



APPENDIX I HISTORIC HERITAGE REPORT



Canyonleigh Battery Energy Storage System

Historic Heritage Assessment

PREPARED FOR

X-ELIO+

X-Elío Aus2 Pty Ltd

DATE

7 January 2026

REFERENCE

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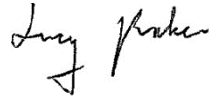
Canyonleigh Battery Energy Storage System

Historic Heritage Assessment

0711340



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CONTENTS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	1
1. INTRODUCTION	2
1.1 DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT	2
1.2 OBJECTIVES	4
1.3 METHODOLOGY	4
1.4 SECRETARY'S ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENT	4
1.5 AUTHORSHIP	4
2. LEGISLATION AND GUIDELINES	13
2.1 COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATION	13
2.1.1 Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999	13
2.2 NSW LEGISLATION	13
2.2.1 NSW Heritage Act 1977	13
2.2.2 NSW Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979	15
2.3 NON-STATUTORY CONSIDERATIONS	15
2.3.1 National Trust of Australia (NSW)	15
2.3.2 Register of the National Estate	15
2.3.3 The Burra Charter	16
3. HISTORICAL OVERVIEW	17
3.1 EARLY EXPLORATION OF THE REGION AND NINETEENTH CENTURY DEVELOPMENT	17
3.2 TWENTIETH CENTURY DEVELOPMENT	18
3.3 BOTANY ROAD – BUNNERONG ROAD	21
4. HISTORIC HERITAGE CONTEXT	25
4.1 HISTORICAL ENVIRONMENT	25
4.1.1 Heritage Register and Database Search Results	25
4.2 PREVIOUS REPORTING	26
4.2.1 Marulan Gas Turbine Facilities Project – Cultural Heritage Assessment of Gas Pipeline (Navin Officer Heritage Consultants Pty Ltd, 2008)	26
5. PHYSICAL ANALYSIS	27
5.1 SURVEY AIMS AND PERSONNEL	27
5.2 SURVEY RESULTS AND DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT AREA	27
5.2.1 Survey Unit 3	29
6. ASSESSMENT OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL	31
6.1 SUMMARY OF HISTORIC ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL	31
7. SIGNIFICANCE ASSESSMENT	32
7.1 HISTORIC HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE ASSESSMENT FRAMEWORK	32
7.1.1 Assessment of Historic Heritage Significance	33
8. IMPACT ASSESSMENT	34
8.1 PROPOSED WORKS	34
8.2 IMPACT ASSESSMENT	34
8.2.1 Cumulative Impacts	34

9.	CONCLUSIONS	37
9.1	RECOMMENDATIONS	37
9.1.1	Recommendation 1 – Heritage Induction	37
9.1.2	Recommendation 2 – Unexpected Finds Protocol	37
10.	REFERENCES	38
	STATEMENT OF LIMITATIONS	39

LIST OF TABLES

TABLE 1-1	INDICATIVE PROJECT DESIGN - COMPONENTS AND SPECIFICATION	3
TABLE 1-2	SUMMARY OF SEARS REQUIREMENTS FOR HISTORIC HERITAGE AND WHERE THEY ARE ADDRESSED IN THE CURRENT REPORT	4
TABLE 4-1	STATUTORY HERITAGE REGISTER SEARCH SUMMARY	25
TABLE 6-1	GRADING OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL	31
TABLE 7-1	NSW HERITAGE ASSESSMENT CRITERIA	32
TABLE 8-1	MAJOR PROJECTS IN THE REGION	34

LIST OF FIGURES

FIGURE 1-1	PROJECT AREA AND LAYOUT	5
FIGURE 1-2	ROAD UPGRADES - BOTANY ROAD BUNNERONG ROAD INTERSECTION	12
FIGURE 3-1	1913 PARISH MAP SHOWING APPROXIMATE OUTLINE OF PROJECT AREA IN YELLOW (HTTPS://HLRV.NSWLRS.COM.AU/)	18
FIGURE 3-2	1963 AERIAL WITH PROJECT AREA OUTLINED YELLOW (NSW SPATIAL SERVICES)	19
FIGURE 3-3	1991 AERIAL WITH PROJECT AREA OUTLINED IN YELLOW (NSW SPATIAL SERVICES)	20
FIGURE 3-4	CURRENT AERIAL WITH PROJECT AREA OTULINED YELLOW (SIXMAPS)	21

ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

Acronyms	Description
AC	Alternating Current
BESS	Battery Energy Storage System
CH	Commonwealth Heritage
CHL	Commonwealth Heritage List
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
EP&A Act	<i>Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979</i>
EPBC Act	<i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i>
EPI	Environmental Planning Instrument
ERM	Environmental Resources Management Australia Pty Ltd
DC	Direct Current
FTE	Full Time Equivalent
GWh	Gigawatt hours
ha	Hectares
Heritage Act	<i>Heritage Act 1977</i>
HHA	Historic Heritage Assessment
ICOMOS	International Council on Monuments and Sites
IHO	Interim Heritage Order
km	Kilometres
kV	Kilovolt
LEP	Local Environmental Plan
LGA	Local Government Area
m	Metres
MW	Megawatt
NHL	National Heritage List
NSW	New South Wales
PCU	Power conversion unit
PV	Photovoltaic
RAP	Registered Aboriginal Party
REZ	Renewable Energy Zone
RNE	Register of National Estate
SEARs	Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements
SHR	State Heritage Register
SLNSW	State Library of New South Wales
SSD	State Significant Development
The Burra Charter	The Australia International Council on Monuments and Sites, Charter for Places of Cultural Significance (2013)
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Environmental Resources Management Australia Pty Ltd was engaged by X-Elio Aus2 Pty Ltd to conduct a Historic Heritage Assessment (HHA) for the proposed Canyonleigh Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) (The Project).

The Project involves the construction, operation and decommissioning of a BESS and associated supporting and ancillary infrastructure. The Project has a targeted electricity generation capacity of 300 Megawatts (MW) / 1,200 MW hour (MWh). The Project Area, (including roads) totals approximately 130.60 hectares (ha) and the proposed BESS Development Footprint is 15.20 ha. The proposed Project is located approximately 112 kilometres (km) north-east of Canberra and 8 km north-east of Brayton, within the Goulburn Mulwaree Local Government Area (LGA).

Two surveys were completed for the Project; one for the proposed BESS site, and one for the proposed Road Resurfacing Development Footprint. The Road Resurfacing Development Footprint spans 6.40 ha to the west along the Canyonleigh Road corridor and is included in the total Project Area.

This report supports a State Significant Development (SSD) application under Part 4, Division 4.7 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act) (SSD-78247462), as an appendix to the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Project.

The historical assessment has determined that there are no known built heritage items or significant view lines within the Project Area. The archaeological potential of the Project Area has also been assessed as Low. The report has concluded that should any archaeological remains be present; these would be unlikely to provide substantive contribution to research questions relevant to the early history of the site or local area, that is not available from other sources. As such, the Project Area has low archaeological research potential and as such, low archaeological heritage significance.

There are no historical built or archaeological constraints for the proposed Project. Therefore, works may proceed with no further historic heritage assessments.

The following are key recommendations that aim to mitigate the impact of the proposed works on the identified heritage values of the Project Area:

Recommendation 1 – Heritage Induction

Prior to the commencement of works, all staff and contractors should be briefed on the requirements of the *Heritage Act 1977* and the project-specific Unexpected Finds Protocol.

Recommendation 2 – Unexpected Finds Protocol

In the event that relics are unexpectedly exposed, works should cease immediately. The management of relics should be in accordance with NSW Heritage guidelines and policies, as outlined in the Unexpected Finds Protocol.

1. INTRODUCTION

Environmental Resources Management Australia Pty Ltd (ERM) was engaged by X-Elio Aus2 Pty Ltd ('X-Elio' or 'the Applicant') to conduct a Historic Heritage Assessment (HHA) for the proposed Canyonleigh Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) (the Project), to support a State Significant Development (SSD) application under Part 4, Division 4.7 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act) (SSD-78247462).

The Applicant proposes to construct, operate, maintain and decommission the Canyonleigh BESS, an energy storage development proposed to be located at 962 Canyonleigh Road, Brayton, New South Wales (NSW), 2579. The Project Area comprises of two lots (Lot 12 DP727493 and Lot 2341 DP727493) and Crown land to the west, dissected by Canyonleigh Road extending across approximately 130.60 hectares (ha).

The Project is located within the buffer area of the existing Transgrid Marulan 330 kilovolt (kV) substation (also located on Lot 2341 DP727493). The BESS is anticipated to have an installed capacity of 300 Megawatts (MW) / 1,200 MW hour (MWh) storage capacity and associated infrastructure, located on Lot 12 DP727493. The total anticipated Development Footprint is approximately 21.60 ha which is located entirely within the Project Area, and represents the expected impacts associated with the construction and operation.

The proposed BESS will be connected to the existing Transgrid Marulan 330 kilovolt (kV) substation via an underground 330 kV transmission line, which will likely travel through Crown land. The Project is located entirely within the Goulburn Mulwaree Local Government Area (LGA). The existing land uses surrounding the Project Area are predominantly agricultural and used for grazing native pastures and modified pastures (Office of Environment and Heritage, 2018). The Project Area is zoned RU2 – Rural Landscape under the Goulburn Mulwaree Local Environmental Plan 2009 (Goulburn Mulwaree LEP 2009).

1.1 DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

The Project Area is approximately 112 km northeast of Canberra and approximately 8 km northeast of Brayton. The Project Area is defined as the area of land corresponding to property boundaries on which the Property is located.

