

Impact & Impact Category	Potential impacts on people	Characteristic of social impact			Previous investigation of impact		Cumulative impacts		Magnitude Dimensions and level of social impact magnitude						Assessment level for each impact	What methods and data sources will be used to investigate this impact?		Project refinement	Mitigation / enhancement measures
		Is the impact expected to be positive, neutral or negative?	Is the impact direct or indirect?	How likely is the impact to occur?	Has this impact previously been investigated?	If yes - this project, briefly describe the previous investigation. If "yes - other project," identify the other project and investigation	Will this impact combine with others from this project (think about when and where), and/or with impacts from other projects (cumulative)?	If yes, identify which other impacts and/or projects	Will the project activity (without mitigation or enhancement) cause a material social impact in terms of its:					Magnitude Level		Level of assessment for each social impact	Secondary data		
Categories in SIA guideline	Free text	Positive Negative Neutral	Direct Indirect	Almost Certain Likely Unlikely Very unlikely	Yes - this project, Yes - other project, No	Free text	Combined Cumulative Combined and Cumulative No Unknown or N/A	Free text	Yes No Unknown	Yes No Unknown	Yes No Unknown	Yes No Unknown	High Medium Low Unknown	Trans Major Moderate Minor Minimal	Detailed, Standard, Minor, not relevant	Required	Limited Targeted Broad	Yes No	Free Text
Way of life Construction Impacts	Potential for changes to local amenity (e.g. noise, dust, vibration and visual changes) that may result from construction activities. However, the site is located approximately 480m from the closest dwelling, therefore it would be unlikely that local residents would experience an adversely material impact during construction.	Negative	Direct	Likely	Yes - other project	Potential impacts to local amenity resulting from construction activities and resulting impacts to communities' way of life are generally well understood due to investigations on the majority of other comparative major projects.	Unknown	N/A	No	No	No	No	No	Minor	Standard	Required - External consultants, technical, engineering peer reviewed research and other research.	Targeted Stakeholder interviews, surveys, engagement and direct observations.	No	Changes to local amenity during construction are expected to be relatively localised and would be assessed in the EIS through noise and vibration, air quality, and landscape and visual assessments. These studies are all expected to recommend appropriate mitigation impacts to local communities' way of life. The Construction Environment Management Plan (CEMP) would include a communication management plan to manage impacts to local communities.
Surroundings Amenity Visual Impact	There will be visual changes for some adjoining and close neighbours who are likely to be concerned that the project will create impact visual amenity.	Negative	Direct	Likely	Yes, this project, through the EIS 'Visual Impact Assessment'	Expert visual impact assessment will assess visual impacts to neighbouring properties and residents.	Unknown	N/A	Yes 5 residences	Operational	Unknown	No	High For those concerned	Moderate	Standard	Required	Targeted Stakeholder interviews, surveys, engagement and direct observations.	No	Changes to local amenity during operation are expected to be relatively localized and would be assessed in the EIS by landscape and visual assessments. We will continue ongoing consultation with neighbouring property owners, so they are aware of any possible changes to their visual amenity and how they will be managed. The project will be subject to planning and environment assessments to identify impacts to neighbouring properties and residents. We will implement all mitigation measures identified in the EIS.
Surroundings Amenity Noise/Acoustic	Operational noise and vibration impacts are not expected to be noticeable or disturb most community members. The BESS system components may emit noise. The main source of the sound is the cooling fans required to regulate the operating temperature of the individual battery cells.	Neutral	Direct	Unlikely	Yes this project, Yes other project.	Scientific and technical investigations on the majority of other comparative major projects.	Unknown-cumulative impacts will be considered in EIS	N/A	No	No - acoustic impacts during the construction and operational phase of the Project will be the subject of expert acoustic assessment.	No	No	High	Minor	Standard	Required - independent technical expert reports.	Targeted Interviews -Observation -Acoustic Survey -Analysis -Engagement	No	The project will be subject to planning and environment assessments to identify impacts to neighbouring properties and residents. We will implement all mitigation measures identified in the EIS.
Way of life Access Housing	With a rental vacancy rate of 0.5% in Tamworth, locals are concerned about a shortage of housing exacerbated by the requirement to house workers working on the BESS. On the other hand, any non-local workers coming into the region will provide a welcome economic boost to local accommodation providers who have been struggling with the impacts of Covid and inflation.	Positive	Direct	Likely	Yes, this project	Consultation with local real estate agents.	No	N/A	Unknown	Yes - During construction, 12 months.	No	No	Medium	Moderate	Standard	Required	Targeted -Interviews -Observation -Surveys -Focus groups -Analysis -Consultation	No	Local employment will be encouraged, where possible to improve local productivity outcomes and may assist to reduce housing stress.

