

Appendix E

Aboriginal Cultural
Heritage

Assessment

Report Addendum

Great Western Battery

Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report Addendum

24-Feb-2022

Great Western Battery

Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report Addendum

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Executive Summary

AECOM Australia Pty Ltd (AECOM) was commissioned by Neoen Australia Pty Ltd (Neoen) to prepare an Addendum Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report (Addendum ACHAR) for the Great Western Battery Project in Wallerawang, New South Wales (NSW). Neoen is seeking development consent to construct, operate and maintain a large-scale Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) of approximately 500 megawatts (MW) and approximately 1000 megawatt-hour (MWh) at 173 Brays Lane, Wallerawang, NSW (the Site), as well as a new transmission line that would connect the BESS to the existing TransGrid 330 kilovolt (kV) substation at Wallerawang (the Project).

Subsequent to the finalisation of AECOM's ACHAR for the Project in early December 2021, Neoen identified the need for some additional site access works (the proposed works) adjacent to Brays Lane, outside of the previously assessed ACHAR study area, which encompassed the proposed BESS site (the Site), as well as an approximately 1.5 kilometre (km) long, 30 metre (m) wide linear corridor centred on the Project's proposed transmission line alignment (the 'transmission line corridor'). This Addendum ACHAR has been prepared to address potential impacts to Aboriginal heritage values as a result of the proposed works, which are to be restricted to a crescent-shaped, 240 square metre area adjacent to Brays Lane (Addendum ACHAR study area), and should be read in conjunction with the Project's ACHAR (AECOM Australia Pty Ltd, 2021).

Based on a desktop review of existing Aboriginal heritage data sources for the Addendum ACHAR study area, this assessment finds that:

- There are no previously recorded Aboriginal sites located within the Addendum ACHAR study area. However, two sites, consisting of previously recorded open artefact site 'Brays Lane AS1' (45-1-2799) and newly recorded stone quarry site GWB-STQ1-21 (45-1-2853) are located in close proximity;
- Land within the Addendum ACHAR study area appears to have been severely disturbed as a result of historical land use activities, with the most severe impacts to natural landform elements and soil profiles therein associated with the construction of Brays Lane and the main driveway into Lot 1 DP126659; and
- Land within the Addendum ACHAR study area is considered to retain negligible potential for Aboriginal objects (as defined by the NPW Act 1974) in surface and subsurface contexts.

In view of these findings, the following recommendations are made regarding the proposed works:

1. While impacts to Aboriginal objects within the Addendum ACHAR study area are considered highly unlikely, in recognition of the fact that this area has not been physically inspected for such objects, it is recommended that the ACHMP proposed for the Project includes a provision requiring this area to be subject to a visual inspection prior to the commencement of any ground disturbing works therein. The inspection should be undertaken by a field team consisting of a qualified archaeologist and minimum of one RAP field representative;
2. Should any Aboriginal objects to be identified during the visual inspection referenced above, these should be subject to surface collection as part of the archaeological salvage program for impacted stone quarry site GWB-STQ1-21 (45-1-2853). Any such objects would be considered to comprise part of GWB-STQ1-21. If required, the boundary for GWB-STQ1-21 should be revised and updated in the Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System (AHIMS) database; and
3. All contractors engaged to complete the proposed works should be made aware of the nature and location of previously recorded Aboriginal sites GWB-STQ1-21 (45-1-2853) and Brays Lane AS1 (45-1-2799), both of which are located in the immediate vicinity of the Addendum ACHAR study area. The 'No-Go Zone' recommended by Biosis (2017) for the latter site, shown on **Figure 5**, should be adhered to throughout the duration of the works.

1.0 Introduction & Background

1.1 Introduction

AECOM Australia Pty Ltd (AECOM) was commissioned by Neoen Australia Pty Ltd (Neoen) to prepare an Addendum Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report (Addendum ACHAR) for the Great Western Battery Project in Wallerawang, New South Wales (NSW). Neoen is seeking development consent to construct, operate and maintain a large-scale Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) of approximately 500 megawatts (MW) and approximately 1000 megawatt-hour (MWh) at 173 Brays Lane, Wallerawang, NSW (the Site), as well as a new transmission line that would connect the BESS to the existing TransGrid 330 kilovolt (kV) substation at Wallerawang (the Project).

The Project is considered State Significant Development (SSD) under the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act) as it satisfies the requirements of Clause 8 of the *State Environmental Planning Policy (State and Regional Development) 2011* (SRD SEPP).

Subsequent to the finalisation of AECOM's ACHAR for the Project in early December 2021, Neoen identified the need for some additional site access works (the proposed works) adjacent to Brays Lane, outside of the previously assessed ACHAR study area (**Figure 1**), which encompassed the proposed BESS site (the Site), as well as an approximately 1.5 kilometre (km) long, 30 metre (m) wide linear corridor centred on the Project's proposed transmission line alignment (the 'transmission line corridor'). This Addendum ACHAR has been prepared to address potential impacts to Aboriginal heritage values as a result of the proposed works, which are to be restricted to a crescent-shaped, 240 square metre (m²) area adjacent to Brays Lane (Addendum ACHAR study area, **Figure 2**), and should be read in conjunction with the Project's ACHAR (AECOM Australia Pty Ltd, 2021).

