



11 June 2025

Energy, Resources and Industry Assessments  
Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure  
Locked Bag 5022  
PARRAMATTA NSW 2124

Dear Sir/Madam

**SSD-50587460 – Panorama Battery Energy Storage System**  
**749 and 800 Mid Western Highway, Evans Plains**

I refer to the above project and the applicant's Response to Submissions.

Council notes the amendments made to the project in response to the constructability and the submissions received.

As to matters raised in Council's original submission and subsequent discussions with the proponents, the following additional comments are provided.

**Strategic Context**

The undeveloped areas of R5 Large Lot Residential zoned land have now been considered as part of the assessment process. Council has no additional comments to make on this issue.

**Aboriginal Cultural Heritage**

The updated Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment to reflect the issues raised in Council's original submission.

**Traffic and Access/Use of Evans Plains Creek Road**

Council acknowledges the use of Evans Plains Creek Road for use by heavy vehicles during the construction phase (currently estimated at 289 inbound heavy vehicle movements during the construction phase). Council considers that the proponents proposed Construction Traffic Management Plan is appropriate.

Given the limited traffic generation and other mitigation measures proposed, Council does not consider that a Section 7.11 Contribution under its Regional Rural Roadworks Plan is warranted. The proponent has advised that they intend to prepare Dilapidation Surveys of Evans Plains Creek Road prior to and at the completion of construction works which would be reasonable under the circumstances.

### **Planning Agreement**

Council confirms that Recurrent Energy on behalf of Panorama BESS SubCo Pty Ltd and Bathurst Regional Council has commenced discussions regarding a Planning Agreement associated with the Panorama BESS project.

As part of these initial discussions, Recurrent Energy has proposed a community contribution aligned with the NSW Government's Benefit Sharing Guideline (DPHI 2024), suggesting an annual payment of \$150 per megawatt of installed capacity.

Council looks forward to working collaboratively with Recurrent Energy to finalise an agreement that may also need to consider works in the public domain required as a result of the development, should the project be approved.

### **Landscape and Visual Assessment**

Council notes that the proposal now includes visual screening in the form of a metal perforated screen along the northern, western and southern extent of the project site.

### **Water Availability**

Council confirms that water required for this project can be accessed through Council's bulk drinking water supply, with filling locations on Hereford Street between the Macquarie River and Gilmour Street. A bulk water permit must be obtained from Council prior to accessing this supply. Consumption charges apply in accordance with current fees and charges (currently \$5.75 per kilolitre, subject to change). Relevant information regarding the permit application process and bulk water supply is available at <https://www.bathurst.nsw.gov.au/Services/Water/Accessing-Bathurst-Water>.

Yours faithfully



David Flude  
**ACTING DIRECTOR**  
**ENVIRONMENTAL, PLANNING & BUILDING SERVICES**