearing and ground disturbance activities.

Based on the assessment provided in the ACHAR, Heritage NSW supports all the recommendations with respect to Aboriginal cultural heritage in relation to the proposal. Should you require any further information, please contact Nicole Davis, Archaeologist, Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Regulation North, Heritage NSW at Nicole.davis@environment.nsw.gov.au

Yours sincerely



Dr Sam Higgs

Senior Team Leader

Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Regulation – North

Heritage NSW

Department of Premier and Cabinet

10 December 2021