



Department of Primary Industries

FE22/127

C22/86

10 February 2022

Lander Robinson

Department of Planning Industry and Environment

RE: Wallerawang Battery Energy Storage System – (SSD-14540514)

DPI Fisheries are responsible for ensuring that fish stocks are conserved and that there is “no net loss” of *key fish habitat* upon which they depend. To achieve this, the Department ensures that developments comply with the requirements of the *Fisheries Management Act 1994* (namely the aquatic habitat protection and threatened species conservation provisions in Parts 7 and 7A of the Act respectively) and the associated *Policy and Guidelines for Fish Habitat Conservation and Management (Update 2013)*. DPI Fisheries have reviewed the EIS and have the following comments.

Riparian Buffer Zones

DPI Fisheries policy advocates the use of terrestrial buffer zones as per the *Policy and Guidelines for Fish Habitat Conservation and Management (Update 2013)* available on the Department’s website at <http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/fisheries/habitat/publications/policies,-guidelines-and-manuals/fish-habitat-conservation> which states that “NSW DPI will generally require riparian buffer zones to be established and maintained for developments or activities in or adjacent to TYPE 1 or 2 habitats or CLASS 1-3 waterways.” The footprint of this development maintains adequate terrestrial buffers to both Lake Wallace and the Coxs River.

Should you have any queries regarding this correspondence please contact me on (02) 6763 1255 or 0429 908 856.

D. Ward.

David Ward
Fisheries Manager (Tamworth)