The Project Area is approximately 130.60 ha, and the total anticipated Development Footprint is located entirely within the Project Area and is approximately 21.60 ha. The Development Footprint represents the maximum impacts associated with the construction and operation of the Project.

The Development Footprint comprises of:

- The BESS Development Footprint (15.20 ha); and
- The section of Canyonleigh Road between the site access point and the intersection with Brayton Road subject to maintenance works, herein referred to as the Road Resurfacing Development Footprint (6.40 ha).

It is noted that the Road Resurfacing Development Footprint will involve maintenance works of resurfacing and maintenance of vegetation along the carriageway edges to reinstate the road to its previously established condition, which would be completed prior to the construction of the Project.

North of Canyonleigh Road, Lot 2341 DP622834 is owned by Electricity Transmission Ministerial Holding Corporation and leased to NSW Electricity Networks Operations Pty. Ltd. i.e. TransGrid. The Project Area is entirely zoned as RU2 – Rural Landscape. A map of the Project Area is provided in **Figure 1-1**.

The Project involves the construction, operation, maintenance and decommissioning of a BESS and associated infrastructure, including:

- Large-scale BESS with a storage capacity of up to 300 MW / 1,200 MWh;
- Electrical reticulation infrastructure, including an onsite substation, switching station, and internal transmission and feeder lines.
- Permanent associated and ancillary infrastructure; and
- Temporary construction facilities.

The Project proposes to connect to the national grid via the existing Transgrid Marulan Substation, which sits at the junction of several 330 kV and 132 kV transmission lines. **Table 1-1** summarises the key indicative Project components and specifications.

TABLE 1-1 INDICATIVE PROJECT DESIGN - COMPONENTS AND SPECIFICATION

Component	Specification
BESS	• One BESS with 300 MW / 1,200 MWh storage capacity. • Located on Lot 2341 DP 622834 and Lot 12 DP 727493.
Electrical Reticulation Infrastructure	• The Project will connect to the existing Transgrid 330 kV Marulan Substation located on Lot 2341 DP 622834. • New proposed step-up substation will connect from 33 kV to 330 kV underground feeder/connection line, which leads to existing Marulan substation.
Access	• The Project will be accessed via three site access points, located on Canyonleigh Road.
On-site Supporting Infrastructure	• Temporary construction and laydown area; • Permanent Operations & Maintenance (O&M) facility including: ◦ A control room; ◦ Storage facilities; ◦ Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) facilities; ◦ Car parking; ◦ Basic office and associated amenities; and • Utilities and waste facilities. • New and/or upgraded internal access roads; • New and/or upgraded drainage system; and • Security fencing and lighting.
Off-site Supporting Infrastructure	• Waste and wastewater disposal facilities • Existing communications network • Existing transport network and minor roadworks, including: ◦ Canyonleigh Road between the intersection with Brayton Road and the site access will be resurfaced where required and in consultation with Goulburn Mulwaree Council; ◦ Brayton Road / Canyonleigh Road intersection will require a Basic Right Turn treatment to access Canyonleigh Road from Brayton Road, including a temporary hardstand and temporary signage relocation; ◦ Installation of sealed hardstand and mountable kerb at the intersection of Botany Road / Bunnerong Road (Matraville, NSW) (Figure 1-2); and • Quarries for construction material (as required).

If the final Project design extends outside of the Project Area assessed in this EIS, assessment of additional impacts would be detailed in an Amendment Report (prior to determination) or Modification Report (after determination). The Project layout is subject to further design development during the EIS phase. The EIS and associated technical assessments will facilitate further refinement to the Project layout in response to environmental values and constraints and will include strategies to minimise and mitigate potential impacts.

1.2 OBJECTIVES

This report aims to:

- Identify historic heritage resources within the Project Area, including archaeological potential and built heritage values;
- Present historical contextual data to aid in the development of an archaeological predictive model;
- Evaluate the impact of the proposed works on any identified historic heritage resources; and
- Provide recommendations for the mitigation of impacts and management of identified historic heritage resources.

1.3 METHODOLOGY

This HHA examines non-Aboriginal heritage values within the Project Area. This report has been prepared in accordance with the guidelines listed in **Section 2**.

Preparation of this report includes:

- Heritage register and database searches;
- Desktop research, including publicly available libraries and archives;
- Field survey of the Project Area;
- Assessment of the potential for impact to potential historic heritage values;
- Assessment of heritage significance; and
- Preparation of management and mitigation recommendations.

1.4 SECRETARY'S ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENT

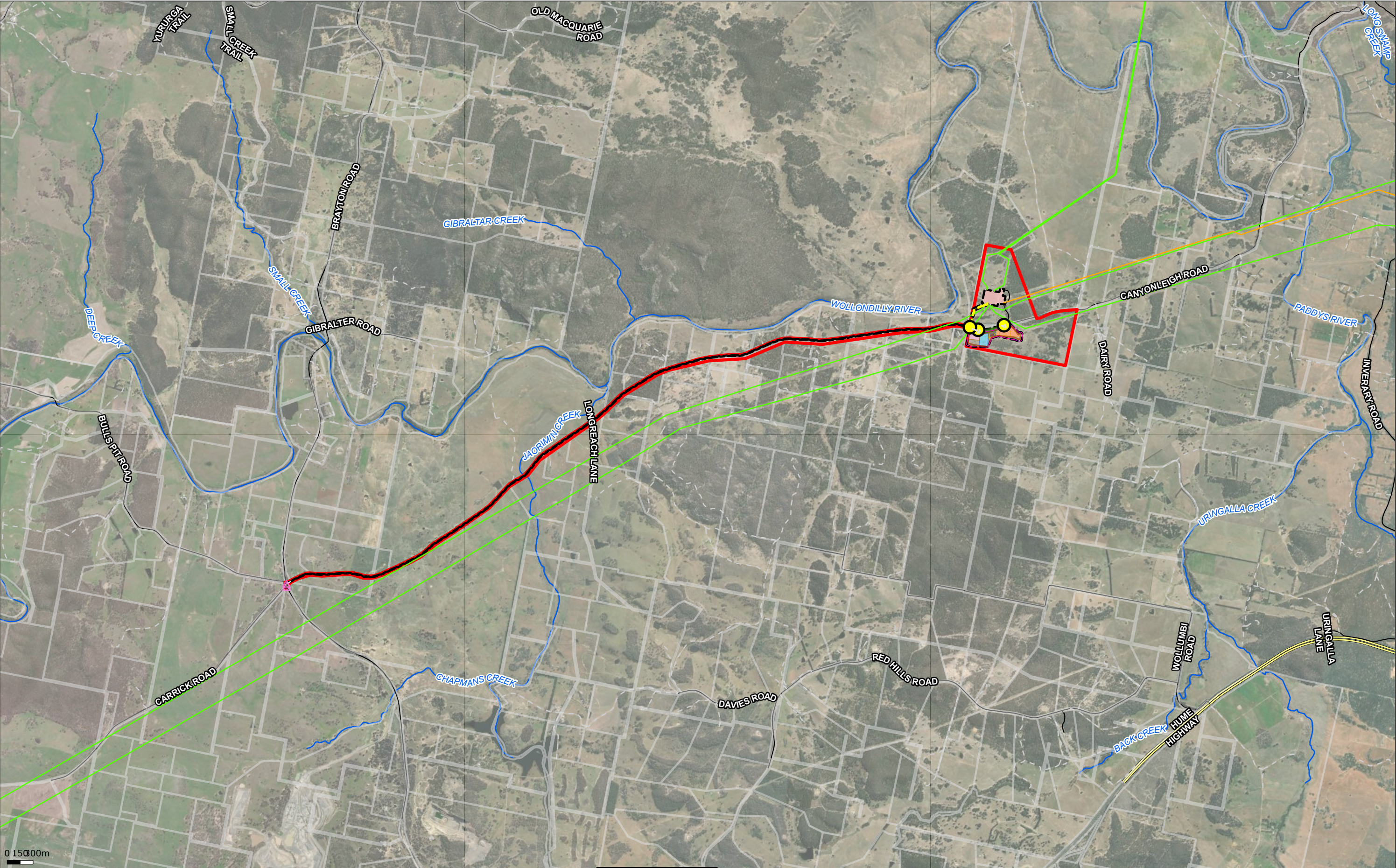
The SEARs (SSD-78247462) for the Project were issued on 12 December 2024. The requirements for historic heritage assessment and where they have been addressed are summarised in **Table 1-2**.

TABLE 1-2 SUMMARY OF SEARS REQUIREMENTS FOR HISTORIC HERITAGE AND WHERE THEY ARE ADDRESSED IN THE CURRENT REPORT

SEAR	Section addressed in this report
Assess the impact to historic heritage having regard to the Guidelines for Preparing a Statement of Heritage Impact.	Whole report. See impact assessment in Section 8 .

1.5 AUTHORSHIP

ERM Senior Consultant, Charles Barnett and ERM Managing Consultant, Victoria Gleeson prepared this report. ERM Managing Consultant – Heritage, Lorien Perchard completed the technical review and ERM Partner, Lucy Baker completed a quality assurance review.



