

APPENDIX D

Community Engagement Table

This appendix provides a consolidated summary of the community engagement completed for the Project. A summary of the community engagement completed for the Project, and where the matters raised are addressed, is presented below in Table 1 and Table 2.

Table 1 Consolidated Summary of Community Engagement (SLR, Engagement Summary Report, 2025)

Tool	Activity description
Targeted traditional mailout	Near neighbours surrounding the Project Area were identified and contacted through a direct mail campaign. Letters invited recipients to call the dedicated project telephone line or email to schedule a meeting with the project team. A total of 13 letters were sent via priority Australia Post delivery, with 0 letters returned.
Email notification	To complement the traditional mail campaign, an email notification was sent to 9 key stakeholders including the Narrabri Shire Council, community organisations, the LALC, and the NIN. These emails highlighted the project's purpose and invited stakeholders to have a one-on-one meeting with the project team.
Newspaper advertisement campaign	Advertisements were placed in the Narrabri Courier newspaper on 31 October 2024. The campaign included a print advertisement, which aimed to raise awareness of the Project and promote the community drop-in session to a broad audience.
Dedicated project phone line	A dedicated phone line, (02) 7229 1982, was established to provide stakeholders with direct access to the Project information and support. The phone number was prominently included in all printed and digital communications to encourage queries and feedback.
Dedicated project email address	A dedicated email address, stoneycreek@enervest.com.au , was created to facilitate stakeholder communication. This email was included in all printed materials and managed by the Project team to ensure timely responses to enquiries.
Online SIA survey	An online SIA survey was launched to collect feedback and understand community concerns about the Project. A QR code was included on project collateral such as factsheets, posters and postcards, allowing stakeholders to easily access the survey via their mobile devices.
Project database	To expand community engagement, stakeholders were encouraged to sign up for Project updates via the Project website. This facilitated ongoing communication awareness.
Project website	A dedicated Project website (https://enervest.com.au/project/stoney-creek-bess/) was created to host up-to-date information about the Project and to promote the engagement period. The webpage also provided stakeholders with the opportunity to sign up for the Project updates and access key materials.
Project collateral	Informational materials were developed to support the in-person engagement sessions and to inform the community about the Project. Key collateral included: • Project factsheet



Tool	Activity description
	A concise overview of the Project, highlighting its objectives, key messages, potential benefits, and timeline. It served as an accessible reference for community members to understand the Project's purpose. • Project poster Outlined key details during engagement events, providing clarity on Project requirements and enabling direct communication with Project team members. • Project map A detailed visual representation of the Project site, including the location of the BESS and its proximity to local landmarks such as Stoney Creek Road, the Old Cemetery, and Bailey Road. • Postcard for SIA survey promotion Included a QR code linking to the online SIA survey, encouraging participation and facilitating feedback collection.
Pop-up events	A pop-up event was held on Saturday 2 November 2024 from 8:00AM to 12:30PM at the Narrabri Rotary Markets on the banks of the Namoi River, Tibbereena Street, Narrabri. Community members interested in more in-depth discussions were encouraged to attend the upcoming community drop-in session. Project collateral was distributed at the event. A second pop-up event was held as part of the Narrabri New Energy Expo on 26 March 2025 from 9:00am to 4:00pm at The Crossing Theatre, Narrabri. This event allowed attendees to engage directly with Project representatives from Enervest, ask questions, and provide feedback. Community members interested in the project were encouraged to sign up to the Project mailing list. An additional pop-up event was held on Monday 23 June 2025 from 2:00PM to 5:00PM at the Narrabri Community Kiosk (104A Maitland St, Narrabri). Community members were provided with project collateral and encouraged to enquire via the project phone number or email address if they had any further comments or questions.
Drop-in event	A drop-in event was held on Thursday 14 November 2024, from 5:00PM to 7:00PM at the Narrabri Aquatic Centre, Tibbereena Street, Narrabri. This event allowed attendees to engage directly with Project representatives from both Enervest and SLR, ask questions in a one-on-one or small group setting, and provide feedback. Project collateral was distributed at the event.
Near neighbour door knocking	Near neighbour door knocking was conducted ahead of the community pop-up event and drop-in session to introduce Enervest and provide tailored information about the Stoney Creek BESS and its potential impact on nearby properties during the construction phase. During these interactions, communication materials were distributed to facilitate discussions and address any questions or concerns raised by property owners and residents.
Stakeholder meetings	Meetings were conducted with agencies including DPHI, TfNSW, Transgrid, NSW RFS, Narrabri LALC, Narrabri LEMC, Narrabri TAFE, Narrabri Industrial Network, and Narrabri Shire Council.
SIA stakeholder interviews	Interviews with Chamber of Commerce, Council officers, and local residents were conducted from January to March 2025.
Registered Aboriginal Parties (RAP)	Preparation of the ACHAR included consultation with RAPs and was undertaken in accordance with Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation requirements for Proponents (DECCW 2010).



