



Your ref: SSD-61842974

Our ref: DOC25/689093

Megan Ramsdale
Senior Environmental Assessment Officer
Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure - NSW Planning Group

Via Major Projects Portal: PAE-91027210

Dear Megan

Subject: Hume North Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) SSD-61842971

Thank you for your request dated 15 August 2025 seeking advice from the Regional Delivery Division (RD) of the NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water on the Response to Submissions (RTS).

We have reviewed the RTS against the Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARs) provided by the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure to the proponent on 16 October 2023 and RD's Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) submission dated 19 September 2024.

The issues relating to flood risk management have been resolved, contingent on the proponent completing the additional actions in Section 6.6.4 in the *Hume North Battery Energy Storage System Amendment Report* (Jacob 2025), and as detailed in **Attachment A**.

The issues relating to biodiversity have been resolved. We are satisfied with the responses provided in the RTS, together with the *Hume North Battery Energy Storage System Amendment Report – Appendix D Hume North BESS Biodiversity Development Assessment Report* (Jacobs 2025).

All plans required as a Condition of Approval that relate to biodiversity, flooding or coastal management should be developed in consultation with, and to the satisfaction of, RD.

If you have any questions about this advice, please contact Claire Coulson, Senior Conservation Planning Officer, via planning.southwest@environment.nsw.gov.au or 02 6022 0636.

Yours sincerely

Helen Waudby
21 August 2025

**Acting Director South West
Regional Delivery**

Conservation Programs, Heritage and Regulation Group

NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water

ATTACHMENT A – RD comments on Hume North BESS SSD-61842974 - Response to Submissions

ATTACHMENT A RD comments on Hume North BESS SSD 61842974 – Response to Submissions

In preparing this advice RD has reviewed the following documents:

- *Hume North Battery Energy Storage System Amendment Report* (Jacobs 2025)
- *Hume North Battery Energy Storage System Amendment Report – Appendix D Hume North BESS Biodiversity Development Assessment Report* (Jacobs 2025)
- *Hume North Battery Energy Storage System Amendment Report – Appendix J Flood Modelling Memorandum* (Jacobs 2025)

Detailed feedback about the RTS is provided in the table below. Item numbers correspond to recommendation numbers in RD EIS submission dated 19 September 2024. **Issues that are not listed below are considered by RD to be resolved.**

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|--------------|---|
| RD Issue 1.1 | Conduct hydraulic modelling of the existing and proposed site conditions and assess the impact of the proposed project on major overland flow flood behaviour. |
| | RD requires the mapping of the hydraulic (flood function) categories and demonstration of the project’s compatibility with the defined flood functions. The mapping of flood function categories is not provided in <i>Appendix J Flood Modelling Memorandum</i> (Jacobs 2025). |
| Recommend | Prior to development commencing, the proponent must define and map the flood function categories and demonstrate the projects compatibility with the flood function of the land. The categorisation of the flood function must be completed in accordance with guidance provided in the <i>NSW Flood Risk Management Manual</i> (DPE 2023), specifically <i>Flood Function – Flood Risk Management Guideline FB02</i> (DPE 2023). |

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|--------------|---|
| RD Issue 1.2 | Prepare a revised SW&HA to address the Secretary’s requirements for flood risk management. |
| | The proponent has largely addressed the Secretary’s requirements for flood risk management in the <i>Hume North Battery Energy Storage System Amendment Report – Appendix J Flood Modelling Memorandum</i> (Jacobs 2025). However, further action is required. The proponent has committed to completing additional actions in Section 6.6.4 of the <i>Hume North Battery Energy Storage System Amendment Report</i> (Jacobs 2025) to fully address the Secretary’s requirements for flood risk management. RD supports this approach in this instance. |
| Recommend | Prior to development commencing, the proponent must complete the additional actions in Section 6.6.4 of the <i>Hume North Battery Energy Storage System Amendment Report</i> (Jacobs 2025). |