Scoping Report - Request for Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARs)

Jindera Battery Energy Storage System (BESS)

Prepared for: BESS Atlantic Pty Ltd

Prepared by:

SLR Consulting Australia

Level 16, 175 Eagle Street, Brisbane QLD 4000,
Australia

SLR Project No.: 620.40670.00001

19 March 2024

Revision: 04

Revision Record

Revision	Date	Prepared By	Checked By	Authorised By
01	18 December 2023	Melissa Thomas	Ursula McInnes	Ursula McInnes
02	16 January 2024	Melissa Thomas	Ursula McInnes	Ursula McInnes
03	29 January 2024	Melissa Thomas	Ursula McInnes	Maddison Low
04	19 March 2024	Melissa Thomas	Ursula McInnes	Daniel Jeon

Basis of Report

This report has been prepared by SLR Consulting Australia (SLR) with all reasonable skill, care and diligence, and taking account of the timescale and resources allocated to it by agreement with Prepared for: BESS Atlantic Pty Ltd (the Proponent). Information reported herein is based on the interpretation of data collected, which has been accepted in good faith as being accurate and valid.

This report is for the exclusive use of the Proponent. No warranties or guarantees are expressed or should be inferred by any third parties. This report may not be relied upon by other parties without written consent from SLR.

SLR disclaims any responsibility to the Proponent and others in respect of any matters outside the agreed scope of the work.

Executive Summary

BESS Atlantic Pty Ltd (BESS Atlantic) seeks to establish a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) facility with a connection to the existing electricity grid via an above ground transmission line (TL) to TransGrid's JINDERA 330/132 kilovolt (kV) Transmission Substation (TS) (herein referred to as the 'Project').

The BESS is proposed on a portion of Lot 204 DP 753342 at 204 Ortlipp Road, Glenellen New South Wales (NSW) 2642 (the 'BESS Site'). The existing JINDERA 330/132 kV TS is located on Lot 1 DP 588720, 140 Ortlipp Road, Jindera NSW 2642 (the 'Substation Site'), approximately 500m south of the BESS site. The TL will traverse an area of unformed crown road. Collectively, these properties are hereafter referred to as the 'Subject Sites.'

The BESS comprises of 200 lithium batteries, each contained individually within a modular container. A total of 100 inverters (one per every two batteries) will be located externally to the modular containers. Batteries and inverters are fixed to hardstand footings where they are accessible by an internal road.

Other physical features of the Project include a TL, control room/switchgear and auxiliary transmission, car parking, landscaping, security fencing/lighting, and a single storage structure.

The Project is self-operating and only requires minor periodic visitation by an authorised person. The facility is otherwise restricted to the public.

Table ES1 outlines the particulars for the Project.

Project Overview

Table ES1: Project Summary

Project Element	Description
Proposed Development – Construction and Operation Summary	The Project would generally involve the following components: • Transport of construction personnel, associated heavy and light vehicles, and materials to and from the Subject Sites on a day-to-day basis, dependent on the construction schedule. • Site establishment works including vegetation clearing within the BESS boundary and TL footprint, bulk earthworks, and a temporary construction compound. • Road works to formalise internal site access road to accommodate heavy vehicles and a new driveway crossing. • Construction of hardstand, paved internal roads, control room and switch gear, auxiliary transformer, battery enclosures, and inverter and transformer stations. • Construction of overhead 330 kV TL to facilitate connection to the existing JINDERA 330/132 kV TS and associated high voltage steel poles. • Acoustic attenuation to be determined as part of a detailed assessment. • Construction of ancillary works including parking areas, water tank, storage structures, stormwater management infrastructure and security lighting and fencing. • Vegetative screening. • Removal of temporary construction facilities, and rehabilitation of disturbed areas following completion of construction of the Project.

Project Element	Description
Site Access	Access to the BESS site is proposed to be via Ortlipp Road via a new driveway crossing. An internal access road will accommodate heavy vehicles associated with the construction of the BESS.
Grid Connection	A new overhead TL (330 kV) will be constructed to connect the BESS substation, to the existing TransGrid JINDERA 330/132 kV TS to the south of the BESS site. The transmission routes will run south-southwest from the southern portion of the BESS site, transecting an unformed road reserve before entering the JINDERA 330/132 kV TS land. The TL towers will be approximately 30 metres (m) in height with a ground clearance of 7.5m, located within the proposed 60m TL easement. As noted in the plans at **Appendix B**, three TL towers are proposed to facilitate the route to the JINDERA 330/132 kV TS. The TL towers will be located in the BESS site and Substation Site, with only the overhead lines being within the Unformed Crown Road Reserve.
Construction Duration	Construction of the Project is anticipated to take approximately 10 months.
Operation Life Expectancy	The operational life of the Project will be determined by the evolving nature of the technology, however is anticipated that the lifespan will be approximately 15-25 years.
Decommissioning	The Project would be decommissioned, and the infrastructure removed, returning the BESS site to its original use following the approximate 15-25 year life expectancy.

This Scoping Report has been prepared for the State Significant Development (SSD) component of the Project by SLR Consulting Australia (SLR) on behalf of the proponent, BESS Atlantic. The purpose of this Scoping Report is to request and inform the content of the Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARs) issued by NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (DPHI) as delegate to the Minster for Planning and Public Spaces, for the SSD Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Project.

Table of Contents

Tables in Text

Figures in Text

Photos in Text

Appendices

Acronyms, Abbreviations and Definitions

ACHAR	Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report
AEMO	Australian Energy Market Operator
AES	Accommodation and Employment Strategy
AHIMS	Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System
AHIP	Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit
AOBV	Areas of Outstanding Biodiversity Value
APZ	Asset Protection Zones
AQA	Air Quality Assessment
ASL	Above Sea Level
ASS	Acid Sulfate Soils
AV	Articulated Vehicle
BAM	Biodiversity Assessment Method
BCD	Biodiversity and Conservation Division
BC Act	Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 (NSW)
BDAR	Biodiversity Development Assessment Report
BESS	Battery Energy Storage System
BESS Atlantic	BESS Atlantic Pty Ltd
BESS site	Lot 204 on DP 753342 at 204 Ortlipp Road, Glenellen NSW 2642
BOS	Biodiversity Offset Scheme
BSAL	Biophysical Strategic Agricultural Land
BV	Biodiversity Values
CCTV	Closed Circuit television
°C	Celsius
CEEC	Critically Endangered Ecological Community
CEMP	Construction Environmental Management Plan
CIV	Capital Investment Value
CLM Act	*Crown Lands Management Act* 2016 (NSW)
COP 21	2015 United Nations Climate Change Conference 21
CSEP	Community and Stakeholder Engagement Plan
Cth	Commonwealth
DA	Development Application
DCP	Greater Hume Development Control Plan 2013
DCCEW	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water
DECCW	Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water (NSW)
DOP	Department of Planning, now known as DPHI
DP	Deposited Plan
DPHI	NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure
EEC	Endangered Ecological Community

EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
EMF	Electromagnetic Fields
EOL	End of Life
EPA	Environmental Protection Authority
EPIs	Environmental Planning Instruments
EPL	Environmental Protection Licence
EPBC Act	*Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act* 1999 (Cth)
EP&A Act	*Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (NSW)
EP&A Regulation	*Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2021 (NSW*
ESD	Ecologically Sustainable Development
FM Act	*Fisheries Management Act 1994 (NSW)*
FTE	Full Time Equivalent
GDA	Gransolar Development Australia
GIS	Geographical Information Systems
GW	Giga Watt
HV	Heavy Vehicle
ha	Hectares
Heritage Act	*Heritage Act 1977 (NSW)*
ICNG	Interim Construction Noise Guideline
IPC	Independent Planning Commission
KFH	Key Fish Habitat
kg	Kilogram
km	Kilometres
kV	Kilovolt
kVA	Kilovolt-amps
LALC	Albury and District Local Aboriginal Land Council
LCVIA	Landscape Character and Visual Impact Assessment
LEP	Greater Hume Local Environment Plan 2012
LGA	Local Government Areas
LLS Act	*Local Land Services Act 2013 (NSW)*
LSPS	Local Strategic Planning Statement
LUCRA	Land Use Conflict Risk Assessment
m	Metre
mm	Millimetre
MNES	Matter of National Environmental Significance
MW	Megawatts
MWh	Megawatt Hours
NDC	Nationally Determined Contributions
NEM	National Electricity Market
NPfI	NSW Noise Policy for Industry

NPW Act	*National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 (NSW)*
NPWS	National Parks and Wildlife Service
NRAR	National Resources Access Regulator
NSW	New South Wales
NVIA	Noise and Vibration Assessment
OOH	Out of Hours
OSOM	Oversize and Over Mass
PCT	Plant Community Type
PHA	Preliminary Hazards Assessment
POEO	*Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997 (NSW)*
Project Area	BESS, Transmission Line and Towers
Proponent	BESS Atlantic Pty Ltd
PV	Photo Voltaic
RAPs	Registered Aboriginal Parties
REZ	Renewable Energy Zone
SAIIs	Serious and Irreversible Impacts
SALRA	Soil and Agricultural Land Resource Assessment
SEARs	Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements
SEPP	State Environmental Planning Policy (NSW)
SFAZ	Strategic Fire Advantage Zone
SGWIA	A Surface and Groundwater Water Impact Assessment
SIA	Social Impact Assessment
SIS	Species Impact Statement
SLR	SLR Consulting Australia Pty Ltd
SSAL	State Significant Agricultural Land
SSD	State Significant Development
Substation Site	Lot 1 DP588720, 140 Ortlipp Road, Jindera NSW 2642
Subject Sites	Lot 204 on DP 753342 at 204 Ortlipp Road, Glenellen NSW 2642 Lot 1 DP588720, 140 Ortlipp Road, Jindera NSW 2642 Unformed Crown Road Reserve
TEC	Threatened Ecological Community
TIA	Traffic Impact Assessment
TMP	Traffic Management Plan
TfNSW	Transport for NSW
TL	Transmission Line
TS	Transmission Substation
VPA	Voluntary Planning Agreements
WM Act	*Water Management Act 2000 (NSW)*
WMP	Waste Management Plan

1.0 Introduction

1.1 Project Overview

The Project will involve the development, construction, operation, and eventual decommissioning of a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) with a capacity of 250 Megawatts (MW), 500 Megawatt Hours (MWh) connecting via transmission line (TL) directly to the existing JINDERA 330/132 kV Transmission Substation (TS) operated by TransGrid, ('the Project'). The BESS will consist of BESS containers (or enclosures), with each container having dimensions of 6m with an approximate weight of 35,000 kilograms (kg). The BESS will be supported by inverters which will convert the electricity from the BESS and connect to the existing TransGrid substation via approximately 500m of 330 kV overhead lines.

1.2 Project Location

The BESS is proposed on Lot 204 DP 753342 at 204 Ortlipp Road, Glenellen New South Wales (NSW) 2642 (BESS Site). The existing JINDERA 330/132KV Transmission Substation (TS) that the BESS would be connected to via overhead line is located on Lot 1 DP 588720, 140 Ortlipp Road, Jindera NSW 2642 (Substation Site), approximately 500m south of the BESS site. The TL will traverse an area of unformed Crown Road reserve, which is located between the BESS Site and Substation Site.

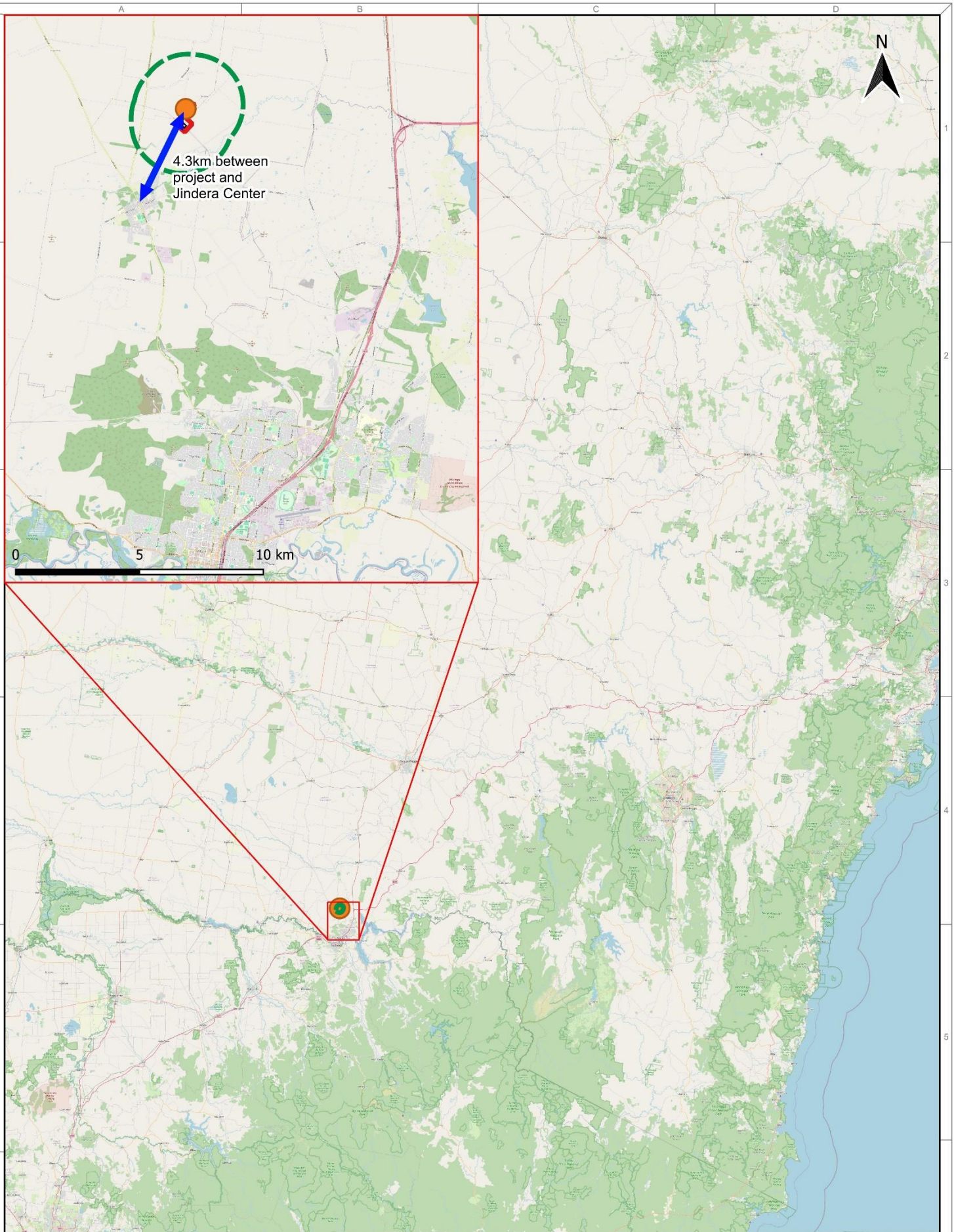
The regional context of the Subject Sites are shown in **Figure 1**, and the Project Area are demonstrated in the Site Plan at **Figure 2**.

The BESS will be located on Lot 204 DP 753342, which will be leased from the landowner. Lot 204 DP 753342 is currently agricultural in nature with supporting structures, however no farming is currently taking place on the BESS site.

The area to which the project relates, hereafter referred to as the Subject Sites, is identified in **Figure 2** illustrating the proposed TL route, and comprises:

- Portion of Lot 204 DP753342.
- The substation land on Lot 1 on DP588720.
- An area of unformed crown road reserve.

No recent approved development exists on the Subject Sites.



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LEGEND

- Jindera BESS Project Location
- 2km Buffer of Project Area

ISSUED FOR

- [■] INFORMATION ONLY
- [ ] APPROVAL
- [ ] QUOTATION PURCHASING
- [ ] CONSTRUCTION
- [ ] AS BUILT

REV.	DESCRIPTION	DATE	BY	APPR.
1	Regional Context of the Site	18/03/2024	HV	

ENGINEERING:

DEVELOPER:

PROJECT:
JINDERA BESS

SHEET TITLE:
FIGURE 1 - REGIONAL CONTEXT OF THE SITE

REFERENCE:
JIN-PD-180324-A2-1

PAPER SIZE:
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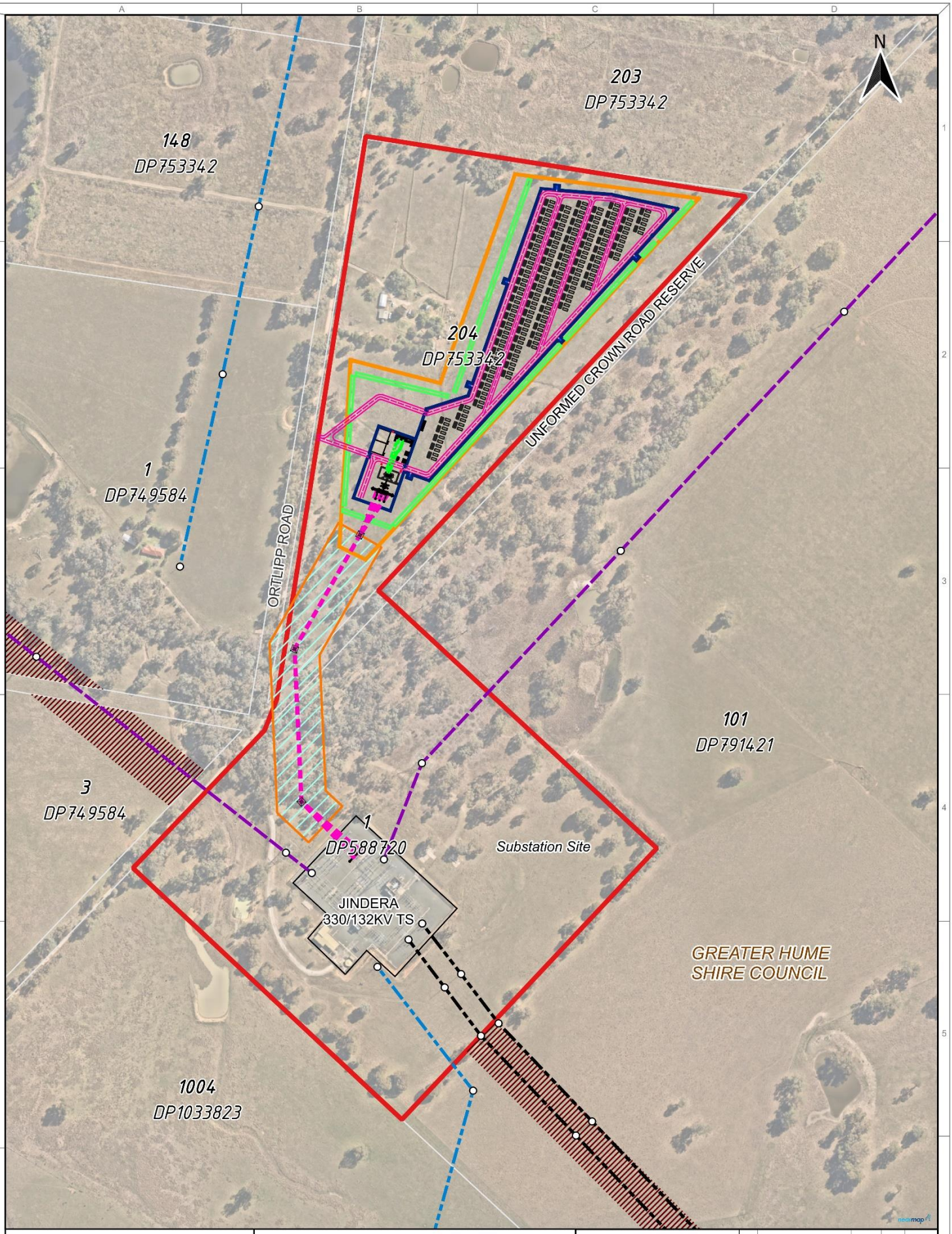
COORDINATE REFERENCE SYSTEM:
GDA2020 / MGA zone 55

DRAWING Nº
JIN-PD-180324-CTX-A2



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LEGEND

- Project Area
- Proposed BESS Design
- Proposed Fence
- Proposed Overhead Lines
- Proposed Overhead Tower
- Proposed Road Design
- Proposed Underground Cables
- Proposed Vegetation
- Proposed Water Tank
- Proposed BESS Area
- Proposed Easement
- Cadastral - Lots
- Existing Easements
- Existing Power Poles

Essential Energy Lines
- 22kV
- LV

Transgrid Lines
- 132 kV
- 330 kV

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- ■ INFORMATION ONLY
- □ APPROVAL
- □ QUOTATION PURCHASING
- □ CONSTRUCTION
- □ AS BUILT

REV.	DESCRIPTION	DATE	BY	APPR.
1	Site Plan	18/03/2024	HV	

ENGINEERING: iEngineering
DEVELOPER: GRANSOLAR GROUP

COORDINATE REFERENCE SYSTEM: GDA2020 / MGA zone 55

PROJECT: JINDERA BESS

SHEET TITLE: FIGURE 2 - SITE PLAN

REFERENCE: JIN-PD-180324-A2-1

PAPER SIZE: A4: 297 x 210mm

DRAWING Nº JIN-PD-180324-BAS-A2

1.3 Project Objectives

Primarily, the purpose of the Project is to coincide with the integration of renewable energy consumption and to improve overall grid stability and resilience. This is achieved by storing excess renewable power from the network during low demand periods (i.e., renewable electricity created in daylight hours such as solar energy) and distributing back at peak times alleviating added network constraints.

Lower daytime demand means coal-fired generators need to turn-down and then ramp-up in the early evening to ensure adequate supply. Commercial scale solar farms and wind farms may need to constrain their output during the day due to insufficient system demand and increased power supply from rooftop installations. Meanwhile, peak demand in the evening continues to increase.

By participating in the statewide frequency control market, the Project will assist to stabilise the frequency of the grid at critical times in response to loss of load or loss of generation. The resulting improvement to the stability of grid frequency reduces the risk of system failure and blackouts. It also helps to ensure that the national grid can accommodate an increasing proportion of variable solar, wind and other renewable generations in years to come.

Once constructed, the utility-scale development will operate independently to store and discharge excess power to the electricity grid, generating an array of economic, environmental, social and network benefits.

By addressing minimum demand challenges, the proposed development additionally provides economic, environmental, and social benefits to the immediate and wider community (refer to **Table 1** below for comprehensive list of benefits).

Table 1: BESS Benefits Summary (Source BESS Atlantic)

Theme	Bess Benefits Summary
Economic	• Cost-effective storage • Local investment • Deter taxpayer grid infrastructure upgrades • Landowner revenue • Job opportunity • Long-term lowered energy costs
Environmental	• Renewable energy integration • Carbon emission reduction • Recyclable materials • Emission trading and offsets • Rehabilitation of contaminated sites opportunity <u>When compared with traditional power solutions:</u> • Reduced air and water pollution • Land use efficiency • Hazardous materials and water consumption reduction
Social	• Enhanced energy access • Locally sourced goods and services through construction • Local sponsorships • Education and awareness

Theme	Bess Benefits Summary
Network	• Grid stability & resilience • Peak demand management • Energy efficiency • Long-term energy storage/backup • Increased energy reliance • Improved power quality

1.4 Proponent Details

Table 2: Proponent Details

Requirement	Detail
Proponent	BESS Atlantic Pty Ltd
ABN/ACN	94 659 304 186 / 659 304 186
Postal Address	Level 4, 307 Queen Street Brisbane QLD 4000
Contact	project.dev@gransolar.com

BESS Atlantic Pty Ltd (BESS Atlantic) ('the Proponent') is a subsidiary of Gransolar Development Australia Pty Ltd (GDA). GDA serves as the project development division of Gransolar Group where it seeks to advance battery energy storage systems from conceptual design to ready-to-build, complete with the contractual securing of land, appropriate planning approval and grid connection offer.

1.5 Document Purpose

The *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act) and *Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2021* (EP&A Regulation) form the statutory framework for the environmental impact assessment and planning approval of development in NSW. Both the EP&A Act and the EP&A Regulation are administered by the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (DPHI).

The Capital Investment Value (CIV) of the Project is estimated between $250 and $300 million. Therefore, the Project is classified as State Significant Development (SSD) in accordance with Schedule 1, Clause 20 'Electricity generating works and heat or co-generation' of the *State Environmental Planning Policy (Planning Systems) 2021* (Planning Systems SEPP). A detailed CIV report would be prepared as part of the SSD application process.

This Scoping Report has been prepared for the SSD component of the Project by SLR on behalf of the Proponent. The purpose of this Scoping Report is to request and inform the content of the Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARs) issued by DPHI as delegate to the Minster for Planning, for the Project's Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

This Scoping Report has been prepared in accordance with the *State Significant Development Guidelines – Preparing a Scoping Report* (DPIE, 2022).

2.0 Strategic Context

2.1 Strategic Need for the Project

The strategic policy context at the national, state, and local level underpins the Project need, and includes plans, policies, key strategic directions, and frameworks. This section outlines the relevant context and framework that applies to the Project.

2.1.1 National Context

2.1.1.1 Paris Agreement

The Paris Agreement (United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, 2016) is a legally binding international treaty on climate change, adopted by 196 nations at the 2015 United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP 21) 21 in Paris in December 2015 and entered into force in November 2016. The goal of the Paris Agreement is to limit global warming to below 2 degrees Celsius (°C), preferably 1.5 °C when compared to pre-industrial levels.

Under the Paris Agreement, the Australian Government is committed to reducing emissions and must submit emissions reduction commitments known as Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). The NDC 2022 update had Australia increasing the ambition of our 2030 target by committing to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to 43% below 2005 levels by 2030.

2.1.1.2 Powering Australia

The Australian Government's Powering Australia plan prepared by Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW) is focused on creating jobs, cutting power bills and reducing emissions by boosting renewable energy. It seeks to capitalise on Australia's abundant natural resources to drive growth, new industries and become a renewable energy superpower. This includes commitments to expand and modernise Australia's electricity grids at low cost.

2.1.1.3 AEMO Integrated System Plan

The Australia Energy Market Operators Integrated System (AEMO, 2022) Plan is a whole-of-system plan that provides an integrated roadmap for the efficient development of the National Electricity Market (NEM) over the next 20 years and beyond. The plan identifies that by 2050, the NEM is likely to require 60 Gigawatt (GW) of energy storage across the network to manage the variability of wind and solar on the journey to a 100% renewable electricity grid.

2.1.1.4 Australia's Long Term Emissions Reduction Plan

Australia's whole-of-economy Long-Term Emissions Reduction Plan (DCCEEW, 2022) seeks to achieve net zero emissions by 2050, through practical and responsible actions that will take advantage of new economic opportunities while continuing to serve traditional markets. The Plan focuses on technology that will help Australia cut emissions while creating jobs and growing our economy.

2.1.2 State Context

2.1.2.1 NSW Transmission Infrastructure Strategy

The NSW Transmission Infrastructure Strategy (NSW Government, 2018) aims to increase the State's energy capacity by prioritising priority energy zones and boosting investments in the Central West, South West, and New England regions of NSW to deliver affordable and reliable energy and increase transmission capacity.

2.1.2.2 NSW Electricity Strategy

The NSW Electricity Strategy (Department of Planning, Industry & Environment, 2019) is the NSW Government's plan for a reliable, affordable and sustainable electricity future that supports a growing economy. The strategy encourages an estimated $8 billion of new private investment in NSW's electricity system over the next decade, including $5.6 billion in regional NSW. It will also support an estimated 1,200 jobs, mostly in regional NSW. The strategy closely aligns with the NSW Government's Net Zero Plan Stage 1: 2020–2030.

2.1.2.3 Electricity Infrastructure Road Map

In November 2020, the NSW Government released the Electricity Infrastructure Roadmap, enabled by the *Electricity Infrastructure Investment Act 2020* (NSW). The Roadmap builds on the foundations of the Electricity Strategy and is expected to attract up to $32 billion of private investment in regional energy infrastructure by 2030 and support over 9,000 jobs, mostly in regional NSW.

The Roadmap is the State's 20 year plan to transform the electricity system into one that is cheap, clean and reliable. It seeks to lay the foundations for future generations to enjoy more secure, reliable and affordable electricity. The Roadmap specifically identifies support for the private sector to deliver long duration storage energy solutions and acknowledges the importance of new storage and firming on the network to better respond to electricity needs and improve reliability of the grid.

2.1.2.4 NSW Climate Change Policy Framework

The NSW Climate Change Policy Framework (State of NSW and Office of Environment and Heritage, 2016) aims to maximise the economic, social, and environmental wellbeing of the State in the context of a changing climate and given the current and emerging international and national policy settings and actions created to address climate change.

The long-term objectives of the Climate Change Policy Framework are to achieve net-zero emissions by 2050 and make NSW more resilient to a changing climate.

2.1.2.5 Net Zero Plan Stage 1: 2020-2030

The Net Zero Plan Stage 1: 2020-2030 (Department of Planning, Industry & Environment, 2020) sets out how the NSW Government will deliver the ultimate goal of net zero emissions by 2050. This Plan recognises that, in parts of our economy, low emissions technologies are becoming a commercially viable alternative to the traditional ways of doing things. Ultimately, the plan seeks to reduce emissions by 35% (compared to 2005 emission rates) by 2030.

2.1.3 Regional Context

2.1.3.1 Riverina Murray Regional Plan 2041

The Riverina Murray Regional Plan 2041 (DPE, 2023) (Regional Plan) is an update to the Riverina Murray Regional Plan 2036, which provided the NSW Government's vision for land uses in the Riverina Murray region. That plan saw the NSW Government work with councils, stakeholders and the community to achieve priority actions.

The updated Regional Plan is a 20-year land use plan with a targeted delivery focus on the next 5 years. It was prepared under the EP&A Act and applies to the local government areas (LGAs) of Albury, Berrigan, Bland, Carrathool, Coolamon, Cootamundra, Gundagai, Edward River, Federation, Greater Hume, Griffith, Hay, Junee, Leeton, Lockhart, Murray River, Murrumbidgee, Narrandera, Snowy Valleys, Temora and Wagga Wagga.

Objective 13 of the Regional Plan is to support the transition to net zero by 2050.

Within 15 years, 75% of the state's coal powered electricity generation is expected to reach the end of its technical life. Replacing these energy sources and building the infrastructure needed to connect new energy sources is essential to ongoing energy security.

The Riverina Murray's climate, resources and strategic connections to utility infrastructure place it in a strong position to contribute to and capitalise on the net zero target and electricity infrastructure plans. In recent years, large-scale solar farms account for more than 50% of major projects.

Strategy 13.1 is to prepare for the transition to net zero emissions, strategic and statutory planning will:

- Incorporate renewable energy into urban design and place-making projects.
- Provide opportunities for future buildings and urban release areas to be renewable-ready.
- Identify opportunities for potential high energy industries, including manufacturing, materials processing.
- Identify opportunities for renewable energy vehicle refuelling networks/ infrastructure.
- Appropriately consider opportunities to minimise land use conflict for the South West Renewable Energy Zone (REZ), renewable energy generation and associated infrastructure outside the REZ.

2.1.4 Local Context

2.1.4.1 Greater Hume Local Strategic Planning Statement (LSPS)

The Greater Hume Local Strategic Planning Statement (Greater Hume Shire Council, 2018) (LSPS) sets the land use framework for Greater Hume Council's (the Council) economic, social and environmental land use needs over the next 20 years. It addresses the planning and development issues of strategic significance to the Council through planning priorities and actions, spatial land use direction and guidance. This statement helps to give effect to the Regional Plan.

The LSPS notes that access to transmission infrastructure, land availability and favourable climate conditions make Greater Hume a desirable location for large scale solar, energy storage, and associated renewable energy generation technologies. There are some significant long-term sustainable benefits of renewable resources that Greater Hume could leverage to provide necessary infrastructure, energy security, employment, education and

community investments that can benefit both the economy and local residents. The LSPS acknowledges the challenges for renewable energy projects, and the need to strategically identify suitable locations, that contribute to the long-term sustainability of Greater Hume Shire and minimise impacts on productivity of agricultural land, Aboriginal cultural heritage, biodiversity, and the amenity of residents.

2.1.4.2 Draft Greater Hume Community Strategic Plan 2027

The Draft Greater Hume Community Strategic Plan (Greater Hume Shire Council, 2022) seeks to identify the community's priorities, aspirations and vision for the future and is centred around key strategic themes, being:

- Healthy Communities.
- Growth and Prosperity.
- Natural and Built Environment.
- Leadership and Communication

2.2 Site Context

2.2.1 Project Location

Land immediately surrounding the Subject Sites comprises rural land lots, including some smaller rural residential properties, refer to **Figure 3** which identifies sensitive receivers surrounding the BESS site. Neighbouring lots are predominantly large rural lots, with some residential dwellings and ancillary development located to the north and west of the Subject Sites. The residential township of Jindera is approximately 2 kilometres (km) south-west of the Subject Sites.

The Subject Sites are located within a largely undeveloped rural landscape, refer to **Figure 4** and **Photos 1**-**3**. Land in the Subject Sites is mostly comprised of relatively flat topography approximately 220 m above sea level (ASL), with isolated alterations to the natural landform through construction of roads and irrigation channels. Kilnacroft Creek occurs in the southern area of the Substation Site, which is an ephemeral tributary of Bowna Creek. The BESS site is located approximately 50 m northeast of Kilnacroft Creek.

Photo 1: Ortlipp Road (Looking North)

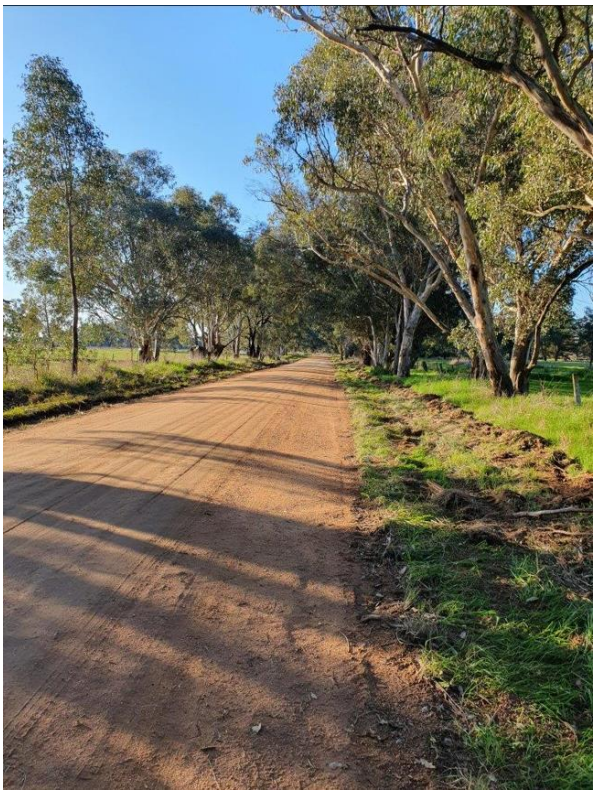


Photo 2: Ortlipp Road (Looking South)

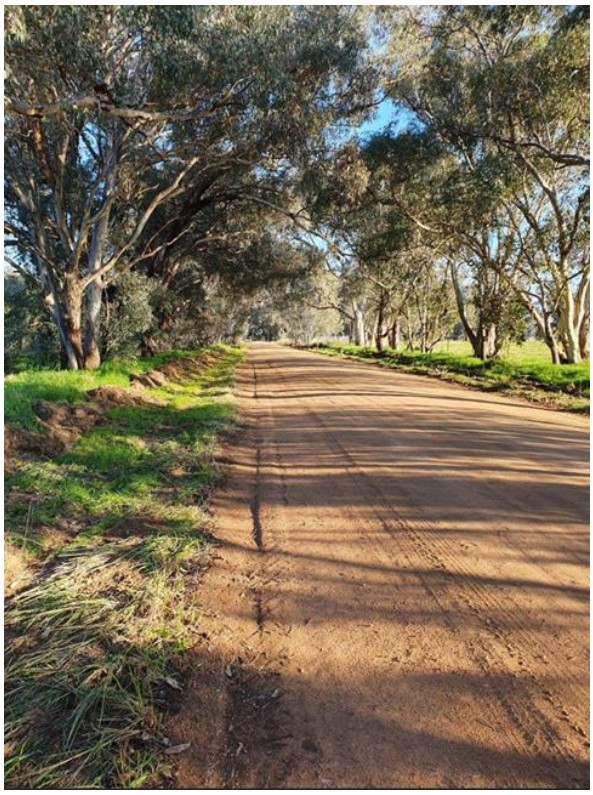
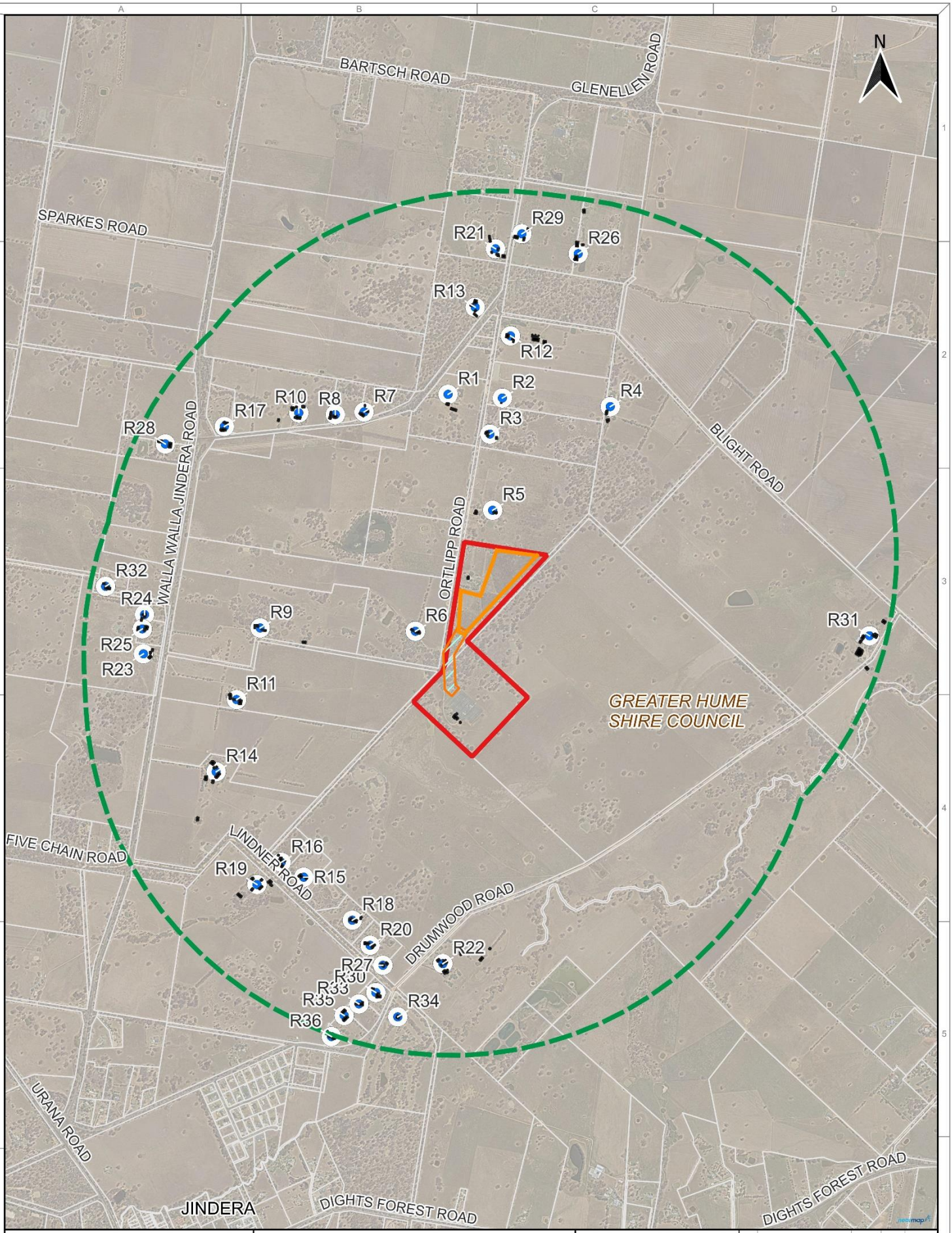