Table 2 Matter raised and where issues are addressed

Theme	Interest and/or identified issue	Stakeholders who raised this	Addressed
Traffic and transport	- Concerns about increased construction traffic on Stoney Creek Road and Bailey Road. - Requests to avoid disrupting school buses, garbage collection, and local access. - Suggestions to schedule heavy vehicle movements during off-peak hours. - Calls for a Traffic Management Plan (TMP) to minimise impacts. - Potential risk of road closures due to flooding, which may impact site access.	- Near neighbours - Local residents - Narrabri Shire Council - Chamber of Commerce	Section 6.7 of the EIS Appendix O
Social impact and local benefits	- Desire for local employment opportunities during construction and operations. - Support for local procurement of services and materials. - Need for reinvestment into the community through grants or benefit funds (e.g. childcare, housing, community programs). - Community concern over “fly-in, fly-out” workforce offering limited long-term value.	- Local residents - Narrabri Shire Council - Chamber of Commerce - Narrabri LALC	Section 6.13 of the EIS Appendix R
Emergency management	- Fire risk associated with battery units, including suppression systems and surrounding vegetation. - Site access for emergency vehicles and need for appropriately sized entry/exit points. - Potential need for water tanks and compatible couplings for RFS response. - Risk of smoke plumes and potential benefits of underground cables for fire resilience. - Desire for early and ongoing coordination with local fire services.	- RFS (Narrabri) - Local residents - Narrabri Shire Council - Fire Services - Narrabri Local Emergency Management Committee (LEMC)	Section 6.10 of the EIS Appendix T Section 6.11 of the EIS Appendix Q
Grid stability and energy supply	- Community interest in local grid reliability and energy security. - Desire for clarification on whether stored power benefits Narrabri or broader NSW.	- Local residents - Online survey respondent - Chamber of Commerce	Chapter 2 of the EIS focus on grid stability benefits.



Theme	Interest and/or identified issue	Stakeholders who raised this	Addressed
	- Concerns about the battery system causing transformer overloads or disconnecting smaller solar setups. - Curiosity about how the battery integrates with existing energy systems.		
Community benefit sharing	- Desire for long-term, tangible benefits beyond the construction phase. - Recommendation for a community panel to guide benefit fund allocation. - Community fatigue from past projects with unfulfilled benefit-sharing promises. - Calls for the Project to be transparent and inclusive in how benefits are distributed.	- Chamber of Commerce - Narrabri Shire Council - Local residents	Not specifically addressed in technical assessments but relates to social and economic contributions.
Visual impacts	- Proximity to the cemetery raised concerns about visual amenity. - Suggestions to use vegetation screening and public art to improve aesthetic integration. - Desire to reduce visibility and avoid “industrial look” near sensitive land uses.	- Local residents - Narrabri Shire Council.	Section 6.5 of the EIS Appendix M
Aboriginal cultural heritage	- Requests for procurement, training, and employment opportunities for local Aboriginal people. - Suggestions to include cultural representation through art or landscaping. - Proposal to support LALC’s bush tucker initiative or other community-led uses of land. - Recommendations to support energy security and housing for Aboriginal families.	- Narrabri LALC - RAPs	Section 6.2 of the EIS Appendix G