1.2 Background to this Addendum ACHAR

AECOM was commissioned by Neoen to prepare an ACHAR for the Project in accordance with the Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARs) and relevant Heritage NSW guidelines including the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents* (DECCW, 2010a), *Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales* (DECCW, 2010b) and *Guide to Investigating, Assessing and Reporting on Aboriginal Cultural Heritage in NSW* (OEH, 2011). Finalised in early December 2021, AECOM's ACHAR documents the results of an assessment of the Aboriginal heritage values of the ACHAR study area (Figure 1).

As detailed in the ACHAR, information regarding the Aboriginal heritage values of the ACHAR study area was obtained through a combination of background research, archaeological fieldwork and Aboriginal community consultation. A total of nine Registered Aboriginal Parties (RAPs), listed in **Table 2** below, have been consulted for the assessment, with key consultation activities to date including:

- RAP review of AECOM's draft assessment methodology;
- RAP review of AECOM's draft test excavation methodology;
- RAP participation in archaeological field investigations; and
- RAP review of a draft of the ACHAR.

A search of the Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System (AHIMS) database on 17 February 2021 for a 5 x 5 km area centred on the ACHAR study area returned 32 site entries. Registered centroid coordinates for previously recorded Aboriginal sites within the AHIMS search area place five within 200 m of the ACHAR study area. However, a review of associated site cards and reports indicates that all but one of these sites - artefact scatter SU1a-A5 (45-1-2716) - are located wholly outside of the ACHAR study area. Identified as part of a cultural heritage assessment for the Lidsdale Siding Upgrade Project, artefact scatter SU1a-A5 is located partially within the ACHAR study area.

Archaeological survey of the ACHAR study area was undertaken on 16 June 2021 by a combined field team of two AECOM archaeologists of three RAP representatives. All landforms elements, excluding areas of severely disturbed terrain within the fenced Lidsdale Siding facility and existing TransGrid

Wallerawang 330 kV substation, were subject to survey, with particular attention paid to areas of higher Ground Surface Visibility (GSV) therein.

Two Aboriginal archaeological sites, consisting of previously identified artefact scatter SU1a-A5 (AHIMS ID #45-1-2716) and a new stone quarry site (GWB-STQ1-21), were identified during survey. In addition to these surface sites, three areas of subsurface archaeological sensitivity were also identified, two within the transmission line corridor and one within the Site. Designated in the field as 'ASAS-1', 'ASAS-2' and 'ASAS-3', these areas were assessed by the survey team as retaining moderate to high potential for the presence of subsurface archaeological deposits, albeit of variable character, extent and integrity. ASAS1 incorporated the crest and upper flanks of the main low gradient ridgeline within the Site, while ASAS-2 and ASAS-3 encompassed sections of the left bank floodplain of Pipers Flat Creek. Those portions of GWB-STQ1-21 and SU1a-A5 located within the ACHAR study area fell within ASAS-1 and ASAS-2 respectively.

Archaeological test excavations within ASAS1, ASAS-2 and ASAS-3 were undertaken over a four day period in October 2021 (5-8 October 2021). As per Requirement 14 of the Code of Practice, the overarching aim of the test excavation program undertaken for the current assessment was to collect information about the nature and extent of any subsurface Aboriginal objects present within these areas. Subsidiary objectives included site delineation and an assessment of levels of historical land disturbance.

Test excavations in ASAS-1, ASAS-2 and ASAS-3 were completed in two phases under a systematic sampling design. For ASAS-1, Phase 1 testing involved the excavation of 50 x 50 centimetre (cm) test pits across all non-severely-disturbed sections of the Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) area, with pits placed on an underlying 25 m grid. For ASAS-2 and ASAS-3, Phase 1 testing involved the completion of two linear transects of 50 x 50 cm test pits, with pits on each transect spaced at 25 m intervals. Phase 2 of the test excavation program involved small expansion excavations around four Phase 1 test pits, two located within ASAS-1 (TPs 12 and 21) and two within ASAS-2 (TPs 42 and 52). These pits were selected for expansion on the basis of artefact yields and/or the technological characteristics of their associated Phase 1 artefact assemblages. In all instances, expansions involved the excavation of an additional three 50 x 50 cm test pits around the original test pit, producing 1 m² pits.

A total of 71 subsurface Aboriginal objects, consisting exclusively of flaked stone artefacts, were recovered from ASAS-1 and ASAS-2, with the majority (n = 58, 81.7%) coming from ASAS-1. Subsurface densities in both areas were uniformly low, with a maximum Phase 1 density of 7 artefacts per 0.25 m² occurring in ASAS-1. Phase 2 expansion excavations in ASAS-2 failed to yield any additional Aboriginal objects while those in ASAS-2 yielded a further 16 objects. Subsurface testing results for ASAS-2 are deemed consistent with existing surface evidence for GWB-STQ1-21 in attesting, amongst other activities, to low intensity Aboriginal quarrying and on-site reduction of naturally occurring quartz pebbles and cobbles derived from the Early Permian Shoalhaven Group. East of Brays Lane, subsurface evidence from ASAS-2, associated with artefact scatter site SU1a-A5, suggest low intensity Aboriginal use of the left bank floodplain of Pipers Flat Creek.