Legend

Site Access	Tree Protection Area	Parking Slots	330kV
Traffic sign	Platform	Storage Containers	132kV
Indicative 330kV Connection	Water Tank	Substation	Cadastre
Fence	Laydown Area	Site Access	Primary Road
Project Area	BESS Battery Containers	Internal Roads	Road
Development Footprint	BESS Area	Existing substation	Track-Vehicular
Access Roads - Earthworks	O&M Control Building	O&M Facility	Major Watercourse

Coordinate System:
GDA 1994 MGA Zone 55

Date: 16/12/2025

Created By: NB

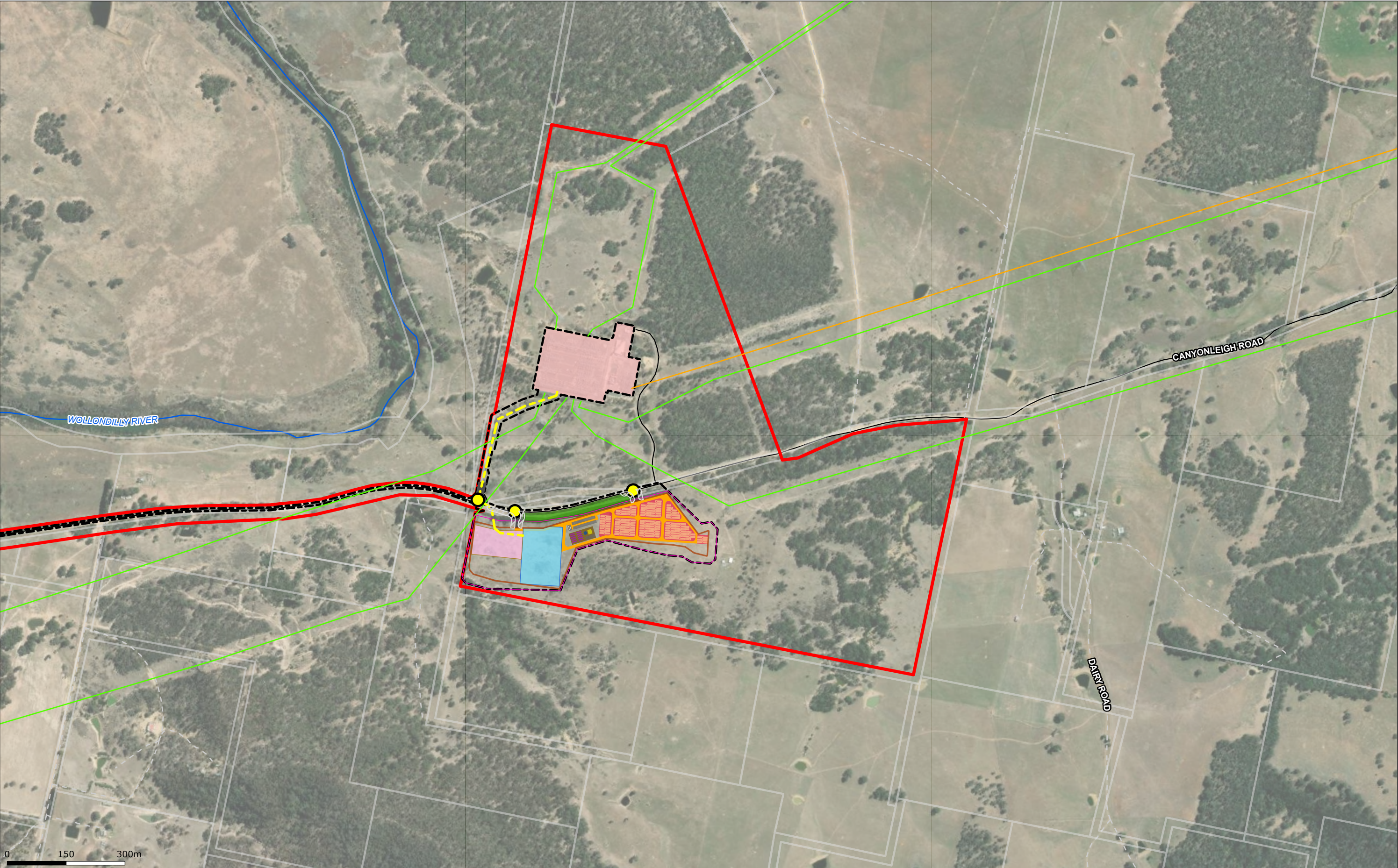
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F1-1 Project Layout
Map 1 of 7

Canyonleigh BESS HHA

X-Elio Aus2



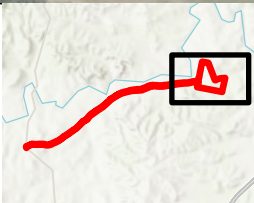
Legend

- Site Access
- Indicative 330kV Connection
- Fence
- Project Area
- Development Footprint
- Access Roads - Earthworks

- Tree Protection Area
- Platform
- Water Tank
- Laydown Area
- BESS Battery Containers
- BESS Area
- O&M Control Building

- Parking Slots
- Storage Containers
- Substation
- Site Access
- Internal Roads
- Existing substation
- O&M Facility

- 330kV
- 132kV
- Cadastre
- Road
- Track-Vehicular
- Major Watercourse



Coordinate System:
GDA 1994 MGA Zone 55

Date: 16/12/2025

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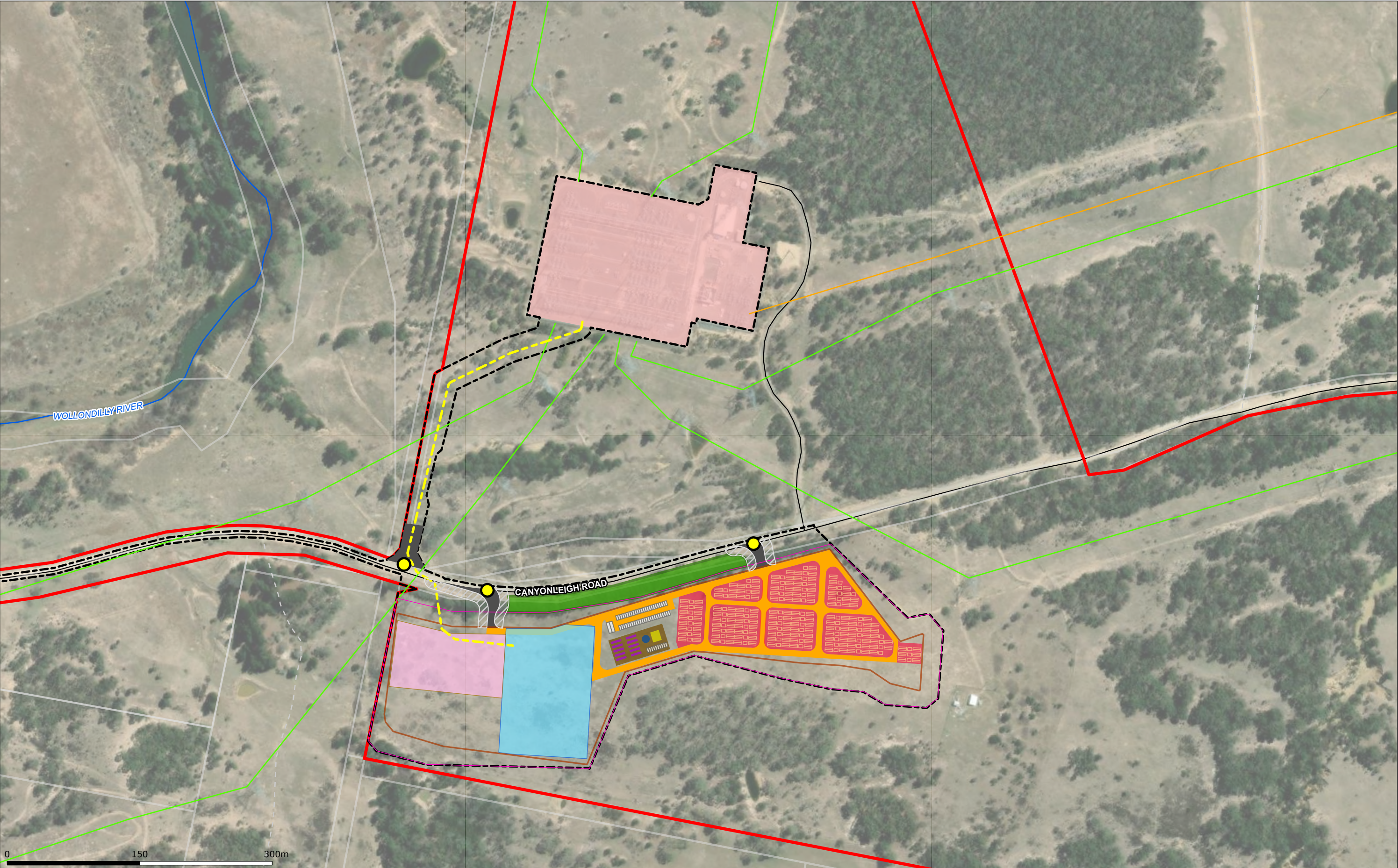
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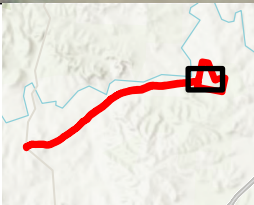
F1-1 Project Layout
Map 2 of 7

Canyonleigh BESS HHA

X-Elio Aus2



Legend			
Site Access	Tree Protection Area	Parking Slots	330kV
Indicative 330kV Connection	Platform	Storage Containers	132kV
Fence	Water Tank	Substation	Cadastre
Project Area	Laydown Area	Site Access	Road
Development Footprint	BESS Battery Containers	Internal Roads	Track-Vehicular
Access Roads - Earthworks	BESS Area	Existing substation	Major Watercourse
	O&M Control Building	O&M Facility	



