

# Notice of decision

## Section 2.22 and clause 20 of Schedule 1 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*

<b>Application type</b>	State significant development
<b>Application number and project name</b>	SSD-11437498 Broken Hill Battery Energy Storage System
<b>Applicant</b>	AGL Energy Limited
<b>Consent Authority</b>	Minister for Planning and Public Spaces

### Decision

On 8 September 2021, the Director, Energy Assessments, granted consent to the development application for the Broken Hill Battery Energy Storage System subject to conditions, under delegation from the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces and section 4.38 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 (the Act).

A copy of the Department of Planning and Environment's Assessment Report is available [here](#)

### Date of decision

8 September 2021

### Reasons for decision

The following matters were taken into consideration in making this decision:

- the relevant matters listed in section 4.15 of the Act and the additional matters listed in the statutory context section of the Department's Assessment Report;
- the prescribed matters under the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000*;
- the objects of the Act;
- the considerations under s 7.14(2) and 7.16(3) of the Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 (NSW);
- all information submitted to the Department during the assessment of the development application;
- the findings and recommendations in the Department's Assessment Report;
- advice from relevant NSW Government agencies and Broken Hill City Council; and
- the views of the community about the project (see Attachment 1).

The findings and recommendations set out in the Department's Assessment Report were accepted and adopted as the reasons for making this decision.

The key reasons for granting consent to the development application are as follows:

- the project will provide a range of benefits for the region and the State as a whole, including:
  - contributing to a more diverse local economy;
  - a capital investment of approximately \$ 80 million;
  - creating up to 50 construction jobs and 3 operational jobs; and
  - enabling renewable energy to be stored and dispatched during peak demand, supporting grid stability and energy security;
- the project is permissible with development consent under *State Environmental Planning Policy (Infrastructure) 2007* and the *Broken Hill Local Environmental Plan 2013*;
- the impacts on the community and the environment can be appropriately minimised, managed or offset to an acceptable level, in accordance with applicable NSW Government policies and standards;
- none of the NSW Government agencies objected to the project and Council is supportive of the project;
- the issues raised by the public authorities during consultation and in submissions have been considered and adequately addressed through the recommended conditions of approval; and
- weighing all relevant considerations, the project is in the public interest, subject to the strict conditions of consent.

## Attachment 1 – Consideration of Community Views

The Department exhibited the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the project from 2 June 2021 until 29 June 2021 and received one submission.

The submission indicated support for the project as it is a renewable energy system in a remote community. This was considered in the Department's Assessment Report.

<i>Issue</i>	<i>Consideration</i>
<i>Socio-Economic Impacts</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>support for renewable energy systems in remote communities</i></li></ul>	<i>Assessment</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The project would capture, store and distribute energy generated from surrounding renewable resources to augment the reliability of energy supply to Broken Hill.</li><li>• The project would provide flow-on benefits to the region and NSW as a whole, including up to 50 construction jobs, up to 3 operational jobs and a capital investment of \$80 million.</li></ul>