

Ewan Reid
Department of Planning Housing and Infrastructure
C/o Major Projects Portal

South Coree BESS - SEARs

Dear Ewan

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on the draft SEARs for the proposed South Coree Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) - SSD-77238990.

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

The Department notes that this site is within the Murray Irrigation Area and is in the vicinity of high quality irrigation farming enterprises.

The Scoping Report and draft SEARs have been reviewed. While the draft requirements should be appropriate to cover most issues associated with the project for agriculture, the SEARs should also include:

- Any proposed subdivision resulting in lots that are smaller than the minimum lot size should not create additional dwelling entitlements.
- Any rehabilitation and decommissioning strategy should include removal of all above and below ground infrastructure to allow greater opportunity for irrigated agricultural activities following decommissioning.
- A Pest and Weed Management Plan should address specific biosecurity, weed and pest impacts relating to irrigated agriculture and the irrigation system in the vicinity of the proposal.
- The agricultural impact assessment should ensure consideration of historic irrigated land use at the site and in the vicinity.

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

Sincerely

LParker

Lilian Parker
Agricultural Land Use Planning
Signed 29-10-2024