Coordinate System:
GDA 1994 MGA Zone 55
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F1-1 Project Layout
Map 3 of 7

Canyonleigh BESS HHA

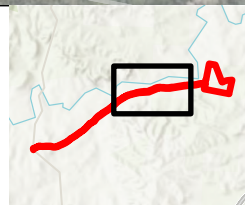
X-Elio Aus2





Legend

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------|
| Project Area | Cadastre |
| Development Footprint | Road |
| Access Roads - Earthworks | Track-Vehicular |
| 330kV | Major Watercourse |



Coordinate System:
GDA 1994 MGA Zone 55
Date: 16/12/2025
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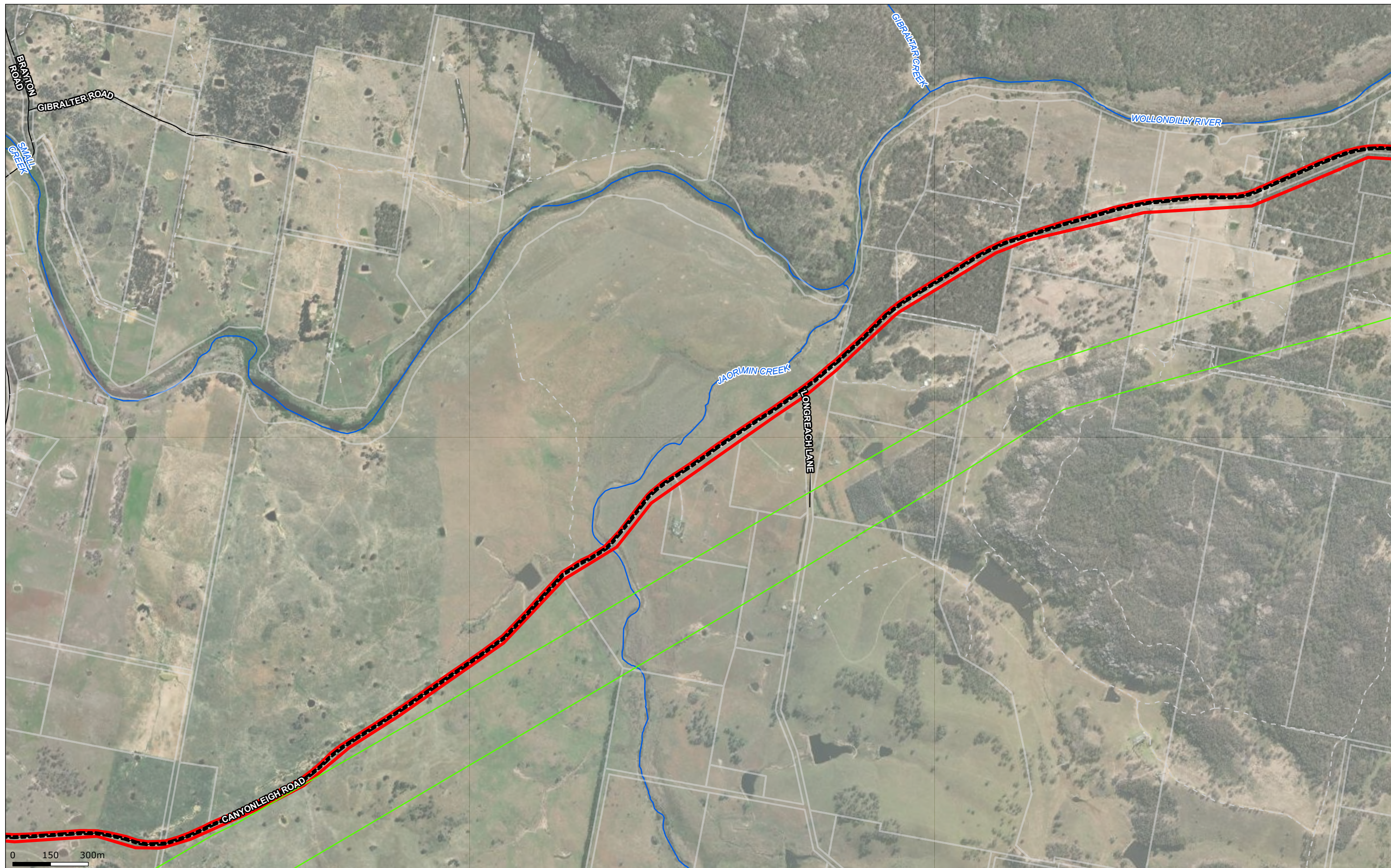
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**F1-1 Project Layout
Map 4 of 7**

Canyonleigh BESS HHA

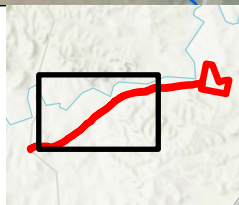
X-Elio Aus2





Legend

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------|
| Project Area | Cadastre |
| Development Footprint | Road |
| Access Roads - Earthworks | Track-Vehicular |
| 330kV | Major Watercourse |



Coordinate System:
GDA 1994 MGA Zone 55
Date: 16/12/2025
Created By: NB
Drawing Size: A3



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**F1-1 Project Layout
Map 5 of 7**

Canyonleigh BESS HHA

X-Elio Aus2

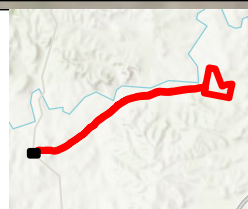




Legend - Traffic sign - Project Area - Development Footprint - Access Roads - Earthworks - Tree Protection Area 330kV - Cadastre - Road - Track-Vehicular - Major Watercourse		Coordinate System: GDA 1994 MGA Zone 55 Date: 16/12/2025 Created By: NB Drawing Size: A3 1:16,000	F1-1 Project Layout Map 6 of 7 Canyonleigh BESS HHA X-Elío Aus2
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- Legend**
- Traffic sign
 - Project Area
 - Development Footprint
 - Access Roads - Earthworks
 - Tree Protection Area
 - Cadastre
 - Road



Coordinate System:
GDA 1994 MGA Zone 55
Date: 16/12/2025
Created By: NB
Drawing Size: A3



F1-1 Project Layout Map 7 of 7

Canyonleigh BESS HHA

X-Elio Aus2



2. LEGISLATION AND GUIDELINES

Several pieces of Commonwealth and State legislation guide the assessment and management of historic heritage in NSW. This legislation also provides the framework for the establishment of heritage registers under their respective legislative purview. A summary of relevant legislation is provided below.

A search of the heritage registers associated with the below legislation is provided in **Section 4.1.1** and **Table 4-1**.

The following guidelines have been considered in this assessment:

- *Assessing Heritage Significance* (NSW Heritage Office 2001);
- *Assessing Significance for Historical Archaeological Sites and 'Relics'* (Heritage Branch, Department of Planning 2009);
- *Guidelines for Preparing a Statement of Heritage Impact* (NSW Environment and Heritage, Department of Planning and Environment 2023);
- *NSW Heritage Manual* (Heritage Office 1996); and
- *The Australia International Council on Monuments and Sites, Charter for Places of Cultural Significance* (also known as the Burra Charter, Australia ICOMOS 2013) and relevant Practice Notes.

2.1 COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATION

2.1.1 ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION AND BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION ACT 1999

The *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act; as amended 2022) provides the framework for the Commonwealth Government's environmental legislation. The EPBC Act outlines a legal framework for the protection and management of nationally and internationally important flora, fauna, ecological communities, and heritage places. Several heritage listings were established under the EPBC Act including the Commonwealth Heritage List (CHL), National Heritage List (NHL), and Register of National Estate (RNE) (now repealed).

The CHL includes natural, Indigenous, and historical heritage places owned or controlled by the Australian Government. Items on the list have satisfied the Minister as having one or more Commonwealth Heritage values.

The Australian NHL contains natural, historic, and Indigenous places deemed to be of outstanding heritage significance to Australia. Before a site is placed on the list a nominated place is assessed against nine criteria by the Australia Heritage Council.

2.2 NSW LEGISLATION

2.2.1 NSW HERITAGE ACT 1977

The Heritage Act 1977 (Heritage Act) protects the cultural and natural history of NSW with emphasis on historic (non-Aboriginal) heritage items, including places, buildings, works, relics, moveable objects, precincts, historic shipwrecks, and archaeological sites of State or local significance. Protection is provided through protection provisions and the establishment of a Heritage Council and State Heritage Register (SHR).

Nominated items are considered by the NSW Heritage Council, which then makes a recommendation to the Minister for Environment and Heritage.

The Heritage Council is empowered to place Interim Heritage Orders (IHO) on an item of potential state significance. Section 136 of the Heritage Act allows for the Minister or Chair of the Heritage Council to place a 'Stop Work' Order on a building, work, relic, or place, that is not subject to an IHO or listed on the SHR and that is being or about to be harmed. Work can be stopped for 40 days, whilst the imposition of an IHO is considered.

Sections 139 to 146, Divisions 8 and 9 of Part 6 of the Act refer to the requirement that excavation or disturbance of land that is likely to contain, or is believed may contain, archaeological relics is undertaken in accordance with an excavation permit issued by the Heritage Council (or in accordance with a gazetted exception under Section 139(4) of the Act).

