

OUT23/14780

Mr Jai Reid
Planner
Department of Planning and Environment
Energy Assessments
Via the Major Projects Portal

jai.reid@planning.nsw.gov.au

Deniliquin East Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) (SSD-61612229)

Dear Mr Reid

Thank you for your correspondence of 29 August 2023 and the opportunity to provide input to the preparation of the draft Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARs) for the Deniliquin East BESS.

The NSW Department of Primary Industries (DPI) Agriculture collaborates and partners with our stakeholders to protect and enhance the productive and sustainable use and resilience of agricultural resources and the environment.

DPI Agriculture has reviewed the scoping report for the proposed development. I understand that the project site is zoned RU1 Primary Production. I note the site is considered draft State Significant Agriculture Land (SSAL) due to its Class 3 and historical irrigation, although the scoping report says the site is currently used for dryland cropping.

DPI Agriculture supports the requirements in the draft SEARs to undertake a Land Use Conflict Risk Assessment (LUCRA), and a soil survey to address issues related to the current and surrounding land uses. The SEARs must also include an assessment of impact on agricultural resources and agricultural production on the site and region, including biosecurity issues.

DPI Agriculture requests that the rehabilitation and decommissioning/closure management strategy include, but not be limited to, describing the potential design criteria of the final land use and landform, and the removal of any underground cables, along with the expected timeline for the rehabilitation program. Any subdivision of land for the project must not create additional dwelling entitlements.

Industry guidelines and resource information (Attachment A) should be provided to the proponent for their consideration when preparing the Environmental Impact Statement.

Should you require clarification on any of the information contained in this response, please do not hesitate to contact me on 0427812508 or by email at landuse.ag@dpi.nsw.gov.au.

Your sincerely

Lilian Parker

Lilian Parker
Agricultural Land Use Planning Officer
8 September 2023

Encl: Attachment A: Industry guidelines and resource information

Attachment A – Industry guidelines and resource information

Title	Website link
Land Use Conflict Risk Assessment Guide	https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/agriculture/lup/development-assessment2/lucra
Infrastructure Proposals on Rural Land	https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/agriculture/lup/development-assessment2/infrastructure-proposals
The land and soil capability assessment scheme: second approximation 2012 (OEH)	https://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/research-and-publications/publications-search/land-and-soil-capability-assessment-scheme
Australian Soil and Land Survey Handbook (CSIRO)	https://ebooks.publish.csiro.au/content/australian-soil-and-land-survey-field-handbook
Guidelines for Surveying Soil and Land Resources (CSIRO)	https://ebooks.publish.csiro.au/content/guidelines-surveying-soil-and-land-resources
Biosecurity Risk Management in Land Use Planning and Development	https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0018/1271241/managing-biosecurity-risks-in-land-use-planning-and-development-guide.pdf