Photo 3: Site Area with Indicative Vegetation



Scale at A4
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0 0.25 0.5 km

LEGEND

- 2 km BESS Area Buffer
- Project Area
- Proposed BESS Area
- Proposed Easement
- Cadastral - Lots
- Sensitive Receivers
- Existing Structures/Buildings within 2km

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- [■] INFORMATION ONLY
- [ ] APPROVAL
- [ ] QUOTATION PURCHASING
- [ ] CONSTRUCTION
- [ ] AS BUILT

REV.	DESCRIPTION	DATE	BY	APPR.
1	Sensitive Receivers Plan	18/03/2024	HV	

ENGINEERING: iEngineering
DEVELOPER: GRANSOLAR GROUP

COORDINATE REFERENCE SYSTEM: GDA2020 / MGA zone 55

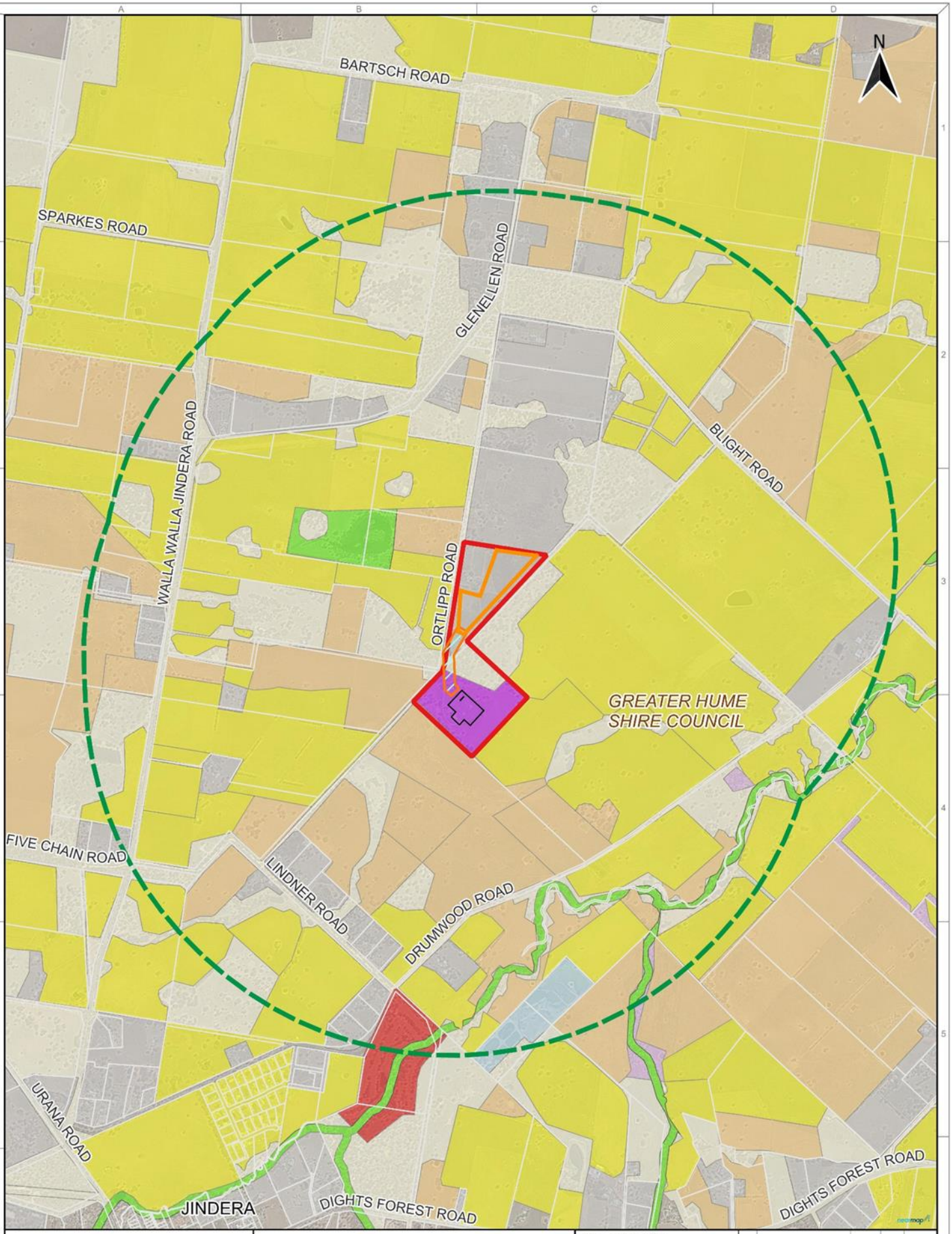
PROJECT: JINDERA BESS

SHEET TITLE: FIGURE 3 - SENSITIVE RECEIVERS PLAN

REFERENCE: JIN-PD-180324-A2-1

PAPER SIZE: A4: 297 x 210mm

DRAWING Nº: JIN-PD-180324-SER-A2



Scale at A4
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0 0.25 0.5 km

LEGEND

- 2 km BESS Area Buffer
- Project Area
- Proposed BESS Area
- Proposed Easement
- Cadastral - Lots

NSW Land Use 2017

- 1.2.0 Managed resource protection
- 2.1.0 Grazing native vegetation
- 3.2.0 Grazing modified pastures
- 3.3.0 Cropping
- 4.1.0 Irrigated plantation forestry
- 5.4.0 Residential and farm infrastructure
- 5.5.0 Services
- 5.6.0 Utilities
- 6.2.0 Reservoir/dam
- 6.4.0 Channel/aqueduct
- 6.5.0 Marsh/wetland

ISSUED FOR
- [■] INFORMATION ONLY
- [ ] APPROVAL
- [ ] QUOTATION PURCHASING
- [ ] CONSTRUCTION
- [ ] AS BUILT

REV.	DESCRIPTION	DATE	BY	APPR.
1	Land Use Plan	18/03/2024	HV	

ENGINEERING: iEngineering
DEVELOPER: GRANSOLAR GROUP

COORDINATE REFERENCE SYSTEM: GDA2020 / MGA zone 55

PROJECT: JINDERA BESS

SHEET TITLE: FIGURE 4 - LAND USE PLAN

REFERENCE: JIN-PD-180324-A2-1

PAPER SIZE: A4: 297 x 210mm

DRAWING Nº: JIN-PD-180324-LAN-A2

2.2.2 Surrounding Areas

The land uses that surround the Subject Sites are primarily rural residential in character and includes a mix of agricultural industries related to primary production such as cropping and agricultural grazing practices. Rural residential properties with dwelling houses on large rural occurs on the surrounding roads including Ortlipp Road. These rural residential lots are characterised with areas of gently undulating pastures with corridors of trees generally eucalypts with the occasional avenue of exotic species often conifer species. Land uses surrounding the Subject Sites are demonstrated in **Figure 4**.

The JINDERA 330/132KV TS is part of the larger TransGrid electricity network with NSW. It is located to the south of the BESS site and visual features include infrastructure components and 330 kV transmission lines that cross the site in a southwest / northeast direction. The BESS site is reasonably obscured from view being located in a lower lying areas and is surrounded by tree canopies adjacent to Ortlipp Road.

Surrounding the Subject Sites there are minimal recreational destinations however there are two (2) which occur within a 2 km radius of the site. These include the Jindera Golf Club and the Bits and Boots Pony and Trail Rides.

The significant landscape features that occur around the Subject Sites includes distant glimpses toward surrounding rural and forested hills visually characterised with elevated eucalypt forests and rolling pastoral hills along the horizon line. These include the Benambra National Park and the Tabletop Nature Reserve.

Jindera township is 15.8 km (approximately 16 minute drive) from the regional centre of Albury. The township is on urban grid pattern that is in a northwest / southeast orientation with Urana Road being the main axis. At the centre of the town Urana Road intersects with Adams Street which runs in a northeast / southwest orientation being perpendicular to one another. These streets are visually characterised with low set dwellings and low set retail buildings located with formal avenue street trees. Glimpses of the surrounding forested hills are present from Urana Road when traversing southwest direction.

It is likely that Jindera would be the key service centres of the BESS construction workforce, with other service centres including Tabletop, Henty, Holbrook, Albury-Wodonga, and other smaller surrounding towns.

Existing facilities and services in Jindera include:

- A shopping precinct including a grocery store, newsagency, and hair salon.
- Cafes and take-away restaurants.
- Post office.
- Medical clinics and pharmacy.
- Police station and NSW Rural Fire Service (RFS).
- One petrol station.
- One hotel motel.
- Two schools.
- Three churches.
- Recreational facilities including sportsgrounds (football and netball), swimming pool, and Bowling & Recreational Club.
- Parks and gardens.

Albury-Wodonga provides:

- Supermarket (Food Works), butchers, bakery.
- News agency.
- Restaurants, pubs, cafes.
- Post office.
- Medical services, including Multipurpose Service (Accident and Emergency Department, hospital and residential aged care and allied services), and a pharmacy.
- Police station, fire station, SES.
- Four petrol stations.
- Accommodation services (hotel, caravan park, motor inn).
- Schools.
- Seven churches.
- Library.
- Recreational facilities including swimming pool, bowling and golf clubs, football, tennis and netball clubs, cricket facilities, pony club, a skate park, and a walking and bike track.
- Parks and gardens.

Other local towns such as Gerogery, Walla Walla, Henty, and Holbrook provide limited services that include essential businesses such as, but not limited to, a supermarket, newsagency, cafes, petrol stations, and post offices.

Nearby Albury-Wodonga, as a major regional centre, offers a greater number and broader range of similar services, as well as higher order services, including hospitals and specialist medical services, accommodation, and higher education institutions.

2.2.3 Roads and Access

When approaching from the regional centre of Albury the Subject Sites are accessed via the Hume Highway or via the suburbs of North Albury and Lavington. Access to the township of Jindera is via Urana Road which is an access corridor in a northerly direction from the suburbs of Albury. Urana Road runs directly through the centre of the township of Jindera and connects to Walla Walla Jindera Road. Access to the Subject Sites is via Ortlipp Road that has to entry points via Walla Walla Jindera Road and Glenellen Road.

The visual quality of the landscape surrounding these access corridors are defined by the relative low undulating terrain. The vegetation is the main vertical visual element that is concentrated on drainage lines, creeks and property boundaries and are mainly tall to medium height open canopy trees with an open to semi-open understorey. The road verges are generally vegetated with glimpses toward the surrounding landscape including significant features such as the forested hills located in Tabletop northeast of Jindera and the Subject Sites. Use and visitation of these roads varies with lesser order sealed roads having considerably higher usage than the unsealed roads such as Ortlipp Road.

2.2.4 Sensitive Receptors

The sensitive receivers, which comprise existing land uses that may be impacted by the Project, within a 2 km radius of the BESS site, are identified on **Figure 3**. A total of 36 sensitive receivers have been identified, and will be considered in the future environmental assessments contained in the EIS.

As part of the future EIS, noise sensitive receivers as defined in the NSW Noise Policy for Industry (NPfI) will be identified and assessed. **Table 3** shows the closest receptors (within 1 km) to the BESS site.

Table 3: Closest Noise Sensitive Receptors

Receptor ID	Address	Easting, m	Northing, m	Distance to Site Centroid, m
R1	128 Glenellen Rd	491640	6026039	1,090
R2	304 Ortlipp Rd	491915	6026037	1,060
R3	284 Ortlipp Rd	491867	6025831	850
R4	66 Blight Rd W	492548	6026024	1,230
R5	238 Ortlipp Rd	491796	6025380	420
R6	151 Ortlipp Rd	491476	6024728	500

In relation to potential visual impacts, determining the private receptors located in proximity to the Subject Sites has been undertaken, involving a desktop study to locate dwellings from an aerial map within a 2 km radius. This exercise identified 36 private receptor locations. There is one (1) private receptor that is more likely to experience considerable change to their surroundings, being 238 Ortlipp Road, Glenellen.

Considerations for further studies may include modelling the likely visibility of the Project to assess if views are likely to occur when viewed at these locations.

2.2.5 Soils

The Subject Sites occur on two Australian Soil Classification Soil Orders:

- Chromosols – found on the alluvial Riverine Plains and the most widespread soils used for agriculture in Australia, particularly those with red subsoils. Soils display a strong texture contrast between surface horizons and subsoil horizons. The upper part of the subsoil ranges from slightly acid to alkaline (pH >5.5) but is not sodic; and
- Sodosols – widespread across Australia, which is noteworthy for its extent and diversity of sodic soils. Soils display a strong texture contrast between surface horizons and subsoil horizons which are sodic.

The majority of land contained in the Subject Sites is classified by the NSW DPHI eSPADE mapping as having moderate limitations and is rated as Land & Soil Capability Class 3. The southern area of the BESS site and the Substation site is classified as having very severe limitations and is rated as Land & Soil Capability Class 6. Class 6 land has very severe limitations for a wide range of land uses and few management practices are available to overcome these limitations. Land generally is suitable only for grazing with limitations and is not suitable for cultivation. Refer to **Figure 5** for a map detailing the soil classes on the Subject Sites.

The Subject Sites are partially identified as State Significant Agricultural Land (SSAL) on the Draft State Significant Agricultural Land Map.

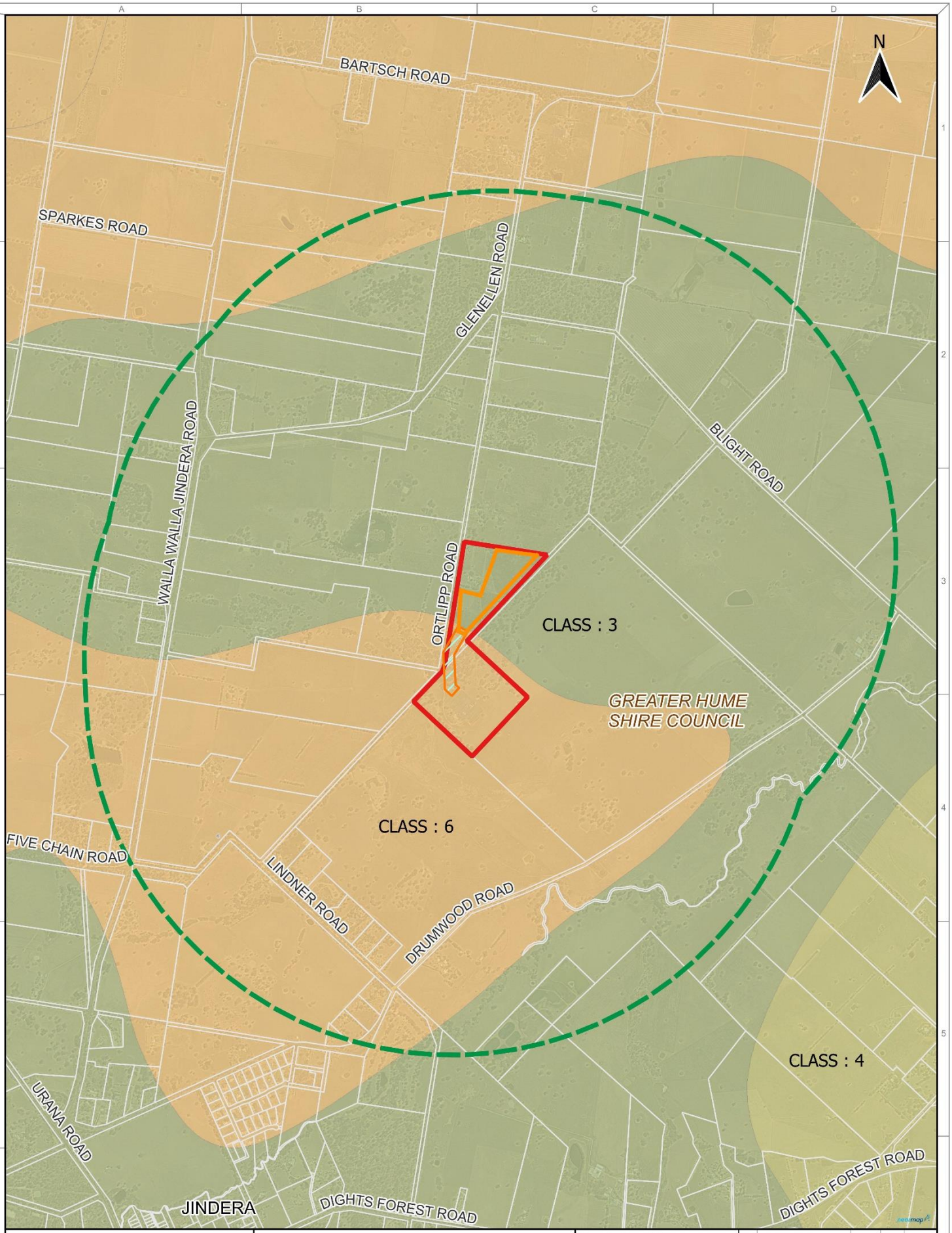
Contaminated land is not recorded on the Subject Sites.

The Subject Sites are not identified as having an acid sulfate soil (ASS) risk according to the available data. Following the issue of the SEARs it will be determined if geotechnical testing will be required, this may include further confirmation on ASS.

2.2.6 Bushfire Hazard

The NSW Rural Fire Service Bushfire Prone Land mapping was applied to the Subject Sites. The BESS site is largely void of being mapped as bushfire prone land, with the exception of the southeastern boundary. In this area it is containing areas of Vegetation Category 2 and Vegetation Buffer. The Substation Site is predominately mapped as being of a Vegetation Category 2, with a Vegetation Buffer on its outskirts.

Refer to **Figure 7** for a Bushfire Prone Land map.



Scale at A4
1:27500

0 0.25 0.5 km

LEGEND

- 2 km BESS Area Buffer
- Project Area
- Proposed BESS Area
- Proposed Easement
- Cadastral - Lots

NSW Soil Class

- 1 - Very slight to negligible limitations
- 2 - Slight but significant limitations
- 3 - Moderate limitations
- 4 - Moderate to severe limitations
- 5 - Severe limitations
- 6 - Very severe limitations
- 7 - Extremely severe limitations
- 8 - Extreme limitations
- Not assessed (98)
- Water (99)

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- [ ] QUOTATION PURCHASING
- [ ] CONSTRUCTION
- [ ] AS BUILT

REV.	DESCRIPTION	DATE	BY	APPR.
1	Soil Class Map	18/03/2024	HV	

ENGINEERING: iEngineering
DEVELOPER: GRANSOLAR GROUP

COORDINATE REFERENCE SYSTEM: GDA2020 / MGA zone 55

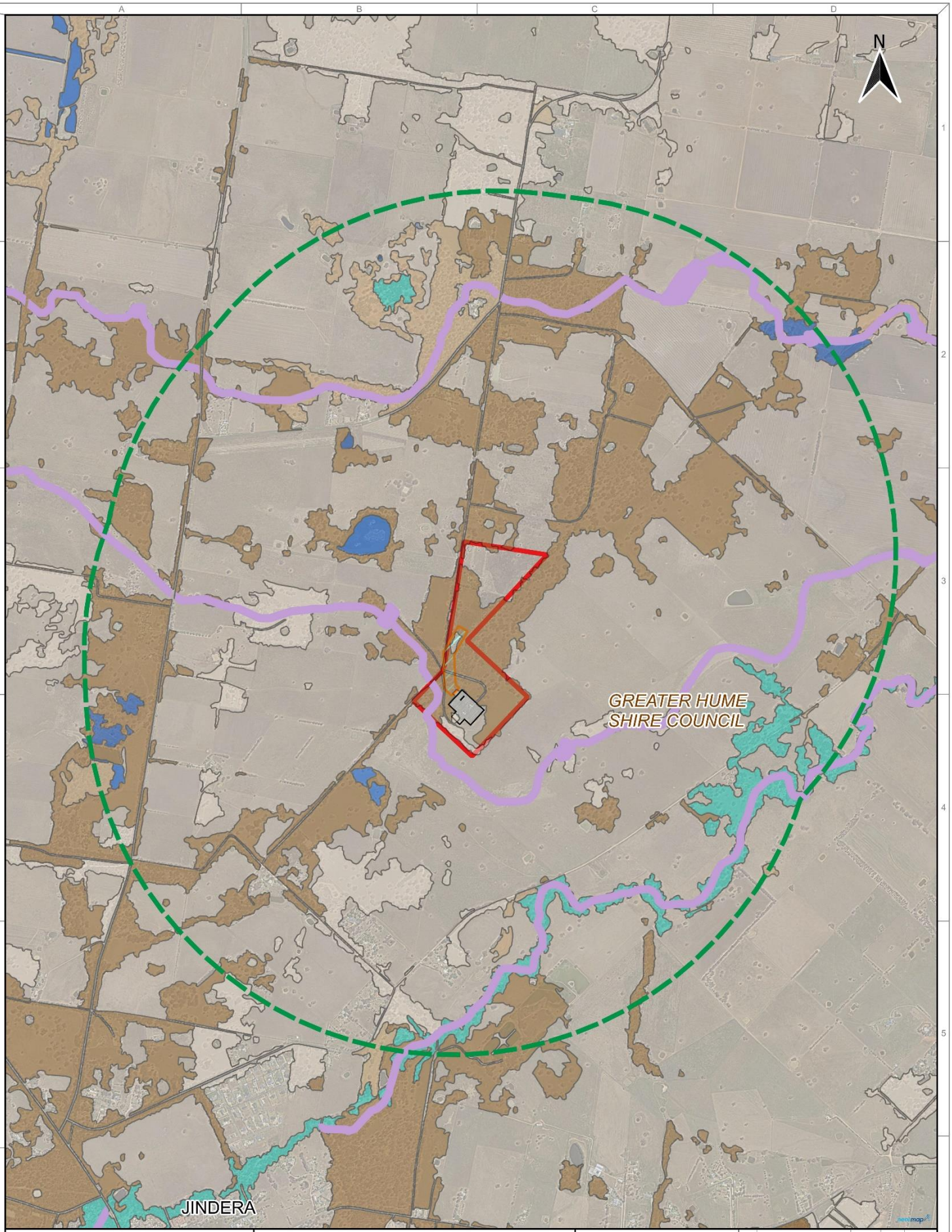
PROJECT: JINDERA BESS

SHEET TITLE: FIGURE 5 - SOIL CLASS MAP

REFERENCE: JIN-PD-180324-A2-1

PAPER SIZE: A4: 297 x 210mm

DRAWING Nº: JIN-PD-180324-SOI-A2



Scale at A4
1:27500

0 0.25 0.5 km

LEGEND

- 2 km BESS Area Buffer
- Project Area
- Proposed BESS Area
- Proposed Easement
- Cadastral - Lots

Biodiversity Values

- Biodiversity Values
- Biodiversity Values added in the last 90 days

NSW PCT

- (Forested Wetlands) River Red Gum
- (Freshwater Wetlands) Canegrass swamp tall grassland
- (Freshwater Wetlands) Common Reed - Bushy Groundsel
- (Freshwater Wetlands) Lignum shrubland wetland
- (Freshwater Wetlands) Rush - Sedge - Common Reed
- (Grassy Woodlands) Blakelys Red Gum
- (Grassy Woodlands) Riparian Blakelys Red Gum
- (Grassy Woodlands) Western Grey Box tall grassy woodland
- (Grassy Woodlands) White Box - Blakelys Red Gum
- (Grassy Woodlands) White Box grassy woodland

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- ■ INFORMATION ONLY
- □ APPROVAL
- □ QUOTATION PURCHASING
- □ CONSTRUCTION
- □ AS BUILT

ENGINEERING:

DEVELOPER: GRANSOLAR GROUP

COORDINATE REFERENCE SYSTEM: GDA2020 / MGA zone 55

REV.	DESCRIPTION	DATE	BY	APPR.
1	Ecological Communities and Biodiversity Values	18/03/2024	HV	

PROJECT: JINDERA BESS

SHEET TITLE: FIGURE 6 - ECOLOGICAL COMMUNITIES AND BIODIVERSITY VALUES

REFERENCE: JIN-PD-180324-A2-1

PAPER SIZE: A4: 297 x 210mm

DRAWING Nº: JIN-PD-180324-ENV-A2

2.2.7 Waterbodies

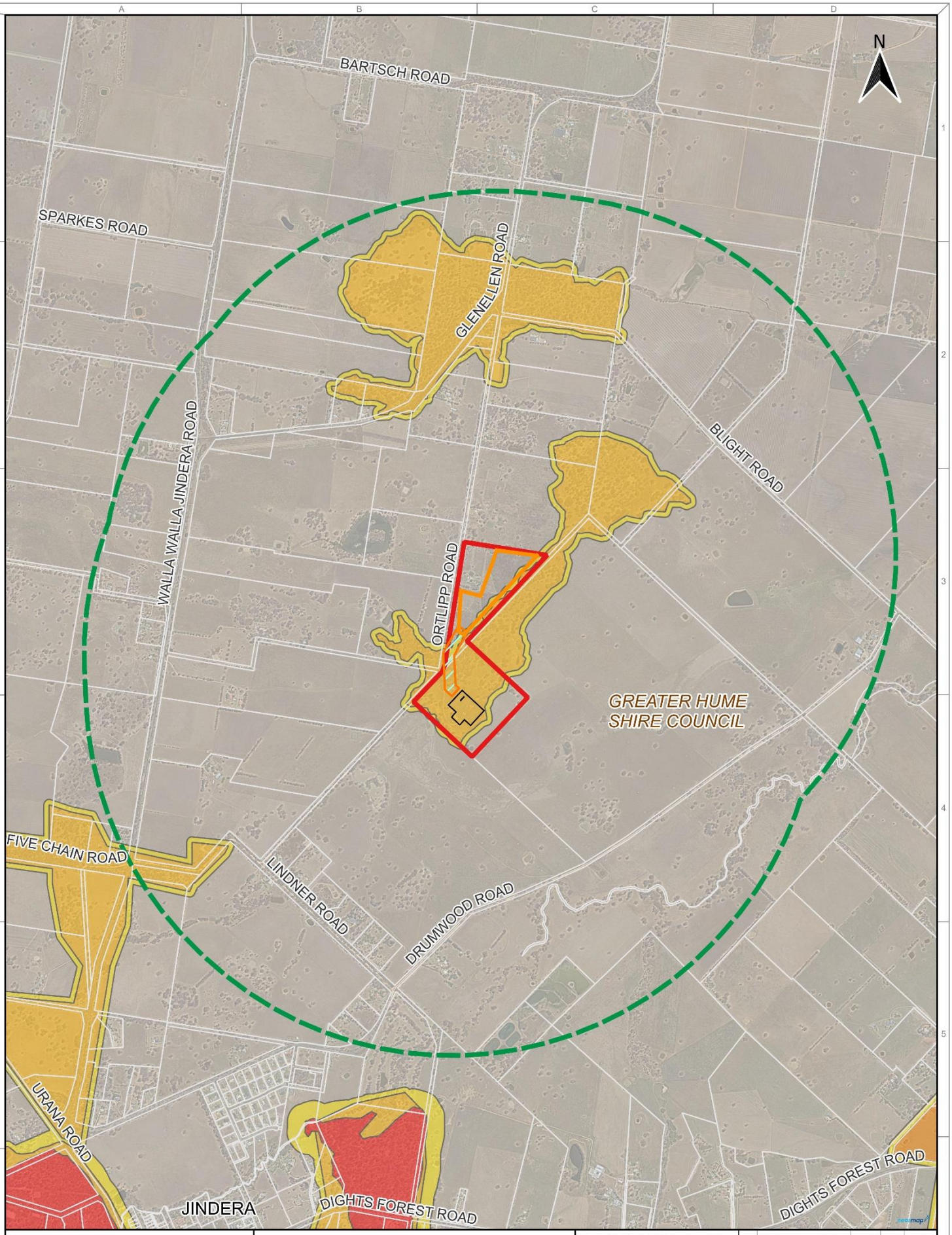
Waterbodies that occur within a local context include small artificial lakes and dams that are scattered within private land allotments. Surrounding and within the Subject Sites are three (3) creeks that traverse the landscape with water flowing in a west to east direction toward Lake Hume. These creeks include Dead Horse Creek (north of the Subject Sites), Kilnacroft Creek (just south of the site and adjacent the substation) and Bowna Creek greater south running through the township of Jindera and the Jindera Golf Course. Generally, all creeks are obscured from sight by dense corridors of adjoining riparian vegetation and tall canopy trees.

2.2.8 Flood Hazard

The majority of land contained in the Subject Sites is comprised of flat low-lying topography, spanning between 220m and 225m AHD. As a result, the Subject Sites may be subject to inundation. The site is not located on any floodplain wetland, with the nearest being approximately 300m to the west. A watercourse line traverses the western portion of the Substation site, however the watercourse is not located within in the Project Area.

A Council-commissioned Flood Study has been undertaken for the greater township of Jindera, however the extent of the reporting terminates at Drumwood Road and therefore does not include the Subject Sites. Refer to **Figure 7** below.

Further reporting into items such as a site-specific flood study, requirement for detention basins and the like can be completed in subsequent EIS stages.



Scale at A4
1:27500

0 0.25 0.5 km

LEGEND

- 2 km BESS Area Buffer
- Project Area
- Proposed BESS Area
- Proposed Easement
- Cadastral - Lots

NSW Bushfire Mapping

- Vegetation Buffer
- Vegetation Category 1
- Vegetation Category 2
- Vegetation Category 3

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- [x] INFORMATION ONLY
- [ ] APPROVAL
- [ ] QUOTATION PURCHASING
- [ ] CONSTRUCTION
- [ ] AS BUILT

REV.	DESCRIPTION	DATE	BY	APPR.
1	NSW Rural Fire Service Bushfire Prone Land Mapping	18/03/2024	HV	

ENGINEERING: iEngineering

DEVELOPER: GRANSOLAR GROUP

COORDINATE REFERENCE SYSTEM: GDA2020 / MGA zone 55

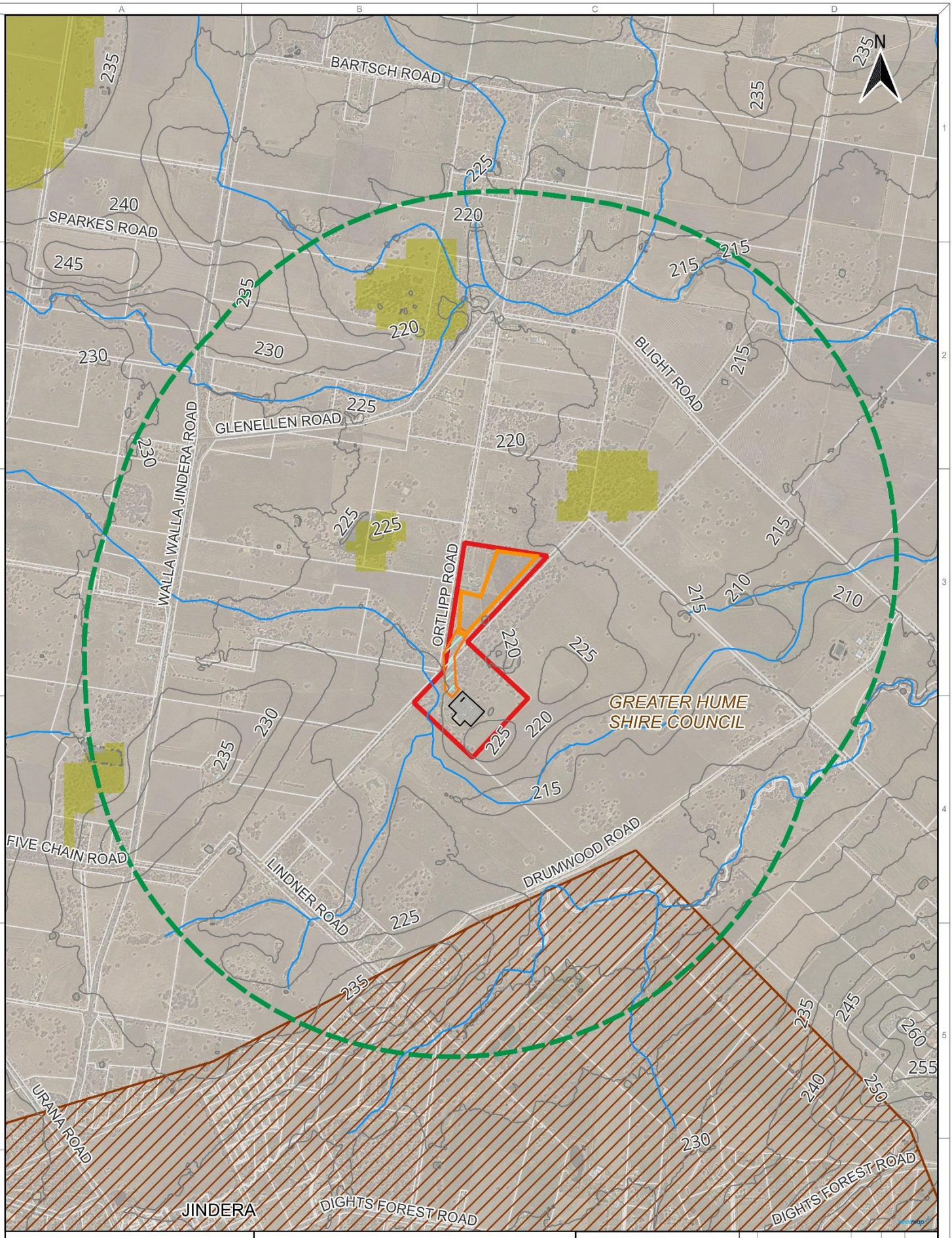
PROJECT: JINDERA BESS

SHEET TITLE: FIGURE 7 - NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE BUSHFIRE PRONE LAND MAPPING

REFERENCE: JIN-PD-180324-A2-1

PAPER SIZE: A4: 297 x 210mm

DRAWING Nº: JIN-PD-180324-FIR-A2



Scale at A4
1:27500

0 0.25 0.5 km

LEGEND

- 2 km BESS Area Buffer
- Project Area
- Proposed BESS Area
- Proposed Easement
- Cadastral - Lots
- 5m Contours
- Watercourse Lines
- Extent of existing Jindera Flood Study

Wetland Areas

- Floodplain Wetland

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- [ ] APPROVAL
- [ ] QUOTATION PURCHASING
- [ ] CONSTRUCTION
- [ ] AS BUILT

REV.	DESCRIPTION	DATE	BY	APPR.
1	Flood Mapping for the Subject Sites	18/03/2024	HV	

ENGINEERING: iEngineering

DEVELOPER: GRANSOLAR GROUP

COORDINATE REFERENCE SYSTEM: GDA2020 / MGA zone 55

PROJECT: JINDERA BESS

SHEET TITLE: FIGURE 8 - FLOOD MAPPING FOR THE SUBJECT SITES

REFERENCE: JIN-PD-180324-A2-1

PAPER SIZE: A4: 297 x 210mm

DRAWING Nº: JIN-PD-180324-FLO-A2

2.2.9 Aboriginal Heritage

A desktop assessment was conducted on 25 October 2023 using the NSW Government's Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System (AHIMS) Search Tool, measuring approximately 3 km surrounding the Subject Sites, which is included at **Appendix E**.

The search determined that there are 11 registered Aboriginal sites within the search area. There are no registered Aboriginal sites within the Subject Sites. The AHIMS database records sites using a list of twenty standard site features, of which two were found within the extensive search. The closest AHIMS site identified in the search is located approximately 600m southwest of the Subject Sites.

2.2.10 Mine Subsidence

The Subject Sites are not located within a mine subsidence district.

2.2.11 Voluntary Planning Agreements

The applicant has not entered into any agreements with other parties, including planning agreements, landowners and benefit-sharing schemes.

Preliminary feedback from Council has indicated their support for entering into a VPA.

2.3 Cumulative Impacts

Further analysis of the potential for cumulative impacts would be addressed in detail in the EIS in accordance with Cumulative Impact Assessment Guidelines for State Significant Projects (DPIE, 2021).

There are a number of projects within the Greater Hume LGA that have the potential to result in cumulative impacts during the construction period. **Table 4** below summarises projects identified across the Major Projects website and the Council Development Application (DA) tracker that are in proximity to the Subject Sites. Refer to **Figure 9** for a map of the Subject Sites with respect to these surrounding significant projects.