Taking into account the results of the archaeological survey and test excavation works detailed in AECOM's ACHAR for the Project, a total of two Aboriginal archaeological sites have been recognised within the ACHAR study area: surface and subsurface artefact scatter SU1a-A5 (AHIMS ID #45-1-2716) and surface and subsurface stone quarry site GWB-STQ1-21 (AHIMS ID #45-1-2853) (**Figure 3**). Both sites extend outside of the ACHAR study area. An assessment of the scientific significance of SU1a-A5 and GWB-STQ1-21 has attributed low significance to SU1a-A5 and moderate significance to GWB-STQ1-21.

As documented in AECOM's ACHAR, proposed ground disturbance activities within the ACHAR study area are expected to directly impact GWB-STQ1-21, resulting in a near complete loss of value for this site. Construction of the transmission line within and immediately surrounding artefact scatter SU1a-A5, meanwhile, would occur using an underboring methodology (i.e., horizontal directional drilling (HDD) at a nominal depth of 1.5 m below ground level (b.g.l). No launch pits are proposed within artefact scatter SU1a-A5. In view of the maximum observed depth of subsurface Aboriginal objects within SU1a-A5 (i.e., 40 cm b.g.l), no direct HDD impacts to the site are anticipated. Subject to the implementation of appropriate protective measures (e.g., high-visibility fencing), light and/or heavy vehicle movements associated with the HDD process are assessed as carrying a negligible impact risk for SU1a-A5.

Proposed measures to both mitigate and manage the potential impacts of the Project on the identified Aboriginal cultural heritage values of the ACHAR study area, to be detailed in an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management Plan (ACHMP) for the Project, include:

- An archaeological salvage program for impacted stone quarry site GWB-STQ1-21, incorporating surface collection and open area salvage excavations;
- Protective fencing of artefact scatter SU1a-A5;
- Protocols for ongoing consultation with RAPs;
- The incorporation of an Aboriginal heritage component into the Project's standard environmental site induction; and
- The development of an Unexpected Aboriginal Heritage Finds Procedure (UAHFP) for the Project, covering all Aboriginal objects, including human skeletal remains.

1.3 Description of Proposed Works

In order to deliver large transformers to the Site as part of the Project, oversize and/or overmass (OSOM) vehicles will be required. It is envisaged that up to seven OSOM vehicles would be required to deliver the transformers, as well as associated switch and control rooms.

A Route Analysis for the OSOM vehicles has identified that these vehicles would access the Site by exiting the Castlereagh Highway on to Main Street, driving down Main Street and turning on to Pipers Flat Road. The vehicles would take the right hand turn off Pipers Flat Road on to Brays Lane and head north to the Site turning right on Brays Lane to head east before turning left into the Site. The Route Analysis has identified that at the right hand turning on Brays Lane prior to the new Site entrance, part of the OSOM vehicles may need to drive onto the unsealed part of road corridor on the outside edge of the corner. This may need to occur for approximately 45 m on the corner approach and exit.

The unsealed section of the road corridor at this location lacks mature vegetation and is level with the sealed road. As such the OSOM vehicles will be able to access without earthworks being required. However, it has been recommended that, where the OSOM vehicles are likely to drive on the unsealed part of Brays Lane, that roadbase is laid down and compacted to reduce erosion from the movement of the vehicles. The proposed works, therefore, comprise the laying down of roadbase across the unsealed portion of Brays Lane within the Addendum ACHAR study area (**Figure 2**), as well as clearance of some minor isolated scrub therein.

1.4 Scope of this Addendum ACHAR

This Addendum ACHAR has been prepared to address potential impacts to Aboriginal heritage values as a result of the proposed works. Tasks undertaken have included:

- An updated search of the AHIMS database;
- A review of AECOM's ACHAR for the Project;
- A review of the landscape context of the Addendum ACHAR study area;
- A review of historical aerial photographs for the Addendum ACHAR study area, spanning the years 1954 to 2019; and
- Consultation with the Project's nine RAPs.

1.5 Authorship

This report was prepared by AECOM Principal Aboriginal Heritage Specialist Dr Andrew McLaren, with technical and QA review provided by Dr Darran Jordan (Principal Archaeologist and ANZ Heritage Technical Group Leader) and William Miles (Technical Director - Environment, ANZ) respectively.



