



RFS



Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (Major Projects)
Locked Bag 5022
Parramatta NSW 2124

Your reference: SSD-87041214
Our reference: DA20250704002642-SEARS-1

ATTENTION: Rachael Helsham

Date: Friday 18 July 2025

Dear Sir/Madam,

Development Application

State Significant Development – SEARS – Electricity Generating Works

Corowa BESS - 275 WHITEHEAD ST COROWA NSW 2646, 12//DP1115583, 11//DP1115583

I refer to your correspondence regarding the above proposal which was received by the NSW Rural Fire Service on 01/07/2025.

The NSW Rural Fire Service advises that the Environmental Impact Statement for the proposed development should incorporate a bush fire hazard assessment undertaken by a suitably qualified consultant to address the following:

- The aims and objectives of *Planning for Bush Fire Protection 2019*,
- The risks that a BESS in this location could cause a bush fire, and
- The specific matters within section 8.3.5 - Wind and Solar Farms of *Planning for Bush Fire Protection 2019* (in lieu of no specific matters relating to a BESS currently identified in PBP).

Further, that the EIS includes preparation of a Fire Management Plan that at minimum includes:

- Ongoing bush fire fuel management within the site,
- Site infrastructure plan,
- Site access and internal road plan,
- APZs and their continued maintenance,
- Location of hazards (physical, chemical etc) that may impact on fire fighting operations, and

Engagement with local RFS (NSW RFS District Office for the Southern Border Team, phone 02 6051 1511) is strongly recommended to ensure that proposed mitigative measures are fit for purpose and that there is a shared situational awareness of response requirements.

For any queries regarding this correspondence, please contact Stephen McKinnon on 1300 NSW RFS.

Yours sincerely,

Martha Dotter

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RFS



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