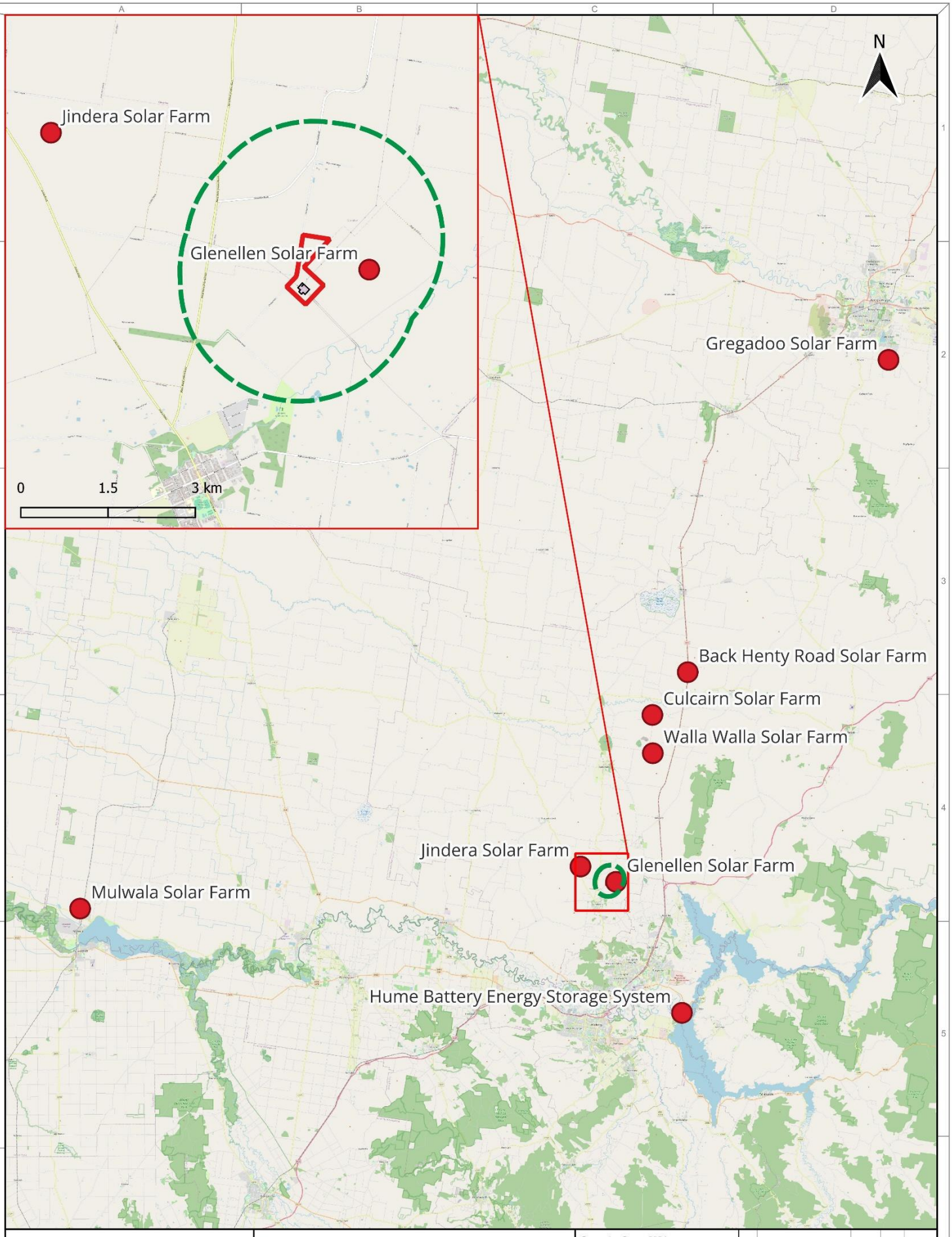
Table 4: Significant Projects in the Greater Hume LGA and Surrounds

Project Name	Project Status	Project Summary	Cumulative Impacts
Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (SSD)			
Glenellen Solar Farm SSD-9550	Lodged	200MW solar farm	• Biodiversity • Visual and Landscape Character • Noise • Traffic • Pressure on local facilities, goods and services including staff accommodation • Local agricultural impacts • Socio-economic
Walla Walla Solar Farm SSD-9874	Approved	300MW solar farm	• Biodiversity • Visual and Landscape Character • Noise • Traffic

Project Name	Project Status	Project Summary	Cumulative Impacts
			• Pressure on local facilities, goods and services including staff accommodation • Local agricultural impacts • Socio-economic
Jindera Solar Farm SSD-9549	Approved	120MW solar farm Overhead transmission line infrastructure on poles connecting the project's on-site high voltage substation to the existing TransGrid JINDERA 330/132kV substation.	• Biodiversity • Visual and Landscape Character • Noise • Traffic • Pressure on local facilities, goods and services including staff accommodation • Local agricultural impacts • Socio-economic
Culcairn Solar Farm SSD-10288	Approved	Ground mounted photovoltaic solar array which would have capacity to generate up to 400 MW (AC) of renewable energy. Battery storage to store energy produced on site (up to 200 MWh capacity).	• Pressure on local facilities, goods and services including staff accommodation • Traffic • Local agricultural impacts • Socio-economic
Hume Battery Energy Storage System SSD-10460	Approved	Installation, commissioning, and operation of a 20MW/40MWh BESS.	• Pressure on local facilities, goods and services including staff accommodation • Traffic • Local agricultural impacts • Socio-economic
Gregadoo Solar Farm SSD-8825 Mod 2	Approved	The Project involves the construction of a ground-mounted photovoltaic solar array which will generate approximately 45MW of renewable energy. The solar farm would connect into TransGrid's Gregadoo substation.	• Pressure on local facilities, goods and services including staff accommodation • Traffic • Local agricultural impacts • Socio-economic
Mulwala Solar Farm SS-9039	Approved	80-megawatt (MW) Solar Photo Voltaic Generation (SPVG) facility (the Project) to be constructed in the regional township of Mulwala, NSW. The Project would include associated grid	• Pressure on local facilities, goods and services including staff accommodation • Traffic • Local agricultural impacts • Socio-economic

Project Name	Project Status	Project Summary	Cumulative Impacts
		connectivity to Essential Energy and TransGrid electricity networks.	
Joint Regional Planning Panel			
Back Henty Road Solar Farm (DA) PPSSTH-98	Approved	5MW solar farm	• Pressure on local facilities, goods and services including staff accommodation • Traffic • Local agricultural impacts • Socio-economic

To determine the location and nature of any planned upgrades of the surrounding network, SLR carried out a review of publicly available material. The review indicated that no major transport infrastructure upgrades planned by the Council in the surroundings of the Subject Sites can be found publicly.



Scale at A4
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0 5 10 km

LEGEND

- 2 km BESS Area Buffer
- Project Area
- Significant SSD/Planning Projects Nearby

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- [ ] CONSTRUCTION
- [ ] AS BUILT

REV.	DESCRIPTION	DATE	BY	APPR.
1	Significant Projects in the Vicinity of the Subject Sites	18/03/2024	HV	

ENGINEERING: iEngineering

DEVELOPER: GRANSOLAR GROUP

COORDINATE REFERENCE SYSTEM: GDA2020 / MGA zone 55

PROJECT: JINDERA BESS

SHEET TITLE: FIGURE 9 - SIGNIFICANT PROJECTS IN THE VICINITY OF THE SUBJECT SITES

REFERENCE: JIN-PD-180324-A2-1

PAPER SIZE: A4: 297 x 210mm

DRAWING Nº: JIN-PD-180324-PRO-A2

3.0 Project Description

3.1 Project Description

The Project will involve the development, construction, operation, and eventual decommissioning of a BESS with a capacity of 250 MW/ 500 MWh connecting via TL directly to the existing JINDERA 330/132kV TS operated by TransGrid. The BESS will consist of BESS containers (or enclosures), with each container having dimensions of 6m with an approximate weight of 35,000 kg. The BESS will be supported by inverters which will convert the electricity from the BESS and connect to the existing TransGrid substation via approximately 500 m of 330 kV overhead lines.

The key aspects of the project are summarised in **Table ES1** and shown in **Figure 2,** and are particularised in detail below.

3.2 Project Overview

3.2.1 Construction

Construction of the Project would require heavy vehicles, plant, and equipment for the transportation of components and installation of the components on the Subject Sites. The Project is likely to require earth-moving equipment for civil and road works, cable trenching equipment, forklifts, and cranes subject to detailed design to install the BESS and complete ancillary works.

3.2.1.1 Construction Activities

It is anticipated that the construction and commissioning phase will last approximately 10 months. Over that time, the main construction activities will include:

- Transport of construction personnel, associated heavy and light vehicles, and materials to and from the Subject Sites on a day-to-day basis, dependent on construction schedule.
- Site establishment works including vegetation clearing within the BESS fencing boundary and TL footprint, bulk earthworks, and temporary construction compound.
- Road works to formalise internal site access road to accommodate heavy vehicles, including a new driveway crossover.
- Construction of hardstand, paved internal roads, control room and switch gear, auxiliary transformer, battery enclosures, and inverter + transformer stations.
- Construction of overhead 330 kV TL and switch building to facilitate connection to the existing TransGrid JINDERA 330/132KV TSin the southern portion of the Subject Sites.
- Construction of ancillary works including parking areas, water tank, storage structures, stormwater management infrastructure and security lighting and fencing.
- Acoustic attenuation measures, to be determined as part of detailed assessment.
- Removal of temporary construction facilities, and rehabilitation of disturbed areas following completion of construction of the Project.

3.2.1.2 Construction Materials

The following materials will be transported to the Subject Sites to facilitate construction of the Project and ancillary facilities and infrastructure:

- 200 lithium batteries, within modular containers.
- 100 Inverter + transformer stations.
- Hardstand works materials and equipment.
- Bulk earthworks materials and equipment.
- Piling.
- Cabling.
- Building structures (including temporary structures for construction crew and management).
- Internal roads and parking areas.
- Control room and 33 kV Switchgear.
- Auxiliary transformer.
- Fence, gates and lighting.
- Fire Safety System.
- High voltage steel poles.
- High voltage cabling.
- 330/33 kV Main Transformer.

3.2.1.3 Construction Hours and Personnel

Construction of the Project is anticipated to take approximately 10 months. During construction, it is anticipated that approximately 80 full time equivalent (FTE) jobs will be required during the peak of site activity. Employment numbers will fluctuate starting with about 20 workers on site for one to two months. Worker numbers then progressively increase to 80 staff at about the 65% completion stage for several months before tailing off toward completion and the start of commissioning. About 5-10 staff are required for commissioning.

The workforce would be sourced from the local area where possible, and the wider region where worker deficits arise. It is expected the peak period would extend for approximately 4 months. Outside of this period, approximately 10-20 workers will be required at any one time.

The following standard construction hours are proposed for the Project:

- Monday to Friday - 7 am to 6 pm.
- Saturday – 8 am to 1 pm.
- Sunday and Public Holidays - No works to be undertaken.

No works are proposed to be undertaken outside of the standard construction hours. In the event this is required, Out of Hours (OOH) approval would be sought, and all works would be undertaken in accordance with the appropriate OOH protocols and approval processes.

3.2.1.4 BESS Components

The following specifications are provided for the proposed BESS below in **Table 5**, with an example of a BESS module shown on **Figure 10**.

Table 5: BESS Specifications

Specification	Detail
Number of enclosures	Up to 200 battery enclosures (6m container frame) Each battery rack consists of 418 battery cells. Each battery enclosure contains up to 10 racks connected in parallel
Dimensions	6m container (6,058 mm x 2,438 mm x 2,891 mm each)
Weight	35,000 kg each
Inverters	100 Inverters (3600 Kilovolt-amps (kVA))

Figure 10: Indicative Image of BESS Modules

3.2.1.5 Grid Connection

A new overhead TL (330 kV) will be constructed to connect the BESS site's substation, to the existing TransGrid JINDERA 330/132 kV TS on the Substation Site.

The TL will partially transect the BESS site and connect to the JINDERA 330/132 kV TS to the south via above ground transmission lines. A 60m width easement is proposed for the transmission line.

The TL towers will be approximately 30m in height with a ground clearance of 7.5m, located within the proposed 60m TL easement. Three TL towers are proposed to facilitate the route to the JINDERA 330/132 kV TS.

The TL routes will run south-southwest from the southern portion of the BESS site, transecting an unformed road reserve before entering the JINDERA 330/132 kV TS land (refer to **Figure 2** and **Appendix B**).

3.2.1.6 Site Access

It is proposed that access to and from the BESS site will be provided from a new driveway crossover from Ortlipp Road.

Most of the workers who need to travel to Jindera will reside in local short-term accommodation facilities (e.g. motels) during construction. During construction, it is proposed that bus transfers will be provided by the subcontractors (where practicable) to minimise traffic volumes and transit risks during construction as per a Traffic Management Plan (TMP). The number of shuttle buses and the identified routes will be determined to minimise travel times and ensure convenient pick-up points for staff.

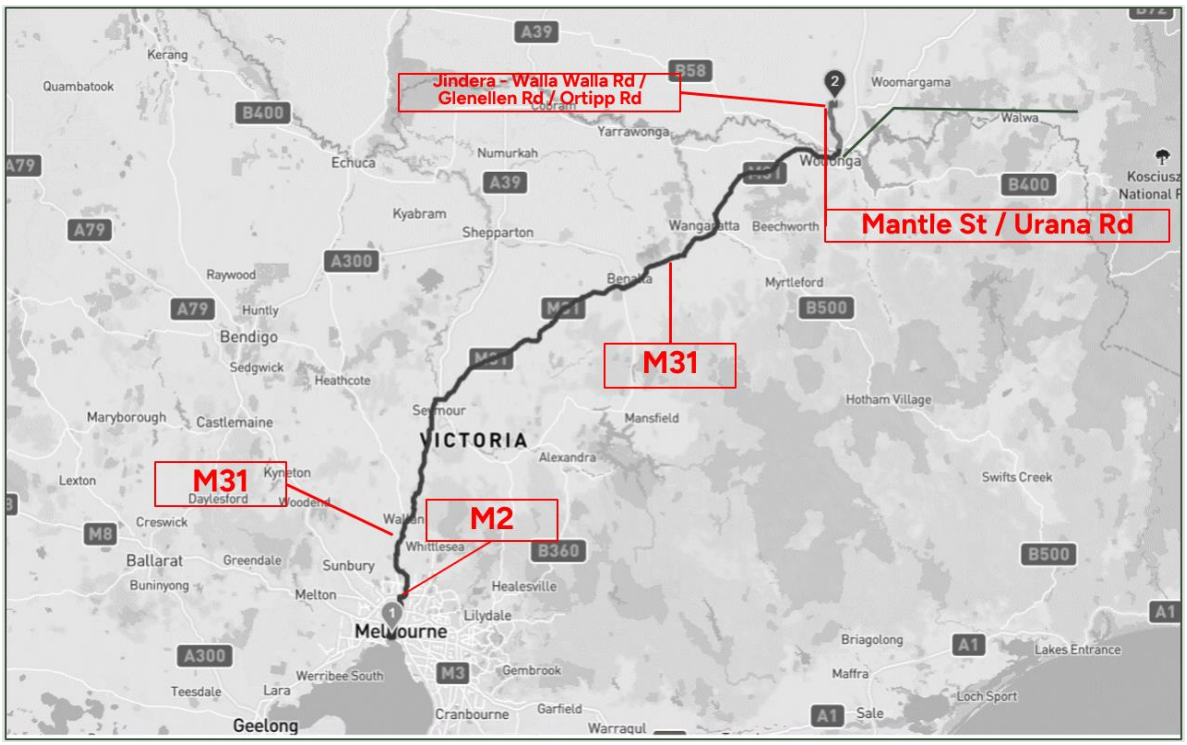
The BESS facility, along with the other materials and the construction fleet, will be transported to the site from the Port of Melbourne. There will be no oversize and over mass (OSOM) vehicles required during the construction period except for the one-off transportation of the transformer. Excluding the one-off transportation of the transformer, the largest vehicle that will be utilised will be limited to the size of a standard 20m long articulated vehicle (AV) or 19m long B-Doubles (short).

The construction fleet is to be finalised, however, at the preliminary stage, it is anticipated that there will be a composition of the following fleet:

- 20m long AVs.
- 20m long low loaders.
- 19m long B-Doubles (short).
- 17m long truck & dog combinations.

All heavy vehicles (HV) will take the routes to/ from the Subject Sites, as depicted in **Figure 11**.

Figure 11: Indicative Heavy Vehicle Route



During their inbound journey, all HV's will travel along Hume Motorway (M31) to Albury and will use the Riverina Highway (Guinea St) Offramp. This route is the shortest and likely to accommodate the anticipated construction fleet. A review of the proposed route is consistent with the National Heavy Vehicle Regulator Route Planner Tool.

The route includes a series of intersections, including five signalised intersections through Albury and around four roundabouts between Albury and Jindera.

SLR has considered two alternative inbound routes for the final segment of the journey. This includes the following options:

- Linder Road.
- Glenellen Road.

While Linder Road is identified as a 25/26m B-double Route, it involves a narrow bend, which may require a swept path assessment to confirm suitability. Whereas the route via Glenellen Road includes a right angle turn into Ortlipp Road but with better sight lines. The future Traffic Impact Assessment (TIA) will confirm which route is more appropriate for heavy vehicles.

SLR reviewed the NSW Public Level Crossing finder and identified that there were no rail crossings or corridors that would be impacted along the route to/ from the site.

3.2.1.7 Removal of Vegetation

Although the majority of the Subject Sites comprises cleared pasture lands, the proposed access road and TL routes would require the clearing of native vegetation. A buffer of 30 m either side of the proposed TL route and associated towers will be required.

The extent of vegetation removal is yet to be determined. Further assessment and field works will be undertaken to confirm the extent of clearing required.

3.2.1.8 Ancillary Infrastructure

The following ancillary infrastructure will be undertaken in conjunction with the BESS:

- Earthworks
- Stormwater Management works
- Temporary Construction Facilities
- Landscaping

Fencing and Lighting

The BESS site would be secured by up to 2.1 m tall chainmesh security fencing and access gates which would remain during operation.

Lighting for the Project will be installed for security purposes.

Water Use

Water will be required during the construction phase for dust suppression, general construction, and maintenance activities. This water will be brought to site in water tankers. Construction water requirements for the Project are anticipated to be sourced from the Council's bulk water supply.

Wastewater during construction will be captured and appropriately removed from site/disposed in accordance with the Council/water authority requirements. Potable water

may be transported to site in bottles for use by the construction workforce. If utilised, toilet facilities will involve waterless toilets (or equivalent) that are emptied off-site.

3.2.2 Operation

3.2.2.1 Operation Activities and Equipment

The operation of the Project would involve, but not be limited, to the following general activities:

- Maintenance and management of equipment, site buildings, and landscaping.
- General administrative activities.
- Receipt of equipment or goods.
- Waste removal from maintenance and administration activities.

Minimal plant and equipment will be required for operation of the facility, primarily for staff access and maintenance vehicles.

3.2.2.2 Operational Hours and Personnel

The Project is proposed to self-operate 24 hours a day 7 days a week and only requires periodic maintenance by authorised staff. The facility is otherwise restricted to the public.

Emergency responses and maintenance activities may be required to be undertaken out of hours. During operation, it is anticipated that approximately two (2) FTE job will be required.

3.2.3 Decommissioning

The Project is proposed to be decommissioned and the infrastructure removed following the End of Life (EOL) of the BESS, with works required to return the Subject Sites as close as possible to its original state and use. All decommissioning and restoration activities would be in accordance with permits, approvals and regulatory requirements at the time.

The operational life of the Project will be determined by the evolving nature of the technology, however is anticipated that the lifespan will be approximately 15-25 years.

The standard construction hours and HV's, plant, and equipment required for the construction of the Project would also apply to the decommissioning phase.

3.2.4 Estimated Capital Investment Value

The CIV of the Project is estimated between $250 and $300 million. A detailed CIV report would be prepared as part of the SSD application process.

3.3 Project Alternatives Considered

3.3.1 Transmission Line Routes

In addition to the TL route option shown on **Figure 2**, a potential TL route was identified along the Ortlipp Road reserve.

Both proposed transmission line routes are estimated to require a similar amount of vegetation removal to accommodate the construction of the transmission line. Although using the Ortlipp Road reserve requires slightly less vegetation removal, it would require the removal of a larger number of mature trees than the preferred option. Moreover, the preferred option is further away from BV mapped areas, meaning it would be less likely to trigger the need for approval in accordance with the *Water Management Act 2000*.

The habitat trees within proximity to the preferred TL route are also expected to be avoided where possible, by careful alignment of the route.

3.3.2 Alternative Sites

In general terms, BESS facilities require large areas of land located adjacent to, or in close vicinity to, an existing substation facility. These characteristics are generally consistent with rural land. As a consequence, there are limited number of suitable locations for such proposals. Other site-specific constraints such as topography, existing use(s) and vehicular access can further reduce the viability of potentially suitable alternative sites for BESS facilities.

The Proponent identified a number of criteria during site selection and suitability assessment for the Project, including the following key considerations:

- Appropriate zoning of land to facilitate development consent for a BESS.
- Availability of access to the BESS Site via roads capable of allowing truck access.
- Proximity to the existing TransGrid substation to minimise impacts of easements.
- Selection of a construction location that would avoid and/or minimise impacts to high quality native vegetation and protected fauna.

As demonstrated by **Figure 3**, sensitive receivers have been identified in proximity to the Subject Sites, all of which are residential dwellings, with no commercial or education land uses identified.

3.3.3 Do Nothing

A ‘do-nothing’ approach would involve not constructing and operating the BESS at the Subject Sites. This approach will not support the State and National Government's plans, policies, and strategies identified in **Section 2.1**, to improve energy affordability, invest in new power sources and grid network infrastructure, and ensure new technologies deliver benefits for customers and work towards Australia’s emission reduction targets.

The ‘do nothing’ option may also avoid potential environmental impacts associated with the construction of the Project; however it is considered that the benefits of the Project, ensuring appropriate mitigation and management measures are implemented during construction and decommissioning, would significantly outweigh any potential environmental impacts whilst contributing to ecologically sustainable development (ESD).

4.0 Statutory Context

4.1 Power to Grant Approval

The EP&A Act and the EP&A Regulation form the statutory framework for planning approvals and environmental assessment in NSW. Implementation of the EP&A Act is the responsibility of the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces, State government agencies, and local government authorities. The requirement for development consent and various development controls are set out in environmental planning instruments (EPIs), including State Environmental Planning Policies (SEPPs) and local environmental plans (LEPs).

The relevant approval pathway, consent authority, and application requirements are discussed in the following sections.

The EP&A Act dictates that the applicable approval pathway for the proposed development is through the SSD process. The proposed development will require SSD Approval under Part 4 of the EP&A Act 1979, as per Clause 4.36 of the Act, as follows:

> *4.36 Development that is State significant development*
>
> *(1) For the purposes of this Act, State significant development is development that is declared under this section to be State significant development.*
>
> *(2) A State environmental planning policy may declare any development, or any class or description of development, to be State significant development.*
>
> *(3) The Minister may, by a Ministerial planning order, declare specified development on specified land to be State significant development, but only if the Minister has obtained and made publicly available advice from the Independent Planning Commission about the State or regional planning significance of the development.*
>
> *Editorial note—*
>
> *For orders under this subsection, see the Historical notes at the end of this Act.*
>
> *(4) A State environmental planning policy that declares State significant development may extend the provisions of the policy relating to that development to State significant development declared under subsection (3).*

The Project triggers SSD through Schedule 1 of the Planning Systems SEPP.

> *20 Electricity generating works and heat or co-generation*
>
> *Development for the purpose of electricity generating works or heat or their co-generation (using any energy source, including gas, coal, biofuel, distillate, waste, hydro, wave, solar or wind power) that—*
>
> *(a) has a capital investment value of more than $30 million, or*
>
> *(b) has a capital investment value of more than $10 million and is located in an environmentally sensitive area of State significance.*

As the estimated cost of works are $30 million, the Project is required to be assessed as SSD.

4.1.1.1 Consent Authority

The Minister for Planning and Public Spaces will be the consent authority for the Project in accordance with Section 4.5 of the EP&A Act. However, the Independent Planning Commission (IPC) (pursuant to clause 2.7 of the Planning Systems SEPP) is the consent authority for the following types of SSD:

a) *Development in respect of which the council of the area in which the development is to be carried out has duly made a submission by way of objection under the mandatory requirements for community participation in Schedule 1 to the Act,*

b) *Development in respect of which at least 50 persons (other than a council) have duly made submissions by way of objection under the mandatory requirements for community participation in Schedule 1 to the Act; and*

c) *Development the subject of a development application made by a person who has disclosed a reportable political donation under section 10.4 to the Act in connection with the development application.*

The requirement for the IPC to be the determining authority is to be confirmed following the completion of the EIS public exhibition.

4.2 Permissibility

4.2.1 Greater Hume Local Environmental Plan 2012

The Project is defined under the NSW land use planning definitions as ‘Electricity Generating Works.’ Pursuant to Greater Hume LEP, the Subject Sites are zoned RU1 Primary Production, as illustrated on the following LEP zoning map extract in **Figure 12**.

Figure 12: Land Zoning Map Extract (Source: ePlanning Spatial Viewer)

Electricity generating works are a prohibited use on land zoned RU1. As such, all works associated with the BESS are proposed in accordance with the provisions of *State Environmental Planning Policy (Transport and Infrastructure) 2021* (Transport and Infrastructure SEPP).

4.2.2 State Environmental Planning Policy (Transport and Infrastructure) 2021

The Transport and Infrastructure SEPP aims to facilitate the effective delivery of infrastructure across the State by providing for the development of electricity generating works on any land in a prescribed rural, industrial or special use zone for which there is consent. Under the Standard Instrument the project falls under the definition of electricity generating works, which includes “a building or place used for the purpose of electricity storage”.

Part 2.3 (Development controls), Division 4 (Electricity generation works or solar energy systems), Clause 2.36 of the Transport and Infrastructure SEPP states that:

> *(1) Development for the purpose of electricity generating works may be carried out by any person with consent on the following land—*
>
> *(a) in the case of electricity generating works comprising a building or place used for the purpose of making or generating electricity using waves, tides or aquatic thermal as the relevant fuel source—on any land,*
>
> *(b) in any other case—any land in a prescribed non-residential zone.*

Part 2.7 (Relationship to other environmental planning instruments, Clause (1) states that 'if there is an inconsistency between this Chapter and any other environmental planning instrument, whether made before or after the commencement of this Chapter, this Chapter prevails to the extent of the inconsistency.'

The RU1 Primary Production zone is a prescribed non-residential zone and therefore permissibility for the Project can be established under the Transport and Infrastructure SEPP.

The Project will need to rely on the Transport and Infrastructure SEPP for permissibility as it is a prohibited use in the RU1 zone under the LEP.

4.3 NSW Planning Framework

Provided in **Table 6** is a consideration of other NSW legislation which may have relevance to the Project, including approvals that are not required under Section 4.41 of the EP&A Act, or authorisations that cannot be refused under Section 4.42 of the EP&A Act, for SSD.

Table 6: State Legislation

NSW Legislation	Requirement
Environmental Planning and Assessment Act (EP&A Act)1979	Section 4.15 of the EP&A Act 1979 provides criteria which a consent authority is to take into consideration, where relevant, when considering a DA. Preparation of a future DA will require a full assessment of the Project, in accordance with the relevant matters prescribed under Section 4.15(1). Integrated development is defined under Section 4.46 of the EP&A Act. It includes development proposals that require development consent and one or more specific approvals under the following Acts: • *Fisheries Management Act 1994 (NSW);* • *Heritage Act 1977 (NSW);* • *Mine Subsidence Compensation Act 1961 (NSW);* • *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 (NSW);* • *Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997 (NSW);* • *Roads Act 1993 (NSW);* • *Rural Fires Act 1997 (NSW); and* • *Water Management Act 2000 (NSW).* Where one of these approvals or permits is required the development application must be submitted to the relevant approval body, for the purposes of obtaining the General Terms of Approval from that approval body which may include any conditions to be imposed on any development consent issued by the consent authority. Whether any of these approvals are triggered is discussed in subsequent sections of this report. It is noted that pursuant to Section 4.41 of the EP&A Act 1979 the following authorisation are not required for SSD applications, which the proposed BESS development falls under: • A permit under section 201, 205 or 219 of the *Fisheries Management Act 1994 (NSW);* • An approval under Part 4, or an excavation permit under section 139, of the *Heritage Act 1977 (NSW);* • An Aboriginal heritage impact permit under section 90 of the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 (NSW);*

NSW Legislation	Requirement
	• A bush fire safety authority under section 100B of the *Rural Fires Act 1997 (NSW); and* • A water use approval under section 89, a water management work approval under section 90 or an activity approval under section 91 of the *Water Management Act 2000 (N*SW). Accordingly, it is not anticipated that the Project will be an integrated development.
Coal Mine Subsidence Compensation Act 2017	The Subject Sites are not mapped within a coal mine subsidence area, therefore there are no requirements in accordance with this legislation.
Fisheries Management Act 1994 (FM Act)	The FM Act aims to conserve, develop, and share the fishery resources of the State for the benefit of the present and future generations. Kilnacroft Creek, which runs through the Substation Site, is mapped as key fish habitat (KFH). The EIS will include consideration on any impacts on Kilnacroft Creek, having regard to the extent of any proposed works in proximity to the creek. Species that are deemed to have a high likelihood of occurrence within the Subject Area will require an 'Assessment of Significance' prepared in accordance with Division 12 of the FM Act. If a significant impact is determined, referral to the Director-General of Department of Primary Industries and a Species Impact Statement (SIS) will be required. A permit under section 201, 205, or 219 of this Act is not required for SSD.
Heritage Act 1977	The Project would not impact on any local or State heritage items, as no listed items are in close proximity to the Subject Sites. An approval under Part 4, or an excavation permit under section 139, of this Act is not required for SSD.
Mining Act 1992	The Project does not involve the extraction of mineral resources. An exploration licence (No.6406) exists over the Subject Sites to Krakatoa Australia Pty Ltd, which expires on 3 March 2024. Consultation with Krakatoa Australia Pty Ltd will occur during the EIS preparation.
National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 (NPW Act)	The NPW Act is responsible for the conservation of objects, places or features (including biological diversity) of cultural value within the landscape. The DPHI is primarily responsible for regulating the management of Aboriginal cultural heritage in NSW under the NPW Act. In accordance with Section 86(1) of the NPW Act, it is an offence to harm or desecrate a known Aboriginal object, whilst it is also an offence to harm an Aboriginal object under Section 86(2). Similarly, Section 86(4) states that a person must not harm or desecrate an Aboriginal place. Artefact Heritage have been engaged to commence preparing the Aboriginal Heritage and Cultural Assessment Report (ACHAR) required as part of the future SSD Application. An Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) under section 90 of this Act is not required for SSD.
Petroleum (Onshore) Act 1991	The Project does not involve the extraction of petroleum resources, therefore this legislation does not apply.

NSW Legislation	Requirement
Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997 (POEO)	Per Schedule 1, the Project does not involve the generation of electricity. The Project stores and releases electricity that has already been generated. As such, Clause 17 does not apply to the Project, and an Environmental Protection Licence (EPL) is not required.
Roads Act 1993	The Project is required to be undertaken in accordance with this Act, should works occur within a public road. A new driveway access will be proposed as part of the application. Required approvals under s138 of the Roads Act 1993 (NSW) will be identified in the future EIS. Consultation has commenced with TfNSW. Consent under section 138 of this Act cannot be refused if necessary for carrying out an SSD if development consent has been issued.
Rural Fires Act 1997	The Subject Sites are mapped within bushfire prone land. A bushfire risk assessment will be undertaken as part of the EIS. A bushfire safety authority under section 100B of the Rural Fires Act 1997 (NSW) will not be required pursuant to Section 4.41 of the EP&A Act, as it is not identified as a use to which this section relates.
Water Management Act 2000 (WM Act)	The WM Act aims to provide for the sustainable and integrated management of the water sources of the State for the benefit of both present and future generations. If a 'Controlled Activity' is to occur within 40 m of the 'high bank' of 'waterfront land', a Controlled Activity approval is required from the National Resources Access Regulator (NRAR). A Controlled Activity may include: • Erecting a building; • Carrying out works: including the construction of bridges, roads, controls measures, sea walls, and more; • Removing material from waterfront land: including plants, rocks, gravel and more; • Depositing material on waterfront land: including gravel or fill; and • Any activity which affects the quantity or flow of water in a water source. Kilnacroft Creek is within the south-west portion of the Subject Area (refer to **Figure 2**), and its adjoining riparian land, is considered waterfront land as defined under the Act. Consideration of impacts to Kilnacroft Creek will be included in the EIS, however it is noted that a water use approval under section 89, a water management work approval under section 90 or an activity approval (other than an aquifer interference approval) under section 91 of this Act is not required for SSD.
Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 (BC Act)	The NSW biodiversity conservation legislation establishes a framework for assessing and offsetting biodiversity impacts for applicable development in NSW. Section 7.9 of the BC Act requires that an SSD application be accompanied by a Biodiversity Development Assessment Report (BDAR) unless the Project is not likely to have any significant impact of biodiversity values. For SSD, it is a standard requirement of the SEARs to require a BDAR. Alternatively in cases where there is little or no biodiversity, a BDAR waiver can be sought. The BESS site does not contain any areas identified on the Biodiversity Values map, however, the development will involve

NSW Legislation	Requirement
	vegetation clearing to facilitate the BESS operation. The extent of clearing required is still to be determined, and will rely on the proposed transmission line route. Areas of Outstanding Biodiversity Value (AOBV), previously identified as Critical Habitat, are special areas with irreplaceable biodiversity values that are important to NSW, Australia, or globally. Developments occurring on AOBVs are an automatic trigger for the BOS. There are only four declared AOBV, none of which are within the Subject Area or surrounds, therefore this trigger does not apply.
Contaminated Land Management Act 1997	A search of the NSW EPA POEO Public Register was made on 8 December 2023 indicating no contaminated land sites located within the Greater Hume LGA. A search was also made on this date of the NSW EPA POEO Public Register indicating 29 POEO licences in the Greater Hume LGA, with the closest in force licence (No. 1515) registered to 80 Hueske Road Jindera approximately 10 km to the south of the Subject Sites. As no contaminated land sites or EPLs have been registered for the Subject Sites, and the use of the land as a rural purpose it is reasonable to consider the potential for contamination unlikely and the land suitable for the purpose of the Project, being electricity storage works. An appropriate unexpected finds protocols will be implemented during construction and decommissioning phases.
Local Land Services Act 2013 (LLS Act)	The existing vegetation on the western boundary and within the road reserve does not comply with the requirements of the Category 1 - exempt land mapping, due to the Subject Sites not being cleared before 1 January 1990 or being lawfully cleared of native vegetation following this date.
Crown Land Management Act 2016 (CLM Act)	If works are needed on the unformed paper road, it is noted that any allocation action of Crown land including lease, sale, reservation, dedication, licence or permit, the land must be assessed to consider capacities and suitable uses. The Minister is the authority for all Crown roads. If required, the Proponent will write to the NSW Crown Land department to request a crown road licence over the crown roads under Part 5 of the CLM Act.

Further to the legislative considerations detailed in **Table 5**, a summary of the key EPIs to the project is made below in **Table 7**.

Table 7: Applicable Environmental Planning Instruments

NSW Legislation	Requirement
State Environmental Planning Policy (Transport and Infrastructure) 2021	The Transport and Infrastructure SEPP aims to facilitate the effective delivery of infrastructure across the State through increased regulatory certainty and improved efficiency and flexibility in the location of infrastructure and service facilities, whilst also providing for adequate stakeholder consultation. Section 2.36 of the Transport and Infrastructure SEPP provides additional options to achieve permissibility for electricity generating works. Permissibility is available through the Transport and Infrastructure SEPP.

NSW Legislation	Requirement
	Consultation with the relevant electricity supply authority is required under Section 2.48 due to the Project's connection to the electrical supply network. Any requirements are to be resolved with the relevant authority.
State Environmental Planning Policy (Planning Systems) 2021	The Planning Systems SEPP identifies development to which the SSD assessment and approval process under Division 4.7 of Part 4 of the EP&A Act applies. The Project is a development for the purpose of 'electricity generating works and heat or co-generation' that has a capital investment value of more than $30 million, accordingly as per clause 20(1) of Schedule 1 of the Planning Systems SEPP the project is classified as SSD.
State Environmental Planning Policy (Resilience and Hazards) 2021 **(Resilience and Hazards SEPP)**	**Hazard and Risk** Chapter 3 of the Resilience and Hazards SEPP establishes a comprehensive test by way of a preliminary screening assessment and preliminary hazard analysis (PHA) to determine the risk to people, property, and the environment. As the BESS is considered a 'potentially hazardous or potentially offensive development' under Part 3, a preliminary hazard analysis in accordance with the current circulars or guidelines published by DPHI must be prepared. Consequently, a PHA will be completed to support the Project EIS. **Contamination** Chapter 4 of the Resilience and Hazards SEPP aims to provide a state-wide planning approach to contaminated land remediation and to promote the remediation of contaminated land to reduce the risk of harm. A search of the NSW EPA POEO Public Register was made on 8 December 2023 indicating no contaminated land sites located within the Greater Hume LGA. A search was also made on this date of the NSW EPA POEO Public Register indicating 29 POEO licences in the Greater Hume LGA, with the closest in force licence (No. 1515) registered to 80 Hueske Road Jindera approximately 10 km to the south of the Subject Sites. As no contaminated land sites or EPLs have been registered for the Subject Sites, and the use of the land as a rural purpose it is reasonable to consider the potential for contamination unlikely and the land suitable for the purpose of the Project, being electricity storage works. An appropriate unexpected finds protocols will be implemented during construction and decommissioning phases.
State Environmental Planning Policy (Biodiversity Conservation) 2021 **(Biodiversity Conservation SEPP)**	Chapter 3 'Koala habitat protection 2020' of the Biodiversity Conservation SEPP aims to encourage the proper conservation and management of natural vegetation that provides habitat for koalas. Pursuant to Part 3.1, the provisions of this Chapter apply to the Project as it is located on land zoned as RU1 Primary Production and within a listed LGA in Schedule 1 of the State Environmental Planning Policy (Koala Habitat Protection) 2021 (now repealed). Chapter 4 does not apply, as the Subject Sites are zoned RU1 Primary Production with the Greater Hume LGA listed within Schedule 2, and is not listed with an asterisk. Chapter 5 River Murray lands does not apply to the Subject Sites.
Greater Hume Local Environmental Plan 2012	The Subject Sites occurs within the Greater Hume LGA and therefore is subject to the LEP.

NSW Legislation	Requirement
	The Subject Sites are located on land zoned 'RU1 – Primary Production' under the LEP. The Project is considered to meet the definition of 'electricity generating works' which is prohibited under the LEP. Section 2.36 of the Transport and Infrastructure SEPP provides additional options to achieve permissibility for electricity generating works and has been discussed at **Section 4.2**. Permissibility is available through the Transport and Infrastructure SEPP.
Greater Hume Development Control Plan (DCP) 2013	As the project is classed as SSD, it is not subject to the provisions of the DCP, in accordance with Clause 2.10 of the Planning Systems SEPP.

4.4 Commonwealth Legislation

4.4.1 Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999

The *Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (Cth) (EPBC Act) is the Australian Government's central piece of environmental legislation. The EPBC Act provides a legal framework to protect and manage nationally and internationally important flora, fauna, ecological communities and heritage places – defined in the EPBC Act as matters of national environmental significance.

The nine matters of national environmental significance (MNES) to which the EPBC Act applies are:

- World heritage properties.
- National heritage places.
- Wetlands of international importance (often called 'Ramsar' wetlands after the international treaty under which such wetlands are listed).
- Nationally threatened species and ecological communities.
- Migratory species.
- Commonwealth marine areas.
- The Great Barrier Reef Marine Park.
- Nuclear actions (including uranium mining.
- A water resource, in relation to coal same gas development and large coal mining development.

The findings of a desktop assessment have been summarised below in **Table 8.**

Table 8: Summary of MNES

MNES	Comment
World Heritage Properties	There are no World heritage properties listed within proximity of the Subject Sites.
National Heritage Places	There are no National heritage places listed within proximity of the Subject Sites.
Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar)	The Subject Sites are not within proximity to a Ramsar Wetland.

MNES	Comment
Great Barrier Reef Marine Park	The Subject Sites are not located either within or adjacent to the Great Barrier Reef marine park.
Commonwealth Marine Area	The Subject Sites are not located either within or adjacent to the Commonwealth marine area.
Listed Threatened Ecological Communities	One EPBC Act listed TEC was associated with the PCTs present within the Subject Sites.
Listed Threatened Species Listed Migratory Species	A total of 18 threatened or migratory species listed under the EPBC Act have habitats which may occur within the locality, none of which have been historically recorded within the Subject Sites.

Under the EPBC Act, an action will require approval from the Environment Minister (the Minister) if the action has, will have, or is likely to have, a significant impact on an MNES. The Significant Impact Guidelines 1.1 – Matters of National Significance (DEWHA, 2013) outline a 'self-assessment' process, including detailed criteria, to assist persons in deciding whether or not referral to the minister is required for assessment and approval under the EPBC Act. MNES impacted by the Project will require detailed assessment under the Significant Impact Guidelines as part of the future SSD.

4.4.2 Native Title Act 1993

The *Native Title Act 1993* (Cth) recognises the interests and rights Aboriginal people have to land and aims to provide recognition and protection of common law native title rights. A search of the National Native Title Register did not identify native title applications or determinations in the Subject Sites or the LGA.

4.5 Pre-conditions to Exercising the Power to Grant Approval

4.5.1 Project Approvals

This section provides an overview of other approvals required to carry out the Project. Approvals required for the Project are identified in **Table 9.**

Table 9: Project Approvals

Legislation	Permit / Approval	Authority
EP&A Act	Development Approval	DPHI
Roads Act	Section 138 Approval	Council/TfNSW
CLM Act	Part 5 Division 5.6 – Licences over Crown Land	Crown Lands

4.5.2 Mandatory Matter for Consideration

Table 10 outlines the mandatory matters for consideration under relevant Environmental Planning Instruments and legislation. Any further requirements will be identified within the SEARs.