Figure 1 ACHAR Study Area



Figure 2 Addendum ACHAR Study Area in relation to ACHAR study area

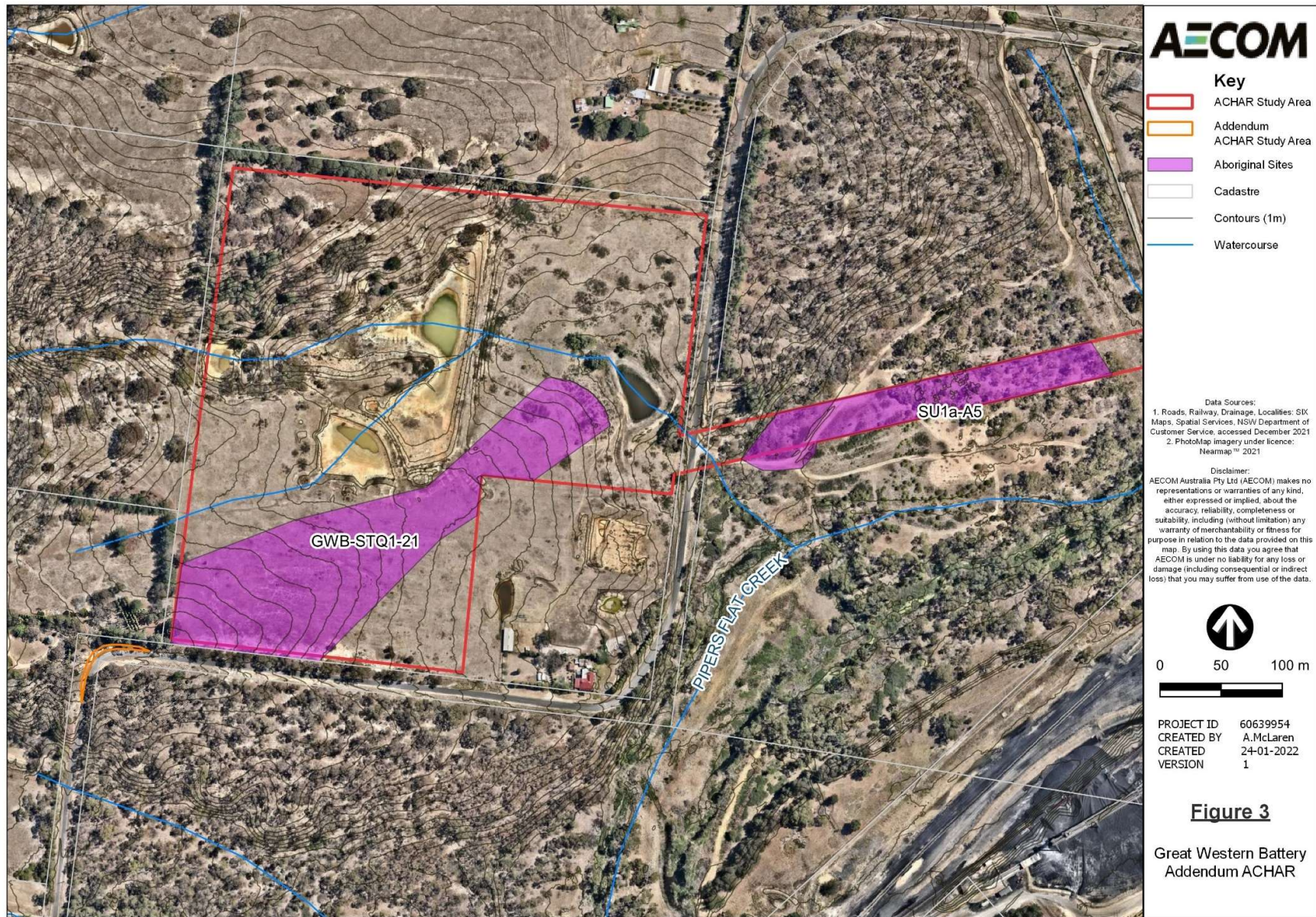


Figure 3 Aboriginal Sites - ACHAR Study Area

2.0 Desktop Review - Results

2.1 AHIMS Database

The AHIMS database, administered by Heritage NSW, contains records of all Aboriginal objects reported to the Director General of the Department of Premier and Cabinet in accordance with Section 89A of the NPW Act. It also contains information about Aboriginal places, which have been declared by the Minister to have special significance with respect to Aboriginal culture. Previously recorded Aboriginal objects and declared Aboriginal places are known as 'Aboriginal sites'.

An updated search of the AHIMS database on 24 January 2022 for a 5 x 5 km area centred on the ACHAR study area, and wholly encompassing the Addendum ACHAR study area, returned 35 site entries. Removal of a single duplicate entry provides a revised total of 34 sites (**Table 1**). As is typical for the local area, open artefact sites are the most common site type within the AHIMS search area, accounting for 67.6% of recorded sites. Other less common site types include five rockshelter sites, two burial sites, two grinding groove sites, a single area of PAD and one stone quarry, comprising newly identified stone quarry site GWB-STQ1-21.

Registered centroid coordinates for previously recorded Aboriginal sites within the AHIMS search area place two sites - open artefact site 'Brays Lane AS1' (45-1-2799) and stone quarry GWB-STQ1-21 (45-1-2853) - within 200 m of the Addendum ACHAR study area (**Figure 4**). However, a review of associated site cards and reports, including AECOM's ACHAR (2021) for the Project, confirms that both sites are located wholly outside of the Addendum ACHAR study area.

Regarding open artefact site 'Brays Lane AS1' (45-1-2799), which was identified by Biosis (2017) as part of Aboriginal due diligence assessment for the proposed rollout of the National Broadband Service (NBN) program at Wallerawang, reference to Biosis' report indicates that the Aboriginal objects associated with this site (n = 8) were identified in remnant open woodland to the south/east of Brays Lane (**Figure 5**). As part of their assessment, Biosis (2017: 17) recommended the establishment of a 'No-Go Zone' in the northwestern corner of Lot 6 DP252472 (shown on **Figure 5**).