An archaeological relic is defined as meaning *any deposit, artefact, object or material evidence that:*

- (a) relates to the settlement of the area that comprises New South Wales, not being Aboriginal settlement, and*
- (b) is of State or local heritage significance.*

In particular Section 139 refers to the need for a permit in certain circumstances:

- (1) A person must not disturb or excavate any land knowing or having reasonable cause to suspect that the disturbance or excavation will or is likely to result in a relic being discovered, exposed, moved, damaged or destroyed unless the disturbance or excavation is carried out in accordance with an excavation permit.*
- (2) A person must not disturb or excavate any land on which the person has discovered or exposed a relic except in accordance with an excavation permit.*

The potential for archaeological 'relics' to be present within the Project Area is considered in **Section 6**.

STATE HERITAGE REGISTER

The SHR was established under Section 22 of the Heritage Act and is a list of places and objects of particular importance to the people of NSW, including archaeological sites. The SHR is maintained by Heritage NSW and includes a diverse range of over 1500 items, in both private and public ownership. To be listed, an item must be deemed to be of heritage significance for the whole of NSW.

Listing on the SHR controls activities such as alteration, damage, demolition, and development. When a place is listed on the SHR, the approval of the Heritage Council of NSW is required or any major work.

There are no SHR listed places within the Project Area, adjacent to or its immediate surrounds.

SECTION 170 HERITAGE AND CONSERVATION REGISTER (S170 REGISTER)

Section 170 Heritage and Conservation Register (S170 Register)

Under Section 170 of the Heritage Act, NSW government agencies are required to maintain a register of the heritage assets it owns or controls.

Under S170A of the Heritage Act, government agencies are required to notify the Heritage Council about decisions affecting assets on the S170 register including removing the item from the register, transferring ownership of a listed item, or vacating and/or demolishing part or all of the item.

Government agencies are also required to maintain properties on the S170 and SHR with due diligence in accordance with State Owned Heritage Management Principles approved by the Minister on the advice of the Heritage Council.

There are no S170 listed places within the Project Area, adjacent to or its immediate surrounds.

2.2.2 NSW ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING AND ASSESSMENT ACT 1979

The EP&A Act is the main law regulating land use planning and development in NSW and requires that environmental impacts are considered in land use planning, including impacts on Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal heritage. The EP&A Act controls the making of Environmental Planning Instruments (EPIs) that identify permissible land use and development constraints. Two types of EPIs can be made: Local Environmental Plans (LEPs) and State Environmental Planning Policies (SEPPs).

LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL PLANS

The EP&A Act allows for the preparation of planning instruments to direct development within NSW. This includes LEPs, which are administered by local government, and principally determine land use and the process for development applications. LEPs commonly identify, and have provisions for, the protection of local heritage items and heritage conservation areas; they usually include a schedule of identified heritage items.

There are no LEP listed places within the Project Area, adjacent to or its immediate surrounds.

2.3 NON-STATUTORY CONSIDERATIONS

2.3.1 NATIONAL TRUST OF AUSTRALIA (NSW)

The National Trust is a community-based, non-government organisation. The National Trust has a database of important heritage sites across the State. There are no listed places within the Project Area or its immediate surrounds.

2.3.2 REGISTER OF THE NATIONAL ESTATE

The RNE is now an archive of information about more than 13,000 places throughout Australia including many places of local or state significance. The RNE was closed in 2007 and is no longer a statutory list. The closure of the RNE does not diminish protection of Commonwealth Heritage places.

The RNE is maintained on a non-statutory basis as a publicly available archive and educational resource. RNE places can be protected under the EPBC Act if they are also included in another Commonwealth statutory heritage list or are owned or leased by the Commonwealth.

In addition, places in the RNE may be protected under appropriate state, territory, or local government heritage legislation.

There are no RNE listed places within the Project Area, adjacent to or its immediate surrounds.

2.3.3 THE BURRA CHARTER

The Burra Charter: The Australia ICOMOS Charter for Places of Cultural Significance (Adopted 31 October 2013) (the Burra Charter) sets a standard of practice for those who provide advice, make decisions about, or undertake works to places of cultural significance including owners, managers, and custodians. The Charter provides specific guidance for physical and procedural actions that should occur in relation to significant places. A copy of the 2013 charter can also be accessed at: <http://australia.icomos.org/wp-content/uploads/The-Burra-Charter-2013-Adopted-31.10.2013.pdf>.

This HHA has been prepared in accordance with this document and to the standards it describes.

3. HISTORICAL OVERVIEW

3.1 EARLY EXPLORATION OF THE REGION AND NINETEENTH CENTURY DEVELOPMENT

The Goulburn area was visited by Europeans as early as the late 1790s by explorers. In March 1798 a party including John Wilson and Henry Hacking undertook an expedition in search of salt deposits beyond the Nepean. Passing through the region now known as the Southern Highlands, the party reached the area of the later founded town of Marulan, having passed through the area around Brayton. They reached Mount Towrang, approximately 6 km east of the later site of the town of Goulburn. Official exploration resumed in 1814, with Hamilton Hume laying claim to discovering 'Argyle', the county in which Goulburn is situated. Governor Macquarie visited the area in 1820, declaring it named the 'Goulburn Plains'. After restrictions were lifted in the 1820s, areas to the south west, including the Goulburn Mulwaree region, were soon settled by those eager to leave the confines of the crowded Cumberland Plain (Sue Rosen Associates 2018: 20-24).

The period 1830 – 1870 was one of pastoral expansion in the Goulburn Mulwaree region. This was to become one of the Colony's best wool growing areas, with the town of Goulburn growing to support European settlers, trading services and acting as a node for shipments along the Great South Road (Sue Rosen Associates 2018: 28). The Great South Road alignment was influential in determining the pattern of settlement in the region. In 1829, Thomas Mitchell traced a new road alignment via Mittagong heading to Berrima and then Marulan and Goulburn. Goulburn grew with increasing traffic on this main southern road alignment was fixed and the plan of the township approved in 1833 (Sue Rosen Associates 2018: 43).

Numerous large properties were established in the area by the early 1920s, with farms producing wheat, sheep and cattle for the Sydney market. The township of Marulan was officially gazetted on 11 March 1835. The great southern railway reached Marulan on 6 August 1868 (Navin Officer 2008: 15).

Canyonleigh takes its name from a property established by Jane Murray in the 1880s located near the junction of Paddy's River and the Wollondilly. She called the property Canyon Leigh, operating a Post Office there and making land available for a school. Her sons purchased nearby land until the family holdings grew to over 6000 acres. The name Canyonleigh was given to the town on 23 January 1970 by the Geographical Names Board (Berrima District Historical & Family History Society Inc July 2013: 6-7).

The Project Area lies within the historical parish of Uringalla within Argyle County. The locality of Brayton was originally known as Longreach, having been named after a large property in the area. Due to the name already being given to a town in Queensland, it was later changed to Brayton in 1913. Brayton was named after a local resident, Lillie Brayton, who was a musical comedy star (*Geographical Names Register (GNR) of NSW*). The Project Area is almost entirely included in an early property owned by Murdoc Cambell, though some of the southern sections were included in properties owned by H.G and A. A. Seiler (**Figure 3-1**).

