

Notice of decision

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

Application type	State significant development
Application number and project name	SSD-14540514 Wallerawang Battery Energy Storage System
Applicant	Greenspot Wallerawang Pty Ltd
Consent Authority	Minister for Planning

Decision

On 4 August 2022, the Director, Energy Assessments, granted consent to the development application for the Wallerawang Battery Energy Storage System subject to conditions, under delegation from the Minister for Planning and section 4.38 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (the Act).

A copy of the Department of Planning & Environment's assessment report is available [here](#).

Date of decision

4 August 2022

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) 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; and
- advice from relevant NSW Government Agencies and Lithgow City Council.

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 would provide a range of benefits for the region and the State as a whole, including:
 - enabling renewable energy to be stored and dispatched during peak demand, supporting grid stability and energy security;
 - contributing to a more diverse local economy;
 - creating up to 100 construction jobs and 5 operational jobs;
 - a capital investment of approximately \$404 million;
- the project is permissible with consent, and is consistent with NSW Government policies including the NSW Climate Change Policy Framework (2016), NSW Electricity Strategy (2019) and Central West and Orana Regional Plan 2036;
- 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 the consent.