

5 December 2024

Contact: *Nicole Wallwood*
WaterNSW ref: D2024/132412

Ewan Reid
Planning Officer
Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure
Locked Bag 5022
PARRAMATTA NSW 2124

Dear Ewan

Water NSW Response to Draft SEARs for Hanworth BESS (SSD-78179499)

WaterNSW appreciates the opportunity to provide advice regarding the drafted SEARs and the Scoping Report for the Hanworth Battery Energy Storage System (BESS)(SSD-78179499).

WaterNSW has reviewed the Scoping Report prepared by NGH Pty Ltd (dated 21 November 2024).

As the development is located within the Sydney Drinking Water Catchment, Section 6.61(1) and 6.63 of the *State Environmental Planning Policy (Biodiversity and Conservation) 2021* (the SEPP) apply including an assessment of neutral or beneficial effect (NorBE) on water quality.

Water NSW notes there is no reference to Part 6.5 of the SEPP or NorBE requirements in the Scoping Report or the draft SEARs.

As indicated in the Scoping Report, the site soils are very erodible so measures to limit the amount of water getting into the subsoil are required.

WaterNSW has reviewed the draft SEARs and requests that the following be included:

- Reference to *State Environmental Planning Policy (Biodiversity and Conservation) 2021* (the SEPP) Section 6.61(1) and 6.63, the Neutral or Beneficial Effect on Water Quality Assessment Guideline (2022) and associated current recommended practices and requirements for assessment.
- A Site and Soil Evaluation for On-Site Wastewater Disposal for both construction and operation phases (where applicable)
- A conceptual Soil and Water Management Plan(s) for the construction phase of the project, having regard for the erodible soils, and
- A conceptual Operational and Environmental Management Plan for the project.

It is requested that WaterNSW be listed a stakeholder in any further consultation on the project. WaterNSW looks forward to reviewing the forthcoming EIS.

If you have any questions, please contact Nicole Wallwood via email at environmental.assessments@waternsw.com.au

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Juri Jung".

JURI JUNG
Catchment Protection Manager