Table 10: Mandatory Matters for Consideration

Mandatory Consideration
Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 • Section 1.3 Objects of Act • Section 1.7 Application of Part 7 of *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016* and Part 7A of *Fisheries Management Act 1994* (cf previous s 5AA) • Section 4.14 Consultation and development consent—certain bush fire prone land (cf previous s 79BA) • Section 4.15 Evaluation The provisions of— (i) any environmental planning instrument (ii) any draft environmental planning instrument) (iii) any development control plan (iiia) any planning agreement or draft planning agreement (iv) the regulations (b) the likely impacts of that development, including environmental impacts on both the natural and built environments, and social and economic impacts in the locality, (c) the suitability of the site for the development, (d) any submissions made in accordance with this Act or the regulations, (e) the public interest.
Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2021 • Clause 23 Persons who may make development applications • Clause 28 Development applications relating to Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 • Clause 59 Additional requirements for State significant development—the Act, s 4.39 • Clause 190 Form of environmental impact statement • Clause 191 Compliance with environmental assessment requirements • Clause 192 Content of environmental impact statement • Clause 193 Principles of ecologically sustainable development
Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 Section 7.9 Biodiversity assessment for State significant development or infrastructure
National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 Part 6 Aboriginal objects and Aboriginal places
State Environmental Planning Policy (Resilience and Hazards) 2021 • Clause 3.11 Preparation of preliminary hazard analysis. • Clause 3.12 Matters for consideration by consent authorities. • Clause 4.6 Contamination and remediation to be considered in determining development application.
State Environmental Planning Policy (Transport and Infrastructure) 2021 Section 2.48 Determination of development applications—other development
State Environmental Planning Policy (Biodiversity and Conservation) 2021 Part 3.2 Development control of koala habitats

Mandatory Consideration
Greater Hume Local Environmental Plan 2012 • Clause 5.21 Flood planning • Clause 6.1 Earthworks • Clause 6.2 Terrestrial biodiversity • Clause 6.3 Riparian land and watercourses • Clause 6.7 Essential services

5.0 Engagement

The Proponent (BESS Atlantic) understands that interest in the Project may not just be from directly affected landowners and neighbours but will extend to the broader community. The Proponent proposes to engage groups and individuals outside the directly affected Subject Sites as appropriate.

The Proponent has commitment to their proposals, activities, and developments being conducted in a way that demonstrates and contributes enduring benefits to the local communities. The following outlines the Proponent commitments to the Jindera Community and the broader Riverina Region during the planning, construction, operational and decommissioning stages of the Project.

BESS Atlantic will:

- Be proactive:

  Engage with communities early and often, so that BESS Atlantic understand and respond to their interests and concerns.

- Be flexible and inclusive:

  Offer a range of engagement opportunities that are tailored to the variety of needs and preferences of the communities in which BESS Atlantic operate.

- Be transparent:

  Act honestly and ethically in all our dealings with the communities in which BESS Atlantic operate.

- Support our employees and contractors to engage well:

  Provide tools, peer support and training to enable our staff to deliver on BESS Atlantic's commitments.

- Continuously improve our engagement:

  Evaluate the effectiveness of our engagement and modify it as needed to ensure that BESS Atlantic's activities address community needs and expectations.

On 24 October 2023, the Proponent and SLR met with representatives of the DPHI to introduce this project and obtain preliminary feedback. The advice provided by the DPHI has helped to inform this scoping report and the preliminary assessment requirements, including consultation and engagement.

The Proponent has engaged SLR to prepare a Social Impact Assessment (SIA). This is currently underway and will inform the preparation of the application and assist with engagement activities. A copy of the Phase 1 SIA is included in **Appendix C**.

5.1 Key Stakeholder and Government Consultation

Consultation with several stakeholders at various levels have been undertaken. Outcomes of these consultations have aided in informing the Project to align with outcomes of previous engagement. All meetings are recorded by minutes and feedback is shared across the project team with relevant technical specialists. Feedback will be entered into a database for review and consideration during the preparation of the EIS phase. Consultation with regulatory bodies which have been undertaken to date are detailed below.

5.1.1 Council

Preliminary engagement has occurred with the Council, with details of the Project provided via email on 8 December 2023. The intent of preliminary engagement was to introduce the Proponent and the Project. A written response was received from Council on 15 January 2024, with preliminary advice summarised below:

- Noted close proximity to the approved Jindera and Glenellen Solar Farms, and need to consider cumulative impacts on traffic, noise and air quality.
- Visual impacts of the Project will need to be considered and Council would like to see the proposed BESS be assimilated with the rural landscape.
- Traffic implications of the Project will be an issue for Councils consideration and information will be needed on traffic generation of the development during construction, operation and decommissioning.
- Council's will be requesting the applicant to enter into a Voluntary Planning Agreement (VPA) with Council with the value of the VPA amounting to 1% of the capital investment value.
- Impacts on the hydrology of the site and surrounds as a result of the Project should be addressed.
- Other impacts to be considered include a hazards and risks analysis, biodiversity, land resources, aboriginal cultural heritage, historical heritage, waste and resource use, noise and socio-economic factors.

5.1.2 Transport for NSW

Preliminary engagement has been completed with Transport for NSW (TfNSW) with details of the Project provided via email on 8 December 2023. The intent of preliminary engagement was introduce the Proponent and the Project, to facilitate consultation on any key design or assessment considerations. A response was received on 18th of January 2024 with preliminary comments included.

Comments are summarised to comprise of the following matters for future consideration:

- Traffic volumes inclusive of background and project related traffic.
- Traffic characteristics including; ratio of heavy to light vehicles, peak times, hours of transportation and the like.
- Capacity analysis.
- Heavy vehicle and OSOM routes (NVHR approved) including a logistics route analysis, locations where civil works are required, pinch points and the like.
- Cumulative impacts, including projects nearby with overlapping construction periods.
- Consideration of accommodation and transport needs/facilities.
- Road safety assessment of haulage routes.
- Project schedule including detail on shifts to be worked, targeted construction timeframes.
- Origins, destinations and routes for commuter vehicles, heavy vehicles and OSOM vehicles.
- Any road upgrades required, with strategic drawings.

- Internal road layouts.
- Impact on rail corridors and level crossings.
- SEPP 33 / dangerous goods controls.
- Draft TMP managing impacts of project related traffic.

These matters requested for consideration from TfNSW will be adequately reported through a Traffic Impact Assessment (TIA) to accompany the future EIS.

5.1.3 TransGrid

The BESS will connect to the existing TransGrid substation via transmission line. It is not yet confirmed whether the Proponent or TransGrid will complete the works associated with the grid connection for the Project.

On-going consultation between the Proponent and TransGrid has been occurring since December 2022. The following engagement has been undertaken to date:

- December 2022:
  - Initial preliminary correspondence with TransGrid.
  - 7.12.22 - Connection Enquiry - sent via email.
  - 12.12.22 - TransGrid request to clarify some enquiry items.
  - 14.12.22 – BESS Atlantic clarification items confirmed via email.
- January 2023 - TransGrid Connection Enquiry Response:
  - Overall positive response.
  - Few constraints identified within response to conduct necessary augmentations to substation to meet proposed generation capacity.
  - System strength requirements for satisfactory operation outlined.
- February 2023 - TransGrid update meeting.

5.2 Community and Stakeholder Engagement

The Proponent has conducted some preliminary engagement with landowners and residents surrounding the BESS site and with the Council. The purpose of this early engagement was to introduce the Project and BESS technology, to identify potential impacts, understand current concerns and to answer any questions.

Early consultation included:

- Kitchen table meetings and door knock discussions with nine of the eleven landowners and residents contacted around the Subject Sites.
- ‘Calling cards’ and project information flyers were left for landowners and residents who could not be reached during visits.

Table 11 summarises feedback received through early consultation. It is important to note that some concerns raised by local landowners and residents related to the Jindera Solar Farm and may not be specifically relevant to the Project.

Table 11: Summary of Feedback Received through Early Consultation

Impact Category	Summary of Feedback
Way of life	• Opposed to development of solar and BESS infrastructure on high value agricultural land. • Concerns about the impact of construction traffic on local transport networks.
Health and wellbeing	• Concern regarding potential impacts relating to visual amenity, noise, and light at night. • Concern regarding the requirement to run underground cable.
Surroundings	• Concern about potential visual impacts when walking, such as those created by the Jindera Solar Farm. • Concerns that the Subject Sites are too swampy.
Livelihoods	• Concern regarding impact on land values as a result of diminished landscape and vistas, as experienced from the nearby Jindera Solar Farm.
	• Opportunities for procurement of local goods and services. • Opportunities to lease land for the BESS and associated activities

It is proposed that all community engagement relevant to the Project will be completed during the preparation of the EIS via the proposed Community and Stakeholder Engagement Plan (CSEP) and engagement campaign (as detailed in **Section 5.2.1** below) and Social Impact Assessment (as detailed in **Section 6.1.9** below).

5.2.1 Community and Stakeholder Engagement Plan (CSEP)

A CSEP has been commenced and will be developed in accordance with the Undertaking Engagement Guidelines for State Significant Projects (DPIE, 2021) and will be routinely updated throughout the Project duration. It identifies community members and stakeholders to be engaged through the Social Impact Assessment (SIA) scoping worksheet (detailed in **Section 6.1.9**). A copy of the CSEP (as of 15th March 2024) has been attached, refer **Appendix D.**

The CSEP informs the type and depth of consultation to be completed during the preparation of the Project EIS, as well as recommendations for future community and stakeholder engagement following approval. The scoping worksheet will be utilised to identify potential impacts of the Project and the parties to be consulted with respect to those impacts and will be included within the CSEP for submission to DPHI at EIS stage.

The Proponent's stakeholder engagement program aims to ensure that community and stakeholders are provided with accurate information regarding the development of the Project. The following are key objectives which have guided the development of the CSEP and its methodology:

- Build upon engagement activities undertaken to date, leverage from established relationships and any lessons learned are captured and incorporated.
- Identify engagement channels to address all consultation and engagement needs.
- Design an inclusive, tailored, flexible and adaptable plan to identify the most effective approaches to engagement with stakeholders and the community.
- Identify and mitigate engagement issues and risks that arise as the Project evolves and progresses.

- Identify engagement tools that appropriately capture stakeholder feedback on the Project, including all stakeholder concerns.
- Enable consistent project messaging to manage stakeholder and community expectations and avoid lack of confidence in engagement.
- Support the delivery of the Project to be recognised as environmentally, economically, culturally and socially acceptable to the community and key stakeholders (i.e. earn social licence to operate).
- Provide regulators with confidence that all positive and negative impacts are well understood and can be managed throughout all phases of the Project.

The choice of engagement tools and techniques depends on the desired outcome of the Project's engagement. If the goal is to gather information from the community such as identifying issues, opportunities, and local knowledge, the engagement methods will differ from those used to involve the community in discussions to shape or influence project outcomes. The engagement methods will be customised to meet the needs of the community and stakeholders, addressing any barriers that may prevent effective engagement. A list of engagement tools and activities and their application is provided in **Table 12**.

Table 12: Engagement Tools and Activities

Tool	Description	Stakeholder Group	Timing
Face-to-face meetings	BESS Atlantic will hold face-to-face meetings with stakeholders, as agreed, to proactively discuss project progress, potential procurement opportunities and any associated changes.	All stakeholders	Pre-construction Construction
Community information sessions	Community information sessions provide an opportunity for local communities to meet with the Project team and raise any concerns or questions.	All stakeholders	Construction
Letters/emails	Provide stakeholders with updates on the Project including project timing, potential impacts and benefits and opportunities to provide feedback, as required	All stakeholders	Pre-construction Construction
Online job platforms	Advertise employment opportunities, as required.	Local community Local business Local landholders Traditional Owners	Pre-construction
Project factsheet	Distribute factsheet to stakeholders with information on project details and relevant contact details	All stakeholders	Pre-construction
Project website and social media	Webpage for the public to keep up to date with BESS Atlantic's activities and the progress of the Project. The website will include: • Details on BESS Atlantic and its assets • Project status and key documents	All stakeholders	Pre-construction Construction Operation

Tool	Description	Stakeholder Group	Timing
	• Recent media releases and news articles • Ability to register for project updates • Contact details for further information.		
Local newspaper	Provide the wider community with an update on the Project including progress, initiatives, and job opportunities.	All stakeholders	All stages
Local media	Utilise local media outlets to: • Announce start of construction for the Project • Promote events or key project successes • Communicate project updates.	All stakeholders	Pre-construction Operation

6.0 Proposed Assessment of Impact

Section 6.0 identifies key matters proposed to be assessed within the EIS for the construction, operation, and decommissioning of the Project, as determined by preliminary desktop assessment.

6.1 Key Matters Requiring Assessment in the EIS

Based on preliminary desktop assessments of the environmental constraints identified for the Project, the following key matters have been identified as areas of priority for further investigation within the EIS. The proposed level of assessment is also summarised in **Table 13.**

Table 13: Key Assessment Issues

Key Issue	Level of assessment proposed
Noise and vibration	Detailed Assessment.
Biodiversity	Detailed Assessment.
Aboriginal heritage	Detailed Assessment.
Traffic and access	Detailed Assessment.
Visual amenity	Detailed Assessment.
Water Impacts • Hydrology • Flooding • Stormwater	Detailed Assessment.
Land quality	Detailed Assessment.
Air quality and greenhouse gas	Standard Assessment.
Social and economic	Detailed Assessment.
Waste management	Standard Assessment.
Hazard and risk	Detailed Assessment.
Historic Environment	Standard Assessment.
Accessibility	No further assessment required.
Odour	No further assessment required.

6.1.1 Noise and Vibration

6.1.1.1 Preliminary Assessment

The BESS Site is in a rural/rural residential setting with a substation in close proximity. Nearby sensitive receivers will need to be considered, refer back to **Figure 3** and **Table 3. Table 3** particularises the closest receptors (within 1 km) to the BESS site.

The TransGrid substation, the surrounding road network, and agricultural plant and equipment are the likely sources of existing background noise levels.

The application will need to consider noise impacts associated with the following aspects of the Project:

- Vehicle movements during the construction and operational phases.

- Plant and heavy machinery during the construction phase.
- Noise emitting from the BESS facility once operational.

The construction and decommissioning of the Project is anticipated to have short-term impacts to sensitive receivers that will require best practice mitigation measures to reduce potential noise disturbances, including standard hours of construction.

Vibration impacts on sensitive receivers are not expected during operation, construction, or decommissioning.

6.1.1.2 Proposed Level and Approach of Assessment

A Noise and Vibration Assessment (NVIA) will be prepared as part of the Project EIS. It is expected that the key elements of the NVIA of activities associated with the Project will include:

- Defining the assessment scenarios for the construction and operation stages of the development.
- Determination of the noise criteria for the Project and an assessment of likely noise impacts during construction, operation, and decommissioning will be undertaken in accordance with the Interim Construction Noise Guideline (ICNG), operational noise impacts in accordance with the NSW Noise Policy for Industry (2017), cumulative noise impacts (considering other developments in the area).
- Assessment of predicted noise levels for construction and operational phases of the development against the noise assessment criteria adopted from the relevant environmental legislation and acoustic guidelines.

Where required, a range of reasonable and feasible (concept level) mitigation measures would be recommended to manage potential impacts and, where reasonable and feasible, achieve compliance to all relevant noise assessment criteria.

6.1.2 Biodiversity

6.1.2.1 Preliminary Assessment

There are trees located sporadically on the Subject Sites, with denser vegetation located in the western portion of the BESS Site. The area identified for the BESS facility is largely unencumbered by native vegetation, however is noted that the road reserve areas and substation site are more heavily vegetated. The level of impact will be determined by the proposed transmission line required by TransGrid, as the Project Area is largely cleared of native vegetation.

A desktop biodiversity review has been undertaken, involving a review of relevant information and relevant database searches.

In addition, preliminary ecological field work has been undertaken across the Subject Sites. The Subject Sites contains three PCTs mapped by the State Vegetation Type Map. The PCTs are likely to conform to a CEEC under both the BC and EPBC Act:

- PCT 266: White Box grassy woodland in the upper slopes sub-region of the NSW South Western Slopes Bioregion.
- PCT 277: Blakelys Red Gum – Yellow Box grassy tall woodland of the NSW South Western Slopes Bioregion.
- PCT 633: Speargrass – Redleg Grass derived grassland on hills in the Jindera to Holbrook region, southern NSW South Western Slopes Bioregion.

The remaining areas are considered to be mixed exotic and native vegetation. Due to a lack of native species, extremely disturbed soil profile, and ongoing disturbance, the vegetation mapped as 'mixed exotic and native vegetation' does not conform to a native PCT.

The likelihood of occurrence analysis identified 27 threatened/migratory species as having a moderate or greater potential to occur within the Subject Sites. No threatened flora were observed within the Subject Area. One threatened fauna species, the Little Eagle (*Hieraaetus morphnoides*) has been observed. The vegetation on-site likely provides suitable habitat for a number of threatened species.

6.1.2.2 Proposed Level and Approach of Assessment

Strategic planning of the transmission lines is necessary to identify a suitable location aimed at reducing any potential negative impacts on biodiversity. Given the existing largely cleared nature of the BESS site, impacts to vegetation communities can be kept to a minimum. However, given the presence of PCT 277 which conforms to a CEEC under the BC Act within the proposed transmission routes, the complete avoidance of impacts is unlikely. The preliminary ecological field surveys have highlighted areas of high ecological constraint to be prioritised for retention during the transmission line design process.

Either a BDAR or BDAR Waiver will be prepared as part of the EIS, with the following scopes of work, dependent on further preliminary investigation:

Option 1 – BDAR Waiver

A BDAR waiver will be prepared in accordance with the guidance document *How to Apply for A Biodiversity Development Assessment Report Waiver for a Major Project Application* (DPIE, 2019), if following a field survey, it is determined that negligible impacts to biodiversity would occur as a result of the Project.

Option 2 – BDAR

If, following a field survey, it is determined that more than negligible impacts to biodiversity will occur as a result of the Project, a BDAR will be prepared under Part 4 of the EP&A Act in accordance with the Biodiversity Assessment Method (BAM).

A BDAR will be prepared as part of the Project EIS, with the following scope of works:

- Completion of plot/transect surveys according to the BAM ('BAM plots'), General fauna habitat assessment, and targeted threatened species surveys are proposed to be completed as part of the BDAR field program.
- Mapping of any native vegetation, noting extent and condition of PCTs according to published mapping, and presence of threatened ecological communities.
- Impact assessment inclusive of the following:
    - Assessment of direct and indirect impacts unable to be avoided at the Subject Sites.
    - Demonstration of efforts to avoid and minimise impact on biodiversity values.
    - Identification of prescribed impacts.
    - Details assessment of potential serious and irreversible impacts (SAIIs) if present on the Subject Sites.
    - Running of the BAM Calculator, using data collected from the site surveys, by an accredited BAM assessor. Calculation of biodiversity credits required to offset the

loss of vegetation and habitat associated with the development, comprising ecosystem credits and (where applicable) species credits.

- Identification of impact avoidance and mitigation measures.

6.1.3 Aboriginal Heritage

6.1.3.1 Preliminary Assessment

A desktop assessment was conducted on 25 October 2023 using the NSW Government's AHIMS Search Tool, measuring approximately 3 km surrounding the Subject Sites, which is included at **Appendix E**.

The search determined that there are 11 registered Aboriginal sites within the search area. There are no registered Aboriginal sites within the Subject Sites. The AHIMS database records sites using a list of twenty standard site features, of which two were found within the extensive search (OEH 2012) summarised in **Table 14**. The closest AHIMS site identified in the search is located approximately 600m southwest of the Subject Sites. The AHIMS search is also reflected through a map within **Figure 13** to add visual context to the Subject Sites and their separation distances from registered sites of Aboriginal and cultural heritage.

Table 14: Frequency of Site Features in AHIMS Search Results

Site Types	Frequency
Artefact	9
Modified Tree (Carved or Scarred)	2
Total	11

A search of the National Native Title Register did not identify native title applications or determinations.

6.1.3.2 Proposed Level and Approach of Assessment

To ensure the Project has full knowledge of Aboriginal cultural values at the project location and is able to mitigate any harm to these values, a detailed level of assessment is required of this specific matter and a comprehensive assessment undertaken. An ACHAR will be prepared in consultation with the Albury and District Local Aboriginal Land Council (LALC) and Registered Aboriginal Parties (RAPs).

This assessment will be undertaken in accordance with the following Aboriginal heritage assessment guidelines:

- The Code of Practice for the Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in NSW (DECCW, 2010) [the Code].
- The Guide to Investigating, Assessing and Reporting on Aboriginal Cultural Heritage in NSW (Office of Environment and Heritage, 2011) [the Guide].
- The Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010 (DECCW, 2010).

The ACHAR will have the following scope of works:

- Consultation with the Aboriginal community with registration of interest in the Project and the gathering of the information about cultural significance.
- Detailed findings of an archaeological survey of the Subject Sites to further assess levels of disturbance and archaeological potential to refine the predictive modelling

and clarify any identified areas of high and moderate sensitivity within the study area. The field survey will be completed by an archaeologist with a member of the LALC, and in accordance with Requirement 5 of the Code.

- Should the archaeological survey identify that there are areas of archaeological potential within the Subject Sites, a notification and sampling strategy will need to be prepared. Requirement 15c of the Code states that this needs to be provided to Heritage NSW a minimum of 14 days before test excavations commencing.
- Preparation of the draft ACHAR and review by Aboriginal stakeholders, with a 28 day period for review and comment. Once this timeframe elapses, the ACHAR will be finalised to include all comments and correspondence sent and received regarding the project as an appendix.

6.1.4 Traffic and Access

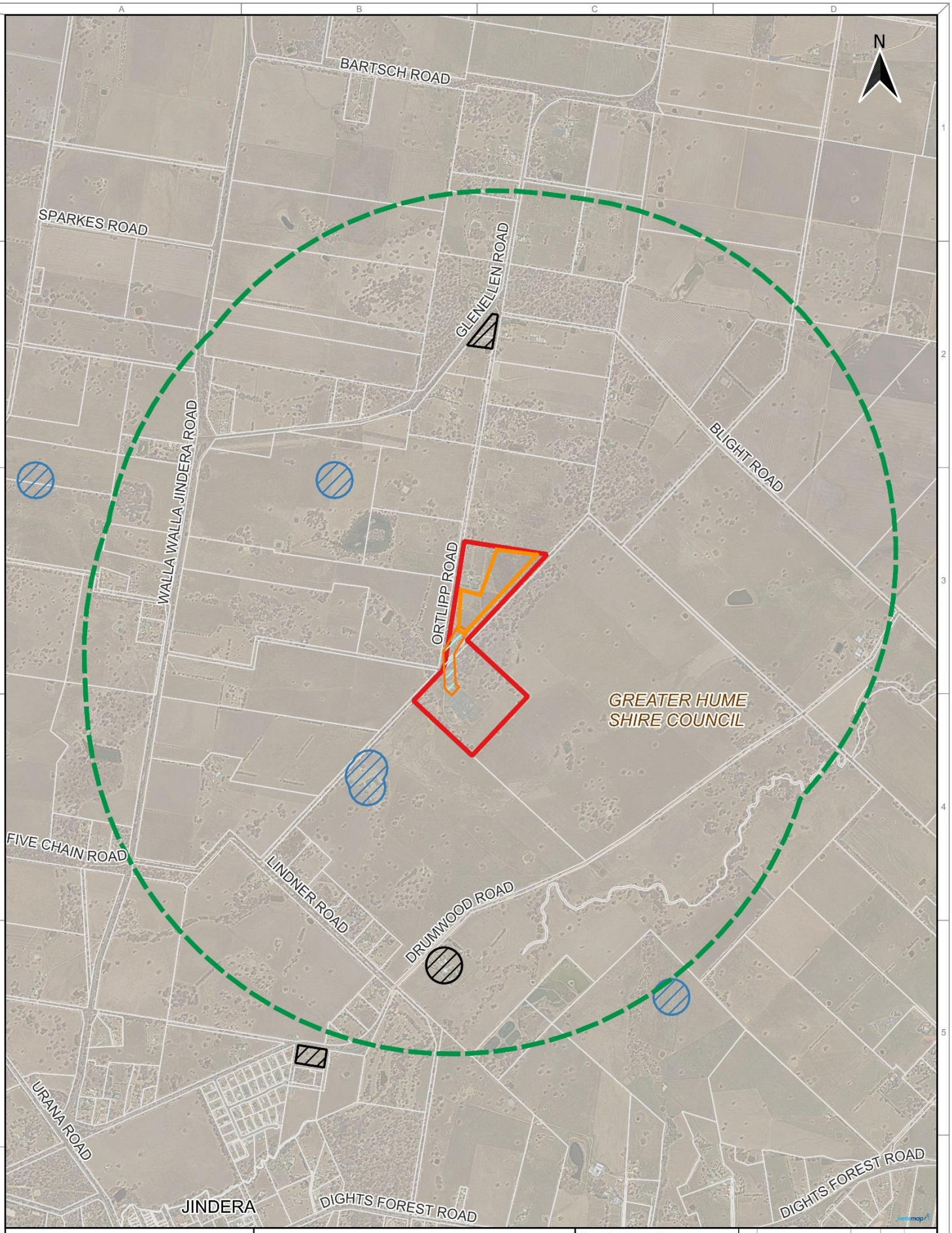
6.1.4.1 Preliminary Assessment

Access to the Project during construction, operation and decommissioning will be sought via an access road from the BESS site to Ortlipp Road. The location and design will be confirmed as the design of the Project is finalised, and will require the ability to accommodate heavy vehicles required during construction, operation and decommissioning.

A preliminary assessment has been undertaken by SLR, and the following is noted:

- It is proposed that access to and from the development will be provided via Ortlipp Road. The location and design will be confirmed as the site's design is finalised, and it will be able to accommodate heavy vehicles required during construction, operation, and decommissioning.
- The proposed heavy vehicle route utilises the classified road network where possible, except for Lindner Road and Ortlipp Road.
- It is anticipated that no rail corridors or crossings will be impacted.
- Nearby projects have been identified, and the cumulative impact of these projects will be considered in a future TIA.
- The Project will generate approximately 11,211 return trips during the construction period over 261 business days (ten months).
- The average daily traffic generation will be in the order of 43 return trips a day, where the peak construction period is anticipated to generate around 81 return trips a day (80 light vehicle trips, one heavy vehicle trip).
- Any significant traffic impacts associated with the Project are expected to occur only during the construction phase. Any temporary parking and set-down areas required during construction will be reinstated and landscaped once the facility is operational.
- The proposed BESS facility will be managed remotely once operational, requiring minimal site attendance from maintenance staff. The proposal is unlikely to have any lasting impacts on traffic at this location. However, a TIA will be undertaken, and any mitigation methods and strategies identified in the associated report will be adopted into the proposal.

A detailed Traffic Impact Assessment (TIA) will be undertaken to accompany a future EIS, including detail on whether mitigation measures (including the need for potential road upgrades) are required in any format as part of the proposed development.



Scale at A4
1:27500

0 0.25 0.5 km

LEGEND

- 2 km BESS Area Buffer
- Project Area
- Proposed BESS Area
- Proposed Easement
- Cadastral - Lots

Heritage Items

- Item - General
- Item - AHIMS Search (100m Buffer)

IMPORTANT : This figure contains AHIMS data

ISSUED FOR
- INFORMATION ONLY
- APPROVAL
- QUOTATION PURCHASING
- CONSTRUCTION
- AS BUILT

REV.	DESCRIPTION	DATE	BY	APPR.
1	Heritage Items in Proximity to the Subject Sites	18/03/2024	HV	

ENGINEERING: iEngineering
DEVELOPER: GRANSOLAR GROUP

COORDINATE REFERENCE SYSTEM: GDA2020 / MGA zone 55

PROJECT: JINDERA BESS

SHEET TITLE: FIGURE 13 - HERITAGE ITEMS IN PROXIMITY TO THE SUBJECT SITES

REFERENCE: JIN-PD-180324-A2-1

PAPER SIZE: A4: 297 x 210mm

DRAWING Nº: JIN-PD-180324-HER-A2

6.1.4.2 Proposed Level and Approach of Assessment

A TIA will be undertaken and the associated report provided with the SSD Application. It is expected that the key elements of the TIA of activities associated with the Project will include:

- Existing road conditions review and future road network planning consideration.
- Assessed traffic demands (construction, operation and decommissioning phases).
- Intersection and access assessments.
- Road safety assessment and road use management planning.
- Identification of any mitigation measures.

As part of the consultation process, the potential for a Voluntary Planning Agreements (VPA) for road upgrades will be discussed with the Council.

6.1.5 Visual Amenity

6.1.5.1 Preliminary Assessment

The EIS will consider the visual impact of the Project within the surrounding landscape, this includes nearby residents and public vistas that may be impacted, in particular motorists along roadways. This will include temporary impacts during construction and long-term impacts once operational.

Preliminary assessment has been commenced by SLR for the Project to determine the view lines of significance relevant to the Project. Three (3) key public receptor viewpoints were identified where the Subject Sites could be seen from public locations. Due to the distances from the Subject Sites, presence of topographic and vegetated features, surrounding structures and the limited views from publicly accessible areas, the choice of viable views was limited. Typically views to the Subject Sites from local roads and other public locations in the area were limited to localised views. Photos from each viewpoint are provided in **Figure 14** to **Figure 16** and prepared to indicate where the proposed BESS facility is likely to be seen. Further assessment will provide a before and after montage, to further illustrate the impacts of the proposal including the transmission towers and associated vegetation removal.

In relation to potential visual impacts to private receptors, determining the private receptors located in proximity to the Subject Sites involved a desktop study to locate dwellings from an aerial map within a 2 km radius. Public and private receptor points were reviewed up to a 3km radius surrounding the Subject sites. Due to significant visual attenuation from topography and vegetation, an assessment area was reduced to a 2km radius where views toward the site were present. This exercise identified 26 private receptor locations.

Due to the low-lying location of the Subject Sites, the low heights of the infrastructure components (other than the transmission towers) and the substantial existing vegetation within and around the Project, the visual impact of the Project is considered to be low when viewed from many of the dwellings and the surrounding liveable areas that surround these dwellings. There is one (1) private receptor that is more likely to experience considerable change to their surroundings, being Dewhurst 238 Ortlipp Road, Glenellen, refer to **Figure 3**.

Considerations for further studies may include modelling the likely visibility of the Project to assess if views are likely to occur when viewed at these locations. Considerations will include a cumulative impact assessment of the nearby approved solar farms.

Existing screening on the site has been assessed and is demonstrated within

Figure 17. On the BESS site, it exists through of high and medium vegetation, and is most prominent with the BESS site's boundary with Ortlipp Road and into its attributed road reserve. The Substation Site also demonstrates a clear presence of existing screening through the frontage to Ortlipp Road and the Crown Road Reserve. Acknowledging the existing screening on the Subject Sites, additional screening in the form of strategically placed planted vegetation, or other measures, may be required to ensure visual impacts are minor.

Viewpoint 1 90°

Viewpoint 1 (VP1)	Description
Viewpoint location	204 Ortlipp Rd, Glenellen NSW 2642
Viewpoint coordinates	-35° 55' 7", 146° 54' 29"
Date of capture	7th December 2023
Time of capture	3.06pm
Direction of view	140.7° (South-East)
Distance from development	108m
Receptor sensitivity	Negligible
Scenic quality	Low
Magnitude of change	Medium
Impact significance	**Minor**

Viewpoint Location Map NTS

Figure 14: Visual Impact Viewpoint 1 – from the BESS Site Looking to the Subject Sites

Viewpoint 2 90°

Viewpoint 2 (VP2)	Description
Viewpoint location	Jindera-Walla Walla Rd, Glenellen NSW 2642
Viewpoint coordinates	-35° 55' 14", 146° 53' 25"
Date of capture	7th December 2023
Time of capture	9:44am
Direction of view	98.5° (South-East)
Distance from development	1550m
Receptor sensitivity	Low
Scenic quality	Moderate
Magnitude of change	Negligible
Impact significance	**Minor-Negligible**

Viewpoint Location Map NTS

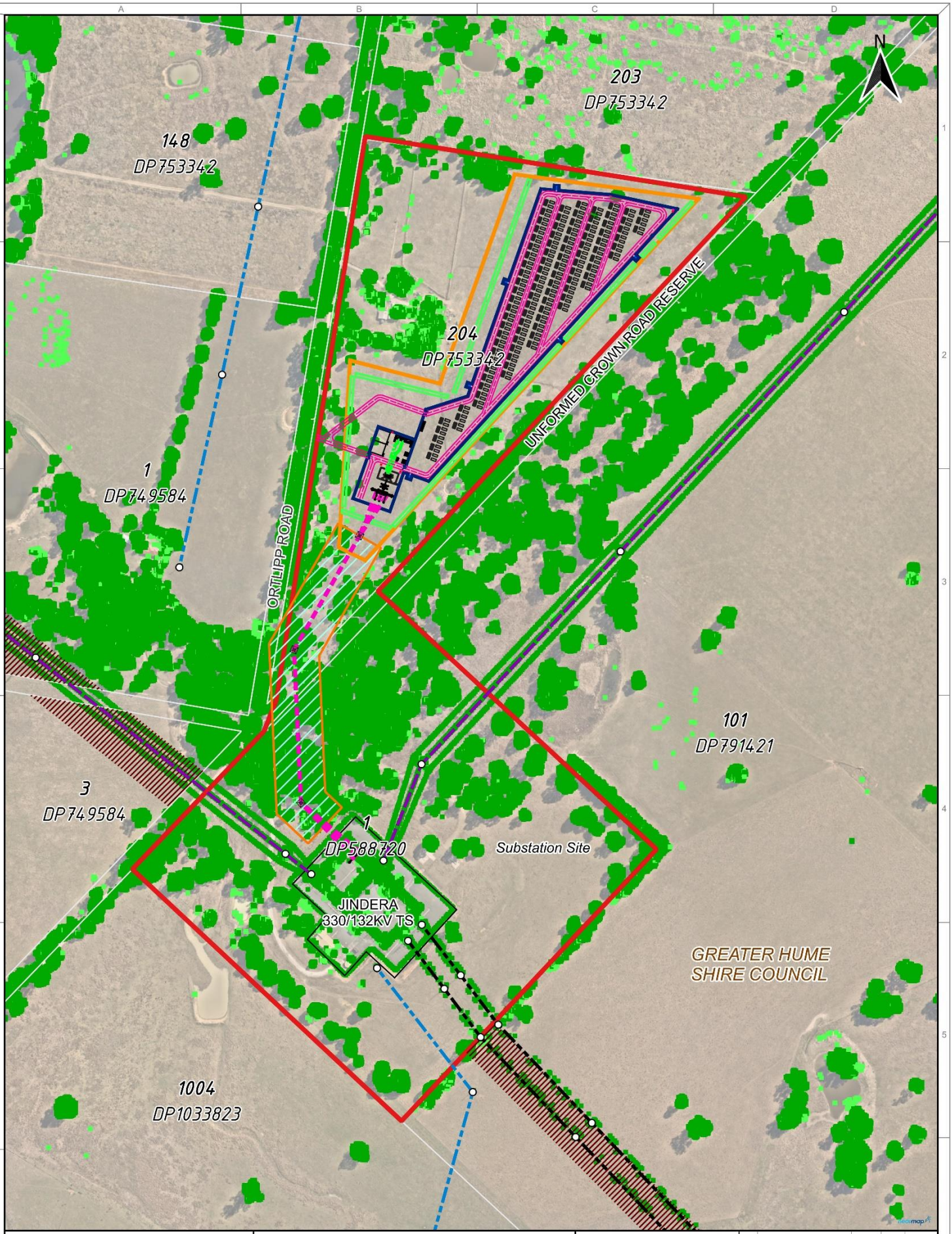
Figure 15: Visual Impact Viewpoint 2 – From Jindera Walla Walla Road, Glenellen Looking to the Site

Viewpoint 3 90°

Viewpoint 3 (VP3)	Description
Viewpoint location	Drumwood Rd, Jindera NSW 2642
Viewpoint coordinates	-35° 56′ 7″, 146° 54′ 37″
Date of capture	7th December 2023
Time of capture	3:47pm
Direction of view	358° (North-West)
Distance from development	1366m
Receptor sensitivity	Low
Scenic quality	Moderate
Magnitude of change	Negligible
Impact significance	**Minor-Moderate**

Viewpoint Location Map NTS

Figure 16: Visual Impact Viewpoint 3 – From Drumwood Road, Jindera Looking to the Site



Scale at A4
1:6000

0 50 100 m

LEGEND

- Project Area
- Proposed BESS Design
- Proposed Fence
- Proposed Overhead Lines
- Proposed Overhead Tower
- Proposed Road Design
- Proposed Underground Cables
- Proposed Vegetation
- Proposed Water Tank
- Proposed BESS Area
- Proposed Easement
- Cadastral - Lots
- Existing Easements
- Existing Power Poles

Essential Energy Lines
- 22kV
- LV

Transgrid Lines
- 132 kV
- 330 kV

Classified Lidar Data 2020
Existing Vegetation
- Medium Vegetation
- High Vegetation

ISSUED FOR
- INFORMATION ONLY
- APPROVAL
- QUOTATION PURCHASING
- CONSTRUCTION
- AS BUILT

REV.	DESCRIPTION	DATE	BY	APPR.
1	Existing Site Screening	18/03/2024	HV	

ENGINEERING: iEngineering
DEVELOPER: GRANSOLAR GROUP

PROJECT: JINDERA BESS

SHEET TITLE: FIGURE 17 - EXISTING SCREENING

REFERENCE: JIN-PD-180324-A2-1

PAPER SIZE: A4: 297 x 210mm

COORDINATE REFERENCE SYSTEM: GDA2020 / MGA zone 55

DRAWING Nº: JIN-PD-180324-ESS-A2

6.1.5.2 Proposed Level and Approach of Assessment

The impacts on visual amenity for the nearest sensitive receivers and road users will be considered.

A Landscape Character and Visual Impact Assessment (LCVIA) will be undertaken and the associated report provided with the SSD Application. The LCVIA will consider the effect of the Project on the physical and visual landscape which may give rise to changes in its character and the resultant effects on visual amenity. The potential visual impact will be assessed using a methodology that involves on-site assessments, Geographical Information Systems (GIS) modelling, and preparation of photomontages and an impact assessment to illustrate the predicted visual effect of the Project on the visual environment. The LCVIA will also give regard to the Large-Scale Solar Energy Guideline (DPE, 2022).

It is expected that the key elements of the VIA of will involve:

- Review of the Project (scale, bulk, height, technical specifications and landscape).
- Analysis of the Subject Sites (visual exposure, visual qualities and landscape values).
- Identifications of potential impacts on key receptors including the rating of magnitude for each receptor group.
- Rating of the impact significance for each receptor group.
- The impact significance is evaluated as a product of the sensitivity of the receptor, and the magnitude of the change that occurs when viewed from the receptor point location.
- Potential mitigation measures to meet the necessary planning requirements and any community expectations.

6.1.6 Water Impacts

6.1.6.1 Preliminary Assessment

There is potential for surface water quality impacts during construction and decommissioning of the Project due to ground disturbance and minor earthworks, which could impact the Kilnacroft Creek if appropriate mitigation measures are not established.

The Project will result in an increase in impervious area over the site. Runoff from the impervious areas may contain suspended solids, nitrogen and phosphorous. The SSD Application will need identify risks associated with increases in runoff volume and peak flows, altered timing of flows, increases in pollutant runoff and reduced infiltration and identify potential mitigation options, if required.

The majority of the study area is comprised of flat low-lying topography. As a result, the Subject Sites may be subject to inundation.

6.1.6.2 Proposed Level and Approach of Assessment

A Surface and Groundwater Water Impact Assessment (SGWIA) will be prepared as part of the Project EIS, with the following scope of works:

- An assessment of potential surface water and groundwater impacts associated with the Project.
- An assessment of flooding impacts associated with the BESS (including a review of avoid, minimising and mitigating impacts).