Table 1 AHIMS search results

Site type	AHIMS feature(s)	Number	%
Open artefact site	AFT; PAD	23	67.6
Rockshelter	AFT; GRD; ART	5	14.7
Burial	BUR; TRE	2	5.9
Grinding groove(s)	GRD	2	5.9
Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD)	PAD	1	2.9
Stone quarry	STQ; AFT; PAD	1	2.9
Total	-	34	100



Figure 4 AHIMS search results

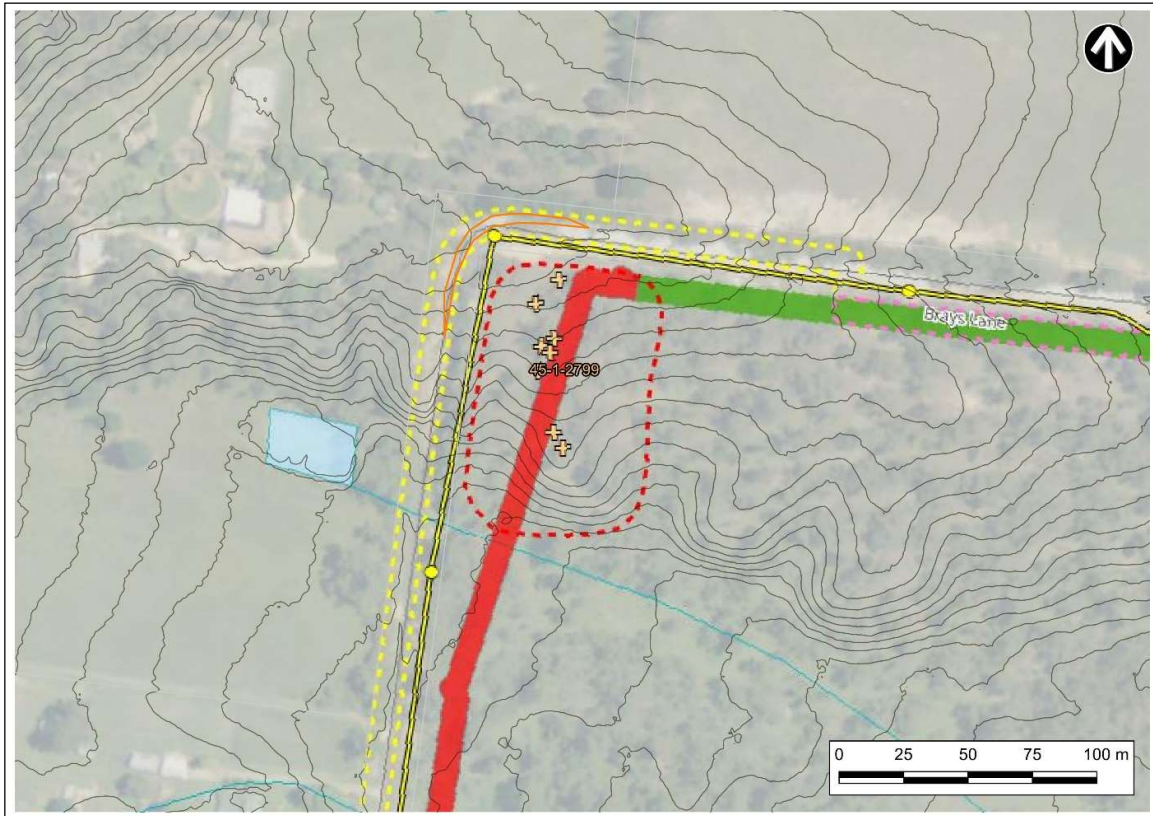


Figure 5 Georeferenced excerpt of Figure 8 (“Recommendations”) from Biosis (2017) showing location of Aboriginal objects (orange crosses) associated with AHIMS registered open artefact site ‘Brays Lane AS1’ (45-1-2799). Biosis’ recommended ‘No-Go Zone’ for this site is also shown (dotted red line) as is Addendum ACHAR study area (solid orange line)

2.2 Project ACHAR

As indicated in **Section 1.2**, archaeological field investigations undertaken to inform AECOM’s ACHAR for the Project have resulted in the identification of two Aboriginal sites within and immediately surrounding the ACHAR study area: previously recorded surface and subsurface artefact scatter SU1a-A5 (AHIMS ID #45-1-2716) and newly identified surface and subsurface stone quarry site GWB-STQ1-21 (AHIMS ID #45-1-2853).

As shown on **Figure 3**, the Addendum ACHAR study area is located wholly outside of the boundaries of these two sites.

2.3 Landscape Context

Consideration of the landscape context of the Addendum ACHAR study area indicates the following:

- The natural topography of this area has been modified through the construction of both Brays Lane and driveway associated with Lot 1 DP126659. Regardless, available topographic data indicate a pre-disturbance topography consisting of the very gently to gently inclined crest components of a major east-west trending ridgeline and associated north-south trending spur;
- There are no watercourses present within or immediately adjacent to the Addendum ACHAR study area. Ephemeral 1st order drainage depressions occur to the north (c.80 m distant) and south (c. 70 m distant) (see **Figure 2**);
- Pipers Flat Creek, a locally significant >4th order watercourse, flows in a northeasterly direction between the Site and the Lidsdale Siding facility, approximately 420 m to the east of the Addendum ACHAR study area. While sections of this creek, both within and outside of the ACHAR

study area, are known to have been modified historically, the original alignment of the creek adjacent to this area appears to have been largely preserved;

- Stones suitable for stone artefact manufacture are known to occur in the vicinity of the Addendum ACHAR study area in the form of surface deposits of unmodified quartz pebbles/cobbles derived from the Early Permian Shoalhaven Group. The presence of such rocks within the Addendum ACHAR study area remains to be confirmed;
- Native vegetation within the Addendum ACHAR study area has been extensively modified, with no mature trees remaining; and
- Land within the Addendum ACHAR study area appears to have been severely disturbed as a result of the construction of Brays Lane and the main driveway associated with Lot 1 DP126659, as well as utility installation.

