



Our ref: DOC25/1038911-2

Your ref: SSD-75680468

Rita Hatem
Senior Environmental Assessment Officer
Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure
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Dear Rita

Stoney Creek Battery Energy Storage System (SSD-75680468) – EIS exhibition

Thank you for your request via the NSW Major Projects Planning Portal dated 18 November 2025 to the Conservation Programs, Heritage and Regulation Group (CPHR) of the NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (NSW DCCEEW) inviting comments on the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Stoney Creek Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) (SSD-75680468).

CPHR notes that a Biodiversity Development Assessment Report (BDAR) waiver was issued for this project on 29 July 2025 (DOC25/603485). CPHR have reviewed the exhibited EIS against the documents provided as part of the waiver application and acknowledge that the area of vegetation removal for the proposed development presented in the EIS is consistent with the vegetation assessed for the BDAR waiver.

Please note that if the proposed development is amended so that it is no longer as described in Schedule 1 of the determination, the applicant will need to lodge a new waiver request or prepare a BDAR.

We have also reviewed the Flood Impact Assessment and the Surface and Groundwater Impact Assessment reports. Hydrodynamic modelling predicts the BESS facility will cause minimal impacts under a 1% Annual Exceedance Probability (AEP) scenario, inclusive of existing dwellings, Stoney Creek Road or other critical infrastructure. Despite this, the proponent has used a precautionary approach and recommends a design with a raised embankment pad, raised facility floor levels, footings designed to withstand 1 m/s flow velocities as a minimum, a stormwater detention to capture runoff for a 1% AEP event and an Emergency Response Plan to address flooding of local roads. These measures are considered effective and technically sound and address all requirements outlined in the project SEARs.

If you have any questions about this advice, please do not hesitate to contact Rebecca Hobbs, Acting Senior Conservation Planning Officer, via Rebecca.hobbs@dcceew.nsw.gov.au or (02) 4224 4135.

Yours sincerely

Sarah Carr
Director North West
Conservation Programs, Heritage and Regulation Group

9 December 2025