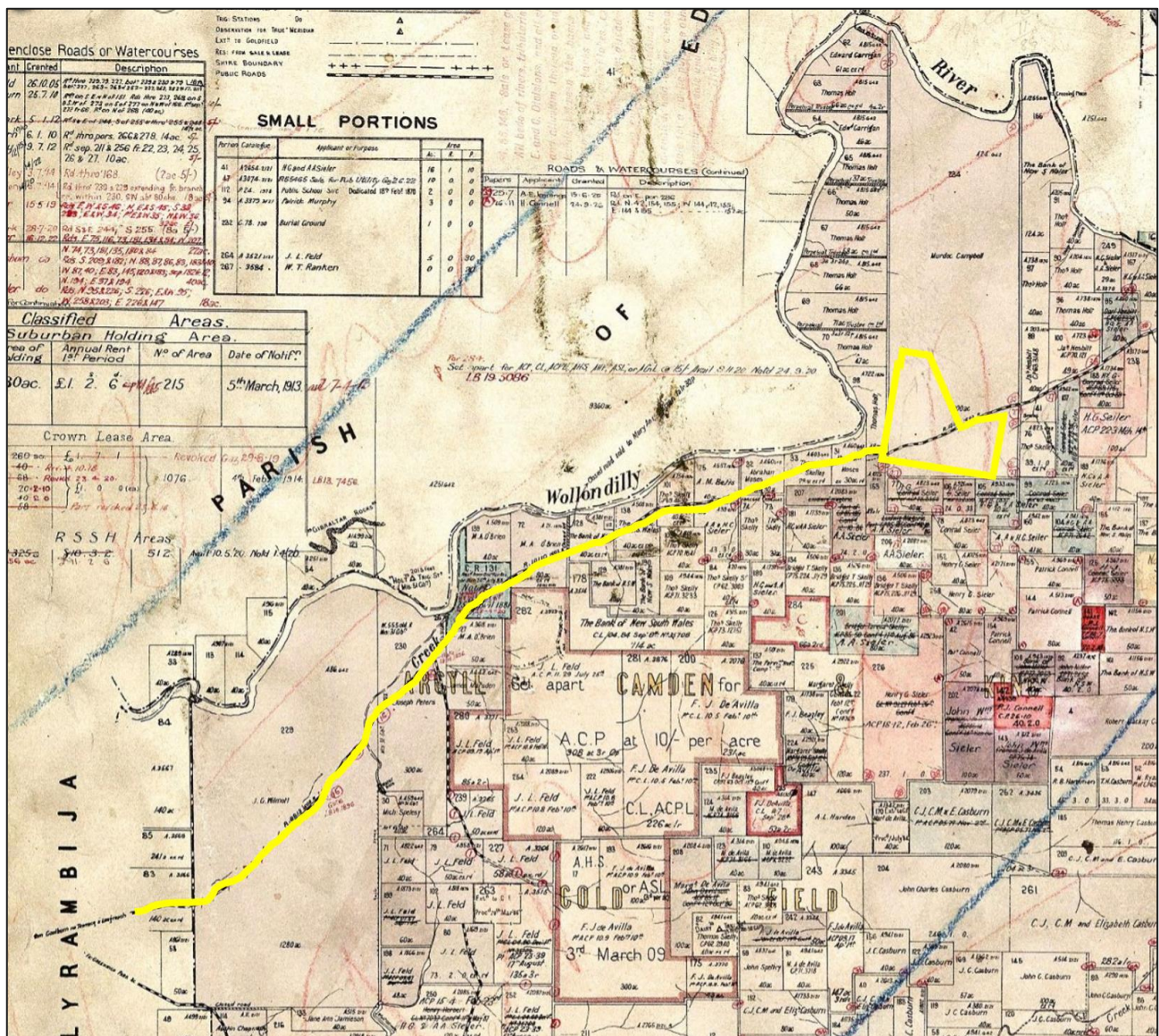


FIGURE 3-1 1913 PARISH MAP SHOWING APPROXIMATE OUTLINE OF PROJECT AREA IN YELLOW ([HTTPS://HLRV.NSWLRS.COM.AU/](https://HLRV.NSWLRS.COM.AU/))

3.2 TWENTIETH CENTURY DEVELOPMENT

Historical aerial photographs indicate the Project Area was largely cleared land with scattered trees during the early 1960s, with the existing road already in place and the forested area in the northern section largely similar to today in terms of density and extent (**Figure 3-2**). The Project Area remained clear into the 1980s, though the property to the west of the boundary began development by the mid-1970s. By the 1990s, the TransGrid 330 kV Marulan Substation to the north of the Project Area was under construction (**Figure 3-3**). Since the 1990s, three sheds have been constructed within the southern section of the Project Area, identified during the survey (see **Section 5.2**). Two transmission lines towers and their electric lines are also visible within the Project Area, south of Canyonleigh Road. All of these recent features are outside the BESS Development Footprint (**Figure 3-4**).



FIGURE 3-2 1963 AERIAL WITH PROJECT AREA OUTLINED YELLOW (NSW SPATIAL SERVICES)



FIGURE 3-3 1991 AERIAL WITH PROJECT AREA OUTLINED IN YELLOW (NSW SPATIAL SERVICES)



FIGURE 3-4 CURRENT AERIAL WITH PROJECT AREA OUTLINED YELLOW (SIXMAPS)

3.3 BOTANY ROAD – BUNNERONG ROAD

Minor road works are planned at the cross-roads of Botany Road and Bunnerong Road in Matraville, Sydney, to facilitate the transport of Project equipment. The road works would include the installation of temporary hardstand and a mountable kerb.

Historical aerial photography from 1951 indicates that the alignment of Bunnerong Road remains unchanged. However, Botany Road was not yet an established road; some tracks existed at the site of the proposed works (**Photograph 3-1**). A 1961 aerial indicates some significant activity had occurred at the location of the proposed works, but their specific extent is unclear (**Photograph 3-2**). There are also signs of significant water runoff through the 1960s. Botany Road was under construction from at least 1971 (**Photograph 3-3**), with completion by 1978 (**Photograph 3-4**). The proposed works location has remained unchanged since the 1970s, being located within the Botany Road transport corridor (**Photograph 3-5**). Given that significant land modification associated with the road works have occurred at the site since the 1970s and the archaeological potential is very low, no site survey was completed for this area.



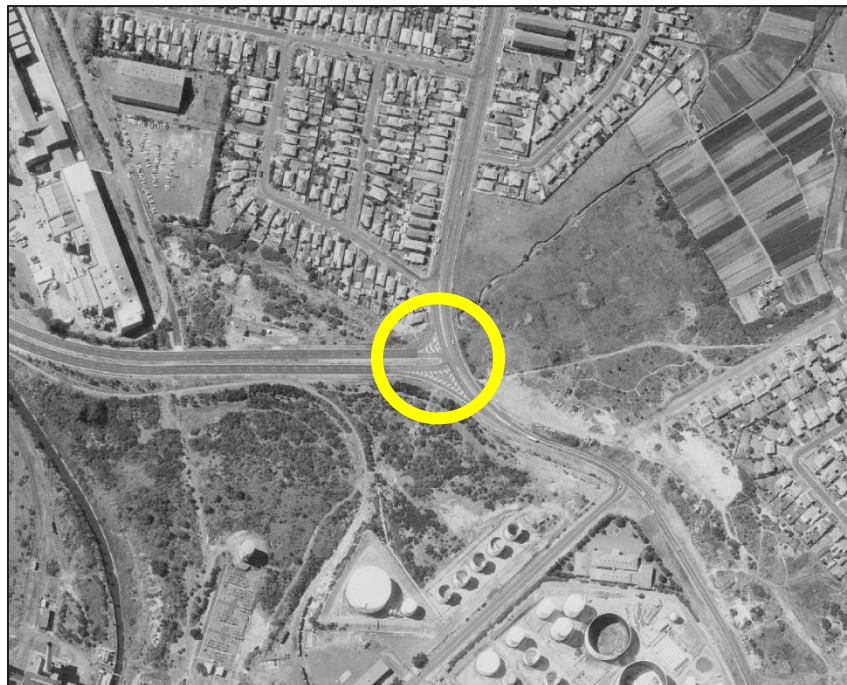
PHOTOGRAPH 3-1 1951 HISTORICAL AERIAL, WITH THE LOCATION OF THE PROPOSED WORKS AT BOTANY ROAD - BUNNERONG ROAD INTERSECTION CIRCLED YELLOW (NSW SPATIAL SERVICES)



PHOTOGRAPH 3-2 1961 HISTORICAL AERIAL, WITH THE LOCATION OF THE PROPOSED WORKS AT BOTANY ROAD CIRCLED YELLOW (NSW SPATIAL SERVICES)



PHOTOGRAPH 3-3 1971 HISTORICAL AERIAL, WITH THE LOCATION OF PROPOSED WORKS AT BOTANY ROAD CIRCLED YELLOW (NSW SPATIAL SERVICES)



PHOTOGRAPH 3-4 1978 HISTORICAL AERIAL, WITH LOCATION OF PROPOSED WORKS AT BOTANY ROAD CIRCLED YELLOW (NSW SPATIAL SERVICES)



PHOTOGRAPH 3-5 CURRENT GOOGLE EARTH IMAGE WITH LOCATION OF PROPOSED WORKS AT BOTANY ROAD CIRCLED YELLOW (GOOGLE EARTH PRO)

4. HISTORIC HERITAGE CONTEXT

4.1 HISTORICAL ENVIRONMENT

4.1.1 HERITAGE REGISTER AND DATABASE SEARCH RESULTS

A search of the relevant statutory heritage register searches was conducted on 6 February 2025 as part of the desktop assessment.

- Australian Heritage Database, which includes World Heritage List (WHL), NHL, CHL, RNE;
- SHR; and
- Goulburn Mulwaree LEP 2009.

The search area encompassed the Project Area with a 2 km buffer surrounding. A summary of the search results is provided in **Table 4-1** below.

TABLE 4-1 STATUTORY HERITAGE REGISTER SEARCH SUMMARY

Register Name	Description	Findings
WHL	The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) WHL includes properties in Australia that are matters of national environmental significance and are protected and managed under the EPBC Act.	There are no WHL places within, or in close proximity to, the Project Area.
CHL	The CHL includes natural, Indigenous, and historical heritage places owned or controlled by the Australian Government. Items on the list have satisfied the minister as having one or more Commonwealth Heritage (CH) values.	There are no CHL places within or in close proximity to the Project Area.
NHL	The NHL contains natural, historic, and Indigenous places deemed to be of outstanding heritage significance to Australia. Before a site is placed on the list a nominated place is assessed against nine criteria by the Australia Heritage Council.	There are no NHL places within or in close proximity to the Project Area.
SHR	The SHR is a list of places and objects of particular importance to the people of NSW. The register lists a diverse range of over 1,650 items, in both private and public ownership. To be listed, an item must be significant for the whole of NSW.	There are no SHR listed items within the Project Area.
S170 Heritage Registers	S170 of the Heritage Act requires all NSW state agencies to identify, conserve and manage the heritage assets owned, managed, and occupied by that agency. In order to facilitate this, S170 heritage registers were established for all NSW government agencies. These registers are held and maintained by each state agency and updated as assets are acquired, altered, or decommissioned.	As the Project Area does not coincide with any NSW government property, S170 register searches were not required for this assessment.
Goulburn Mulwaree LEP 2009	LEPs contain a register of environmental heritage items important to the locality. These registers are included as Schedule 5 of all NSW LEPs, and include built items, archaeological sites, and conservation areas.	There are no locally listed heritage sites within the Project Area.

Minor road works are planned at the cross-roads of Botany Road and Bunnerong Road in Matraville, Sydney, to facilitate the transport of Project equipment. The road works would include the installation of temporary hardstand and a mountable kerb. Searches of all the above heritage databases have found no listed heritage items in proximity to these works.

