

Our ref: SSD-63207219

Andrew Mills

Chair

Independent Planning Commission

GPO Box 3415

Sydney NSW 2001

ipcn@ipcn.nsw.gov.au

22/12/2025

Subject: Kingswood Battery Energy Storage System – Referral to the Independent Planning Commission

Dear Mr Mills,

The Department has completed its assessment of the merits of the application for the Kingswood Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) (SSD-63207219).

The application is referred to the Independent Planning Commission for determination as there were more than 50 unique submissions objecting to the project.

Iberdrola Australia Development Pty Ltd (Iberdrola) proposes to develop a new State significant BESS located approximately 6 kilometres (km) southeast of Tamworth in the Tamworth Regional local government area.

The BESS would have a delivery and storage capacity of approximately 270 megawatts (MW) / 1,080 MW-hour (MWh) respectively. The project would connect to the existing Transgrid 330 kilovolt (kV) Tamworth substation which is located approximately 800 metres (m) north-west of the site.

During the exhibition of the environmental impact statement (EIS) the Department received a total of 68 unique submissions from the community, in addition to advice from 11 government agencies. Of the public submissions received during exhibition of the EIS, 67 objected to the project and one supported the project.

The Department notes that 51% of submissions were received from local residents within 5 km of the site (34 objections and 1 support), 9% were received from within 50km of the site (6 objections) and 40% were received from over 50km of the site (27 objections, 4 of which were interstate).

Iberdrola has provided a letter of offer to Tamworth Regional Council to enter into a Voluntary Planning Agreement (VPA).

In assessing the merits of the project, the Department has considered the environmental, social and economic impacts of the project, submissions on the EIS, relevant environmental planning instruments, the suitability of the site, and the public interest, in accordance with the requirements of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*.

During the assessment process the Department visited the site and consulted with Council and relevant government agencies.

Based on this assessment, the Department concludes that the project is approvable, subject to the recommended conditions of consent.

I have attached a copy of the Department's assessment report and other relevant documents for the Commission's consideration.

If you have any questions, please contact myself on (02) 9274 6296 or via email at iwan.davies@planning.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Iwan".

Iwan Davies

Director

Energy Assessments