Key archaeological implications for the identified landscape context of the Addendum ACHAR study area as follows:

- Land within this area is considered to retain negligible potential for the presence of Aboriginal objects in surface and subsurface contexts. Any Aboriginal objects that may once have been present within this area are likely to have been destroyed as a result of historical land use activities therein; and
- Land within this area retains no potential for the presence of mature trees with cultural scarring.

3.0 RAP Consultation

3.1 RAP Consultation for ACHAR to date

RAP consultation for the Project has been undertaken in accordance with Heritage NSW's *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents* (DECCW, 2010) (the Consultation Requirements). As indicated in **Section 1.2**, a total of nine RAPs have been consulted for the assessment, with key consultation activities as of January 2022 including:

- RAP review of AECOM's draft assessment methodology;
- RAP review of AECOM's draft test excavation methodology;
- RAP participation in archaeological field investigations; and
- RAP review of a draft of the Project ACHAR.

RAPs for the Project, including associated registration dates, are listed in **Table 2** below.

Table 2 Registered Aboriginal Parties (RAPs) for the Project

Organisation	Date of registration
Warrabinga-Wiradjuri #7 Native Title Claimant Group	02.02.2021 (automatically registered)
Bathurst LALC	17.02.2021 (automatically registered)
North East Wiradjuri Company	04.02.2021
Didge Ngunawal Clan	04.02.2021
Murra Bidgee Mullangari Aboriginal Corporation	08.02.2021
Merrigarn	08.02.2021
Muragadi	08.02.2021
Corroboree Aboriginal Corporation	10.02.2021
Gunjeewong Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation	10.02.2021

3.2 RAP Consultation for this Addendum ACHAR

Consistent with Section 4 of the Consultation Requirements, on 25 January 2022, a draft of this Addendum ACHAR was issued to RAPs for their review. The closing date for comments was 23 February 2022, which provided the necessary 28 days for comment.

Ultimately, eight RAPs provided responses, seven in writing and one verbally. Written responses, excluding a single text message, are provided in **Appendix B**. As indicated in **Table 3**, North East Wiradjuri Company representative Virginia Doig responded by text message on 23 February 2022 indicating that, while she had read the document, her understanding was that Mr Martin Delauney of the Warrabinga-Wiradjuri #7 Native Title Claimant Group would be handling the response for this Project. Representatives for the Warrabinga-Wiradjuri #7 Native Title Claimant Group provided their response to the draft Addendum ACHAR on 10 February 2022.

As per **Table 3**, all RAPs indicated that they were satisfied with AECOM's assessment and/or the recommendations provided in the draft Addendum ACHAR. The Warrabinga-Wiradjuri #7 Native Title Claimant Group also suggested that consideration should be given during the development of the Project's ACHMP for local Aboriginal heritage interpretation initiatives, including interpretive signage for the nearby Lidsdale burial ground.

Table 3 RAP responses to draft Addendum ACHAR

RAP Organisation	Representative(s)	Date of response	Type	Response	AECOM Response
Bathurst LALC	Tonilee Scott	09/02/22	Written (e-mail)	"Happy with the overview of the report and the key findings & recommendations in the methodology"	-
Didge Ngunawal Clan	Lilly Carroll & Paul Boyd	21/02/22	Written (e-mail)	"[w]e're all good from our end I hope everything goes well towards this job"	-
Murra Bidgee Mullangari Aboriginal Corporation	Darlene Johnson	22/02/22	Written (e-mail)	"I have read the project information and addendum ACHAR for the above project, I endorse the recommendations made"	-
Muragadi	Jesse Johnson	06/02/22	Written (e-mail)	"I have read the project information and ACHAR for the above project, I agree with the recommendations made"	-
Warrabinga-Wiradjuri #7 Native Title Claimant Group	Jack Pennell & Darrell Faber	10/02/22	Verbal (zoom conference call & follow-up telephone conversation with Mr Jack Pennell)	WNTCAC support the proposed management measures for the addendum ACHAR study area. Consideration should be given during the development of the ACHMP for local Aboriginal heritage interpretation initiatives, including interpretive signage for the nearby Lidsdale burial ground.	Recommendation for interpretation initiatives noted and will be considered as part of the development of the Project ACHMP.
Merrigarn	Shaun Carroll	22/02/2022	Written (e-mail)	"I have read the recommendations proposed by aecom and agree with the recommendations"	-
North East Wiradjuri Company	Virginia Doig	23/02/2022	Written (text)	"...[i] did have a read nothing stood out to me but honestly I tjought [sic] Martin Delauney was handling this"	All members of the Warrabinga-Wiradjuri #7 Native Title Claimant Group, including Mr Delauney, were invited to a zoom conference call to discuss the draft addendum on 10/02/22.