4.2 PREVIOUS REPORTING

4.2.1 MARULAN GAS TURBINE FACILITIES PROJECT – CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT OF GAS PIPELINE (NAVIN OFFICER HERITAGE CONSULTANTS PTY LTD, 2008)

Navin Officer's assessment relates to a proposed development providing a gas pipeline from a newly constructed power generating facility to the TransGrid 330 kV Marulan Substation located within the Project Area. The report documents the results of a cultural heritage assessment and surveying undertaken, including Aboriginal and historical heritage considerations. No historical heritage sites were identified within the assessment's study area. The author's developed a predictive historical archaeology statement that, in summary, states remains of 19th century structures would most likely survive on older, less developed lots and near established building complexes. Traces of agricultural processing and extraction might be found throughout agricultural lands, and early roads across known road alignments from early mapping. Various other archaeological indicators, such as old fence lines, post holes and drainage channels may be present across a variety of landscapes but certainly near roads and established agricultural fields.

5. PHYSICAL ANALYSIS

5.1 SURVEY AIMS AND PERSONNEL

A field survey of the Project Area was undertaken on 20 March 2025 by ERM heritage consultants Charles Barnett and Jesse Hatfield-Dodds, and Pejar Local Aboriginal Land Council (LALC) representatives¹.

The methodology of the site visit included pedestrian survey of the Project Area and visual inspection of potential view lines to potential surrounding heritage items. The aims of the historical heritage survey were to:

- Cover a representative sample of the Project Area that will potentially be impacted by the proposed works. Areas identified through desktop research as having historic development were targeted during survey;
- Identify any previously unidentified built heritage items or areas of historic archaeological potential that may be impacted by the Project; and
- Gather sufficient information to provide an assessment of the historic heritage significance of the Project Area.

5.2 SURVEY RESULTS AND DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT AREA

Surveying was undertaken across the entire proposed BESS Development Footprint within the Project Area. Survey Unit 1 is a section of the BESS Development Footprint north of Canyonleigh Road, between the power station and proposed BESS location, along which construction of a transmission line is proposed as part of the Project. The survey unit was accessed via the driveway leading to the power station from Canyonleigh Road, and a dirt track leading along the southern border of the station fence line towards its western side. Ground visibility in Survey Unit 1 was very low due to the presence of thick grasses, while scattered trees and blackberry are located across the site (**Photograph 5-1**). Some granite boulders were identified at the crest of a ridge line in this section. Several transmission towers are located in this area, including one within the BESS Development Area. A small area with a cutting into the side of the hill, approximately 5 metres (m) across, is located approximately 30 m south of the tower, with blackberry bushes within the depression (**Photograph 5-2**). No historical artefacts or built heritage features were identified within Survey Unit 1.

¹ LALC representatives were in attendance as the survey for Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report was undertaken in concurrence with historic heritage survey.



PHOTOGRAPH 5-1 VIEW TO WEST ACROSS
SURVEY UNIT 1 (ERM 2025)



PHOTOGRAPH 5-2 CUTTING IN SURVEY
UNIT 1 (ERM 2025)

Survey Unit 2 included the section of the BESS Development Footprint south of Canyonleigh Road. The survey unit was accessed via a driveway heading from Canyonleigh Road into a residence within the Project Area. Ground visibility across the survey unit was very low due to the presence of grasses and low shrubs. A row of pine trees lines the northern border of the BESS Development Footprint in Survey Unit 2 (**Photograph 5-3**). Shrubs were so thick in some areas that access was limited (**Photograph 5-4**). A vehicle track is visible running adjacent to the tree line. Several sheds are located directly to the east of the BESS Development Footprint. Based on their building material and condition, these buildings are relatively modern (**Photograph 5-5**). The remains of another structure, possibly other sheds, also of modern material and state, as well as some discarded household items, were located to the south of the BESS Development Footprint (**Photograph 5-6**). No items considered historical artefacts or built heritage features with heritage significance were identified within Survey Unit 2.



PHOTOGRAPH 5-3 TRACK AT NORTHERN
END OF DEVELOPMENT FOOTPRINT (ERM
2025)



PHOTOGRAPH 5-4 THICK SHRUBS AT
WESTERN END OF SURVEY UNIT 2 (ERM
2025)



PHOTOGRAPH 5-5 SHEDS TO EAST OF DEVELOPMENT FOOTPRINT (ERM 2025)



PHOTOGRAPH 5-6 BUILDING MATERIALS AND DISCARDED HOUSEHOLD ITEMS SOUTH OF SURVEY UNIT 2 (ERM 2025)

5.2.1 SURVEY UNIT 3

Survey Unit 3 encompasses the area proposed for the Road Resurfacing Development Footprint, beginning at the intersection of Brayton Road and Canyonleigh Road and extending east along Canyonleigh Road for approximately 10 kms. The proposed Road Resurfacing Development Footprint is approximately 6.40 ha along the Canyonleigh Road corridor.

Canyonleigh Road is a combination of asphalt, dirt, and gravel surfaces, traversing a landscape of flat and undulating plains with notable elevation changes occurring over extended distances. The road corridor has undergone significant anthropogenic modification, including extensive cut-and-fill operations, the installation of drainage trenches and culverts, and regular maintenance works (**Photograph 5-7, Photograph 5-8 and Photograph 5-9**).

Much of SU3 has been disturbed as a result of road construction and maintenance activities. However, areas of intact ground surface were present at the intersection of Brayton Road and Canyonleigh Road, where proposed road widening works will occur.

At the eastern extent of SU3 along the southern boundary at the site access points, the landscape includes a stand of introduced, non-native pine trees along the boundary fence of adjacent farmland that looks to be associated with the boundary fencing as a windbreak (**Photograph 5-7**).

No items considered historical artefacts or built heritage features with heritage significance were identified within Survey Unit 3.



PHOTOGRAPH 5-7 WESTERN SITE ACCESS POINT, SOUTH – WEST VIEW FOOTPRINT (ERM 2025)



PHOTOGRAPH 5-8 ROAD IMPACT NORTH – EAST VIEW (ERM 2025)



PHOTOGRAPH 5-9 DRAINAGE TRENCHES NORTH VIEW (ERM 2025)

6. ASSESSMENT OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL

Review of the potential for historical archaeological resources to be present within the Project Area is based on a consideration of current ground conditions and analysis of historic development within the Project Area.

Grading of archaeological potential used for this assessment is detailed in **Table 6-1**.

TABLE 6-1 GRADING OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL

Grading	Justification
Nil	No evidence of historical development or use, or where previous impacts would have removed all archaeological potential.
Low	Research indicates little or low intensity historical development, or substantial previous impacts. Expected that deep subsurface archaeological features may survive.
Moderate	Known historical development with some evidence of previous impact. Likely that archaeological remains survive with some localised truncation and disturbance.
High	Evidence of multiple phases of historical development and structures with minimal or localised twentieth century development impacts. Archaeological remains likely to be largely intact.

6.1 SUMMARY OF HISTORIC ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL

The historic research undertaken for this assessment has identified that the Project Area has been characterised by agricultural pursuits, probably since the nineteenth century.

The survey area, or the BESS Development Footprint, did not contain structures prior to the late 20th century at the earliest. While some sheds as well as discarded household items and building materials were identified just outside of Survey Unit 2, these were not identified as items with heritage significance.

It is possible that other discrete or ephemeral features could be located within the Project Area. These may include rubbish pits, associated with early rubbish disposal prior to the introduction of Council rubbish removal, as well as postholes associated with light structures or demarcating former fence lines.

The survey area remained largely undeveloped into the 1990s until construction of the power station, transmission towers and powerlines constructed on the western side of the Project Area. Most of the Project Area has remained largely undisturbed from substantial impacts; however, it is unlikely that evidence of the evolving agricultural landscape (insubstantial remains such as post holes) would be present with good integrity.

As such, there is Low potential for historical archaeological resources to be present within the BESS Development Footprint.

Minor road works are planned at the cross-roads of Botany Road and Bunnerong Road in Matraville, Sydney, to facilitate the transport of Project equipment. Given that significant land modification associated with the road works have occurred at the site since the 1970s, the archaeological potential for this area is very low. No impact to historical archaeological material is expected from these works.

7. SIGNIFICANCE ASSESSMENT

7.1 HISTORIC HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE ASSESSMENT FRAMEWORK

The NSW Heritage Management System sets out a detailed process for conducting assessments of heritage significance. The guideline *Assessing Heritage Significance* (NSW Heritage Office, 2001), part of the Heritage Manual, provides a set of specific criteria for assessing the significance of an item, including guidelines for inclusion and exclusion (which reflect four categories of significance and whether a place is rare or representative) under which a place can be evaluated in the context of State or local historical themes.

An item will be considered to be of state or local heritage significance if, in the opinion of the Heritage Council, it meets one or more of the following criteria outlined in **Table 7-1**.