- Details of stormwater management system including appropriate mitigation measures to adequately ameliorate environmental risk.
- Description of the proposed erosion and sediment controls during construction.
- Details of water requirements and supply arrangements for construction and operation.

6.1.7 Land Quality and Agricultural Impact

6.1.7.1 Preliminary Assessment

The majority of the Subject Sites are classified by the NSW DPHI eSPADE mapping as having moderate limitations and is rated as Land & Soil Capability Class 3. The southern area of the BESS site and the substation land is classified as having very severe limitations and is rated as Land & Soil Capability Class 6.

Contaminated land is not recorded on the Subject Sites.

The construction and operation of the BESS would partially change the existing land use of the BESS site from agriculture (grazing native vegetation) to electricity generating works. Areas outside Subject Sites within the locality are expected to continue to support their existing land use where practicable. The existing land conditions are likely to return following decommissioning of the BESS.

Land zonings surrounding the Subject Sites include:

- RU1 Primary Production.
- RU4 Primary Production Small Lots.
- RU5 Large Lot Residential.
- R2 Low Density Residential.

6.1.7.2 Proposed Level and Approach of Assessment

A Soil and Agricultural Land Resource Assessment (SALRA) will be prepared as part of the Project EIS, with the following scope of works:

- A soil survey to determine the soil characteristics and consider the potential for erosion to occur:
  - Describing the Subject Site’s sensitivity to environmental change.
  - ASC (Isbell, 2002) soil types across the Study Area.
  - LSC class/es according to the Land and Soil Capability Scheme Second Approximation (OEH, 2012).
  - Determine BSAL status according to the Interim Protocol for Site Verification and Mapping of Biophysical Strategic Agricultural Land (OEH, 2013).
  - Determine erosive potential for soil types within Subject Area.
- A Land Use Conflict Risk Assessment (LUCRA) will be prepared as part of the Project EIS, with the following scope of works:
  - Accurately identify and address potential land use conflict issues and risk of occurrence before a new land use proceeds or a dispute arises.
  - Objectively assess the effect of a proposed land use on neighbouring land uses to identify any land use conflicts.

- Increase the understanding of potential land use conflict to inform and complement development control and buffer requirements.
- Highlight or recommend strategies to help minimise the potential for land use conflicts to occur and contribute to the negotiation, proposal, implementation and evaluation of separation strategies.

This LUCRA will be prepared in accordance with the Land Use Conflict Risk Assessment Guide (DPIE, 2011).

6.1.8 Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas

6.1.8.1 Preliminary Assessment

The Project is not anticipated to generate significant air quality impacts during construction or operations. Construction traffic utilising the access road to the Subject Sites may contribute to localised dust generation. This impact is considered to be consistent with existing sources of pollution within a local setting, primarily of dust and vehicle and machinery exhaust emissions associated with agricultural production.

An air quality assessment (AQA) is not considered to be required as part of the EIS as potential impacts will be temporary in nature and will not extend beyond the construction phase of the project.

The Project will contribute Australia's emissions reduction effort, facilitating the growth of the Australian renewable energy network and will contribute to Australia's goals to achieve net zero by 2050. Accordingly, the Project is anticipated to have positive impacts in relation to greenhouse gas emissions.

6.1.8.2 Proposed Level and Approach of Assessment

As the Project is not anticipated to generate significant air quality impacts, the inclusion of standard dust suppression and vehicle exhaust mitigation measures for construction and decommissioning as part of a Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) will mitigate any expected increases in dust and vehicle exhaust.

No further assessment is proposed in relation to greenhouse gas emissions.

6.1.9 Social and Economic

6.1.9.1 Preliminary Assessment

The Subject Sites are located on land to the northeast of the township of Jindera, within the Greater Hume LGA. Impacts to nearby residents will be a critical assessment matter, to determine impacts to the surrounding area.

The Project is likely to provide social and economic benefits to the NSW community, due to improved energy reliability and cost, contributing to NSW net zero targets and through increased employment opportunities.

SLR have completed a Phase 1 SIA Scoping Report, which seeks to provide a high-level understanding of the project's social environment to:

- Determine the preliminary local and regional social locality.
- Identify key communities and potentially affected stakeholders.
- Identify potential social impacts requiring further investigation through the Phase 2 SIA.

- Identify potential adverse impacts and benefits associated with the project.
- A SIA Scoping Worksheet has been prepared (attached in **Appendix C**).

The social locality is comprised of two areas: Jindera Suburb and Locality (SAL) and Albury Statistical Area Level 3 (SA3). These social localities will be further refined through consultation and detailed investigation as part of Phase 2 the SIA.

Figure 18 illustrates these social localities and adjacent regional centre of Albury.

6.1.9.2 Proposed Level and Approach of Assessment

A SIA will be prepared as part of the EIS, along with the supporting stakeholder and community engagement, in accordance with the Social Impact Assessment Guideline for State Significant Projects 2023 (SIA Guideline) (DPIE, 2023). SLR have been engaged to undertake a social impact assessment (SIA). Amenity impacts will be a critical assessment matter, to determine impacts to the surrounding area.

Based on the outcome of SIA scoping, a moderate level assessment will be prepared to investigate social impacts as a result of the Project in the Phase 2 SIA. The next phase of investigation will comprise the SIA report components the EIS which will be appended to the EIS.

In accordance with the SIA Guidelines, the Phase 2 SIA will:

- predict and analyse the extent and nature of likely social impacts against baseline conditions using accepted social science methods.
- evaluate, draw attention to and prioritise the social impacts that are important to people.
- develop appropriate and justified responses (e.g. avoidance, mitigation and enhancement measures) to social impacts, and identify and explain residual social impacts.
- propose arrangements to monitor and manage residual social impacts, including unanticipated impacts, over the life of the project (including post-closure phases for extractive industry projects).

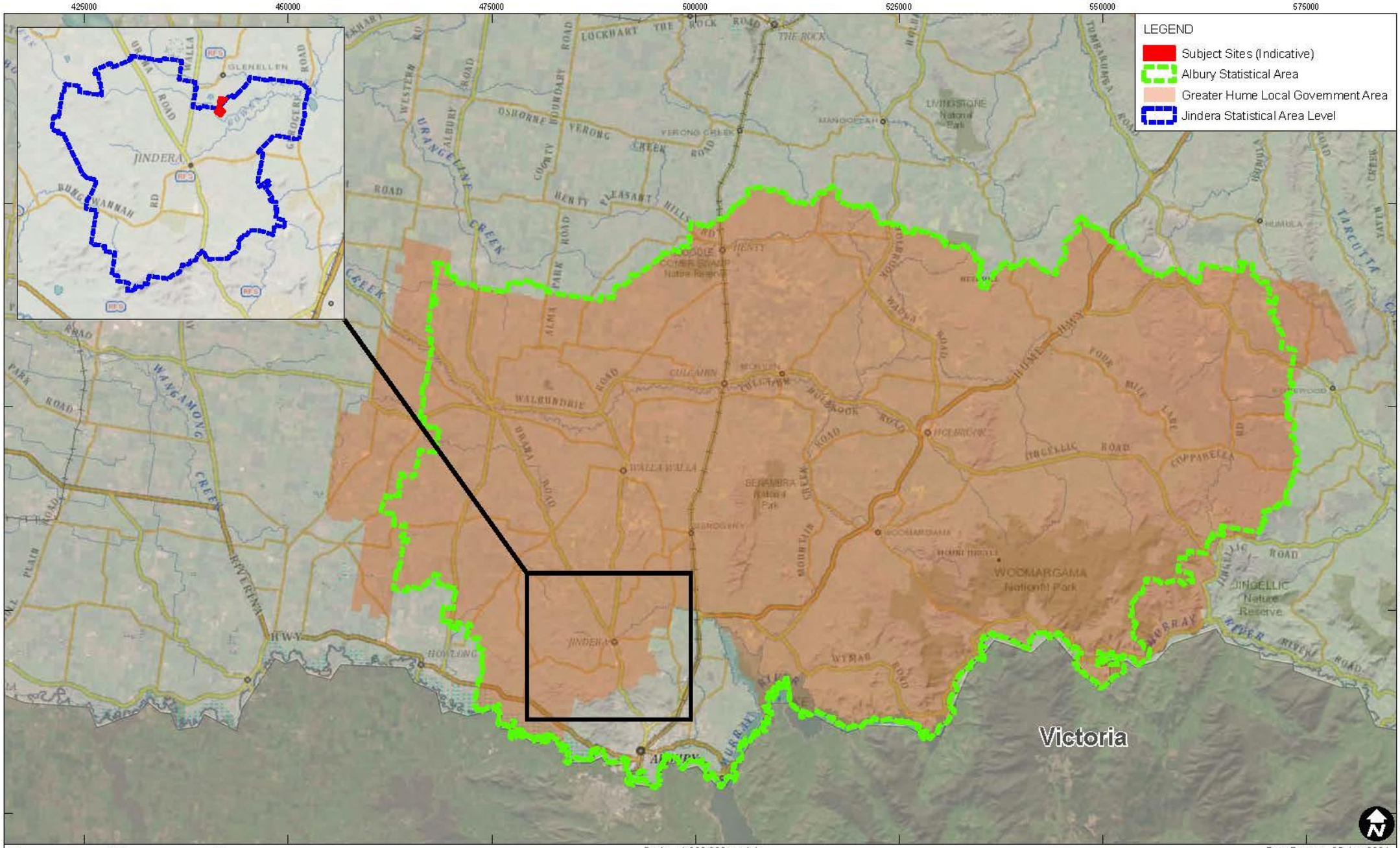
The Phase 2 SIA will draw on further in-depth analysis of refined project information and findings of technical studies. It will also rely on targeted stakeholder engagement and the outcomes of a community engagement program.

Primary research methods that will inform the Phase 2 SIA include structured interviews with key stakeholder groups and individuals including:

- Landowners.
- Government at agency.
- Local business and community groups and representatives.
- Emergency services and relevant service providers.
- Secondary research methods will include:
    - Outcomes and feedback collected through broad public consultation conducted to inform the Project.
    - Targeted consultation findings conducted by technical specialists through other detailed investigations such as Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment, Acoustic Assessment and Traffic Assessment.

- Secondary data sources such as census and demographic data from the Australian Bureau of Statistics.
- Regional and local strategic plans, as well as SIA reports and community engagement reports prepared for other recent, comparable, or nearby projects in the region.

As part of the SIA, regard will be given to workers availability and worker accommodation for the construction stage, in addition to the likely economic benefits of the proposal from construction jobs, benefits to local businesses from the workforce and investment in battery infrastructure. Further, a CSEP has been commenced and is being concurrently prepared to outline past and planned community initiatives and is located within **Appendix D**. It will be utilised as supporting documentation for the future EIS that appropriate social due diligence has been undertaken with regard to the Project.



Scale: 1:600,000 at A4
Coordinate System: GDA2020 MGA Zone 55

Date Drawn: 25-Jan-2024
Project Number: 620.040670.00000

Map shows concept plans only and will be further refined following a site survey by a registered surveyor.

Data Source: Basedata supplied by NSWSS, September 2023
Basedata overlay © Department of Customer Service 2020
Aerial imagery supplied by ESRI and other sources
Australian Bureau of Statistics

SOCIAL LOCALITY

BESS JINDERA
204 Ortlipp Rd, Glenellen NSW 2642 (DP 204 DP 753342)

FIGURE 18

\\au.slr.local\Corporate\Projects-SLR\620-BNE\620-BNE\620.040670.00001 Jindera 2024 - Planning\06 SLR Data\01 CAD\GIS\GIS\SLR620040670_SIA_Jindera_G1_SocialLocality_002.mxd

6.1.10 Waste Management

6.1.10.1 Preliminary Assessment

The following waste product streams are likely to be produced during the construction phase of the Project:

- Green waste generated during tree removal and vegetation clearing, to be reused where possible as mulch or alternatively sent to a composting facility, with the exception of weed species which would be separated and disposed of appropriately.
- Fill material considered unsuitable to remain on site would be classified in accordance with the relevant Guideline and disposed of at an appropriately licensed facility.
- General construction litter.
- Waste oils and other materials from the maintenance of construction equipment and machinery.
- Erosion and sediment control materials including sediment fencing and stakes.

6.1.10.2 Proposed Level and Approach of Assessment

The following management measures to limit impacts resulting from the Project will be included within the EIS pending comment from DPHI and relevant agencies:

- All waste generated during construction activities must be managed in accordance with the POEO Act, POEO (Waste) Regulation 2014, *Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Act 2001* (NSW), and any relevant resource recovery orders and exemptions.
- A Waste Management Plan (WMP) should be prepared and implemented as part of the Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) and detail the measures and controls to monitor and minimise waste generation during construction, the lawful handling and disposal of unavoidable waste, and classification of unsuitable fill material.
- General waste and recycling bins should be provided at all ancillary sites and throughout the Project boundary for the duration of construction.
- Any uncontrolled spills of waste oils, fuels, and other materials must be contained using a spill kit and managed by a suitably qualified professional.

6.1.11 Hazard and Risk

6.1.11.1 Preliminary Assessment

Potential hazardous scenarios and risks associated with the project include the presence and use of lithium batteries, fires and exposure to electromagnetic fields (EMF).

Bushfire risk is an environmental factor that may increase the risk to the Project, in regard to special activities or infrastructure components that intensify combustion or ignition risks. A portion of the Subject Sites is mapped as ‘Vegetation Category 2’ and ‘Vegetation Buffer’ under the Bushfire Prone Land mapping.

Lithium batteries are identified as Class 9 under the Australian Dangerous Goods Code (National Transport Commission 2020). Under the Hazardous and Offensive Development

Application Guidelines – Applying SEPP 33 (Department of Planning 2011) given effect under Section 8 of State Environmental Planning Policy No 33 – Hazardous and Offensive Development, Class 9 goods do not exceed the screening thresholds as they "pose little threat to people or property" (Department of Planning, 2011). Nevertheless, a PHA will be provided as part of the EIS.

6.1.11.2 Proposed Level and Approach of Assessment

The EIS will include:

- A Bushfire Risk Assessment will be completed in accordance with the Planning for Bush Fire Protection 2019. The report will examine potential bushfire risks and provide mitigation measures, including Asset Protection Zones (APZ) and Strategic Fire Advantage Zone (SFAZ) if required.
- A preliminary risk screening completed in accordance with State Environmental Planning Policy No. 33 – Hazardous and Offensive Development and Applying SEPP 33 (DoP, 2011).
- A PHA will be prepared in accordance with the Hazardous Industry Planning Advisory Paper No. 6, 'Hazard Analysis' and Multi-Level Risk Assessment (DoP, 2011).
- Consideration all recent standards and codes and verify separation distances to on-site and off-site receptors to prevent fire propagation and compliance with Hazardous Industry Advisory Paper No. 4, 'Risk Criteria for Land Use Safety Planning (DoP, 2011).
- Consideration of potential hazards and risks including but not limited to bushfires, land contamination, spontaneous ignition, EMF's or the proposed grid connection infrastructure against the International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection Guidelines for limiting exposure to Time-varying Electric, Magnetic and EMF's.

6.1.12 Historic Heritage

6.1.12.1 Preliminary Assessment

A desktop heritage assessment of the Subject Sites has been completed, comprising a search of the:

- Greater Hume LEP;
- State Heritage Register.
- Commonwealth Heritage List.
- EPBC Protected Matters Search Tool.

No heritage items have been identified through these desktop assessments.

6.1.12.2 Proposed Level and Approach of Assessment

A standard assessment for historic heritage will be completed within the EIS to identify the nearest historic heritage items, as well as details of appropriate mitigation measures in the event of an unexpected find during construction. Consideration of heritage will be made as part of the LCVIA to be prepared for the Project.

6.2 Cumulative Impact Consideration

As noted in **Section 2.3**, a search has been undertaken for proposed or approved SSD and regionally significant applications that have the potential to result in a cumulative impacts.

Particular regard will be given to workers availability and worker accommodation for the construction stage. An Accommodation and Employment Strategy (AES) will be prepared as submitted with the EIS. To manage cumulative impacts associated with multiple projects in the region and to encourage the employment of locally sourced workers BESS Atlantic would need to monitor employment and accommodation as setup in this plan. Cumulative impacts may occur if the construction periods of nearby major projects overlap with the construction period of this Project.

These impacts can include traffic generation, staff accommodation requirements, disposal of construction waste, stress on local business for supply and demand, and supply of local labour. An influx of staff across multiple concurrent projects is likely to place pressure on local short-term accommodation and other services in the community.

This in turn may restrict the availability of accommodation for other users during peak tourist periods such as school holidays and the region’s annual events. What needs to be taken into consideration is that it is unlikely that the peak construction period of the Project would overlap with other renewable energy projects, but in the unlikely event that Jindera BESS construction period overlaps with another BESS or BESS in the region, there is sufficient accommodation within the wider region (including Jindera, Culcairn and Albury) to accommodate those workers, also prior to this.

The Project team will consult with the developers and or other companies of other projects whose construction timeline may overlap with Jindera BESS to minimise workforce and accommodation disruptions.

Other industries in the region generate a demand for accommodation, however these services range from seasonal to intermittently required throughout the year as contracts are awarded for projects.

For example, other employment generating developments include:

- Seasonal agricultural demands (e.g., harvesting, shearing).
- Contracts awarded for local projects (e.g., infrastructure projects, which on occasion require external workers or assistance).

Two major BESSs have been approved near the Subject Sites. Culcairn Solar Farm is located 2 km to the north of the Subject Sites, while Jindera Solar Farm is located to the south of the Subject Sites. A third solar farm located close to Jindera, Glenellen Solar Farm, is at the development stage.

A key component of the AES will be a local employment and procurement strategy, to use procurement processes and purchasing power to generate positive social outcomes, in addition to the delivery of efficient goods, services and works. Local employment and procurement strategies build on initiatives already undertaken by the renewable energy sector in enhancing sustainable and strategic procurement practice, enabling procurement to effectively contribute to building stronger communities; and is a key mechanism by which to generate wider social benefits.

It is noted that the Project is also likely to result in some positive cumulative impacts, including:

- Local investment and job opportunity.
- Carbon emission reduction.

- Grid stability & resilience.
- Peak demand management.
- Increased energy reliance.

6.3 Ability to Avoid Minimise or Offset Impacts

The feasible alternatives discussion in **Section 2.3** demonstrates the site specific and locational need for the BESS on the Subject Sites. As part of the Project EIS, mitigation measures will be identified, subject to technical assessment and consideration. The impact assessment will be undertaken to demonstrate whether the Project's impacts are capable of being fully mitigated.

7.0 Conclusion

BESS Atlantic is seeking approval for the construction, operation, and eventual decommissioning of a BESS with a capacity of 250 Megawatts (MW) 500 Megawatt hour (MWh) and ancillary infrastructure connecting via a 500m long transmission line directly to the existing JINDERA 330/132 kV TS operated by TransGrid on the Substation Site.

This report has provided an overview of the Project, the site context and the anticipated scope of assessment requirements.

The intent of the Project is to develop the renewable energy power supply within NSW and increase the energy capacity and resilience of the State and further efforts to reach net-zero emissions by 2050.

The Project will have a CIV higher than $30 million and will therefore trigger the provisions for SSD under Clause 20, Schedule 1 of the Planning Systems SEPP. The Project is permissible with consent under Clause 2.36 of the Transport and Infrastructure SEPP.

The key considerations identified by this Scoping Report for the Project include:

Table 15: Key Considerations Identified by Scoping Report

Key Considerations	
Noise and Vibration	Hazard and Risk
Biodiversity	Aboriginal Heritage
Traffic and Access	Water Quality
Visual Amenity	Land Quality and Agricultural Impact
Waste Management	Social and Economic

The Project EIS is proposed to address the following:

- A detailed description of the Project including construction activities, and ancillary sites and components.
- A comprehensive assessment of the potential impacts on the key issues including a description of the existing environment and assessment of potential direct and indirect impacts of construction, operation, and decommissioning.
- Descriptions of measures to be implemented to avoid, minimise, manage, mitigate, offset, and/or monitor the potential impacts.
- Identify and address issues raised by stakeholders and community members.

Importantly, the Scoping Report demonstrates the critical importance of this project to supports the move to renewable energy sources and to ensure the availability of power at different times of the day. The BESS is supported by both national and state renewable energy policy objectives.

SLR and BESS Atlantic look forward to receiving the SEARs from DPHI to enable the preparation and lodgement of the application for assessment.

8.0 References

Australian Dangerous Goods Code (2020), National Transport Commission.

AEMO (2022), *National Electricity Market Integrated System Plan*

DECC (2008), *Managing Urban Stormwater: Soils and Construction Volume 2.*

DECC (2009), *Interim Construction Noise Guideline. NSW Department of Environment and Climate Change.*

DECCW (undated), *Powering Australia*.

DECCW (2022), *Australia's Long Term Emissions Reduction Plan.*

DECCW (2010),*The Code of Practice for the Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in NSW.*

DECCW (2010), *The Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents.*

DECCW (2011), *NSW Road Noise Policy*.

DEWHA 2013 (2013), *MNES. The Significant Impact Guidelines 1.1 – Matters of National Significance.*

DoP (2011), *Hazardous and Offensive Development Application Guidelines – Applying SEPP 33.*

DoP (2011), *Hazardous Industry Planning Advisory Paper No. 6, 'Hazard Analysis' and Multi-Level Risk Assessment.*

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DPE (2022), *State significant development guidelines - preparing a scoping report (Appendix A to the state significant development guidelines).*

DPE (2023), *Riverina Murray Regional Plan 2041.*

DPE (2021), *State Significant Development Guidelines – Preparing a Scoping Report.*

DPE (2022), *Large-Scale Solar Energy Guideline.*

DPE (2022), *State Vegetation Type Map of NSW*.

DPIE (2021), *Social Impact Assessment Guideline for State Significant Projects.*

DPIE. (2019), *NSW Electricity Strategy*.

DPIE (2020), *Net Zero Plan Stage 1: 2020-2030.*

DPIE (2020), *Biodiversity Assessment Method. Department of Planning, Industry and Environment.*

DPIE (2019), *How to Apply for A Biodiversity Development Assessment Report Waiver for a Major Project Application.*

DPIE (2021), *Social Impact Assessment Guideline for State Significant Projects.*

DPIE (2021), *Cumulative Impact Assessment Guidelines for State Significant Projects.*

DPE. (2021), *Undertaking Engagement Guidelines for State Significant Projects.*

DPI (2011), *Land Use Conflict Risk Assessment Guide. NSW, Australia: Department of Primary Industries*.

EPA (2017), *Noise Policy for Industry.*

Greater Hume Shire Council (2018), *Greater Hume Local Strategic Planning Statement.*

Greater Hume Shire Council (2022), *Greater Hume Community Strategic Plan.*

Isbell, R. (2021), *The Australian Soil Classification. CSIRO Publishing.*

Landcom (2004), *Managing Urban Stormwater: Soils and construction (4 ed., Vol. 1). Landcom.*

NSW DPHI eSPADE mapping.

NSW Government (2018), *NSW Transmission Infrastructure Strategy*

NSW Government (2020), *NSW Electricity Infrastructure Roadmap*.

OEH (2011), *The Guide to Investigating, Assessing and Reporting on Aboriginal Cultural Heritage in NSW.*

OEH (2013), *Interim Protocol for Site Verification and Mapping of Biophysical Strategic Agricultural Land.*

RFS. (2019), *Planning for Bush Fire Protection 2019.*

RTA (2002), *Guide to Traffic Generating Developments. NSW, Australia: Roads and Traffic Authority.*

State of NSW and Office of Environment and Heritage (2016), *The NSW Climate Change Policy Framework.*

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (2016), *Paris Agreement.*

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (2023), *Nationally determined contributions under the Paris Agreement.*

Appendix A Scoping Summary Table

Scoping Report - Request for Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARs)

Jindera Battery Energy Storage System (BESS)

Prepared for: BESS Atlantic Pty Ltd

SLR Project No.: 620.40670.00001

19 March 2024

Level of Assessment	Matter	CIA	Engagement	Relevant Government Plans, Policies, and Guideline	Scoping Report Reference
Detailed	Noise and Vibration	Yes	General	NSW Interim Construction Noise Guideline (DECC, 2009) RMS Construction Noise & Vibration Guideline (Roads and Maritime, 2016) NSW Assessing Vibration – A Technical Guideline (DEC, 2006) NSW Road Noise Policy (DECCW, 2011) RMS Noise Criteria Guideline (Roads and Maritime, 2015) RMS Noise Mitigation Guideline (Roads and Maritime, 2015) RMS Noise Model Validation Guideline (Roads and Maritime, 2016) NSW Environmental Noise Management Manual (RTA, 2001)	Section 6.1.1
Detailed	Biodiversity	Yes	General	Threatened Species Test of Significance Guidelines (OEH, 2018) Biodiversity Assessment Method (BAM) (NSW Government, 2020)	Section 6.1.2
Detailed	Aboriginal Heritage	Yes	Specific	Aboriginal Consultation Requirements for Proponents (DECCW, 2010) Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigations of Aboriginal Objects in NSW (the Code) (DECCW, 2010) Guide to Investigating, Assessing and Reporting on Aboriginal Cultural Heritage in NSW (OEH, 2011)	Section 6.1.3
Detailed	Traffic and Access	Yes	General	Guide to Road Design Part 3 Geometric Design (Austroads, 2016) Guide to Road Design Part 4 Intersections and Crossing General (Austroads, 2017) Guide to Traffic Management Part 3: Traffic Studies and Analysis Methods (Austroads, 2020) Guide to Traffic Management Part 6: Intersections, Interchanges and Crossings Management (Austroads, 2020)	Section 6.1.4
Standard	Visual Amenity	No	General	Technical Supplement - Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment Large-Scale Solar Energy Guideline (DPE, 2022)	Section 6.1.5

Level of Assessment	Matter	CIA	Engagement	Relevant Government Plans, Policies, and Guideline	Scoping Report Reference
				Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment – 3rd Edition (Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment, 2013)	
Standard	Water Quality	No	General	Managing Urban Stormwater: Soils and Construction (Landcom, 2004) Guidelines for controlled activities on waterfront land (Natural Resource Access Regulator, 2018) Australian and New Zealand Guidelines for Fresh and Marine Water Quality (ANZG, 2018) NSW Water and River Flow Objectives (NSW Government, 2006) Floodplain Risk Management Guidelines (Department of Environment and Climate Change, 2016) Floodplain Development Manual: The management of flood liable land (NSW Government, 2005) • Managing Urban Stormwater: Soils and Construction Volume 1 (Landcom, 2004) Managing Urban Stormwater: Soils and Construction Volume 2 (Department of Environment and Climate Change, 2008) NSW State groundwater dependent ecosystem policy (Department of Land, Water and Climate, 2002). NSW Government's Floodplain Development Manual (2005)	Section 6.1.6
Detailed	Land use compatibility	Yes	General	LEP land zoning Land Use Conflict Risk Assessment Guide (DPI, 2011) Cumulative Impact Assessment Guidelines for State Significant Projects (DPIE, 2021).	Section 4.2 Section 6.1.7
Standard	Land Quality and Agricultural Impact	No	General	Acid Sulphate Soils Assessment Guidelines (Department of Planning, 2008) The Land and Soil Capability Scheme (Office of Environment and Heritage, 2012) Soil and Land Survey Handbooks • Managing Urban Stormwater: Soils and Construction Volume 1 (Landcom, 2004)	Section 6.1.7

Level of Assessment	Matter	CIA	Engagement	Relevant Government Plans, Policies, and Guideline	Scoping Report Reference
				Agricultural Land Use Mapping Resources in NSW The Land and Soil Capability Scheme (Office of Environment and Heritage, 2012). Interim Protocol for Site Verification and Mapping of Biophysical Strategic Agricultural Land (OEH, 2013)	
Standard	Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas	No	General	Approved Methods for the Modelling and Assessment of Air Pollutants in NSW (NSW EPA, 2017)	Section 6.1.8
Standard	Social and Economic	Yes	General	Social Impact Assessment Guidelines for State Significant Projects (Department of Planning Industry and Environment, 2021) Undertaking Engagement Guideline for State Significant Projects (Department of Planning Industry and Environment, 2021)	Section 6.1.9
Standard	Waste Management	No	General	Managing Urban Stormwater: Soils and Construction (Landcom, 2004) Waste Classification Guidelines Part 1: Classifying Waste (NSW Environment Protection Authority, 2014) NSW Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Strategy 2014-2021 (NSW Environment Protection Authority, 2014)	Section 6.1.10
Standard	Hazard and Risk	No	General	Hazardous Industry Planning Advisory Paper No. 4 – Risk Criteria for Land Use Safety Planning, NSW Department of Planning and Infrastructure (HIPAP 4) Hazardous Industry Planning Advisory Paper No. 6 – Hazard Analysis, NSW Department of Planning and Infrastructure, (HIPAP 6) Hazardous and Offensive Development Application Guidelines – Applying SEPP 33 (Department of Planning, 2011) Hazardous Industry Planning Advisory Paper No 2: Fire Safety Study Guidelines (Department of Planning ,2011) International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection Guidelines for limiting exposure to Time-varying Electric, Magnetic and EMF's	Section 6.1.11

Level of Assessment	Matter	CIA	Engagement	Relevant Government Plans, Policies, and Guideline	Scoping Report Reference
				NSW Large-scale solar energy guideline for State Significant Development (Department of Planning and Environment, 2018).	
Standard	Bushfire	No	Specific	Planning for Bushfire Protection (NSW Rural Fire Service, 2019)	Section 6.1.11
Standard	Historic Heritage	No	Specific	Assessing Significance for Historical Archaeological Sites and "Relics" (NSW Heritage Branch, Department of Planning, 2009)	Section 6.1.12

Appendix B Project Plans

Scoping Report - Request for Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARs)

Jindera Battery Energy Storage System (BESS)

Prepared for: BESS Atlantic Pty Ltd

SLR Project No.: 620.40670.00001

19 March 2024

NOTES:-

1. ACCESS ROADS SHALL BE 6 MTR WIDE AND ALL WEATHER FORMED GRAVEL CONSTRUCTION TO CFS STANDARDS.
2. ALL ROAD HAVE GRADIENTS LESS THAN 1 IN 10.
3. NON-COMBUSTIBLE (METAL) TANKS OF 25000 LITERS CAPACITY (WATER LEVELS TO BE MAINTAINED) WITH BOTH CFS AND MFS LARGE AND SMALL BORE SUCTION OUTLETS AS PER AS2419.1.
4. CO-ORDINATES WILL BE UPDATED AFTER FINALIZATION OF SURVEY FILE.

AMDT	AMENDMENT DETAILS	DESIGN	CHK'D	DRAWN	CHK'D	APP'D	DATE
A1	FIRST ISSUE FOR REVIEW	RD	SSD	PD	RD		08/05/2023

REFERENCE DRAWINGS:

JIN-IENG-GRS-PS-SLD-001 250 MW SUBSTATION - GENERAL ARRANGEMENT LAYOUT

CLIENT: GRS

EPC: E22

DESIGN: iEngineering

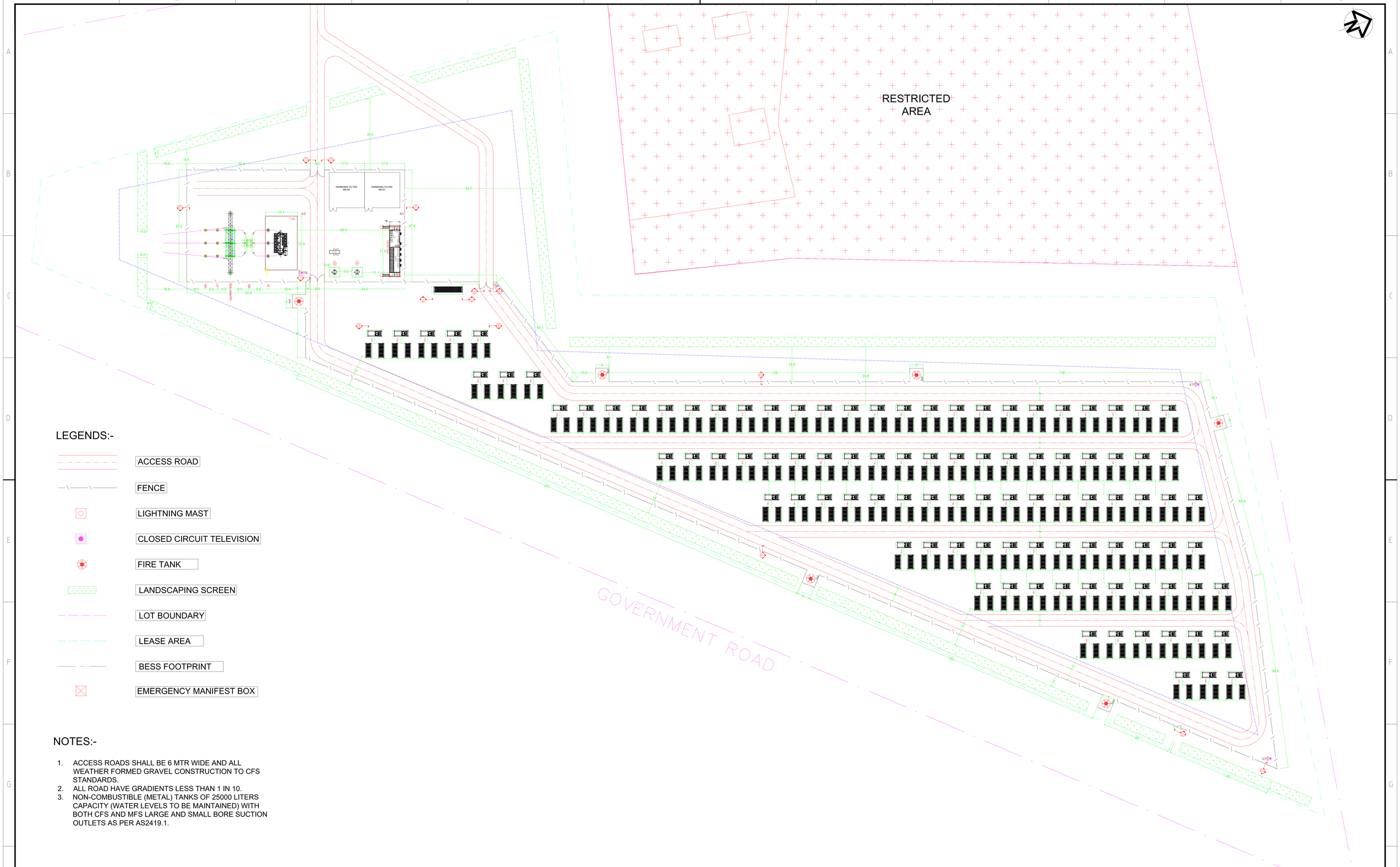
DESIGNED	RD
CHECKED	SSD
DRAWN	PD
CHECKED	RD
APPROVED	

I ENGINEERING

250MW JINDERA BESS
GENERAL ARRANGEMENT
SITE PLAN

SCALE @ A1	EPC CONTRACTOR	IENG DRAWING No.	SHEET	AMDT
A1 1:2	GRS	JIN-IENG-GRS-PS-PLN-002	01	A1

CONFIRM SCALE 100mm ON A1 ORIGINAL



LEGENDS:-

- ACCESS ROAD
- FENCE
- LIGHTNING MAST
- CLOSED CIRCUIT TELEVISION
- FIRE TANK
- LANDSCAPING SCREEN
- LOT BOUNDARY
- LEASE AREA
- BESS FOOTPRINT
- EMERGENCY MANIFEST BOX

NOTES:-

1. ACCESS ROADS SHALL BE 6 MTR WIDE AND ALL WEATHER FORMED GRAVEL CONSTRUCTION TO CFS STANDARDS.
2. ALL ROAD HAVE GRADIENTS LESS THAN 1 IN 10.
3. NON-COMBUSTIBLE (METAL) TANKS OF 25000 LITERS CAPACITY (WATER LEVELS TO BE MAINTAINED) WITH BOTH CFS AND MFS LARGE AND SMALL BORE SUCTION OUTLETS AS PER AS2419.1.

AMDT	AMENDMENT DETAILS	DESIGN	CHK'D	DRAWN	CHK'D	APP'D	DATE
A1	REVISED AS PER COMMENTS	RD	SSD	PD	RD		27/04/23
A1	FIRST ISSUE FOR REVIEW	RD	SSD	PD	RD		18/04/23

REFERENCE DRAWINGS:

JIN-IENG-GRS-PS-SLD-001 250 MW SUBSTATION - SINGLE LINE DIAGRAM

CLIENT: GRS

EPC: E22

DESIGN: I Engineering

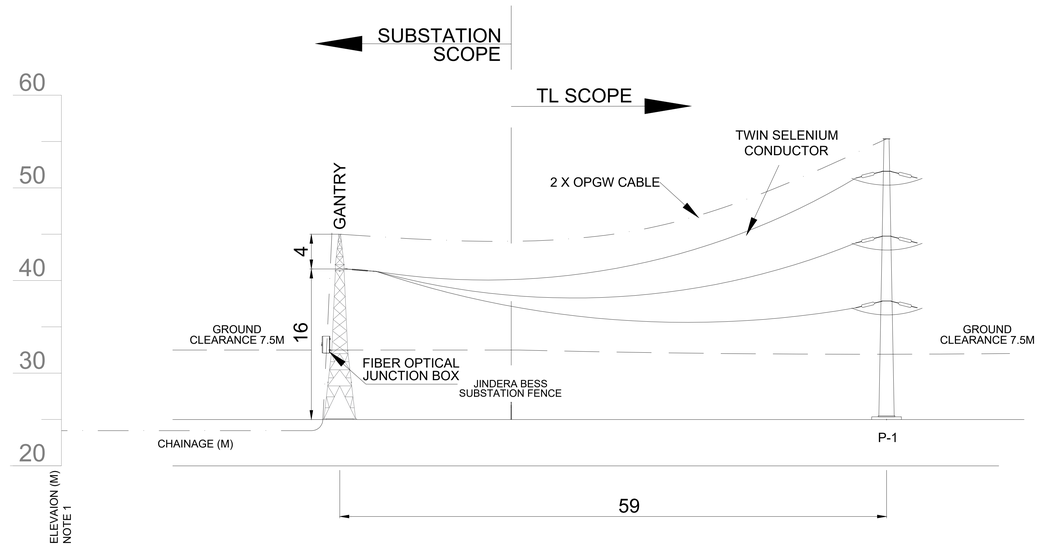
DESIGNED	RD
CHECKED	SSD
DRAWN	PD
CHECKED	RD
APPROVED	
A1	SCALE @ A1 NTS

I ENGINEERING

250MW JINDERA BESS GENERAL ARRANGEMENT LAYOUT

EPC CONTRACTOR	IENG DRAWING No.	SHEET	AMDT
GRS	JIN-IENG-GRS-PS-PLN-001	01	A2

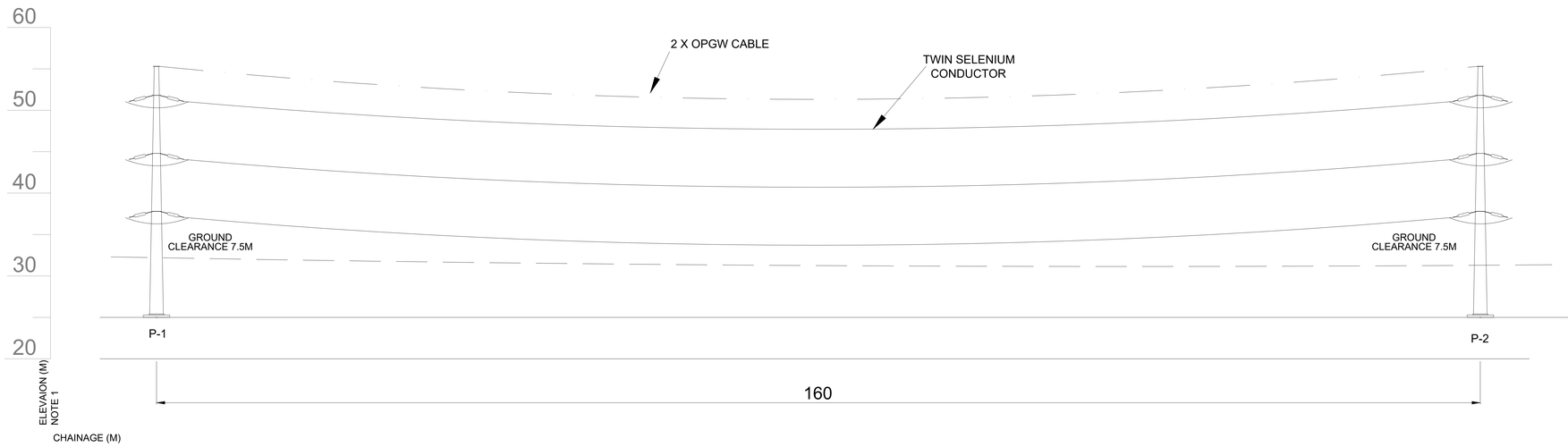
CONFIRM SCALE 100mm ON A1 ORIGINAL



GENERAL NOTES:

1. ELEVATION HEIGHT SHOWN IS TENTATIVE AND WILL BE CONFIRMED DURING DETAIL ENGINEERING.
2. BOUNDARY AND GROUND LEVEL CONTOUR INFORMATION TO BE PROVIDED BY GRS.

