



MID-WESTERN REGIONAL COUNCIL
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OFFICE OF THE GENERAL MANAGER

LP | LAN900137

3 July 2025

Cameron Ash
Energy Assessment
Department of Planning and Environment
Locked Bag 5022
PARRAMATTA NSW 2124

Dear Cameron,

SUBJECT: WOLLAR BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM (SSD-9254-MOD-4) RESPONSE TO MODIFICATION

Thank you for providing Mid-Western Regional Council (Council) with the opportunity to comment on the Wollar Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) MOD-4. Council has reviewed the documents and provides the following comments.

Council requests further information regarding lot descriptors and proposed land sizes associated with the proposed/approved subdivision. In the instance Council is requested to authorise/sign the subdivision certificate it is important that the parameters of the approval are clearly nominated – specifically around dimensions/sizes.

Council suggests the reports be updated to clearly nominate and align construction and operation timeframes between reports. There are discrepancies between Modification Application (Table 3-1 Modified Timeline) and Appendix A (Table A-5 Indicative timeline).

Water Requirements

Council would like to highlight condition 22 of the original Development Consent

SOIL AND WATER

Water Supply

22. The Applicant must ensure that it has sufficient water for all stages of the development, and if necessary, adjust the scale of the development to match its available water supply.

Note: Under the Water Act 1912 and/or the Water Management Act 2000, the Applicant is required to obtain the necessary water licences for the development.

Council requests more detailed information on the water usage for both potable and non-potable, as well as the "local water holders".

Council does not commit to defined levels of service for developments that are outside Council's urban serviceable area. Access to standpipes and the availability of either Potable Water or Chlorinated RAW Water is subject to Council's continued capacity to service urban areas. Should the proponent require access to Council's water supply, approval is required to draw water from a Council standpipe. The proponent must not rely on Council supply only and should independently source all water and demonstrate:

- Secure, licensed access to alternative water supplies.
- That local infrastructure will not be impacted or relied upon in isolation.

Wastewater

Council advises that the Gulgong, Rylstone, and Kandos Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) do not have facilities to receive septage or sewage collected and tankered from properties not connected to the town sewerage networks. Within the Mid-Western Region, the Mudgee STP is currently the only facility capable of accepting this type of waste.

The Mudgee STP includes a designated septage disposal facility with a capacity of up to 20 kilolitres per day. This facility was established to support residential properties in the region that are not connected to the reticulated sewer network, primarily accommodating waste from Council's rural domestic customers.

Due to existing operational constraints, the Mudgee STP currently has limited capacity to accept additional volumes of tankered liquid waste. However, Council is open to further discussions to explore potential options within the available capacity.

Waste

Council wishes to advise that none of its waste facilities are appropriate or capable of handling the disposal of landfill waste generated by the project. The Mudgee Waste Facility has limited capacity to accommodate quantities of landfill material likely to be generated by the project, as the existing Waste Cell is almost exhausted. All of Council's other waste facilities are waste transfer stations accepting residential waste only, which is then transported to Mudgee waste facility. They are not suitable to accept waste from this project.

Council is open to discussing with the proponent opportunities for recycling products.

Council requests the waste management plan for BESS works be approved by Council prior to construction.

Shuttle Bus Route 3.5.2

Council advise it does not support "park and ride" type purposes on public land due to insufficient car parking available in the region, and no public car parks or public road infrastructure are to be used for park and ride.

Community Consultation 5.1

The MOD notes - Road Repair Protocol:

- *The Traffic Management Plan (TMP) includes a road repair protocol stating that funds from the committed VPA would be used to remediate roads following construction*

Council advise the VPA for the solar farm is a separate VPA to the BESS and the request the Proponent meet to discuss the new BESS VPA and roads maintenance requirements prior to consent.

Workforce and Accommodation

Council notes the Project peak work force will be approximately 100 workers.

Council requests a specific detailed confirmation of the accommodation strategy be developed and approved by Mid-Western Regional Council prior to any early works being carried out.

It should be noted that Council does not support the use of tourist and visitor accommodation for the construction workforce. It is also requested that the Proponent consider the status and timing of all other state-significant developments within the Mid-Western Region to minimise any adverse cumulative impacts.

Council notes the selected contractor will enter an arrangement with a telehealth service provider outside the Mid-Western Region.

Council request Telehealth is available for all employees and contractors working on the project.

Traffic 6.3

Council requests a BESS specific transport management plan be approved by Council prior to start of early works.

Should you have any further enquiries regarding this matter, please contact Council on (02) 6378 2850.

Yours sincerely,



JULIAN GEDDES
ACTING GENERAL MANAGER