RAP Organisation	Representative(s)	Date of response	Type	Response	AECOM Response
Corroboree Aboriginal Corporation	Marilyn Carroll-Johnson	24/02/2022	Written (e-mail)	"As discussed on the phone we agree with the proposed management actions"	-

4.0 Key Findings and Recommendations

4.1 Key Findings

The key findings of this assessment are as follows:

- There are no previously recorded Aboriginal sites located within the Addendum ACHAR study area;
- Based on available desktop information, including historical aerial photographs, land within the Addendum ACHAR study area appears to have been severely disturbed as a result of historical land use activities, with the most severe impacts to natural landform elements and soil profiles therein associated with the construction of Brays Lane and the main driveway into Lot 1 DP126659; and
- Land within the Addendum ACHAR study area is considered to retain negligible potential for Aboriginal objects (as defined by the NPW Act 1974) in surface and subsurface contexts.

4.2 Recommendations

In view of the key findings above, the following recommendations are made regarding the proposed works:

1. While impacts to Aboriginal objects within the Addendum ACHAR study area are considered highly unlikely, in recognition of the fact that this area has not been physically inspected for such objects, it is recommended that the ACHMP proposed for the Project includes a provision requiring this area to be subject to a visual inspection prior to the commencement of any ground disturbing works therein. The inspection should be undertaken by a field team consisting of a qualified archaeologist and minimum of one RAP field representative;
2. Should any Aboriginal objects to be identified during the visual inspection referenced above, these should be subject to surface collection as part of the archaeological salvage program for impacted stone quarry site GWB-STQ1-21 (45-1-2853). Any such objects would be considered to comprise part of GWB-STQ1-21. If required, the boundary for GWB-STQ1-21 should be revised and updated in the AHIMS database; and
3. All contractors engaged to complete the proposed works should be made aware of the nature and location of previously recorded Aboriginal sites GWB-STQ1-21 (45-1-2853) and Brays Lane AS1 (45-1-2799), both of which are located in the immediate vicinity of the Addendum ACHAR study area. The 'No-Go Zone' recommended by Biosis (2017) for the latter site, shown on **Figure 5**, should be adhered to throughout the duration of the works.

5.0 References

AECOM Australia Pty Ltd. (2021). *Great Western Battery: Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report*. Unpublished report prepared for Neoen Australia Pty Ltd.

Biosis Pty Ltd. (2017). *Aboriginal Due Diligence Assessment for Wallerawang (2WAL-20)*, NSW. Unpublished report for Tata Consultancy Services.

NSW Department of Environment Climate Change & Water. (2010a). *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents*. Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water.

NSW Department of Environment Climate Change & Water. (2010b). *Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales*. Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water.

NSW Office of Environment & Heritage. (2011). *Guide to Investigating, Assessing and Reporting on Aboriginal Cultural Heritage in NSW*. Office of Environment and Heritage.

Appendix A

Consultation Log

Date	To/From AECOM	Organisation	Contact person(s)	Method of contact	AECOM representative	Summary
25.01.22	From AECOM	All RAPs	Various	E-mail	A.McLaren	Addendum ACHAR for RAP review
25.01.22	To AECOM	Warrabinga-Wiradjuri #7 Native Title Claimant Group	David Masters	E-mail	A.McLaren	Request for Zoom meeting to discuss addendum. All members cc'd.
03.02.22	To AECOM	Bathurst LALC	Tonilee Scott	E-mail	A.McLaren	Response to addendum. See Table 3 in Section 3.2 and Appendix B .
04.02.22	From AECOM	Warrabinga-Wiradjuri #7 Native Title Claimant Group	David Masters	E-mail	A.McLaren	Response to above. Have indicated can do any day next week.
04.02.22	To AECOM	Warrabinga-Wiradjuri #7 Native Title Claimant Group	David Masters	E-mail	A.McLaren	Available next Tuesday before 2 pm
04.02.22	To AECOM	Warrabinga-Wiradjuri #7 Native Title Claimant Group	Jack Pennell	E-mail	A.McLaren	Not available Tuesday afternoon 08/02/2022
04.02.22	To AECOM	Warrabinga-Wiradjuri #7 Native Title Claimant Group	Darrell Fabar	E-mail	A.McLaren	Available anytime
06.02.22	To AECOM	Muragadi	Jesse Johnson	E-mail	A.McLaren	Response to addendum. See Table 3 in Section 3.2 and Appendix B .
08.02.22	From AECOM	Warrabinga-Wiradjuri #7 Native Title Claimant Group	All members	E-mail	A.McLaren	Request for group zoom at 12:30 pm Thursday (10 th)
08.02.22	To AECOM	Warrabinga-Wiradjuri #7 Native Title Claimant Group	Jack Pennell	E-mail	A.McLaren	Available Thursday
08.02.22	To AECOM	Warrabinga-Wiradjuri #7 Native Title Claimant Group	Darrell Fabar	E-mail	A.McLaren	Available Thursday
10.02.22	To AECOM	Warrabinga-Wiradjuri #7 Native Title Claimant Group	Rick Slaven	E-mail	A.McLaren	Will not be able to attend meeting