PROFILE VIEW SECTION B-B



PROFILE VIEW SECTION C-C

CONDUCTORS: TWIN SELENIUM 61/3.25 AAAC
EARTHWIRES: 24 CORE OPGW

AMDT	AMENDMENT DETAILS	DESIGN	CHK'D	DRAWN	CHK'D	APP'D	DATE
A2	TRANSMITION LINE ROUTE UPDATED	RD	SSD	PD	RD		16/10/2023
A1	FIRST ISSUE FOR REVIEW	RD	SSD	PD	RD		28/04/2023

REFERENCE DRAWINGS:

JIN-IENG-GRS-PS-PLN-025-01 GENERAL ARRANGEMENT TL ROUTE LAYOUT

CLIENT: GRS

EPC: E22

DESIGN: iEngineering

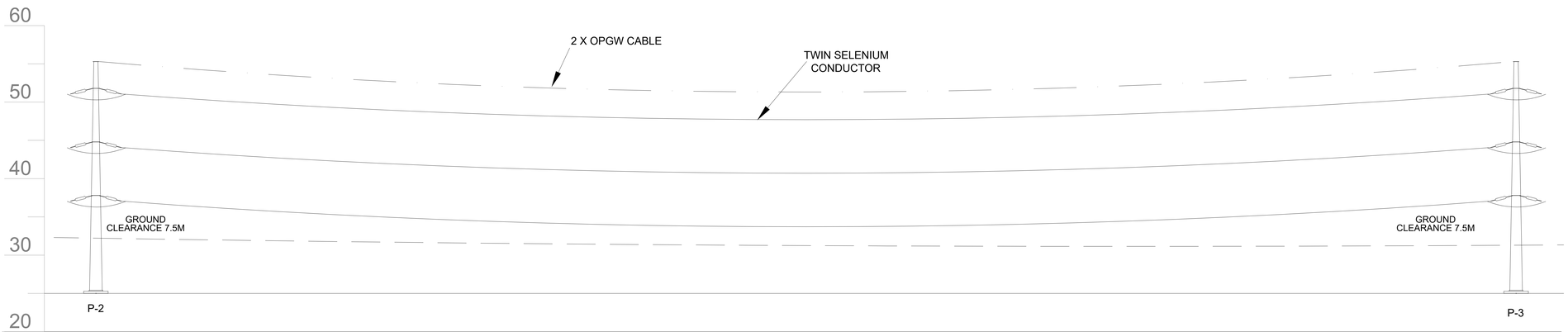
DESIGNED	RD
CHECKED	SSD
DRAWN	PD
CHECKED	RD
APPROVED	
A0	SCALE @ A1 NTS

I ENGINEERING

250MW JINDERA BESS
TRANSMISSION LINE PROFILE
SECTION SH-01

EPC CONTRACTOR	IENG DRAWING No.	SHEET	AMDT
GRS	DEN-IENG-GRS-PS-PLN-06	01	A2

CONFIRM SCALE 100mm ON A1 ORIGINAL



PROFILE VIEW SECTION D-D

GENERAL NOTES:

1. ELEVATION HEIGHT SHOWN IS TENTATIVE AND WILL BE CONFIRMED DURING DETAIL ENGINEERING.
2. BOUNDARY AND GROUND LEVEL CONTOUR INFORMATION TO BE PROVIDED BY GRS.

CONDUCTORS: TWIN SELENIUM 61/3.25 AAAC
EARTHWIRES: 24 CORE OPGW

AMDT	AMENDMENT DETAILS	DESIGN	CHK'D	DRAWN	CHK'D	APP'D	DATE
A2	TRANSMITION LINE ROUTE UPDATED	RD	SSD	PD	RD		16/10/2023
A1	FIRST ISSUE FOR REVIEW	RD	SSD	PD	RD		28/04/2023

REFERENCE DRAWINGS:

JIN-IENG-GRS-PS-PLN-025-01 GENERAL ARRANGEMENT TL ROUTE LAYOUT

CLIENT: GRS

EPC: E22

DESIGN: I Engineering

DESIGNED	RD
CHECKED	SSD
DRAWN	PD
CHECKED	RD
APPROVED	

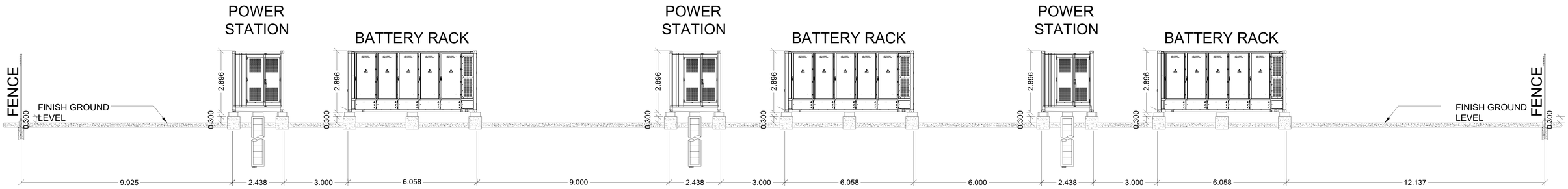
I ENGINEERING

250MW JINDERA BESS
TRANSMISSION LINE PROFILE
SECTION SH-02

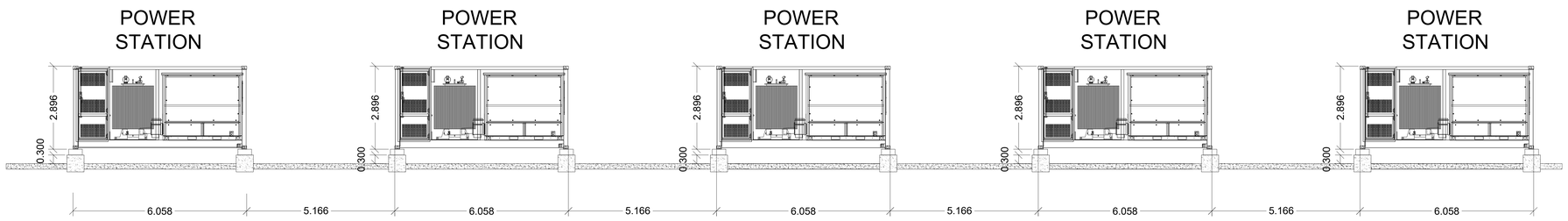
SCALE @ A1	EPC CONTRACTOR	IENG DRAWING No.	SHEET	AMDT
NTS	GRS	DEN-IENG-GRS-PS-PLN-06	02	A2

A0

CONFIRM SCALE 100mm ON A1 ORIGINAL



A 001-01 TYPICAL ELEVATION A-A



B 001-01 TYPICAL ELEVATION B-B

NOTES:-

1. ALL DIMENSIONS ARE IN METERS.
2. MINIMUM FRONT SIDE CLEARANCES OF BATTERY RACK SHALL BE MORE THAN 1500MM AS PER MANUFACTURERS RECOMMENDATION.
3. MINIMUM REAR CLEARANCES OF BATTERY RACK IS 100MM AS PER MANUFACTURERS RECOMMENDATION. 100MM MARGIN IS TAKEN ABOVE MANUFACTURERS RECOMMENDATION FOR SMOOTH INSTALLATION.

AMDT	AMENDMENT DETAILS	DESIGN	CHK'D	DRAWN	CHK'D	APP'D	DATE
A1	FIRST ISSUE FOR REVIEW	RD	SSD	PD	RD		27/04/2023

REFERENCE DRAWINGS:

JIN-IENG-GRS-PS-PLN-001-01	GENERAL ARRANGEMENT LAYOUT
JIN-IENG-GRS-PS-PLN-002-01	GENERAL ARRANGEMENT SITE PLAN

CLIENT: GRS

EPC: E22

DESIGN: iEngineering

DESIGNED	RD
CHECKED	SSD
DRAWN	PD
CHECKED	RD
APPROVED	
A1	SCALE @ A1 3:1

I ENGINEERING

250MW JINDERA BESS
GENERAL ARRANGEMENT
ELEVATION

EPC CONTRACTOR	IENG DRAWING No.	SHEET	AMDT
GRS	JIN-IENG-GRS-PS-PLN-003	01	A1

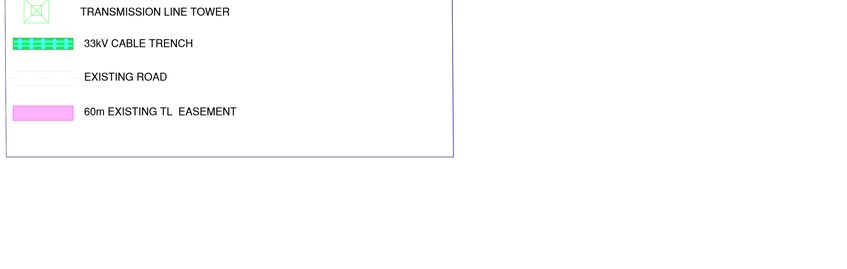
CONFIRM SCALE — 100mm ON A1 ORIGINAL

NOTES:

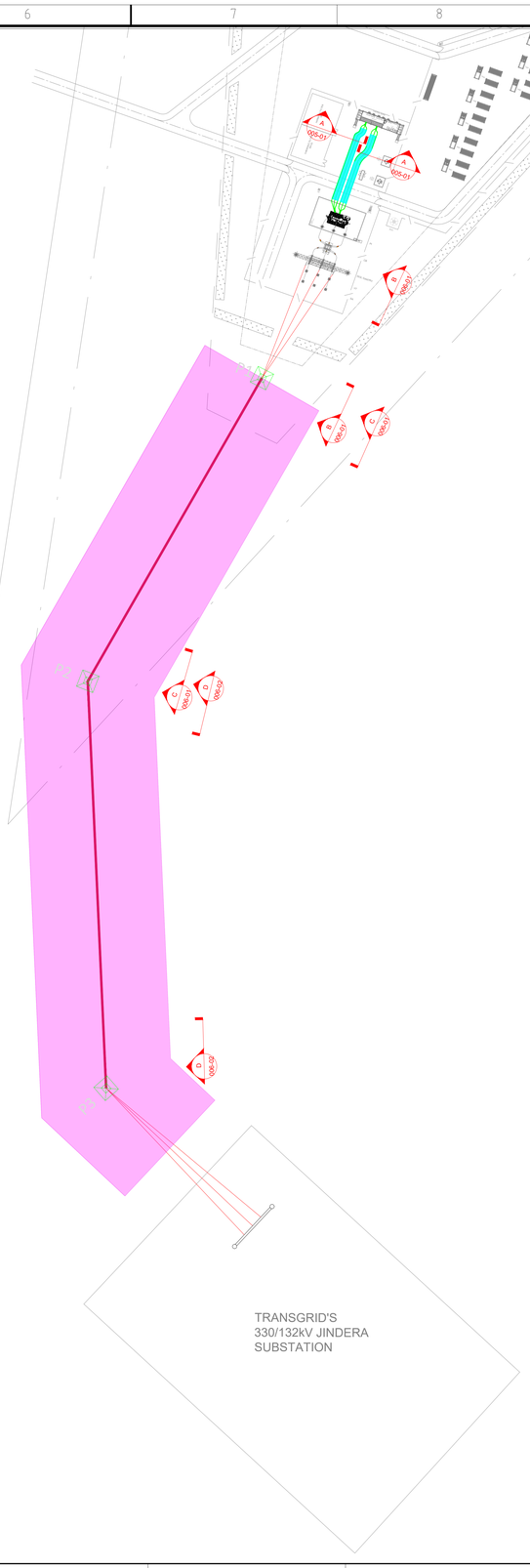
1. ALL HV AND LV CONDUITS BEND RADIUS SHALL BE 25 X OD OF THE NYLON JACKETED CABLE.
2. CONDUITS AND DIRECT BURIED CABLES SHALL HAVE A MINIMUM OF 50mm BEDDING AT THE BOTTOM AND SIDES OF THE TRENCH.
3. THE TOP LAYER OF CABLES/CONDUITS SHALL BE COVERED WITH 100mm BEDDING.
4. BONDING DETAILS OF THE HV CABLES WILL BE AS BELOW
   ALL THE HV CABLES COMING AND GOING TO ELECRANET SUBSTATION SHALL BE BONDED AT BOTH ENDS.
5. BEDDING MATERIAL OF THE CONDUIT SHALL BE SAND, TR<1.2 OR SIMILAR APPROVED MATERIAL. THE MATERIAL SHALL BE FINELY DIVIDED AND SHALL BE FREE OF GLASS, METAL, SHARP OBJECTS, SLAGS, ORGANIC OR OTHER HARMFUL SUBSTANCES.

LEGEND:

- TRANSMISSION LINE TOWER
- 33kV CABLE TRENCH
- EXISTING ROAD
- 60m EXISTING TL EASEMENT



B 005 SECTION A-A
SCALE : 1:20



AMDT	AMENDMENT DETAILS	DESIGN	CHK'D	DRAWN	CHK'D	APP'D	DATE
A2	TRANSMITION LINE ROUTE UPDATED	RD	SSD	PD	RD		18/10/2023
A1	FIRST ISSUE FOR REVIEW	RD	SSD	PD	RD		14/03/2023

REFERENCE DRAWINGS:

JIN-IENG-GRS-PS-SLD-001-01 PRIMARY SINGLE LINE DIAGRAM
JIN-IENG-GRS-PS-PLN-002-01 SITE LAYOUT

CLIENT: GRS

EPC: E22

DESIGN: iEngineering

DESIGNED	RD
CHECKED	SSD
DRAWN	PD
CHECKED	RD
APPROVED	
SCALE @ A1	NTS

I ENGINEERING

250MW JINDERA BESS
GENERAL ARRANGEMENT
TRANSMISSION LINE ROUTE LAYOUT

EPC CONTRACTOR	IENG DRAWING No.	SHEET	AMDT
GRS	JIN-IENG-GRS-PS-PLN-005	01	A2

CONFIRM SCALE — 100mm ON A1 ORIGINAL

Appendix C Phase 1 Social Impact Assessment

Scoping Report - Request for Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARs)

Jindera Battery Energy Storage System (BESS)

Prepared for: BESS Atlantic Pty Ltd

SLR Project No.: 620.40670.00001

19 March 2024

Phase 1 Social Impact Assessment Report for Scoping Report

Jindera BESS

BESS Atlantic Pty Ltd

307 Queen Street
Brisbane City QLD 4000

Prepared by:

SLR Consulting Australia

Level 16, 175 Eagle Street, Brisbane QLD 4000,
Australia

SLR Project No.: 620.040670.00001

29 January 2024

Revision: 0.4

Revision Record

Revision	Date	Prepared By	Checked By	Authorised By
0.1	14 December 2023	Astrid Ruban	Esther Diffey	
0.2	19 December 2023	Stephanie Skordas	Roland Short	
0.3	29 January 2024	Roland Short	Astrid Ruban	Maddison Low

Basis of Report

This report has been prepared by SLR Consulting Australia (SLR) with all reasonable skill, care and diligence, and taking account of the timescale and resources allocated to it by agreement with BESS Atlantic Pty Ltd (the Proponent). Information reported herein is based on the interpretation of data collected, which has been accepted in good faith as being accurate and valid.

This report is for the exclusive use of the Proponent. No warranties or guarantees are expressed or should be inferred by any third parties. This report may not be relied upon by other parties without written consent from SLR.

SLR disclaims any responsibility to the Proponent and others in respect of any matters outside the agreed scope of the work.

Table of Contents

Tables in Text

Figures in Text

Attachments

Acronyms and Abbreviations

Albury Statistical Area Level 3	SA3
Australian Bureau of Statistics	ABS
Battery Energy Storage System	BESS
Department of Planning and Environment	DPE
Environmental Impact Statement	EIS
Fly-in-fly-out	FIFO
Gransolar Development Australia	GDA
The Index of Relative Socio-economic Advantage and Disadvantage	IRSAD
Local Government Areas	LGA
Megawatt Hours	MWh
Megawatts	MW
New South Wales	NSW
Power Purchase Agreements	PPA
Social Impact Assessment	SIA
Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas	SEIFA
Suburbs and Localities	SAL
Transmission Line	TL
Transmission Substation	TS

1.0 Introduction

1.1 Project Overview

BESS Atlantic Pty Ltd (BESS Atlantic) engaged SLR Consulting Australia to prepare this Social Impact Assessment (SIA) Scoping Report for a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS), near Jindera in New South Wales. Further details are summarised in **Table 1**.

Table 1: Project Summary

Project Element	Description
Proposed Development Description Title	Construction, operation, and eventual decommissioning of a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) with a capacity of 250 Megawatts (MW), 500 Megawatt Hours (MWh) and associated ancillary infrastructure connecting via transmission line directly to the existing JINDERA 330/132KV TS substation operated by TransGrid in Glenellen, NSW (henceforth referred to as 'the Project'). Connection of the BESS via a new underground transmission line (330kV) to the existing JINDERA 330/132KV TS substation.
Proposed Development – Construction and Operation Summary	The Project would generally involve the following components: • Transport of construction personnel, associated heavy and light vehicles, and materials to and from the Subject Sites on a day-to-day basis, dependent on the construction schedule; • Site establishment works including vegetation clearing within the BESS boundary and TL footprint, bulk earthworks, and a temporary construction compound; • Road works to formalise internal site access road to accommodate heavy vehicles and a new driveway crossing; • Construction of hardstand, paved internal roads, control room and switch gear, auxiliary transformer, battery enclosures, and inverter and transformer stations; • Construction of overhead 330 kV TL to facilitate connection to the existing JINDERA 330/132 kV TS and associated high voltage steel poles; • Acoustic attenuation to be determined as part of a detailed assessment; • Construction of ancillary works including parking areas, water tank, storage structures, stormwater management infrastructure and security lighting and fencing; • Vegetative screening ; and • Removal of temporary construction facilities, and rehabilitation of disturbed areas following completion of construction of the Project..
Site Description	The Project is proposed on Lot 204 DP 753342 at 204 Ortlipp Road, Glenellen New South Wales (NSW) 2642 (BESS Site). The existing JINDERA 330/132KV Transmission Substation (TS) that the BESS would be connected to via overhead line is located on Lot 1 DP 588720, 140 Ortlipp Road, Jindera NSW 2642 (Substation Site), approximately 500m south of the BESS site. The TL will traverse an area of unformed Crown road reserve, which is located between the BESS Site and Substation Sites.
Site Access	Access to the BESS site is proposed to be via Ortlipp Road via a new driveway crossing. An internal access road will accommodate heavy vehicles associated with the construction of the BESS.
Grid Connection	A new overhead TL (330 kV) will be constructed to connect the BESS substation, to the existing TransGrid JINDERA 330/132 kV TS to the south of the BESS site. The transmission routes will run south-southwest from the southern portion of the BESS site, transecting an unformed road reserve before entering the JINDERA 330/132 kV TS land.

Project Element	Description
	The TL towers will be approximately 30 metres (m) in height with a ground clearance of 7.5m, located within the proposed 60m TL easement. As noted in the plans at Attachment B, three TL towers are proposed to facilitate the route to the JINDERA 330/132 kV TS. The TL towers will be located in the BESS site and Substation Site, with only the overhead lines being within the Unformed Crown Road Reserve.
Construction Duration	Construction of the Project is anticipated to take approximately 10 months.
Operation Life Expectancy	The operational life of the Project will be determined by the evolving nature of the technology, however is anticipated that the lifespan will be approximately 15-25 years.
Decommissioning	The Project would be decommissioned, and the infrastructure removed, returning the BESS site to its original use following the approximate 15-25 year life expectancy.

1.1.1 Project Benefits

Table 2 summarises the anticipated economic, environmental, social and network benefits of the Jindera BESS.

Table 2: Summary of Project Benefits

Category	BESS Benefits Summary
Economic	• Cost-effective storage • Local investment • Deter taxpayer grid infrastructure upgrades • Landowner revenue • Job opportunity • Long-term lowered energy costs
Environmental	• Renewable energy integration • Carbon emission reduction • Recyclable materials • Emission trading and offsets • Rehabilitation of contaminated sites opportunity <u>When compared with traditional power solutions:</u> • Reduced air and water pollution • Land use efficiency • Hazardous materials and water consumption reduction
Social	• Enhanced energy access • Locally sourced goods and services through construction • PPA Potential for power purchase agreements (PPA) with local farmers • Local sponsorships • Education and awareness
Network	• Grid stability & resilience • Peak demand management • Energy efficiency • Long-term energy storage/backup • Increased energy reliance • Improved power quality

1.2 Purpose

The Phase 1 SIA Scoping Report (this document) is the first phase of undertaking an SIA report for NSW State Significant Project under the Department of Planning and Environment (DPE) Social Impact Assessment Guideline for State Significant Projects (The SIA Guideline) (2023). The SIA Scoping Report focusses the SIA on the likely social issues before considering suitable refinement and other early responses. It also ensures the scale of assessment undertaken is proportionate to the magnitude of the expected impacts in the Phase 2 SIA.

The key objectives of the SIA Scoping Report are to provide a high-level understanding of the project's social environment to:

- Determine the preliminary local and regional social locality;
- Identify key communities and potentially affected stakeholders;
- Identify potential social impacts requiring further investigation through the Phase 2 SIA;and
- Identify potential adverse impacts and benefits associated with the Project.

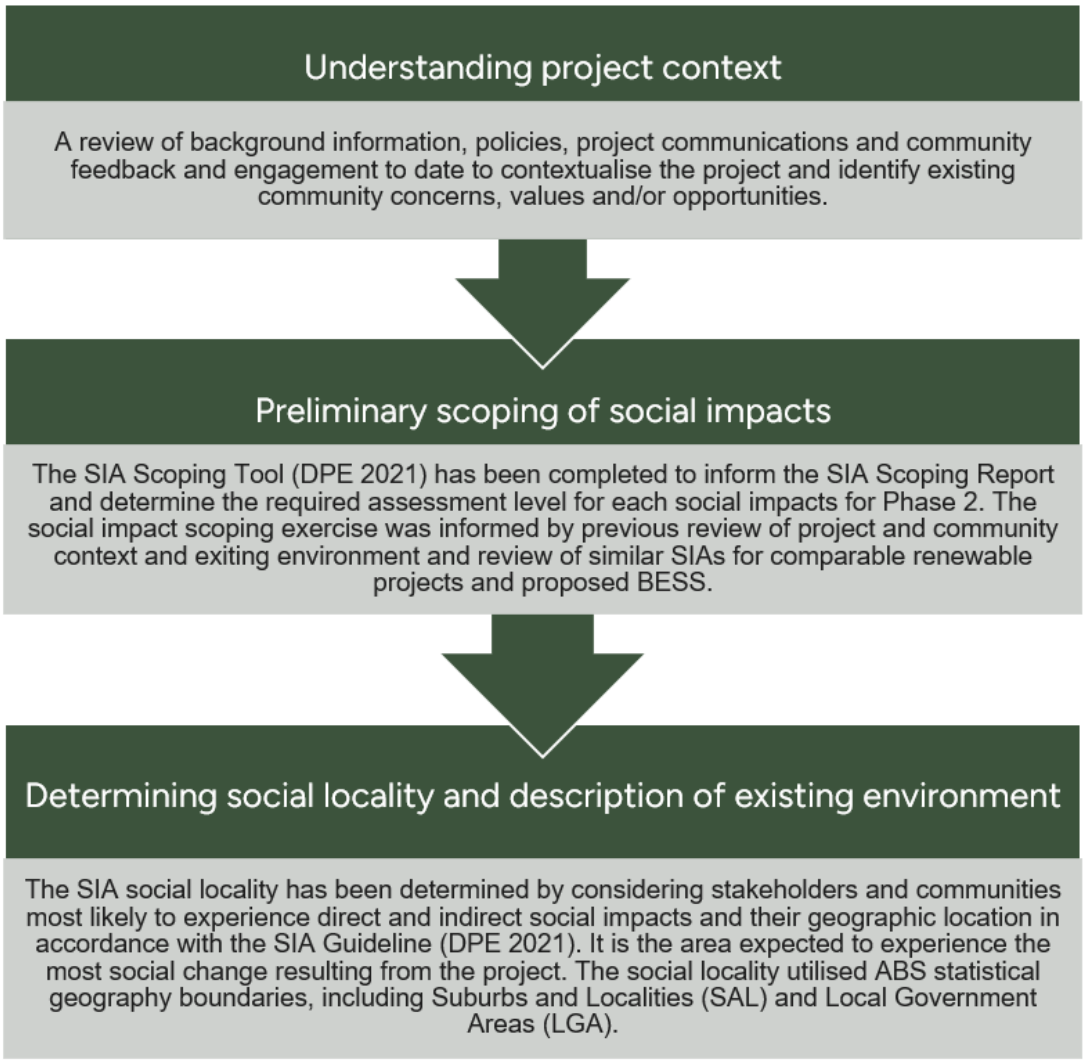
2.0 Methodology

The methodology adopted to this Phase 1 SIA reflects the DPE 2023 SIA Guideline and applies the following principles:

- Life-cycle focus: understanding likely impacts (including cumulative impacts) at all project stages, from pre-construction to post-closure/operation commencement;
- Material: focusing on those impacts that matter the most for people and/or pose the greatest risk/opportunity to those expected to be affected;
- Proportionate: ensuring that the scope of the SIA corresponds to the scope and scale of the likely social impacts; and
- Integrated: using and referencing information and findings of other technical assessments.

Figure 1 below outlines the key steps in the methodology to prepare this Phase 1 SIA Scoping Report.

Figure 1: Summary of Phase 1 SIA Methodology



3.0 Stakeholder Consultation

GDA has conducted some preliminary engagement with landowners and residents within 1.5 kilometres of the Jindera BESS site and with Greater Hume Shire Council. The purpose of this early engagement was to introduce the Project and BESS technology, to identify potential impacts, understand current concerns and to answer any questions.

Early consultation included:

- Kitchen table meetings and door knock discussions with nine of the eleven landowners and residents identified in the 1.5-kilometre radius of the site;
- 'Calling cards' and project information flyers were left for landowners and residents who could not be reached during visits; and
- Meeting with Greater Hume Shire Council Planning and Economic Development officers (Attachment A).

Table 3 summarises feedback received through early consultation. It is important to note that some concerns raised by local landowners and residents related to the Jindera Solar Farm and may not be specifically relevant to the proposed BESS.

Table 3: Summary of Feedback Received through Early Consultation

Impact Category	Summary of Feedback
Way of life	• Opposed to development of solar and BESS infrastructure on high value agricultural land. • Concerns about the impact of construction traffic on local transport networks.
Health and wellbeing	• Concern regarding potential impacts relating to visual amenity, noise, and light at night. • Concern regarding the requirement to run underground cable.
Surroundings	• Concern about potential visual impacts when walking, such as those created by the Jindera Solar Farm. • Concerns that the project site is too swampy.
Livelihoods	• Concern regarding impact on land values as a result of diminished landscape and vistas, as experienced from the nearby Jindera Solar Farm.
	• Opportunities for procurement of local goods and services. • Opportunities to lease land for the BESS and associated activities

4.0 Social Locality

The project is located in Glenellen, approximately 5 kilometres northeast of Jindera, which itself is a satellite township located approximately 15 kilometres north of Albury in southern NSW.

The social locality is comprised of three areas: Jindera Suburb and Locality (SAL), Greater Hume Local Government Area (LGA) and Albury Statistical Area Level 3 (SA3). These social localities will be further refined through consultation and detailed investigation as part of the Phase 2 SIA.

Figure 2 illustrates these social localities and adjacent regional centre of Albury.

4.1 Local

The SIA local social locality is comprised of the Jindera SAL as defined by the ABS. This SAL has been selected for consideration of potential impacts to landholders, residents, and businesses within or surrounding the Project area. This local social locality includes the township of Jindera, as well as the major arterial roads connection the town to Albury and the broader region which may experience primary or secondary socio-economic impacts arising from the Project.

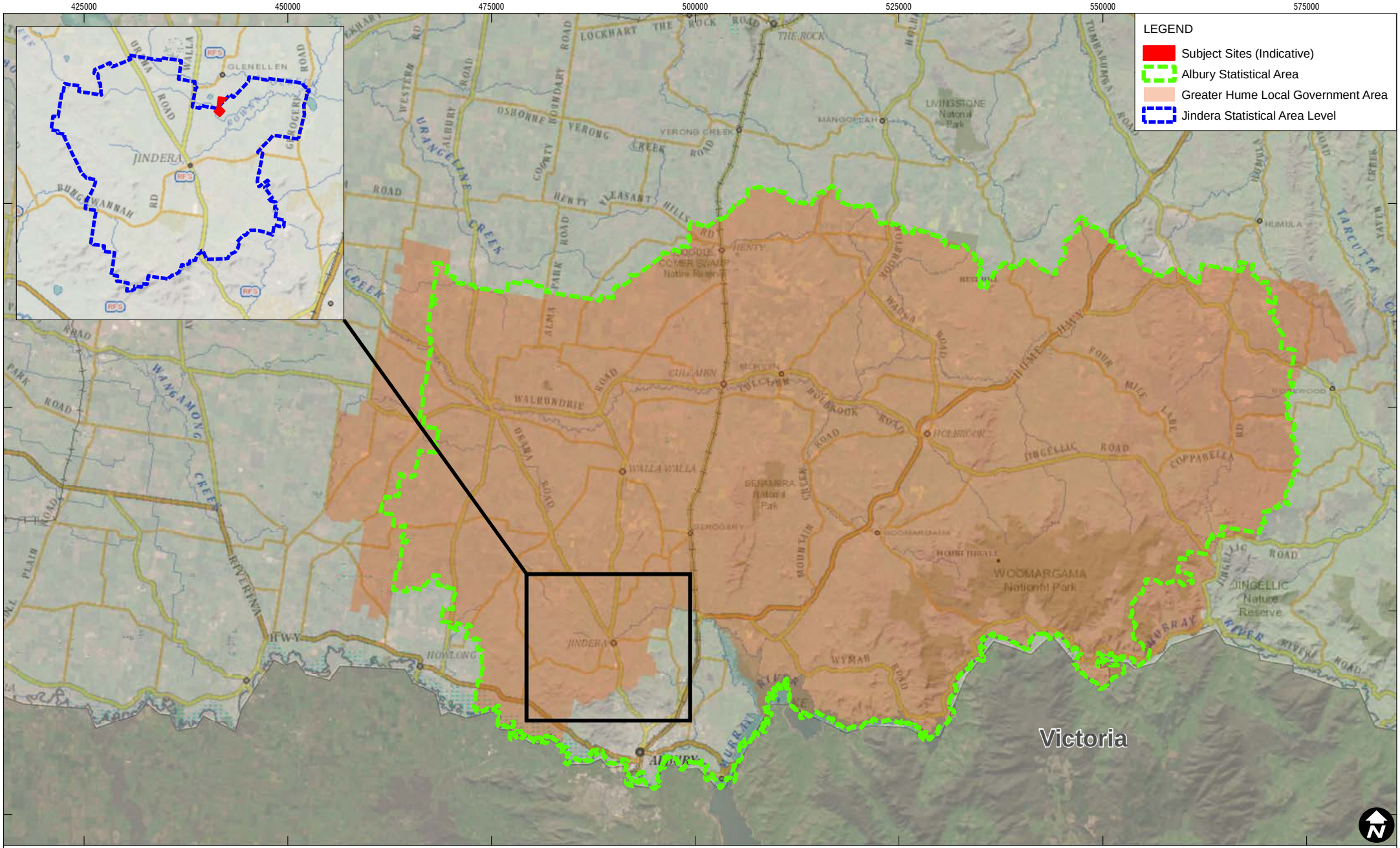
While the Jindera township is consolidated, the surrounding residential population is small and dispersed which can limit the availability or accuracy of some data sources.

4.2 LGA

The Greater Hume LGA area encompasses the Jindera township and the townships of Holbrook, Culcairn and Henty. Berrigan Shire LGA has been identified as the catchment mostly likely to experience secondary effects arising from the Project.

4.3 Regional

The regional locality is the Albury SA3 as defined by the ABS. This area has been identified as a catchment that is likely to experience regional secondary effects arising from the Project. The Albury area encompasses the Jindera township and covers most of Greater Hume Shire Local Government Area, and also includes the adjacent Albury regional hub which also constitutes the primary service, retail and employment centre for Jindera and surrounds.



Scale: 1:600,000 at A4
Coordinate System: GDA2020 MGA Zone 55

Date Drawn: 25-Jan-2024
Project Number: 620.040670.00000

Map shows concept plans only and will be further refined following a site survey by a registered surveyor.

Data Source: Basedata supplied by NSWSS, September 2023
Basedata overlay © Department of Customer Service 2020
Aerial imagery supplied by ESRI and other sources
Australian Bureau of Statistics

SOCIAL LOCALITY

BESS JINDERA
204 Ortlipp Rd, Glenellen NSW 2642 (DP 204 DP 753342)

FIGURE 2

\\au.slr.local\Corporate\Projects-SLR\620-BNE\620-BNE\620.040670.00001 Jindera 2024 - Planning\06 SLR Data\01 CADGIS\GIS\SLR620040670_SIA_Jindera_G1_SocialLocality_002.mxd

5.0 Existing Environment

This section outlines key demographic indicators of the local and regional social localities as defined in **Section 4**.

Table 4 provides an overview of demographic data for Jindera SAL, Greater Hume LGA and Albury SA3 against NSW for comparison. Further analysis of each social locality can be found in section 5.1, 5.2, and 5.3. Detailed demographic data is provided in **Attachment B**.

Table 4: Demographic Summary of Social Localities (Source: ABS, 2021)

	Jindera SAL		Greater Hume LGA		Albury SA3		NSW	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Total population	2,721		1,157		67,044		8,072,163	
Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Population (%)	81	3.0	376	3.8	1,490	3.4	278,043	3.4
Median resident age	38		44		40		39	
Total families	704		2,913		17,481		2,135,964	
Total private dwellings	946		3,968		26,054		3,357,785	
Unoccupied private dwellings	56	6.4	548	12.23%	2,469	8.65	299,524	9.4
Median weekly household income	$ 2,013		$1,420		$1,208		$1,829	
Unemployed persons	39	2.9	150	2.9	628	3.2	189,852	4.9
Car to work (driver or passenger)	1,012	76.6	3,289	63.8	22,971	70.2	1,704,756	46.3
Worked from home	122	9.2	788	15.3	3,153	9.6	1,141,467	31.0

5.1 Jindera SAL

Jindera SAL encompasses the Jindera township and immediate surrounds. The area comprises a central commercial strip, residential subdivisions and rural living lots, and industrial land. The Project site is located in the north of the area, surrounded by agricultural land.

The Jindera township sits at the junction of Urana Road and Adams Street/Dights Forest Road. The township was originally settled in 1830s and still retains historical buildings, including the Jindera Pioneer Museum.

The Greater Hume Shire Economic Development and Social Plan 2017-2022 recognises Jindera as the fastest growing town in the Shire, with new residential developments and rural residential lifestyle estates being developed. Furthermore, Jindera is expected to experience the majority of the continued growth in Greater Hume Shire, and it is anticipated to experience growth pressure over the next 20 years (Greater Hume Local Strategic Planning Statement 2020).

In addition to residential growth, Jindera's existing supply of industrial land and manufacturing industry is anticipated to expand with the area becoming a focus for promoting industrial developments.

The township has one accommodation establishment and is a centre for equestrian tourism and is well serviced with retail businesses and medical services to support the local community (Greater Hume Shire Economic Development and Social Plan 2017-2022). However, its close proximity to Albury, likely gives preference to Albury being the primary service, retail, and employment centre for residents of Jindera.

Table 4 demonstrates that residents of Jindera SAL have comparatively high weekly household incomes ($2,013) and a lower median age (38 years) than the broader region. This corresponds to the relative socio-economic advantage illustrated in Section 5.3.

The rate of unemployment in Jindera is low at 2.9% and the top three industry of employment of residents of Jindera are Primary Education, Supermarket and Grocery Retail and Hospitals.

5.2 Greater Hume LGA

Situated in the Riverina region of southern New South Wales, Greater Hume Shire is a predominately rural shire, boasting a population of approximately 11,157 as of 2021. Despite its relatively modest population density, the LGA exhibits several strong and stable communities, including Jindera.

Demographically, Greater Hume Shire exhibits a fairly stable and homogenous population, with a slightly higher male-to-female ratio and a median age of 44. The demographic composition suggests a stable populace, comprising both established families and young professionals. Indigenous Australians constitute around 3% of the total population.

Greater Hume Shire's core industries are agriculture and tourism. Vast expanses of farmlands define the region, with sheep, wheat, and grapes serving as the economic backbone. This agricultural legacy permeates the charming towns of Holbrook, Culcairn, and Henty.

Beyond its rural charm, Greater Hume Shire offers a diverse array of experiences. Jindera, situated along the Murray River, invites enthusiasts with water sports and outdoor adventures, while Walla Walla, steeped in colonial history, provides a captivating glimpse into the past.

5.3 Albury SA3

The project is located within the Albury SA3 which broadly covers the Greater Hume Shire LGA and the Albury regional centre.

The area has a population of approximately 67,000 people and predominantly comprises of rural and agricultural land. The townships and villages of Culcairn, Henty, Holbrook, Jindera and Walla Walla and smaller villages of Brocklesby, Burrumbuttock, Gerogery, Gerogery West, Morven, Walbundrie, and Woomargama. The major regional centre of Albury-Wodonga is in the south, comprising of urban land, and operating as the service, retail, and employment centre to the area.

The Woomargama National Park and Lake Hume are located in the east of the area.

The area is serviced by the Hume Freeway, Riverina and Olympic Highways and the Main Southern Railway Line which traverses Greater Hume Shire. Regional airports are nearby in Albury to the south and Wagga Wagga to the north.

