

Our ref: OUT22/5535

Andy Nixey

Planning and Assessment Group
NSW Department of Planning and Environment

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17 May 2022

Subject: Wallerawang Battery Energy Storage System (SSD-14540514) Response to Submissions (RTS)

Dear Mr Nixey

I refer to your request for advice sent on 4 May 2022 to the Department of Planning and Environment (DPE) Water about the above matter.

This project proposal is for the construction, operation and maintenance of a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) within the buffer lands of the decommissioned Wallerawang Power Station site.

DPE Water has reviewed the RTS and has no further recommendations to address prior to determination. The following post approval recommendations are provided to ensure adequate water management and compliance:

Post Approval

- Outlets on waterfront land must be in accordance with the Guidelines for Controlled Activities (NRAR 2018).
- Should groundwater be intercepted, a Water Access Licence (WAL) under the *Water Management Act 2000* must be obtained unless the take is less than or equal to 3ML of water per year for any aquifer interference activities listed in Clause 7 of Schedule 4 of the *Water Management (General) Regulation 2018*. For more information visit <https://water.dpie.nsw.gov.au/licensing-and-trade/licensing/groundwater-wal-exemptions>

To qualify for an exemption to hold a water access licence, the proponent should:

- record the water take within 24 hours in the approved form and manner;
- provide the water take records to the Minister by no later than 28 July for the year ending 1 July during which the water was taken (e.g. included in the annual report);
- keep the water take records for a period of five years

Should the project be approved, the relevant management plans should reference our groundwater guidelines found here <https://www.industry.nsw.gov.au/water/licensing-trade/major-projects>. DPE Water does not need to be consulted during their development or approval.

Please note that the licensing and approval function has now moved from NRAR to DPE Water. Should you have any further queries in relation to this submission please do not hesitate to contact DPE Water Assessments water.assessments@dpie.nsw.gov.au or to the following coordinating officer within DPE Water:

Department of Planning and Environment



Alistair Drew – Project Officer
E: Alistair.drew@dpie.nsw.gov.au

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "L. McIver".

Luke McIver
Acting Manager, Assessments, Knowledge Division
Department of Planning and Environment: Water