



20 December 2021

NSW DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING, INDUSTRY &
ENVIRONMENT
PO Box 1226
NEWCASTLE NSW 2300

Dear Sir/Madam

Subject: State Significant Development (SSD-15950052) - Eraring Battery Energy Storage System

268 Rocky Point Road, ERARING NSW 2264

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the State Significant Development (SSD-15950052) for Eraring Battery Storage System lodged by Origin Energy.

The Environmental Impact Statement and supporting documentation has been reviewed by Council staff. The proposal is supported subject to compliance with the documentation provided in the following area:

- Aboriginal Cultural Heritage
- European Heritage
- Geotechnical
- Acid Sulfate Soils
- Stormwater Management
- Acoustics
- Contamination

The following comments are requested to be considered further in your assessment of the proposal.

Traffic

It is noted traffic routes shown generally utilise main roads. Due to the geometry of the traffic signals at the intersection of Carey Street and The Boulevarde, Toronto it is advisable that all materials will need to travel through Morisset vis Dora Creek to the facility.

No large articulated vehicles will be permitted to use Newport Road from Cooranbong to Dora Creek due to height restrictions imposed by the Dora Creek road and rail bridges.

In addition, an aged timber bridge is requiring replacement on Wilton Road, Awaba and Council has been required to place a load limit on this structure. No heavy vehicles will be permitted to cross this structure until the bridge is replaced over the next two years.

Any changes to vehicle routes need to consider the above information.

Haulage Levy

The development will include a number of heavy vehicle movements to the site. A haulage levy should be applied for all additional heavy vehicle movements on local roads, as with similar development within the Lake Macquarie Local Government Area. Should the department opt to include a haulage levy additional information would be required to assist in calculating the applicable annual haulage levy.

Alternate Site Locations

The EIS document should provide further rational as to why alternate site locations which have a lower ecological impact (such as the Ash Dam) are not feasible.

Ecology

While effort has been made to locate the development in an area that was previously disturbed there are areas of significant habitat that will be impacted including threatened species habitat and "important habitat" for the swift parrot that is protected under SAI provisions of the BC Act.

It is recommended that the application be referred to the BCD for comment in this regard.

SEPP Koala Habitat Protection

The EIS refers to a Koala assessment in Appendix E of the BDAR, however Appendix E of the BDAR refers to a credit report. While survey for Koalas appears to have been completed it is unclear if the SEPP considerations have been adequately addressed.

It is recommended that clarification be provided that SEPP Koala Habitat Protection has been appropriately addressed.

Summary

Council is supportive of the type of development being proposed and views the project as an important step for the continuity of Eraring Power Station. Thank you again for the opportunity to provide comment. Council welcomes further engagement on this development.

Should you require further information, please contact the undersigned on 4921 0399 or by e-mail on gmathews@lakemac.nsw.gov.au.

Yours faithfully



Glen Mathews
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Development Assessment and Certification