Agriculture including Beef Cattle, Grain-Sheep/Beef and Cheese and other Dairy, is a major employer in the north of the area, and across Greater Hume Shire, which also displays a high proportion of employed residents who work from home (15.8% across Greater Hume Shire and 10.1% across Albury SA3) compared to the state average. This would suggest a significant number of residents are farmers. To the south, Hospitals, Social Assistance and Aged Care industries are the top three employers reflecting the community service role of Albury and its surrounds.

The rate of unemployment across the area is below the state average.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander residents represent 3.7% of the area's population which generally aligns with the NSW average. The region is acknowledged as the traditional land of the Wiradjuri People.

5.4 Socio-Economic Advantage and Disadvantage

This section investigates the relative rate of socio-economic advantage and disadvantage of the Jindera region and surrounds using the Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA) index. The following describes these tools and how the project localities rank.

Index of Relative Socio-Economic Advantage and Disadvantage

The Index of Relative Socio-economic Advantage and Disadvantage (IRSAD) summarises information about the economic and social conditions of people and households within an area. This index includes both relative advantage and disadvantage measures.

A low score indicates relatively greater disadvantage and a lack of advantage in general. For example, an area could have a low score if there are: many households with low incomes, or many people in unskilled occupations, and a few households with high incomes, or few people in skilled occupations.

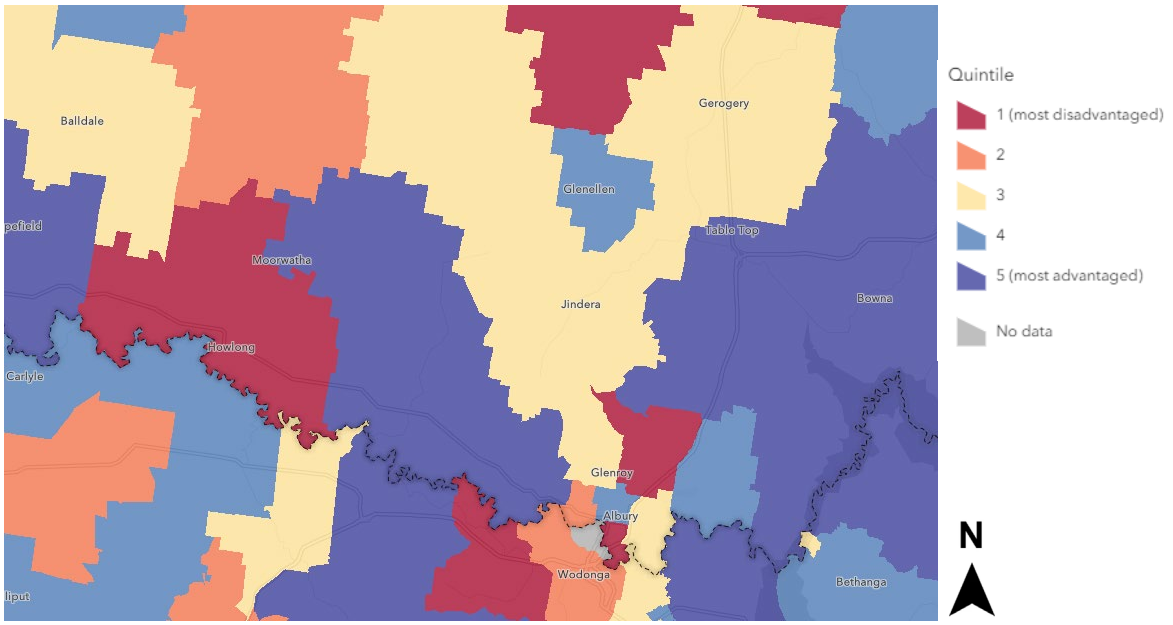
A high score indicates a relative lack of disadvantage and greater advantage in general. For example, an area may have a high score if there are: many households with high incomes, or many people in skilled occupations, and few households with low incomes, or few people in unskilled occupations.

Quintiles

Quintiles divide a distribution into five equal groups. The lowest scoring 20 per cent of areas are given a quintile number of one, the second-lowest 20 per cent are given a quintile number of two and so on, up to the highest 20 per cent of areas which are given a quintile number of 5.

The quintiles are area-based. This means that each quintile contains an equal number of areas. They may not contain an equal number of people or dwellings.

Figure 3: Index of Relative Socio-Economic Advantage and Disadvantage (IRSAD) 2021



Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics Census of Population and Housing: Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA) 2021 Interactive map (May 2023)

Figure 3 shows the IRSAD quintiles for Jindera SAL and surrounding areas in 2021. It shows that Jindera is on the third quintile and indicates that Jindera does not display significant socioeconomic advantage or disadvantage.

At a regional level, the socio-economic position of Jindera closely reflects that of the urban areas to the south, with the more dispersed, agricultural areas to the north and west ranking in the second and first quintiles.

6.0 Summary of Social Impacts

This section summarises the SIA Scoping Worksheet (attached as **Attachment B**).

Table 5 provides a summary of the impacts investigated per the SIA Guideline (DPE 2023) and the level of assessment required. These scoped impacts will be investigated in detail through Phase 2 SIA in accordance with the SIA Guidelines (DPE 2023). This investigation will draw in the findings of technical investigations and consultation to refine the magnitude and significance of these potential impacts.

Table 5: Summary of SIA Scoping Worksheet

Primary Impact Category	Potential Impacts on Community	Nature	Phase	Level of Assessment
Health and wellbeing	Amenity impacts during construction activities including, but not limited to, noise, vibration, dust and odour	Negative	Construction	Detailed
Community	Changes to community cohesion and character due to an influx of construction workers during construction into a relatively small and stable population centre.	Negative	Construction	Detailed
Culture	Loss of Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal cultural heritage values due to construction activities and site preparation works (pending heritage assessment	Negative	Construction	Detailed
Surroundings	Loss of environmental/ biodiversity values due to construction and site preparation works (pending biodiversity assessment)	Negative	Construction	Detailed
Surroundings	Perceived changes to local community character resulting from reduction of agricultural land and associated activities in the local area	Negative	Construction	Minor
Way of life	Delays and disruption to local traffic networks resulting from construction activity including, increased truck movements and heavy and oversized vehicles	Negative	Construction	Detailed
Livelihoods	Saturation of temporary accommodation providers in the local area during constriction resulting in limited accommodation options for seasonal workers, students, and visitors	Negative	Construction	Standard
Livelihoods	Local employment, procurement and training opportunities during construction	Positive	Construction	Standard
Livelihoods	Economic opportunities for local businesses during construction, including temporary accommodation providers, hospitality and food retail, and general retail outlets as a result of increased workforce	Positive	Construction	Standard
Surroundings	Permanent changes to community character and surrounding landscape	Negative	Construction	Detailed
Surroundings	Permanent impacts on visual amenity including visual bulk and potential light pollution	Negative	Operation	Detailed
Health and wellbeing	Impacts on local amenity due to operational noise impacts resulting from the project	Negative	Operation	Detailed

Primary Impact Category	Potential Impacts on Community	Nature	Phase	Level of Assessment
Way of life	Improved infrastructure to facilitate access to renewable energy sources in NSW and enhance reliability of energy supply	Positive	Operation	Minor

6.1 Level of Assessment

Based on the outcome of this scoping report, a moderate level assessment will be prepared to investigate social impacts as a result of the Project in the Phase 2 SIA.

The next phase of investigation will comprise the SIA report components the EIS which may be appended to the EIS as a standalone study.

In accordance with the SIA Guidelines (DPE 2021), the Phase 2 SIA will:

- *predict and analyse the extent and nature of likely social impacts against baseline conditions using accepted social science methods*
- *evaluate, draw attention to and prioritise the social impacts that are important to people*
- *develop appropriate and justified responses (e.g. avoidance, mitigation and enhancement measures) to social impacts, and identify and explain residual social impacts*
- *propose arrangements to monitor and manage residual social impacts, including unanticipated impacts, over the life of the project (including post-closure phases for extractive industry projects).*

6.2 Phase 2 SIA Approach

The Phase 2 SIA will draw on further in-depth analysis of refined project information and findings of technical studies. It will also rely on targeted stakeholder engagement and the outcomes of a community engagement program.

Primary research methods that will inform the Phase 2 SIA include structured interviews with key stakeholder groups and individuals including:

- Landowners;
- Government at agency;
- Local business and community groups and representatives; and
- Emergency services and relevant service providers.

Secondary research methods will include:

- Outcomes and feedback collected through broad public consultation conducted to inform the Project;
- Targeted consultation findings conducted by technical specialists through other detailed investigations such as Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment, Acoustic Assessment and Traffic Assessment;
- Secondary data sources such as census and demographic data from the Australian Bureau of Statistics;

- Regional and local strategic plans, as well as SIA reports and community engagement reports prepared for other recent, comparable, or nearby projects in the region.

6.3 SIA Assessor

The SIA will be undertaken by Astrid Ruban. Astrid holds a Bachelor of Urban Planning and Development, University of Melbourne (2006) and is an experienced engagement and social sustainability consultant, with a background in urban planning. With nearly 20 years' experience working with private sector clients and all levels of government, she has led the design and delivery of social assessments and engagement programs for infrastructure projects across multiple industry sectors.

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Attachment A Scoping Worksheet

Phase 1 Social Impact Assessment Report for Scoping Report

Jindera BESS

BESS Atlantic Pty Ltd

SLR Project No.: 620.040670.00001

29 January 2024

Which Project Activity / Activities Could Produce Social Impacts ?	What Social Impact Categories Could Be Affected by The Project Activities	What Impacts Are Likely, And What Concerns/Aspirations Have People Expressed About the Impact? Summarise How Each Relevant Stakeholder Group Might Experience the Impact. NB. Where There Are Multiple Stakeholder Groups Affected Differently by An Impact, Or More Than One Impact from The Activity, Please Add an Additional Row.	Is The Impact Expected to be Positive or Negative	Has This Impact Previously Been Investigated (On This or Other Project/S)?	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: You Can Also Consider The Various Magnitudes Of These Characteristics					Level Of Assessment for Each Social Impact	What Methods and Data Sources Will Be Used to Investigate This Impact?		
								Extent I.E. Number of People Potentially Affected?	Duration Of Expected Impacts? (I.E. Construction Vs Operational Phase)	Intensity Of Expected Impacts I.E. Scale or Degree of Change?	Sensitivity Or Vulnerability of People Potentially Affected?	Level Of Concern/Interest of People Potentially Affected?		Secondary Data	Primary Data - Consultation	Primary Data - Research
Construction	Health and wellbeing	Amenity impacts during construction activities including, but not limited to, noise, vibration, dust and odour	Negative	Yes - this project	Jindera Solar Farm EIS	Yes	May combine with impacts of Jindera and Glenellen Solar Farm projects or other developments	No	No	Yes	Unknown	Unknown	Detailed assessment of the impact	Required	Broad consultation	Targeted research
Construction	Culture	Loss of Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal cultural heritage values due to construction activities and site preparation works (pending heritage assessment)	Negative	Yes - this project	Jindera BESS preliminary Aboriginal Heritage Assessment	Yes	Potential to combine with impacts of Jindera and Glenellen Solar Farm projects	Yes	Yes	Unknown	Yes	Yes	Detailed assessment of the impact	Required	Broad consultation	Targeted research
Construction	Surroundings	Loss if environmental/biodiversity values due to construction and site preparation works (pending biodiversity assessment)	Negative	Yes - this project	Jindera BESS preliminary Biodiverse Assessment	Yes	Potential to combine with impacts of Jindera and Glenellen Solar Farm projects	Yes	Yes	No	Unknown	Unknown	Detailed assessment of the impact	Required	Broad consultation	Targeted research
Construction	Surroundings	Perceived changes to local community character resulting from reduction of agricultural land and associated activities in the local area	Negative	Yes - other project	Jindera Solar Farm EIS	Yes	Potential to combine with impacts of Jindera and Glenellen Solar Farm projects	No	Yes	No	No	No	Minor assessment of the impact	Required	Limited - if required (e.g. local council)	Not required
Construction	Way of life	Delays and disruption to local traffic networks resulting from construction activity including, increased truck movements and heavy and oversized vehicles	Negative	Yes - this project	Jindera BESS Preliminary Traffic Impact Assessment	Yes	Potential to combine with impacts generated by Glenellen and Jindera Solar Farm projects or seasonal traffic fluctuations	Yes	No	Yes	Unknown	Yes	Detailed assessment of the impact	Required	Broad consultation	Targeted research

Which Project Activity / Activities Could Produce Social Impacts ?	What Social Impact Categories Could Be Affected by The Project Activities	What Impacts Are Likely, And What Concerns/Aspirations Have People Expressed About the Impact? Summarise How Each Relevant Stakeholder Group Might Experience the Impact. NB. Where There Are Multiple Stakeholder Groups Affected Differently by An Impact, Or More Than One Impact from The Activity, Please Add an Additional Row.	Is The Impact Expected to be Positive or Negative	Has This Impact Previously Been Investigated (On This or Other Project/S)?	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: You Can Also Consider The Various Magnitudes Of These Characteristics					Level Of Assessment for Each Social Impact	What Methods and Data Sources Will Be Used to Investigate This Impact?		
								Extent I.E. Number of People Potentially Affected?	Duration Of Expected Impacts? (I.E. Construction Vs Operational Phase)	Intensity Of Expected Impacts I.E. Scale or Degree of Change?	Sensitivity Or Vulnerability of People Potentially Affected?	Level Of Concern/Interest of People Potentially Affected?		Secondary Data	Primary Data - Consultation	Primary Data - Research
Construction	Livelihoods	Saturation of temporary accommodation providers in the local area during constriction resulting in limited accommodation options for seasonal workers, students, and visitors	Negative	Yes - other project	Jindera Solar Farm EIS	Yes	Potential to combine with impacts generated by Glenellen and Jindera Solar Farm projects	Yes	No	Unknown	No	No	Standard assessment of the impact	Required	Targeted consultation	Potentially targeted research
Construction	Livelihoods	Local employment, procurement and training opportunities during construction	Positive	Yes - other project	Jindera Solar Farm EIS	Yes	Potential to combine with benefits delivered through Glenellen and Jindera Solar Farm projects	No	No	Unknown	No	Yes	Standard assessment of the impact	Required	Targeted consultation	Potentially targeted research
Construction	Livelihoods	Economic opportunities for local businesses during construction, including temporary accommodation providers, hospitality and food retail, and general retail outlets as a result of increased workforce	Positive	Yes - other project	Jindera Solar Farm EIS	Yes	Potential to combine with benefits delivered through Glenellen and Jindera Solar Farm projects	No	No	Unknown	No	Yes	Standard assessment of the impact	Required	Targeted consultation	Potentially targeted research
Operation	Surroundings	Permanent changes to community character and surrounding landscape	Negative	Yes - other project	Jindera Solar Farm EIS	Yes	Potential to combine with impacts generated by Glenellen and Jindera Solar Farm projects	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	Detailed assessment of the impact	Required	Broad consultation	Targeted research

Which Project Activity / Activities Could Produce Social Impacts ?	What Social Impact Categories Could Be Affected by The Project Activities	What Impacts Are Likely, And What Concerns/Aspirations Have People Expressed About the Impact? Summarise How Each Relevant Stakeholder Group Might Experience the Impact. NB. Where There Are Multiple Stakeholder Groups Affected Differently by An Impact, Or More Than One Impact from The Activity, Please Add an Additional Row.	Is The Impact Expected to be Positive or Negative	Has This Impact Previously Been Investigated (On This or Other Project/S)?	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: You Can Also Consider The Various Magnitudes Of These Characteristics					Level Of Assessment for Each Social Impact	What Methods and Data Sources Will Be Used to Investigate This Impact?		
								Extent I.E. Number of People Potentially Affected?	Duration Of Expected Impacts? (I.E. Construction Vs Operational Phase)	Intensity Of Expected Impacts I.E. Scale or Degree of Change?	Sensitivity Or Vulnerability of People Potentially Affected?	Level Of Concern/Interest of People Potentially Affected?		Secondary Data	Primary Data - Consultation	Primary Data - Research
Operation	Surroundings	Permanent impacts on visual amenity including visual bulk and potential light pollution	Negative	Yes - this project	Jindera BESS Visual Impact Scoping Report	Yes	Potential to combine with impacts generated by Glenellen and Jindera Solar Farm projects	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	Detailed assessment of the impact	Required	Broad consultation	Targeted research
Operation	Health and wellbeing	Impacts in local amenity due to operational noise impacts resulting from the project	Negative	Yes - this project	Jindera BESS Acoustic Scoping Report	Yes	Potential to combine with impacts generated by Glenellen and Jindera Solar Farm projects	No	Yes	Unknown	No	Yes	Detailed assessment of the impact	Required	Broad consultation	Targeted research
Operation	Way of life	Improved infrastructure to facilitate access to renewable energy sources in NSW and enhance reliability of energy supply	Positive	Yes - other project	Glenellen Solar Farm EIS	Yes	May combine with benefits of Glenellen Solar Farm and Jindera Solar Farm projects	No	No	No	No	Yes	Minor assessment of the impact	Required	Limited - if required (e.g. local council)	Not required
Construction	Community	Changes to community cohesion and character due to influx from workers	Negative	Yes - other project	Glenellen Solar Farm EIS	Yes	May combine with benefits of Glenellen Solar Farm and Jindera Solar Farm projects	Yes	No	Unknown	No	Unknown	Detailed assessment of the impact	Required	Broad consultation	Targeted research

Attachment B Detailed Demograpic Data

Phase 1 Social Impact Assessment Report for Scoping Report

Jindera BESS

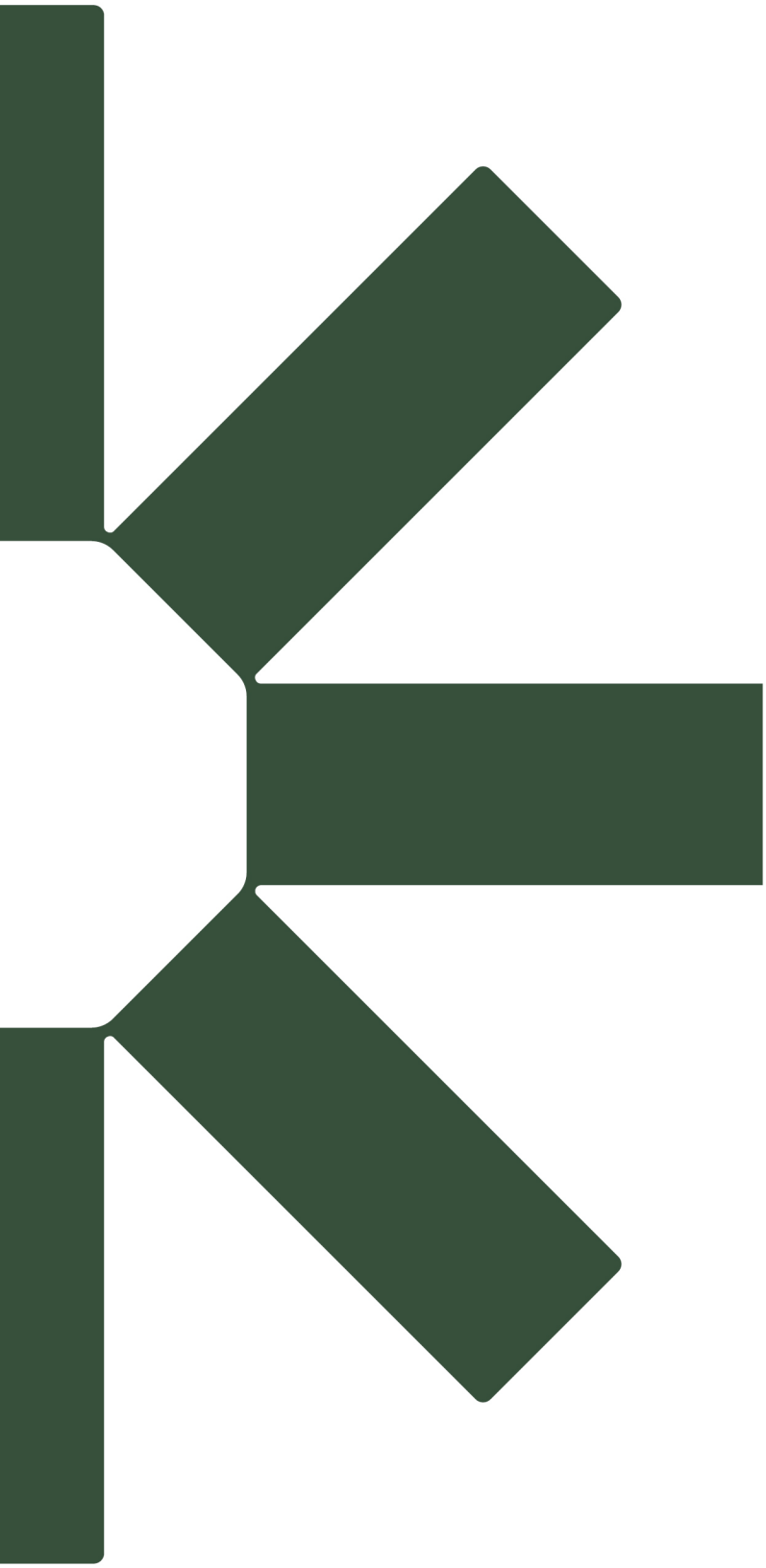
BESS Atlantic Pty Ltd

SLR Project No.: 620.040670.00001

29 January 2024

ASGS Classification	SAL		LGA		SA3		STE	
Code	SAL12041		LGA13340		10901		1	
Name (Manually Entered)	Jindera		Greater Hume		Albury		NSW	
Stats	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Total population	**2721**		**11157**		**67044**		**8072163**	
Sex:								
Male	1356	49.83%	5657	50.70%	32640	48.68%	3984166	49.36%
Female	1366	50.20%	5492	49.22%	34406	51.32%	4087995	50.64%
Age Structure (service age groups):								
Babies and pre-schoolers (0 to 4)	205	7.53%	648	5.81%	4207	6.27%	468046	5.80%
Primary schoolers (5 to 11)	306	11.25%	1072	9.61%	6031	9.00%	702695	8.71%
Secondary schoolers (12 to 17)	286	10.51%	1032	9.25%	5072	7.57%	578476	7.17%
Tertiary education/independence (18 to 24)	177	6.50%	710	6.36%	5484	8.18%	674871	8.36%
Young workforce (25 to 34)	279	10.25%	936	8.39%	8246	12.30%	1142023	14.15%
Parents and homebuilders (35 to 49)	534	19.63%	1904	17.07%	12030	17.94%	1620090	20.07%
Older workers & pre-retirees (50 to 59)	326	11.98%	1535	13.76%	8275	12.34%	990187	12.27%
Empty nesters and retirees (60 to 69)	358	13.16%	1639	14.69%	8304	12.39%	888120	11.00%
Seniors (70 to 84)	201	7.39%	1457	13.06%	7810	11.65%	823757	10.20%
Frail aged (85 and over)	39	1.43%	226	2.03%	1612	2.40%	183900	2.28%
Housing								
Total dwellings	**828**		**3936**		**26054**	**inf**	**2900468**	**inf**
Housing Tenure and landlord:								
Owned outright	280	33.82%	1693	43.01%	8450	32.43%	914537	31.53%
Owned with a mortgage	426	51.45%	1398	35.52%	8459	32.47%	942804	32.51%
Rented	102	12.32%	603	15.32%	8088	31.04%	944585	32.57%
Other tenure type	4	0.48%	145	3.68%	610	2.34%	55931	1.93%
Tenure type not stated	13	1.57%	96	2.44%	455	1.75%	42613	1.47%
Social housing (Landlord type = State or Territory housing auhority and Community housing provider)	0	0.00%	48	1.22%	933	3.58%	120787	4.16%
Dwelling structure:								
Separate house	810	97.83%	3828	97.26%	21628	83.01%	1902734	65.60%
Semi-detached, ro or terrace house, townhouse, etc	16	1.93%	77	1.96%	3950	15.16%	340582	11.74%

ASGS Classification	SAL		LGA		SA3		STE	
Flat or apartment	0	0.00%	4	0.10%	325	1.25%	630030	21.72%
Other dwelling	0	0.00%	10	0.25%	83	0.32%	19374	0.67%
Occupied private dwellings	828	94.20%	3936	87.84%	26054	91.32%	2900468	90.64%
Unoccupied private dwellings	56	6.37%	548	12.23%	2469	8.65%	299524	9.36%
Total number of families	**704**		**2913**		**17481**	**inf**	**2135964**	**inf**
Family/household composition:								
Couples with children	367	52.13%	1191	40.89%	6827	39.05%	954588	44.69%
Couples without children	255	36.22%	1309	44.94%	7306	41.79%	809586	37.90%
One parent families	83	11.79%	395	13.56%	3093	17.69%	337729	15.81%
Lone person households	134	16.18%	1000	25.41%	7991	30.67%	723716	24.95%
Group households	14	1.69%	71	1.80%	891	3.42%	111646	3.85%
Average household size	3.00		2.50		2.40	inf	2.60	inf
Employment:								
Unemployed	39	2.85%	150	2.91%	1475	4.51%	189852	4.90%
Median weekly household income	2013		1420		1428		1829	inf
Median weekly individual incomce	858		723		770		813	inf
Top 3 Industries of Employment:								
1	Construction 173	13.09%	Agriculture_Forestry_and_Fishing 1033	20.66%	Health_Care_and_Social_Assistance 5355	17.13%	Health_Care_and_Social_Assistance 529176	14.36%
2	Health_Care_and_Social_Assistance 171	12.93%	Health_Care_and_Social_Assistance 572	11.44%	Construction 3152	10.09%	Retail_Trade 331486	9.00%
3	Education_and_Training 159	12.03%	Education_and_Training 479	9.58%	Education_and_Training 3127	10.01%	Professional_Scientific_and_Technical_Services 326595	8.86%
Top 3 Occupations:								
1	Technicians & trades workers 260	19.67%	Managers 1096	21.92%	Professionals 6001	19.20%	Professionals 952131	25.84%
2	Professionals 219	16.57%	Technicians & trades workers 718	14.36%	Technicians & trades workers 4574	14.63%	Managers 536820	14.57%
3	Clerical & administrative workers 166	12.56%	Professionals 713	14.26%	Community & personal service workers 4142	13.25%	Clerical & administrative workers 480612	13.05%



Making Sustainability Happen

Appendix D Community and Stakeholder Engagement Plan

Scoping Report - Request for Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARs)

Jindera Battery Energy Storage System (BESS)

Prepared for: BESS Atlantic Pty Ltd

SLR Project No.: 620.40670.00001

19 March 2024

Community and Stakeholder Engagement Plan

Jindera Battery Energy Storage System (BESS)

BESS Atlantic Pty Ltd

307 Queen Street
Brisbane City, Queensland 4000

Prepared by:

SLR Consulting Australia

Level 11, 176 Wellington Parade, East Melbourne
VIC 3002, Australia

SLR Project No.: 620.040670.00001

18 March 2024

Revision: 1.0

Revision Record

Revision	Date	Prepared By	Checked By	Authorised By
0.1	11 December 2023	Stephanie Skordas	Astrid Ruban	
1.0	28 February 2024	Stephanie Skordas	Astrid Ruban	Daniel Jeon

Basis of Report

This report has been prepared by SLR Consulting Australia (SLR) with all reasonable skill, care and diligence, and taking account of the timescale and resources allocated to it by agreement with BESS Atlantic Pty Ltd (the Client). Information reported herein is based on the interpretation of data collected, which has been accepted in good faith as being accurate and valid.

This report is for the exclusive use of the Client. No warranties or guarantees are expressed or should be inferred by any third parties. This report may not be relied upon by other parties without written consent from SLR.

SLR disclaims any responsibility to the Client and others in respect of any matters outside the agreed scope of the work.

Table of Contents

Tables in Text

Figures in Text

Attachments

1.0 Project Background and Overview

BESS Atlantic Pty Ltd (BESS Atlantic) engaged SLR Consulting Australia to prepare this Community and Stakeholder Engagement Plan to support investigations and approvals for the Jindera Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) (herein referred to as 'The Project'). The BESS is proposed on a portion of Lot 204 DP 753342 at 204 Ortlipp Road, Glenellen New South Wales (NSW) 2642 (the 'BESS Site'). The existing JINDERA 330/132 kV TS is located on Lot 1 DP 588720, 140 Ortlipp Road, Jindera NSW 2642 (the 'Substation Site'),

The Project will involve the development, construction, operation, and eventual decommissioning of a BESS with a capacity of 250 MW/ 500 MWh connecting via TL directly to the existing JINDERA 330/132kV TS operated by TransGrid. The BESS will consist of BESS containers (or enclosures), with each container having dimensions of 6m with an approximate weight of 35,000 kg. The BESS will be supported by inverters which will convert the electricity from the BESS and connect to the existing TransGrid substation via approximately 500 m of 330 kV overhead lines.

Further details are summarised in **Table 1**.

Table 1: Project Summary

Project Element	Description
Proposed Development – Construction and Operation Summary	The Project would generally involve the following components: • Transport of construction personnel, associated heavy and light vehicles, and materials to and from the Subject Sites on a day-to-day basis, dependent on the construction schedule; • Site establishment works including vegetation clearing within the BESS boundary and TL footprint, bulk earthworks, and a temporary construction compound; • Road works to formalise internal site access road to accommodate heavy vehicles and a new driveway crossing; • Construction of hardstand, paved internal roads, control room and switch gear, auxiliary transformer, battery enclosures, and inverter and transformer stations; • Construction of overhead 330 kV TL to facilitate connection to the existing JINDERA 330/132 kV TS and associated high voltage steel poles; • Acoustic attenuation to be determined as part of a detailed assessment; • Construction of ancillary works including parking areas, water tank, storage structures, stormwater management infrastructure and security lighting and fencing; • Vegetative screening; and • Removal of temporary construction facilities, and rehabilitation of disturbed areas following completion of construction of the Project.
Site Access	Access to the BESS site is proposed to be via Ortlipp Road via a new driveway crossing. An internal access road will accommodate heavy vehicles associated with the construction of the BESS.
Grid Connection	A new overhead TL (330 kV) will be constructed to connect the BESS substation, to the existing TransGrid JINDERA 330/132 kV TS to the south of the BESS site. The transmission routes will run south-southwest from the southern portion of the BESS site, transecting an unformed road reserve before entering the JINDERA 330/132 kV TS land. The TL towers will be approximately 30 metres (m) in height with a ground clearance of 7.5m, located within the proposed 60m TL easement. Three TL towers are proposed to facilitate the route to the JINDERA 330/132 kV TS. The TL towers will be located in the BESS site and Substation Site, with only the overhead lines being within the Unformed Crown Road Reserve.

Project Element	Description
Construction Duration	Construction of the Project is anticipated to take approximately 10 months.
Operation Life Expectancy	The operational life of the Project will be determined by the evolving nature of the technology, however is anticipated that the lifespan will be approximately 15-25 years.
Decommissioning	The Project would be decommissioned, and the infrastructure removed, returning the BESS site to its original use following the approximate 15-25 year life expectancy.

1.1 Purpose of this Document

This Community and Stakeholder Engagement Plan (CSEP) seeks to outline the communication and engagement needs and activities for genuine and transparent engagement required for the successful delivery of this project.

This plan is a 'live' document and will be updated by SLR throughout the lifetime of the Project. It identifies stakeholders and outlines the appropriate associated engagement procedures and processes required for the successful delivery of this project. The CSEP will outline tailored actions including controls, mitigations, key messages, communication methods, and engagement frequency, at a minimum.

1.2 Project Benefits

It is expected that the proposed development is capable of providing economic, environmental, and social benefits to the immediate and wider community.

Table 2 outlines potential benefits in summary form.

Table 2: BESS Benefits Summary (Source: BESS Atlantic)

Theme	Benefits Summary
Economic	• Cost-effective storage • Local investment • Deter taxpayer grid infrastructure upgrades • Landowner revenue • Job opportunity • Long-term lowered energy costs
Environmental	• Renewable energy integration • Carbon emission reduction • Recyclable materials • Emission trading and offsets • Rehabilitation of contaminated sites opportunity <u>When compared with traditional power solutions:</u> • Reduced air and water pollution • Land use efficiency • Hazardous materials and water consumption reduction
Social	• Enhanced energy access • Locally sourced goods and services through construction • Local sponsorships • Education and awareness
Network	• Grid stability & resilience • Peak demand management • Energy efficiency

Theme	Benefits Summary
	• Long-term energy storage/backup • Increased energy reliance • Improved power quality

1.3 Consultation to Date

1.3.1 Community Consultation

Consultation on the Project began in June 2023 during the initial stages of the Project. Initial consultation involved targeted discussion with Council and eleven nearby landowners on 6th and 7th June 2023 and included:

- Door knocks and flyer drops to all eleven properties;
- At-home meetings with eight landowners;
- Phone call with one landowner; and
- Two meetings with Greater Hume Council officers in their offices.

As part of the initial planning process, key stakeholders and community members were identified. During this phase, the Project factsheet (**Attachment A**) was distributed to key stakeholders and community members.

Table 3 summarises feedback received through early consultation. It is important to note that some concerns raised by local landowners and residents related to the Jindera Solar Farm and may not be specifically relevant to the Project.

Table 3: Summary of Feedback Received through Early Consultation

Impact Category	Summary of Feedback
Way of life	• Opposed to development of solar and BESS infrastructure on high value agricultural land. • Concerns about the impact of construction traffic on local transport networks.
Health and wellbeing	• Concern regarding potential impacts relating to visual amenity, noise, and light at night. • Concern regarding the requirement to run underground cable.
Surroundings	• Concern about potential visual impacts when walking, such as those created by the Jindera Solar Farm. • Concerns that the Subject Sites are too swampy.
Livelihoods	• Concern regarding impact on land values as a result of diminished landscape and vistas, as experienced from the nearby Jindera Solar Farm.
	• Opportunities for procurement of local goods and services. • Opportunities to lease land for the BESS and associated activities

It is proposed that all community engagement relevant to the Project will be completed during the preparation of the EIS via the proposed Community and Stakeholder Engagement Plan (CSEP) and engagement campaign.

1.3.2 Council

Preliminary engagement has occurred with the Council, with details of the Project provided via email on 8 December 2023. The intent of preliminary engagement was to introduce the

Proponent and the Project. A written response was received from Council on 15 January 2024, with preliminary advice summarised below:

- Noted close proximity to the approved Jindera and Glenellen Solar Farms, and need to consider cumulative impacts on traffic, noise and air quality;
- Visual impacts of the Project will need to be considered and Council would like to see the proposed BESS be assimilated with the rural landscape;
- Traffic implications of the Project will be an issue for Councils consideration and information will be needed on traffic generation of the development during construction, operation and decommissioning;
- Council's will be requesting the applicant to enter into a Voluntary Planning Agreement (VPA) with Council with the value of the VPA amounting to 1% of the capital investment value;
- Impacts on the hydrology of the site and surrounds as a result of the Project should be addressed; and
- Other impacts to be considered include a hazards and risks analysis, biodiversity, land resources, aboriginal cultural heritage, historical heritage, waste and resource use, noise and socio-economic factors.

1.3.3 Transport for NSW

Preliminary engagement has been completed with Transport for NSW (TfNSW) with details of the Project provided via email on 8 December 2023. The intent of preliminary engagement was introduce the Proponent and the Project, to facilitate consultation on any key design or assessment considerations. A response was received on 18th of January 2024 with preliminary comments included.

Comments are summarised to comprise of the following matters for future consideration:

- Traffic volumes inclusive of background and project related traffic;
- Traffic characteristics including; ratio of heavy to light vehicles, peak times, hours of transportation and the like;
- Capacity analysis;
- Heavy vehicle and OSOM routes (NVHR approved) including a logistics route analysis, locations where civil works are required, pinch points and the like;
- Cumulative impacts, including projects nearby with overlapping construction periods;
- Consideration of accommodation and transport needs/facilities;
- Road safety assessment of haulage routes;
- Project schedule including detail on shifts to be worked, targeted construction timeframes;
- Origins, destinations and routes for commuter vehicles, heavy vehicles and OSOM vehicles;
- Any road upgrades required, with strategic drawings;
- Internal road layouts;
- Impact on rail corridors and level crossings;
- SEPP 33 / dangerous goods controls; and
- Draft TMP managing impacts of project related traffic.

These matters requested for consideration from TfNSW will be adequately reported through a Traffic Impact Assessment (TIA) to accompany the future EIS.

1.3.4 TransGrid

The BESS will connect to the existing TransGrid substation via transmission line. It is not yet confirmed whether the Proponent or TransGrid will complete the works associated with the grid connection for the Project.

On-going consultation between the Proponent and TransGrid has been occurring since December 2022. The following engagement has been undertaken to date:

- December 2022
  - Initial preliminary correspondence with TransGrid
  - 7.12.22 - Connection Enquiry - sent via email
  - 12.12.22 - TransGrid request to clarify some enquiry items
  - 14.12.22 – BESS Atlantic clarification items confirmed via email
- January 2023 - TransGrid Connection Enquiry Response
  - Overall positive response
  - Few constraints identified within response to conduct necessary augmentations to substation to meet proposed generation capacity
  - System strength requirements for satisfactory operation outlined
- February 2023 - TransGrid update meeting.

2.0 Engagement Approach and Principles

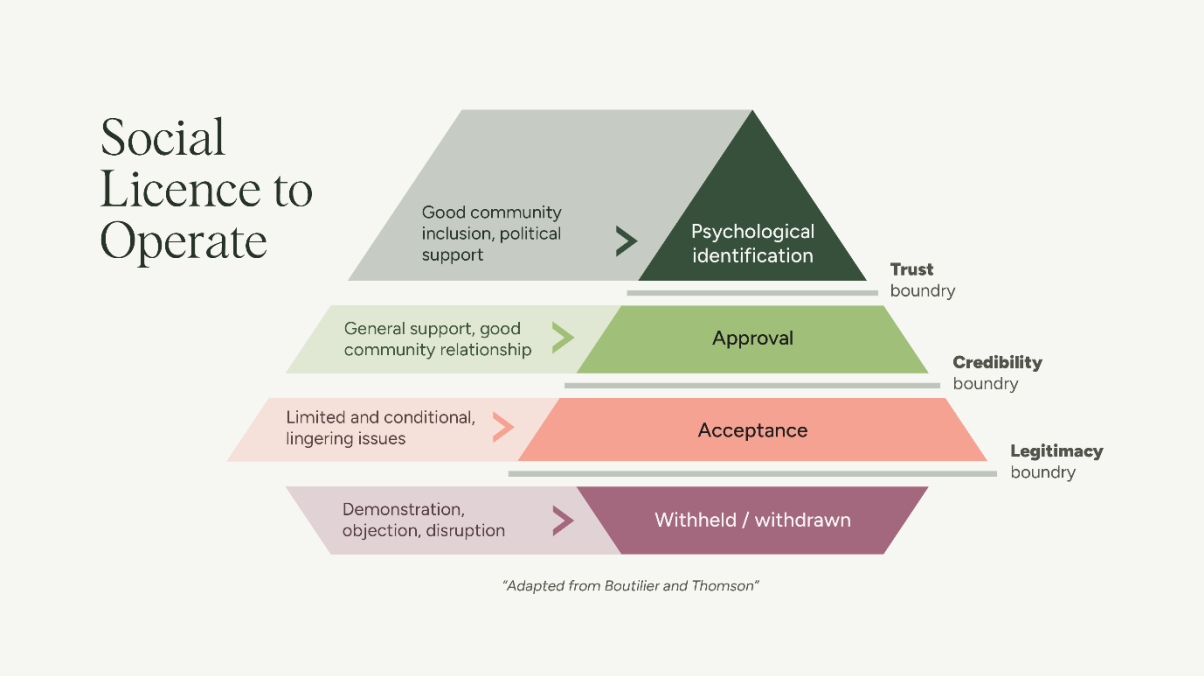
2.1 Approach

This CSEP has been prepared to include national and international best practice principles and guidelines, including the following:

- International Association for Public Participation (IAP2);
- AA1000SES: International standard for stakeholder engagement; and
- Undertaking Engagement Guidelines for State Significant Projects (NSW Government).