Fears and Aspirations Land Classification	Most of the rural area is cleared land, featuring minimal native vegetation. The land is zoned rural (Zone RU4 Primary Production Small Lots) under the Tamworth Regional Council planning scheme and is currently mostly without any vegetation. The site is currently and has been historically used for agricultural and grazing purposes.	Positive The balance of the land may be offered to support agricultural education by the neighbouring Agricultural high school	Direct Agricultural education for locals. Indirect A meat supply for locals.	Likely	Yes this project.	Land-use conflict assessments will be carried out by technical experts to identify any land use conflicts.	No	N/A	Yes Education & Agricultural benefits for students of the local Ag high school.	Yes 25+ years or the life of the project.	No	Yes Marginal student groups may be provided with training in agriculture and energy.	High interest	Minor	Minor	Required	Targeted -Interviews -Observation -Surveys -Focus groups -Analysis -Consultation	No	Development of co-use models (where possible), where our BESS projects co-exist synergistically with agriculture and education. We will implement all mitigation measures identified in the EIS.
Way of Life Fears and Aspirations Culture Community Perceived impacts to industry	Regional areas (such as the Hunter/New England) rely on mining and coal as their major economic industry and, therefore, may feel that renewables will threaten their livelihoods.	Negative	Direct and indirect	Very unlikely	No	Investigations may be carried out on the impact of other comparative projects in similar regions, if available.	No	N/A	Unknown	Unknown	Yes Ultimately fossil fuel workers may need to update their skills and change careers.	Yes	Medium	Minor	Standard	Required	Targeted -Interviews -Observation -Surveys -Focus groups -Analysis -Consultation	No	Work with local industry and grassroots agencies to support train the local workforce in emerging skills. This will help with the diversification of industries to create new industries. Renewable energy projects, like the Calala BESS, will support up to 480 jobs.
Surroundings Biodiversity: Flora & Fauna	Given the historic agricultural land use of the site, and poor state of the paddocks, biodiversity impacts are unlikely.	Positive Currently the site is somewhat neglected.	Indirect	unlikely	Yes – this project	Expert planning and environment assessments will assess any impacts.	No	N/A	No	No	No	No	Medium	Minimal	Standard	Required	Targeted	No	Development of co-use models where our BESS projects co-exist synergistically with agriculture and education. The sheep will help organically manage invasive weeds. We will implement all mitigation measures identified in the EIS.
Access to and use of infrastructure, services & facilities Traffic concerns	There will be limited additional - traffic generated by operation of the project. Increased construction traffic and temporary changes to local access may lead to minor delays These changes are of short duration and not expected to be noticeable to most road users.	Negative	Direct	Likely	Yes - other project	Potential traffic and access changes resulting from construction activities and resulting impacts to communities' access are generally well understood due to prior investigations on the majority of major comparable projects.	Unknown	N/A	No	No	No	No	No	Moderate	Minor	Required	Limited - if required	No	Changes to access and connectivity will be the subject of an expert traffic and transport assessment prepared for the project. This study would recommend appropriate mitigation measures to manage impacts to access and connectivity for local communities.
Way of Life Health & Wellbeing Community Economic livelihoods	Potential for local and regional businesses procurement opportunities during construction. Local businesses may benefit from construction workers spending money at local businesses, such as food outlets located in nearby suburbs.	Positive	Direct and Indirect	Almost certain	Yes - other project	Potential economic benefits of construction projects are generally well understood and qualitatively assessed in investigations for most major projects.	Unknown	N/A	No	No	No	No	Unknown	Moderate	Minor	Required	Limited - if required	No	Impact will be assessed at a high level in an SIA if required. Local communities may be interested in local business opportunities.
Way of Life Health & Wellbeing Community Economic livelihoods	Increased demand for skilled and unskilled workforce during construction and operation of the project, which may lead to increased temporary employment opportunities for local and regional workforce during construction. Broader community members and stakeholders are likely to have a minor to moderate level of interest in local employment opportunities.	Positive	Direct Upskilling workers and Indirect more family spending locally when locals can gain skills and work	Almost certain	Yes - other project	Potential employment benefits of construction projects are generally well understood and qualitatively assessed in investigations for most major projects.	Unknown	N/A	No	No	No	No	Unknown	Moderate	Minor	Required	Limited - if required	No	Impact will be assessed at a high level in an SIA if required. Local communities may be interested in local employment opportunities.

Social Impacts - Definition

In the context of this Scoping Tool, a social impact is a consequence experienced by people[#] due to changes associated with a project. As a guide[^], social impacts can involve changes to people's:

Category	Description	Links to Checklist of Matters
Way of life	Including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • how people live, e.g. how they get around, access to adequate housing • how people work, e.g. access to adequate employment, working conditions and/or practices • how people play, e.g. access to recreation activities • how people interact with one another on a daily basis 	ACCESS, HERITAGE, COMMUNITY, ECONOMIC
Community	Including its composition, cohesion and character, how it functions, and sense of place	BUILT ENVIRONMENT, HERITAGE, COMMUNITY
Access to and use of infrastructure, services and facilities	Whether provided by local, State or federal governments, or by for-profit or not-for-profit organisations or volunteer groups	ACCESS, BUILT ENVIRONMENT, COMMUNITY
Culture	Including shared beliefs, customs, values and stories, connections to land, places and buildings, and including Aboriginal culture and connection to country	HERITAGE, COMMUNITY
Health and wellbeing	Including physical and mental health [*]	COMMUNITY
Surroundings	Including access to and use of ecosystem services ⁺ , public safety and security, access to and use of the natural and built environment and their aesthetic value and/or amenity ⁻	AMENITY, BUILT ENVIRONMENT, HERITAGE, COMMUNITY, ECONOMIC, AIR, BIODIVERSITY, LAND, WATER
Personal and property rights	Including whether their economic livelihoods are affected, and whether they experience personal disadvantage or have their civil liberties affected	ACCESS, COMMUNITY, ECONOMIC
Decision-making systems	Particularly the extent to which they can have a say in decisions that affect their lives, and have access to complaint, remedy and grievance mechanisms	BROAD, OVERARCHING CONSIDERATIONS
Fears and aspirations	Related to one or a combination of the above, or about the future of their community.	