



RFS



Department of Planning, Housing & Infrastructure (Parramatta)
Locked Bag 5022,
PARRAMATTA NSW 2124
Australia

Your reference: SSD- 52786213
Our reference: DA20230105000051-Response to
Submissions-1

ATTENTION: Pragma Mathema

Date: Friday 28 June 2024

Dear Sir/Madam,

**State Significant Development - Electricity Generating Works
Response to submissions**

Calala Battery Energy Storage System 57 BURGESS LANE CALALA NSW 2340, 17//DP629969

Reference is made to correspondence dated 05/06/2024 seeking a response to submissions received during the exhibition of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the above State Significant Development in accordance with the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*.

The New South Wales Rural Fire Service (NSW RFS) has reviewed the submissions and provides the following comments;

The original application sought consent for a standalone battery energy storage system (BESS) with storage capacity of up to 300MW and 1200MWh discharge capacity.

The NSW RFS reviewed the EIS Exhibition documents and provided recommended conditions, dated 18 December, 2023.

The Amended Project Report states:

In response to the submissions, the BESS has been reduced in scale with design improvements made to reduce any potential amenity impacts to surrounding sensitive receivers and the locality in general. The original application sought consent for a standalone battery energy storage system (BESS) with a storage capacity of up to 300MW and 1200MWh discharge capacity. The amendments proposed include the following:

- *A reduced number of battery enclosures from 900 to 164.*
- *A reduced battery capacity from 300MW / 1200MWh to 300MW / 600MWh.*
- *The removal of the noise barrier from the northern elevation.*
- *The removal of the 4m tall nearfield HV transformer noise barriers.*
- *The provision of a landscaped mound along the northwestern interface approximately 130m long and 5m high.*
- *Retention of existing vegetation along the southern boundary.*
- *Provision of additional landscaping along the southern, western, and northern boundaries of the BESS.*
- *Minor realignment of the underground transmission cable at 474 Calala Lane, Calala.*

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- *Minor benching and augmentation work at the existing Tamworth Substation located at 707 Burgmanns Lane, Calala.*
- *Use of the existing dwelling on site for the purposes of a temporary site office during construction.*
- *Widening of the site access point.*
- *Nomination of a larger temporary laydown, storage and parking area during construction.*
- *Minor reconfiguration of the high voltage connection asset.*

The NSW RFS recommended conditions, dated 18 December, 2023 remain appropriate for the amended proposal.

1. A Fire Management Plan (FMP) shall be prepared in consultation with NSW RFS Tamworth Fire Control Centre. The FMP shall include:

- 24 hour emergency contact details including alternative telephone contact;
- Site infrastructure plan;
- Fire fighting water supply plan;
- Site access and internal road plan;
- Construction of Asset Protection Zones (APZ) and their continued maintenance; Location of hazards (Physical, Chemical and Electrical) that will impact on fire fighting operations and procedures to manage identified hazards during fire fighting operations;
- Such additional matters as required by the NSW RFS District Office (FMP review and updates).

2. The entire BESS development footprint to be managed as an Asset Protection Zone (APZ) as outlined within Appendix 4 of 'Planning for Bush Fire Protection 2019'. This includes the standown areas during the construction phase.

3. Where any of the development infrastructure is located greater than 70 metres from a fire fighting hydrant, a minimum 20,000 litre water supply (tank) fitted with a 65mm storz fitting shall be located adjoining the internal property access road within the required APZ.

4. To allow for emergency service personnel to undertake property protection activities, a 10 metre trafficable defendable space (APZ) that permits unobstructed vehicle access is to be provided around the perimeter of BESS footprint including associated infrastructure. The trafficable surface shall be a minimum 4 metres wide and provide all weather access.

For any queries regarding this correspondence, please contact Neil Pengilly on 1300 NSW RFS.

Yours sincerely,

Allyn Purkiss
Manager Planning & Environment Services
Built & Natural Environment