In addition, ensuring that a Social Licence to Operate (outlined in **Figure 1** below) is attained and retained throughout the Project's lifecycle is key to ongoing project success.

Figure 1: Social Licence to Operate, adapted from Boutilier and Thomson



BESS Atlantic will have regard to the community and stakeholders, who may be directly impacted by the Project, and will seek to identify the level of, and ways of, mitigating any impacts and implement agreed mitigation strategies.

2.2 Key Objectives

BESS Atlantic's stakeholder engagement program aims to ensure that community and stakeholders are provided with accurate information regarding the development of the Project. The following are key objectives which have guided the development of the CSEP and its methodology:

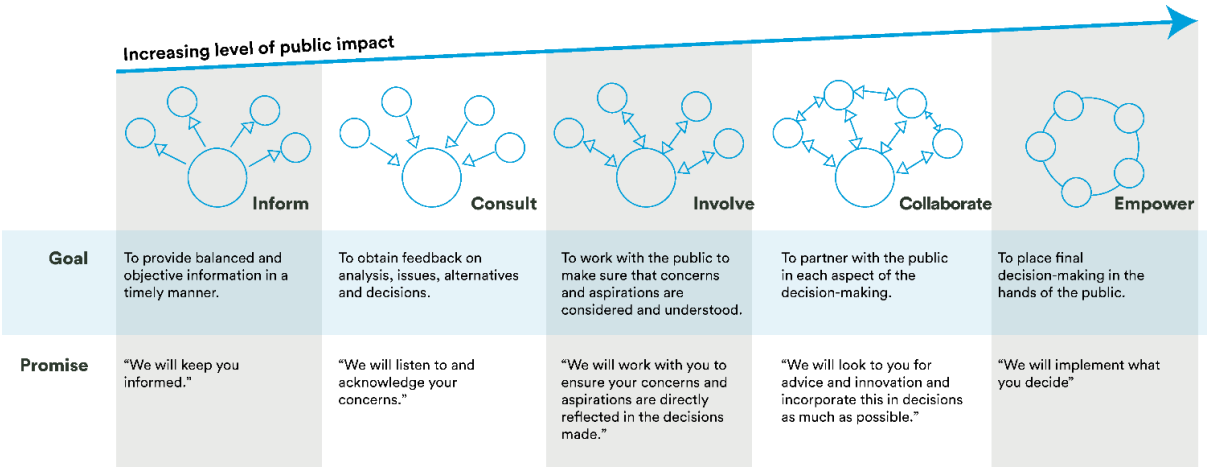
- build upon engagement activities undertaken to date, leverage from established relationships and any lessons learned are captured and incorporated;
- identify engagement channels to address all consultation and engagement needs;
- design an inclusive, tailored, flexible and adaptable plan to identify the most effective approaches to engagement with stakeholders and the community;

- identify and mitigate engagement issues and risks that arise as the Project evolves and progresses;
- identify engagement tools that appropriately capture stakeholder feedback on the Project, including all stakeholder concerns;
- enable consistent project messaging to manage stakeholder and community expectations and avoid lack of confidence in engagement;
- support the delivery of the Project to be recognised as environmentally, economically, culturally and socially acceptable to the community and key stakeholders (i.e. earn social licence to operate); and
- provide regulators with confidence that all positive and negative impacts are well understood and can be managed throughout all phases of the Project.

2.3 IAP2 Core Values

The proposed engagement methodology will follow the principles and values outlined in the International Association of Public Participation's (IAP2) Quality Assurance Standard. These high-level frameworks and standards outline best-practice expectations of principle, process and value, and provide a consistent model for design and delivery of engagement. The proposed level of engagement will be to *inform*, *consult, involve* and *empower* as per the IAP2 Spectrum in **Figure 2**.

Figure 2: IAP2 Spectrum



2.4 SLR Social Performance Roles and Responsibilities

The Social Performance team includes a dedicated Engagement Lead and a Senior Engagement Consultant to support the Project's delivery. Additional resources will include a Technical Director - Social Performance who has been made available to provide project governance and quality assurance for the Project. A graphic design specialist has also been included in the team to service project needs. The responsibilities for each SLR role and resource are captured in **Table 4**.

Table 4: SLR Team Roles and Responsibilities

Role	Responsibility	Resource
Governance and Quality Assurance Lead	• Oversee and review project communications and engagement activities.	Esther Diffey 0423 686 002 ediffey@slrconsulting.com

Role	Responsibility	Resource
	• Maintain quality assurance on the project and ensure deliverables are being achieved.	
Engagement Lead	• Lead and review project communications and engagement activities	Astrid Ruban 0403 332 041 aruban@slrconsulting.com
Senior Engagement Consultant	• Implement and support project communications and engagement activities	Stephanie Skordas 0434 279 633 sskordas@slrconsulting.com
Graphic Design Consultant	• Support team in the creation of visual comms for the client	Dawn Wilson dwilson@slrconsulting.com

2.5 Stakeholder Key Messaging

2.5.1 Key Messages – Overall Project General

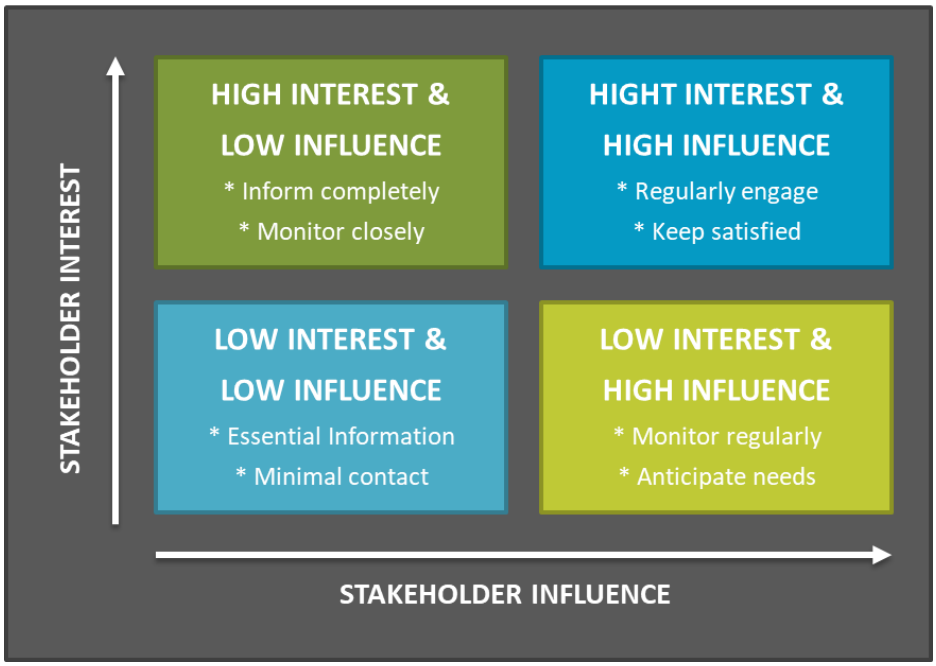
- The Jindera Battery Energy Storage System is a State Significant investment proposed to be developed at 204 Ortlipp Road in Jindera, NSW;
- The proposed 250MW utility scale battery will connect to the Deniliquin substation via an overhead electrical cable;
- The Jindera BESS supports the Commonwealth Government's commitment to net zero by 2050 and the NSW Government's Net Zero Plan Stage 1: 2020 – 2030;
- BESS developments such as this Project use innovative technology to store excess electricity for later release;
- BESS plays a crucial role for the integration of renewable energy sources to the grid for enhanced network stability, economic generation and increased environmental sustainability;
- The Project will capitalise on the procurement of local goods and services assisting to grow local businesses;
- The Project will allow the continued sustainable growth of Jindera while supporting the transition to a renewable energy future;and
- The Project expects to create approximately 70 full-time equivalent jobs during construction.

3.0 Stakeholder Identification and Analysis

Stakeholders refer to any person or group of persons who have or feel they have an interest or can affect/be affected by an issue or decision. The Project covers diverse stakeholders with varying levels of interest, influence, power, or impact relative to any issue. The level of influence/interest of a stakeholder group should be a consideration in shaping their level of participation in the engagement process, timing of engagement and the methodology for the engagement.

The interest/influence matrix shown in **Figure 3** is a strategic tool used in stakeholder management to categorise stakeholders based on their level of interest in a project or organisation and their level of influence or power to affect the project's outcomes. The matrix supports the prioritisation of engagement efforts and the development appropriate strategies for managing and communicating with stakeholders.

Figure 3: Interest/Influence Matrix for Stakeholder Prioritisation



3.1 Stakeholder Analysis

Table 5 provides a summary of the stakeholder groups, and the level of engagement required to guide effective engagement for the Project.

A detailed stakeholder analysis is provided in Attachment B. The stakeholder list will be reviewed and updated throughout each of the phases of the Project, as new activities are undertaken, and new stakeholders are identified.

Table 5: Engagement Levels Based on Stakeholder Groups

Interest Group	Inform	Consult	Involve	Collaborate	Empower	Comments
Primary						
Local Community		x				Actively involved in discussions. Maintain engagement over the Project period. Keep closely engaged to identify and manage any existing or emerging issues. Review existing approach and ensure there is a process in place to maintain Project transparency and engagement.
BESS Atlantic					x	Employee stakeholders are also members of the community. It is important to create project advocates. Employees need to be familiar with key messages being provided to the community.

Interest Group	Inform	Consult	Involve	Collaborate	Empower	Comments
NSW Government and Statutory Authorities			x			Actively involved on issues relating to the development of the Project.
Secondary						
Industry Bodies		x				Provide access to information via the website or local newspaper. Conduct consultation to consider any concerns/feedback related to the Project.
Non-government organisations and special interest groups	x					Provide access to information via the website or local newspaper. Conduct consultation to consider any concerns/feedback related to the Project.
Media	x					Monitor and provide regular briefings to local journalist on project progress. Prepare holding statements. Commit to building a relationship early to foster local support and build appreciation for Project's positive role in the community.
General public	x					Provide access to information via the website or local newspaper. Conduct consultation to consider any concerns/feedback related to the Project.
Contractors/suppliers			x			Provide accurate information for the delivery of the Project.

4.0 Potential Risks and Mitigations

Outlined below in **Table 6** are key project risks, and mitigations to these risks. This risk analysis will be subject to ongoing review and revision as engagement progresses.

Table 6: Main Risks and Mitigations

Risk	Mitigation
Miscommunication: Messages that are unclear, inaccurate, or misunderstood can lead to confusion, misinterpretation, and misinformation.	• Use plain and clear language in messages. • Provide context to help stakeholders understand the message. • Encourage feedback and clarification if something is unclear.
Lack of Transparency: Failure to be open and honest in communication can erode trust and credibility.	• Be open and honest in all communication. • Share both positive and negative information when appropriate. • Establish clear communication channels for addressing concerns.
Inconsistent Messaging: Mixed or conflicting messages from different sources within an organisation can create confusion and mistrust.	• Develop and adhere to a unified communication strategy. • Provide training to staff on messaging and communication guidelines. • Maintain a central repository for approved messaging and updates.
Overcommunication or Information Overload: Bombarding stakeholders with excessive information can overwhelm and lead to disengagement.	• Tailor messaging to different target audiences i.e. industry members, landowners, Traditional Owners etc. • Create a communication schedule to avoid excessive messages. • Use different channels for different types of information.
Communication Gaps: Not reaching all relevant stakeholders or leaving certain groups out of the communication loop can lead to feelings of exclusion and dissatisfaction.	• Identify all relevant stakeholders and create communication plans for each group. • Use multiple channels and mediums to reach different stakeholder groups. • Periodically review and update stakeholder lists.
Social Media Backlash: Negative comments, viral criticism, or social media controversies can quickly damage a brand's reputation if not managed effectively.	• Monitor social media platforms for mentions and comments. • Respond to negative comments professionally and constructively. • Have a crisis communication management plan in place.
Stakeholder Disengagement: If stakeholders feel that their concerns and feedback are not valued or addressed, they may disengage, which can affect the success of projects and initiatives.	• Actively seek and incorporate feedback from stakeholders. • Address concerns and issues promptly. • Demonstrate the impact of stakeholder feedback on decision-making.
Cultural Insensitivity: Not considering cultural differences in communication and engagement strategies can lead to offence, misunderstandings, and alienation.	• Conduct cultural sensitivity training for staff. • Co-design communication strategies with communities to uphold cultural awareness (if applicable). • Seek input from affected communities to ensure respectful communication.
Lack of Employee Engagement: Disengaged employees can impact internal communication, collaboration, and overall organisational performance.	• Encourage open communication channels between management and employees. • Recognise and reward employee contributions and feedback.

5.0 Stakeholder Engagement Overview

5.1 Communication and Engagement Tools and Activities

The choice of engagement tools and techniques depends on the desired outcome of the Project's engagement. If the goal is to gather information from the community such as identifying issues, opportunities, and local knowledge, the engagement methods will differ from those used to involve the community in discussions to shape or influence project outcomes. The engagement methods will be customised to meet the needs of the community and stakeholders, addressing any barriers that may prevent effective engagement. A list of engagement tools and activities and their application is provided in **Table 7**.

Table 7: Engagement Tools and Activities

Tool	Description	Stakeholder Group	Timing
Face-to-face meetings	BESS Atlantic will hold face-to-face meetings with stakeholders, as agreed, to proactively discuss project progress, potential procurement opportunities and any associated changes.	All stakeholders	Pre-construction Construction
Community information sessions	Community information sessions provide an opportunity for local communities to meet with the Project team and raise any concerns or questions.	All stakeholders	Construction
Letters/emails	Provide stakeholders with updates on the Project including project timing, potential impacts and benefits and opportunities to provide feedback, as required	All stakeholders	Pre-construction Construction
Online job platforms	Advertise employment opportunities, as required.	Local community Local business Local landholders Traditional Owners	Pre-construction
Project factsheet	Distribute factsheet to stakeholders with information on project details and relevant contact details	All stakeholders	Pre-construction
Project website and social media	Webpage for the public to keep up to date with BESS Atlantic's activities and the progress of the Project. The website will include: • Details on BESS Atlantic and its assets • Project status and key documents • Recent media releases and news articles • Ability to register for project updates • Contact details for further information.	All stakeholders	Pre-construction Construction Operation
Local newspaper	Provide the wider community with an update on the Project including progress, initiatives, and job opportunities.	All stakeholders	All stages

Tool	Description	Stakeholder Group	Timing
Local media	Utilise local media outlets to: • Announce start of construction for the Project • Promote events or key project successes • Communicate project updates.	All stakeholders	Pre-construction Operation

5.2 Media Enquiries

Any consultants working on the Project must not provide any information/comment regarding the Project to any media or political representatives. If contacted by the media or political representatives concerning the Project, the person's name and contact details will be obtained and refer the enquiry immediately to BESS Atlantic.

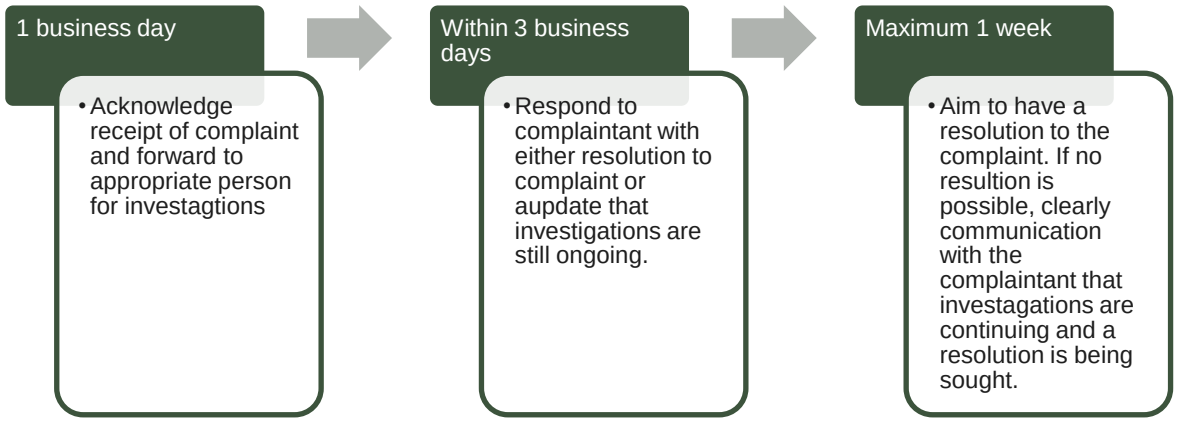
5.3 Feedback, Complaints and Grievances

An effective complaints and incidents procedure ensures that stakeholders can raise issues of concern, be confident these issues will be taken seriously and responded to and provides a mechanism for prompt identification of emerging issues and guides reporting on community issues.

BESS Atlantic will continue to maintain public contact details (email: contact@jinderabess.com.au) to enable stakeholders and community members to provide feedback or register a complaint or grievance. The contact details will continue to be visible on all public communication materials. Feedback via telephone, email, in writing or through face-to-face verbal communication is welcomed by BESS Atlantic.

Per the timeline **Figure 4**, any feedback, complaints or grievances regarding the Project will be of a confidential nature and reported to BESS Atlantic's media advisor within 24 hours. All feedback, complaints or grievances will be recorded in the community consultation log and addressed in a timely and respectful manner.

Figure 4: Complaints Timeline



Upon receipt of a complaint or grievance, BESS Atlantic will provide confirmation to the complainant that their concerns have been noted and that investigation will commence.

Once follow up actions are complete and the complaint has been resolved, the complainant will be notified again. If a complaint cannot be resolved immediately or in a timely manner, the complainant will be advised of the actions proposed and an estimated timeframe to address their concerns.

Where deemed necessary, procedures will be amended.

6.0 Monitoring and Evaluation

The management objectives for this CSEP are outlined in **Table 8**.

Table 8: CEP Management Objectives

Objective	Target	Indicator
Manage expectations by ensuring that the community fully understands the nature of the Project, the likely impacts and benefits that may be derived from the Project operations.	• Provide detailed information. • Respond to potential issues to minimise impacts.	• Number of calls logged. • Number of meetings held. • Number of enquiries managed positively. • Number of enquiries. • Anecdotal feedback from stakeholders.
Promote community confidence by ensuring open and transparent discussion of the Project development processes, technical studies, impacts and risk management processes (if applicable).	• Register, document and respond to all community correspondence. • To develop community understanding of key aspects and for BESS Atlantic to further understand communities' values.	• Direct anecdotal feedback from community. • Limited rumour and speculation about the Project's site. "Myth Busting." • Limited conflict and community outrage. • Limited negative media coverage.
Ensure sustainable project decision making by incorporating local community knowledge, views and concerns.	• Track level of satisfaction. • To track key issues over time to ascertain if engagement strategy is effective.	• Limited complaints. • Limited involvement or intervention by politicians, councillors or non-regulatory.
Enable BESS Atlantic to recognise and address community concerns early.	• Discern key themes and issues to develop key messaging.	• Number of rumours proactively identified and addressed. • Direct anecdotal feedback from community. • Limited negative commentary about the Project site either face-to-face or on social/traditional media. • Limited conflict and community outrage.
Meet regulatory requirements and expectations.	• Build relationships through face-to-face discussions and by identifying common goals/working to realise opportunities.	• No or limited delays to processes due to community or stakeholder objections. • Limited complaints. • Limited conflict and community outrage. • No, or limited, adverse media coverage. • Number or extent of local or non-local interest groups expressing concern publicly.

6.1 Reporting, Monitoring and Evaluation

BESS Atlantic will continue to maintain a Community Consultation Log to record external stakeholder interactions for the Project (pre-construction, construction and operation). It is important that this register is updated by all team members following engagement activities so these can be adequately monitored, and any stakeholder concerns or opportunities followed up.

From a risk management perspective, this is also important for BESS Atlantic when queries or issues arise as there is a formal record of engagement that has been undertaken, and record of how these issues have been appropriately closed out.

BESS Atlantic will monitor the following to inform periodic evaluation of the engagement program:

- the number of engagement activities undertaken
- attendance numbers at meetings, workshops and webinars
- level of stakeholder understanding of the Project, including potential impacts, benefits and management measures
- community support for the Project
- community feedback provided via the website or engagement activities
- community grievances/complaints.

This CSEP will be revised, including the stakeholder analysis, prior to the commencement of each project stage to incorporate lessons learned, stakeholder feedback and evolving issues, opportunities and risks that may have arisen.

Any review should consider the following:

- feedback from the key stakeholders and the community, BESS Atlantic employees and contractors
- changes in regulation and guidelines that may impact engagement expectations.

7.0 References

International Association for Public Participation (IAP2) 2015 *Quality Assurance Standard for Community and Stakeholder Engagement*, viewed 25 September 2023, Available: International Association for Public Participation Australasia, IAP2_Quality+Assurance+Standard.pdf (iap2content.s3-ap-southeast-2.amazonaws.com)

IAP2 2014, *Public Participation Spectrum*, viewed 25 September 2023, Available: International Association for Public Participation Australasia, IAP2_Public_Participation_Spectrum.pdf

Jindera BESS Phase 1 Social Impact Assessment (SIA), viewed 29 January 2024.

Attachment A Project Factsheet

Community and Stakeholder Engagement Plan

Jindera Battery Energy Storage System (BESS)

BESS Atlantic Pty Ltd

SLR Project No.: 620.040670.00001

18 March 2024

Attachment B Jindera Stakeholder Mapping

Community and Stakeholder Engagement Plan

Jindera Battery Energy Storage System (BESS)

BESS Atlantic Pty Ltd

SLR Project No.: 620.040670.00001

18 March 2024

Table 9: Detailed Stakeholder Map

Stakeholder	Area of interest	Communication tool
Traditional Owners • Wiradjuri Nation	• Environmental management • Aboriginal cultural heritage impacts • Procurement • Renewables education and awareness	• Face-to-face meetings • Letters/emails/phone calls • Online job platforms • Project website and social media • Project factsheet
Aboriginal Organisations • Albury and District Local Aboriginal Land Council • NSW Indigenous Chamber of Commerce	• Aboriginal cultural heritage impacts • Social impacts • Community partnership opportunities • Employment opportunities • Impacts/benefits to Aboriginal owned businesses • Renewables education and awareness	• Face-to-face meetings • Letters/emails/phone calls • Online job platforms • Project website and social media • Project factsheet
Local Politicians • Ms Sussan Ley MP – Federal Member for Farrer, Minister for the Environment • Mr Justin Clancy MP – Member for Albury	• Social impacts • Environmental management • Reputational risk to government	• Face-to-face meetings • Letters/emails/phone calls
Federal Government Departments • Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry • Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts	• Agricultural land impacts • Impacts to fish habitats • Impacts to Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal cultural heritage • Reputational risk to government	• Face-to-face meetings • Letters/emails/phone calls

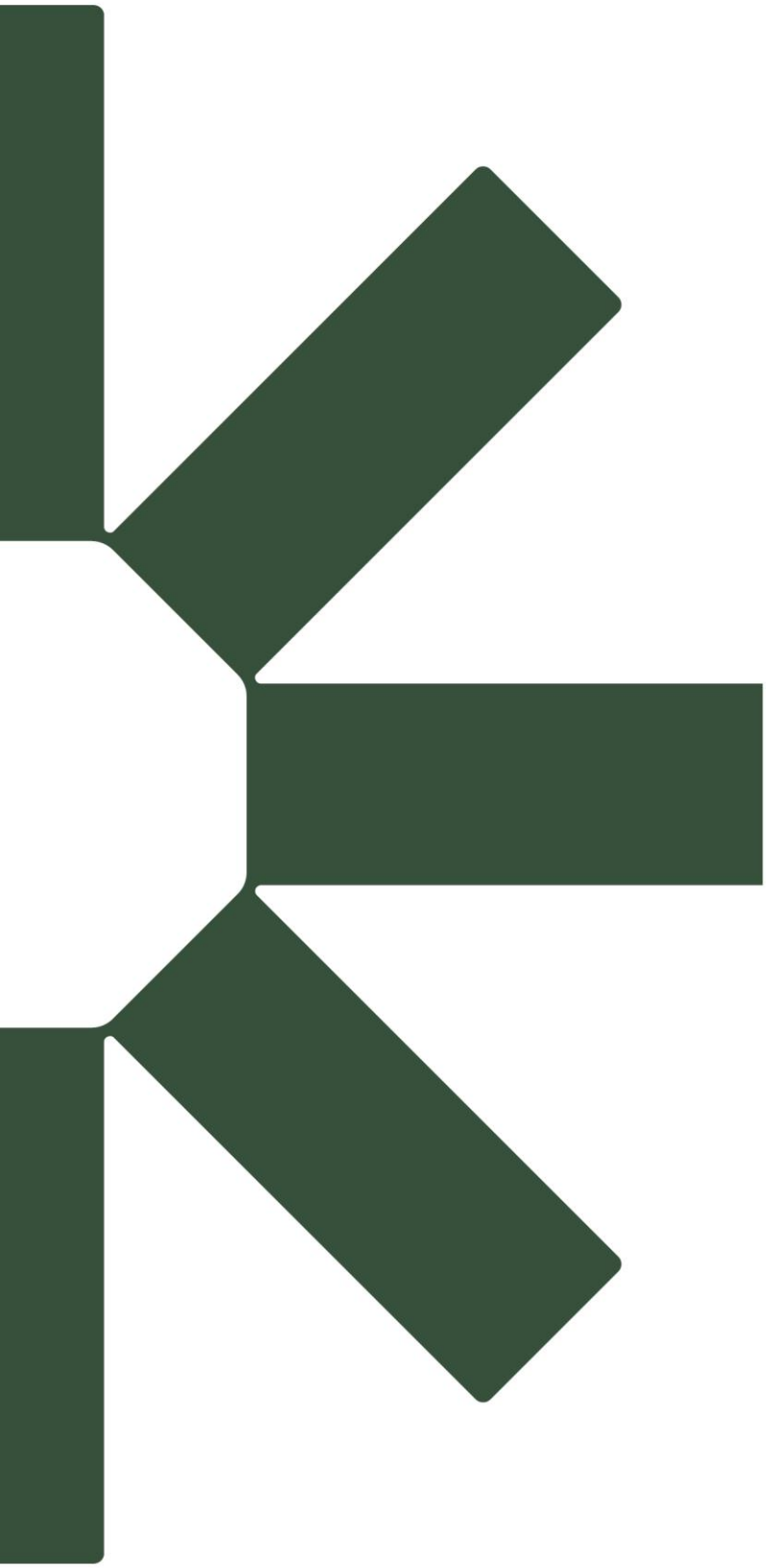
State Government Departments
• Department of Primary Industries
  ○ Biodiversity Conservation NSW
  ○ Water NSW
• Department of Planning and Environment
  ○ Heritage NSW
  ○ Crown Lands NSW
  ○ Development Assessment NSW
• Transport for NSW (TfNSW)
	• Regulatory compliance
	• Environmental and social impacts
	• Agricultural land impacts
	• Impacts to fish habitats
	• Traffic and transport impacts
	• Impacts to Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal cultural heritage
	• Reputational risk to government
		• Face-to-face meetings
		• Letters/emails/phone calls

Environmental Regulators • Environmental Protection Authority NSW	• Noise • Waste management • Impacts on local environment • Well-being and safety of local wildlife • Impacts on/disturbance to areas of cultural heritage • Access to local parks, heritage, and recreation facilities	• Face-to-face meetings • Letters/emails/phone calls
Local Government Agencies • Greater Hume Shire	• Traffic and transport impacts • Social and environmental impacts	• Face-to-face meetings • Letters/emails/phone calls

Stakeholder	Area of interest	Communication tool
	• Emergency management plans • Regulatory compliance • Voluntary planning agreement • Community partnership opportunities • Renewables education and awareness	• Project website and social media • Project factsheet
Emergency Services • Jindera RFS • Murray River Police District • Albury Ambulance Station	• Bushfire risk • Impacts to traffic • Disruptions during emergencies/priority access	• Letters/emails/phone calls
Power Network Operators	• Network connection requirements • Service outages	• Letters/emails/phone calls
Industry • Business NSW • Transgrid – Jindera Substation	• Impacts to existing infrastructure • Traffic and transport impacts	• Letters/emails/phone calls
Local Media • The Border Mail • Albury Wodonga News Weekly • 2GHR Greater Hume Radio	• Environmental impacts and management • Social impacts • Aboriginal cultural heritage impacts • Community partnership opportunities • Employment opportunities • Renewables education and awareness	• Letters/emails/phone calls • Project website and social media • Project factsheet
Local businesses • Riverina Boarding Kennels & Cattery • Jindera Veterinary Clinic • Jindera IGA Plus Liquor • Shell • Ledar Earthworks • Lieschke Transport • Phil's Custom Steel • SilOz • Albury Galvanizing • Hume Fluid Power • Albury Casting • Shwarz Motors Mechanical • Tollis and Sons Automotive • Jindera Service Centre Pty • Crisfloats Horse Floats • The Gazebo and Shade Centre • Border Storage Units	• Employment and business opportunities • Traffic and transport impacts • Impacts to road access • Renewables education and awareness	• Onsite signage • Face-to-face meetings • Community information sessions/webinar • Letters/emails/phone calls • Online job platforms • Project website and social media • Project factsheet • Local newspaper

Stakeholder	Area of interest	Communication tool
• Free Spirit Campers • OC Billet • Jindera Pizza • Barista's Choice Coffee • Jindera Hotel Motel • Jindera Park		
Environmental Groups • Friends of Jindera Wetlands • Murray Darling Wetlands Working Group Ltd.	• Impacts on local environment • Wellbeing and safety of local wildlife • Impacts on/disturbance to areas of cultural heritage • Environmental management (impacts to air quality and water, noise) • Visual amenity • Renewables education and awareness	• Community information sessions/webinar • Letters/emails/phone calls • Project website and social media • Project factsheet
Community Groups • Jindera's Rural Care Link	• Community concerns • Resolution of community complaints • Community initiatives • Social impacts • Renewables education and awareness	• Community information sessions/webinar • Letters/emails/phone calls • Project website and social media • Project factsheet
Landowners/adjoining landowners • Property acquisition and compensation • Site access	• Land acquisition • Visual amenity • Noise, dust, works • Traffic and transport disruptions	• Dedicated land agent • Onsite signage • Face-to-face meetings • Community information sessions/webinar • Letters/emails/phone calls • Project website and social media • Project factsheet
Local Sporting Clubs • Jindera Golf Club • Jindera Pool	• Noise, dust, works • Traffic and transport disruptions	• Letters/emails/phone calls • Project website and social media • Project factsheet
Educational Institutions • Jindera Public School • Jindera Preschool • St John's Lutheran School • Saint Mary MacKillop College	• Traffic and transport disruptions • Renewables education and awareness	• Letters/emails/phone calls • Project website and social media • Project factsheet
Aged Care Facilities • Jindera Gardens	• Traffic and transport disruptions	• Letters/emails/phone calls • Project website and social media • Project factsheet
Local Tourism	• Visual amenity	• Letters/emails/phone calls

Stakeholder	Area of interest	Communication tool
• Jindera Pioneer Museum • Jindera Pioneer Cairn • Greater Hume Visitor Information Centre	• Noise, dust, works • Traffic and transport disruptions • Renewables education and awareness	• Project website and social media • Project factsheet
Religious Institutions • St Johns Church	• Traffic and transport disruptions	• Letters/emails/phone calls • Project website and social media • Project factsheet



Making Sustainability Happen

Appendix E AHIMS Search

Scoping Report - Request for Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARs)

Jindera Battery Energy Storage System (BESS)

Prepared for: BESS Atlantic Pty Ltd

SLR Project No.: 620.40670.00001

19 March 2024

AHIMS Web Services (AWS)

Extensive search - Site list report

Your Ref/PO Number : 230992 Jinderra (2)

Client Service ID : 832773

SiteID	SiteName	Datum	Zone	Easting	Northing	Context	Site Status **	SiteFeatures	SiteTypes	Reports
55-6-0116	Jindera 488995	GDA	55	488995	6025387	Open site	Valid	Modified Tree (Carved or Scarred) : -		
	Contact	**Recorders**	Mr.Mark Saddler					**Permits**		
55-6-0115	Jindera 488918	GDA	55	488918	6025967	Open site	Valid	Modified Tree (Carved or Scarred) : -		
	Contact	**Recorders**	Mr.Mark Saddler					**Permits**		
55-6-0150	Jindera Solar IF 2	GDA	55	489344	6025566	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -		
	Contact	**Recorders**	Mr.Matthew Barber,NGH Heritage - Fyshwick					**Permits**		
55-6-0153	Jindera Solar IF 5	GDA	55	488567	6026350	Open site	Destroyed	Artefact : -		
	Contact	**Recorders**	Mr.Matthew Barber,Mr.Matthew Barber,NGH Heritage - Fyshwick,NGH Heritage - F					**Permits**		
55-6-0152	Jindera Solar IF 4	GDA	55	488593	6026167	Open site	Destroyed	Artefact : -		
	Contact	**Recorders**	Mr.Matthew Barber,Mr.Matthew Barber,NGH Heritage - Fyshwick,NGH Heritage - F					**Permits**		
55-6-0151	Jindera Solar IF 3	GDA	55	491009	6025567	Open site	Destroyed	Artefact : -		
	Contact	**Recorders**	Mr.Matthew Barber,Mr.Matthew Barber,NGH Heritage - Fyshwick,NGH Heritage - F					**Permits**		
55-6-0004	Jindera;	AGD	55	492885	6022687	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -	Open Camp Site	54,276
	Contact	**Recorders**	ASRSYS					**Permits**		
55-6-0112	Glenellen SF Survey Unit 2/Locale 3	GDA	55	491203	6023961	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -		
	Contact	**Recorders**	Doctor.Julie Dibden,NSW Archaeology Pty Ltd					**Permits**		
55-6-0117	Jindera 488942	GDA	55	488949	6025492	Open site	Partially Destroyed	Artefact : -		
	Contact	**Recorders**	Mr.Matthew Barber,Mr.Matthew Barber,Mr.Mark Saddler,NGH Heritage - Fyshwick					**Permits**	4986	
55-6-0113	Glenellen SF Survey Unit 2/Locale 2	GDA	55	491171	6023918	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -		
	Contact	**Recorders**	Doctor.Julie Dibden,NSW Archaeology Pty Ltd					**Permits**		
55-6-0111	Glenellen SF Survey Unit 2/Locale 1	GDA	55	491191	6023855	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -		
	Contact	**Recorders**	Doctor.Julie Dibden,NSW Archaeology Pty Ltd					**Permits**		

**** Site Status**

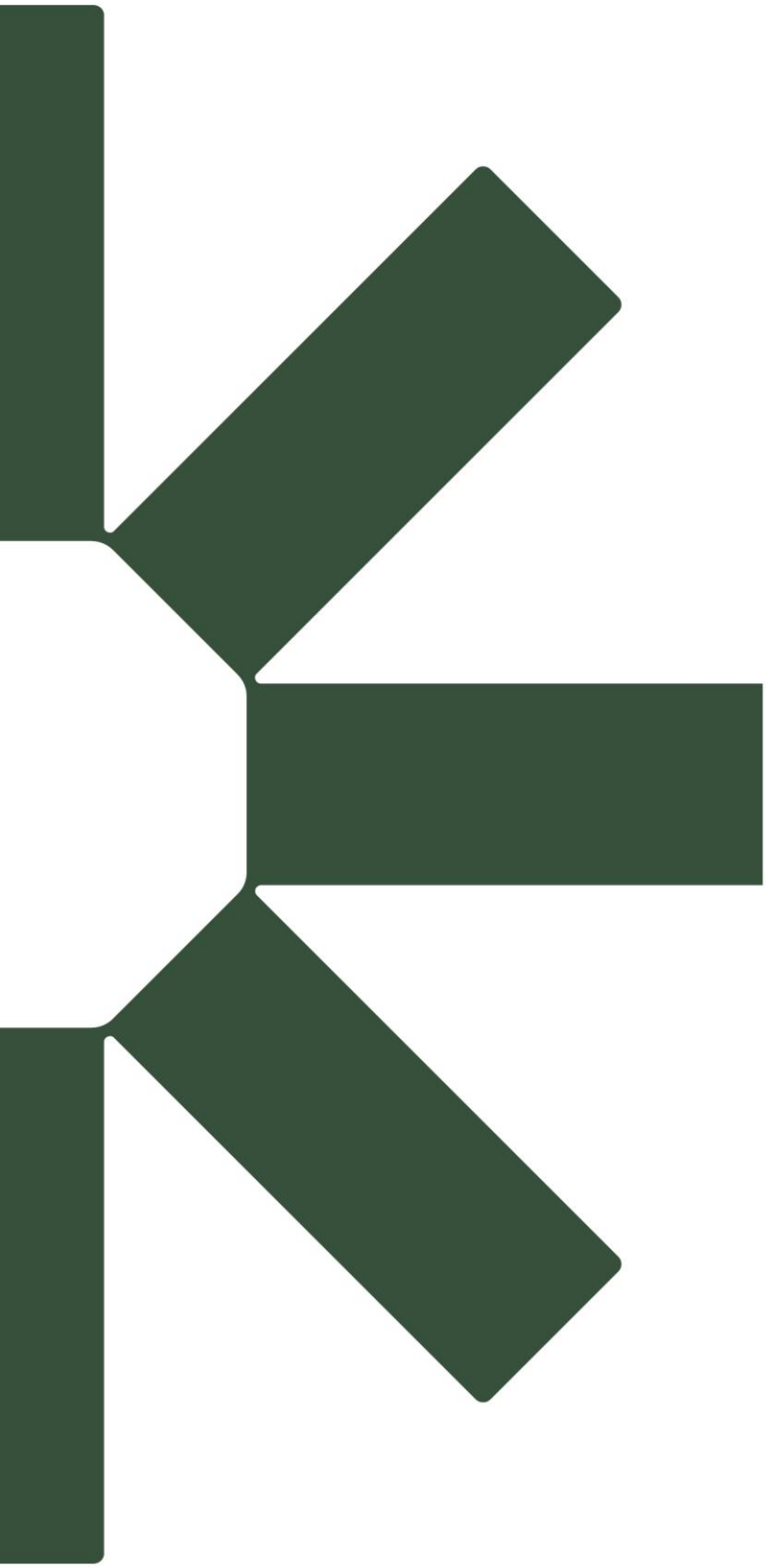
Valid - The site has been recorded and accepted onto the system as valid

Destroyed - The site has been completely impacted or harmed usually as consequence of permit activity but sometimes also after natural events. There is nothing left of the site on the ground but proponents should proceed with caution.

Partially Destroyed - The site has been only partially impacted or harmed usually as consequence of permit activity but sometimes also after natural events. There might be parts or sections of the original site still present on the ground

Not a site - The site has been originally entered and accepted onto AHIMS as a valid site but after further investigations it was decided it is NOT an aboriginal site. Impact of this type of site does not require permit but Heritage NSW should be notified

Report generated by AHIMS Web Service on 25/10/2023 for Kieran Murray for the following area at Datum :GDA, Zone : 55, Eastings : 488540.0 - 495210.0, Northings : 6022360.0 - 6027140.0 with a Buffer of 0 meters.. Number of Aboriginal sites and Aboriginal objects found is 11



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