Date	To/From AECOM	Organisation	Contact person(s)	Method of contact	AECOM representative	Summary
10.02.22	From AECOM	Warrabinga-Wiradjuri #7 Native Title Claimant Group	Jack Pennell & Darrell Fabar	Zoom meeting, with follow up call to Mr Jack Pennell (due to connection issues)	A.McLaren	Zoom meeting to discuss addendum ACHAR. See Table 3 in Section 3.2 .
21.02.22	From AECOM	North East Wiradjuri Company Didge Ngunawal Clan Murra Bidgee Mullangari Aboriginal Corporation Merrigarn Corroboree Aboriginal Corporation Gunjeewong Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation	Various	E-mail	A.McLaren	Follow up to request comment on draft addendum ACHAR
21.02.22	To AECOM	Didge Ngunawal Clan	Lilly Carroll & Paul Boyd	E-mail	A.McLaren	Response to addendum. See Table 3 in Section 3.2 and Appendix B
22.02.22	To AECOM	Murra Bidgee Mullangari Aboriginal Corporation	Darlene Johnson	E-mail	A.McLaren	Response to addendum. See Table 3 in Section 3.2 and Appendix B .
22.02.22	From AECOM	Corroboree Aboriginal Corporation	Marilyn Carroll-Johnson	Phone	A.McLaren	Follow up to request comment on draft addendum ACHAR. Marilyn is happy with document and will send across an response shortly.
22.02.22	From AECOM	Merrigarn	Shaun Carroll	Phone (text)	A.McLaren	Follow up to request comment on draft addendum ACHAR.
22.02.22	From AECOM	Gunjeewong Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation	Julie Hall	Phone (text)	A.McLaren	Follow up to request comment on draft addendum ACHAR.

Date	To/From AECOM	Organisation	Contact person(s)	Method of contact	AECOM representative	Summary
22.02.22	From AECOM	North East Wiradjuri Company	Virginia Doig	Phone (text)	A.McLaren	Follow up to request comment on draft addendum ACHAR.
23.02.22	To AECOM	North East Wiradjuri Company	Virginia Doig	Phone (text)	A.McLaren	Virginia has indicated that, while she has read the document, her understanding is that M.Delauney of the Warrabinga-Wiradjuri #7 Native Title Claimant Group will be handling the response.
24.02.22	To AECOM	Corroboree Aboriginal Corporation	Marilyn Carroll- Johnson	E-mail	A.McLaren	Response to addendum. See Table 3 in Section 3.2 and Appendix B

Appendix B

RAP responses to draft
addendum ACHAR

McLaren, Andrew

From: Ryan Johnson <murrabidgeemullangari@yahoo.com.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 22 February 2022 10:40 AM
To: McLaren, Andrew
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: Addendum ACHAR - Great Western Battery Project, Wallerawang
Attachments: 60639954_ACHAR_Addendum_2022_01_25_DRFT.pdf

Hi Andy

I have read the project information and addendum ACHAR for the above project, I endorse the recommendations made.

Kind regards

Darleen Johnson

McLaren, Andrew

From: lilly carroll <didgengunawalclan@yahoo.com.au>
Sent: Monday, 21 February 2022 5:09 PM
To: McLaren, Andrew
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: Addendum ACHAR - Great Western Battery Project, Wallerawang

Hi Andrew we're all good from our end I hope everything goes well towards this job

McLaren, Andrew

From: jesse johnson <muragadi@yahoo.com.au>
Sent: Sunday, 6 February 2022 8:33 AM
To: McLaren, Andrew
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: Addendum ACHAR - Great Western Battery Project, Wallerawang
Attachments: 60639954_ACHAR_Addendum_2022_01_25_DRFT.pdf

Hi Andrew,
I have read the project information and ACHAR for the above project, I agree with the recommendations made.
Kind regards
Jesse Johnson
0418970389

McLaren, Andrew

From: Tonilee Scott <CEO@Bathurstlalc.com>
Sent: Thursday, 3 February 2022 8:37 AM
To: McLaren, Andrew
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: Addendum ACHAR - Great Western Battery Project, Wallerawang

Morning Andrew,

Happy with the overview of the report and the key findings & recommendations in the methodology.

Kind regards

Tonilee Scott
Bathurst Local Aboriginal Land Council
149 Russell Street
Bathurst NSW 2795
P: 026332 6835
F: 026332 3623
E: ceo@bathurstlalc.com
E: bathlalc2@bigpond.com

*We acknowledge and respect the Wiradjuri people, the traditional owners and custodians of this region.
We honor their cultural, spiritual, and emotional connection to this land.
We also acknowledge the other Indigenous nations and people whose traditional home this land is.*



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McLaren, Andrew

From: Shaun Carroll <Merrigarn@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, 22 February 2022 1:06 PM
To: McLaren, Andrew
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: Addendum ACHAR - Great Western Battery Project, Wallerawang

Hi Andrew

I have read the recommendations proposed by aecom and agree with the recommendations.

Kind Regards
Shaun Carroll

McLaren, Andrew

From: Corroboree Aboriginal Corporation <corroboreecorp@bigpond.com>
Sent: Thursday, 24 February 2022 9:21 AM
To: McLaren, Andrew
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: Addendum ACHAR - Great Western Battery Project, Wallerawang
Attachments: 60639954_ACHAR_Addendum_2022_01_25_DRFT.pdf

Hi Andrew

As discussed on the phone we agree with the proposed management actions.

Kind regards

Marilyn Carroll-Johnson

Director

Corroboree Aboriginal Corporation

Mob: [0415911159](tel:0415911159)

Ph: [0288244324](tel:0288244324)

E: corroboreecorp@bigpond.com

Address: PO Box 3340

ROUSE HILL NSW 2155

CAC acknowledges the Traditional Owners of Country throughout Australia and their continuing connection to land, sea & community. We pay our respects to them and their cultures, to the Elders past and present, and emerging.