TABLE 7-1 NSW HERITAGE ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

Criteria	Description
<i>Criterion (a) – Historical significance</i>	<i>an item is important in the course, or pattern, of NSW’s cultural or natural history (or the cultural or natural history of the local area);</i> Note: The site must show evidence of significant human activity or maintains or shows the continuity of historical process or activity. An item is excluded if it has been so altered that it can no longer provide evidence of association.
<i>Criterion (b) – Associative significance</i>	<i>an item has strong or special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in NSW’s cultural or natural history (or the cultural or natural history of the local area);</i> Note: The site must show evidence of significant human occupation. An item is excluded if it has been so altered that it can no longer provide evidence of association.
<i>Criterion (c) – Aesthetic significance</i>	<i>an item is important in demonstrating aesthetic characteristics and/or a high degree of creative or technical achievement in NSW (or the local area);</i> Note: An item can be excluded on the grounds that it has lost its design or technical integrity or its landmark qualities have been more than temporarily degraded.
<i>Criterion (d) – Social significance</i>	<i>an item has strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group in NSW (or the local area) for social, cultural or spiritual reasons;</i> Note: This criterion does not cover importance for reasons of amenity or retention in preference to proposed alternative.
<i>Criterion (e) – Research potential</i>	<i>an item has potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of NSW’s cultural or natural history (or the cultural or natural history of the local area);</i> Note: Under the guideline, an item can be excluded if the information would be irrelevant or only contains information available in other sources.
<i>Criterion (f) – Rarity</i>	<i>an item possesses uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of NSW’s cultural or natural history (or the cultural or natural history of the local area);</i> Note: An item is excluded if it is not rare or if it is numerous, but under threat. The item must demonstrate a process, custom or other human activity that is in danger of being lost, is the only example of its type or demonstrates designs or techniques of interest.
<i>Criterion (g) – Representative</i>	<i>an item is important in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of NSW’s cultural or natural places, or cultural or natural environments;</i> Note: An item is excluded under this criterion if it is a poor example or has lost the range of characteristics of a type.

The Heritage Council requires the summation of the significance assessment into a succinct paragraph, known as a Statement of Significance. The Statement of Significance is the foundation for future management and impact assessment. The following assessment has been prepared in accordance with these guidelines.

7.1.1 ASSESSMENT OF HISTORIC HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

No listed or potential built heritage items are located within the Project Area or its immediate vicinity. Consequently, no assessment of significance associated with built heritage items has been completed for this assessment.

The potential for historic archaeological remains to be present within the Project Area has been assessed as Low. An assessment of the significance of a potential archaeological resource in accordance with the guiding document *Assessing Significance for Historical Archaeological Sites and 'Relics'* (Heritage Council of NSW 2009) has been completed below.

Can the site contribute knowledge that no other resource can?

No known historical artefacts or built heritage features were identified within the BESS Development Footprint during the desktop assessment or survey for this Project. It is possible that discrete or insubstantial agricultural features could be located within the Project Area. These may include rubbish pits, associated with early rubbish disposal prior to the introduction of Council rubbish removal, as well as postholes associated with light structures or demarcating former fence lines.

The nature of the potential archaeological resource within the Project Area is not rare or unique. As such, the archaeological resource has limited potential to provide a new understanding of the history of the local area that is not available from other sources.

Can the site contribute knowledge that no other site can?

The nature of the potential archaeological resource within the Project Area is not rare or unique; the surrounding area was also largely focused on agricultural pursuits throughout the nineteenth and early twentieth century. As such, the archaeological resource within the Project Area is unlikely to provide information that is not already available from other sites.

Is this knowledge relevant to general questions about human history or other substantive questions relating to Australian history, or does it contribute to other major research questions?

As detailed above, the potential archaeological resource within the Project Area is unlikely to contribute knowledge that is not already available from other sites. As such, this criterion is not applicable.

7.1.1.1 SUMMARY STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

No built heritage items are located within the Project Area or its immediate vicinity.

No known archaeological resources are present within the Project Area. It is possible that other discrete or insubstantial agricultural features could be located within the Project Area.

These may include rubbish pits, associated with early rubbish disposal prior to the introduction of Council rubbish removal, as well as postholes associated with light structures or demarcating former fence lines. These resources are unlikely to provide a new understanding of the history of the local area that is not available from other sources.

Therefore, any extant archaeological resources in the Project Area would have low archaeological research potential and as such, have low archaeological heritage significance.

8. IMPACT ASSESSMENT

8.1 PROPOSED WORKS

Section 1.1 provides a detailed description of the proposed Project. Activities with the potential to impact archaeological resources would include earthworks, electrical service excavation and foundation construction. A summary of potential impacts to historic heritage values is provided below.

8.2 IMPACT ASSESSMENT

The current assessment has identified that there are no known or potential historic heritage sites within the Project Area or within its immediate vicinity. Additionally, no direct or indirect impacts to built heritage items (including significant view lines) associated with the proposed works have been identified.

The Project Area has remained largely undisturbed from substantial impacts and has been characterised by agricultural pursuits since probably the nineteenth century. The archaeological potential of the Project Area has been assessed as Low. However, this report has concluded that should any archaeological remains be present; these would be unlikely to provide substantive contribution to research questions relevant to the early history of the site or local area, that is not available from other sources. As such, the proposed works will result in little to no archaeological impact.

8.2.1 CUMULATIVE IMPACTS

Continued development within the Goulburn Mulwaree LGA has the potential to result in a cumulative impact on the cultural values of the local area when impacts overlap with impacts from other projects, which can result in a greater overall effect. This effect is dependent on the scale and timing of the impacts and generally occurs when projects are constructed concurrently or consecutively and are based on their location.

There are a number of renewable energy projects located within the vicinity of the site, either approved or in the development of the EIS stage. Surrounding renewable energy projects, along with other SSD and State Significant Infrastructure (SSI) projects, are listed in **Table 8-1**.

TABLE 8-1 MAJOR PROJECTS IN THE REGION

Project	Application Number	Developer	Scale	Proximity	Status	Construction Overlap
Marulan Gas-Fired Power Station 1 & 2 and Common Infrastructure	MP07_0175 , MP06_0176 , MP07_0174	Energy Australia	350MW	0.5-2 km	Approved with extension to 2026	Likely
Wattle Creek BESS	SSD-63345458	Spark Renewables	800/1600 MWh	4 km	Prepare EIS	Potential
Wattle Creek Solar Farm	SSD-63344210	Spark Renewables	265MW	4 km	Prepare EIS	Potential

Project	Application Number	Developer	Scale	Proximity	Status	Construction Overlap
Gunlake Quarry Extension	SSD-7090	Gunlake Quarries Pty Ltd	2 million tonnes of aggregate per year	8 km	Approved – In Operation	Likely
Cleary Bros Marulan Quarry	SSD-77991709	Cleary Bros (Bombo) Pty Ltd	1 million tonnes of hard rock per annum	9 km	Prepare EIS	Potential
Marulan South Limestone Mine Continued Operations Project	SSD-7009	Boral Cement Limited	2 million tonnes of limestone and 200,000 tonnes	10 km	Approved – In Operation	Likely
Holcim Lynwood Quarry	DA128-5-2005	Holcim	5 million tonnes per annum	11 km	Operational	Likely
Marulan Solar Farm	SSD-13137914	Terrain Solar	100MW	14 km	Approved	Potential
Hanworth Battery Energy Storage System	SSD-78179499	Enervest	1.2GW / 4.8 GWh	15 km	Prepare EIS	Likely
Bannaby Battery Energy Storage System	SSD - 78810458	BW ESS	700 MW/ 3GWh	15 km	Prepare EIS	Likely
Swallow Tail Battery Energy Storage System	SSD-78039972	AMPYR	375 MW / 1500 MWh	15 km	Prepare EIS	Likely
WSC Quarry Marulan	SSD-82633224	WSC Quarries	1 million tonnes per annum	38 km	Prepare EIS	Potential
Marulan Quarry	SSD-65146459	Global Quarries Australia Pty Ltd	500 thousand tonnes of hard rock per annum	20 km	Assessment	Potential
Moss Vale Resource Recovery Facility	SSD-45721464	Purple Cow Industries Pty Ltd	200,000 tonnes per year	30 km	Prepare EIS	Unlikely
Merino Solar Farm	SSD-59155459	Merino Solar Farm Pty Ltd	450 MW	30 km	Prepare EIS	Potential
Gundry Solar Farm	SSD-48225958	Lightsource bp	400 MW	35 km	Assessment	Yes

Project	Application Number	Developer	Scale	Proximity	Status	Construction Overlap
HumeLink	SSI-36656827	Transgrid	500 kV transmission lines and associated infrastructure	40 km	Approved, Under Construction	Yes
Crookwell 2 & 3 Wind Farm	SSD-6695 & DA176 – 9-2004	GPG/Naturgy Group	90MW and 102 MW	43 km	Operational	None
Willavale BESS	SSD-78100252	X-Elio Aus2 Pty Ltd	300 MW	48 km	Prepare EIS	Yes
Biala Wind Farm	SD-6039	Newtricity	110 MW	65 km	Operational	None
Woodlawn Wind Farm	DA250-10-2004	Woodlawn WindEnergy Joint Venture	50 MW	67 km	Operational	None
Capital Wind Farm	MP05_0179	Renewable Power Ventures	140 MW	70 km	Operational	None
Blind Creek Solar Farm	SSD-13166280	Blind Creek Solar Farm Pty Ltd	350 MW	83 km	Determination	Unlikely

The current Project has been identified as having low historic heritage value. As such, it has been assessed that cumulative impacts as a result of this Project are low.

9. CONCLUSIONS

The historical assessment has determined that there are no known or potential built heritage items (or significant view lines) within the Project Area.

It has been determined that there is Low potential for archaeological resources to be present within the Project Area. However, this report has concluded that should any archaeological remains be present; these would be unlikely to provide substantive contribution to research questions relevant to the early history of the site or local area, that is not available from other sources. As such, the Project Area has low archaeological research potential and as such, low archaeological heritage significance.

There are no historical built or archaeological constraints for the proposed Project. Therefore, works may proceed with no further historic heritage assessments.

9.1 RECOMMENDATIONS

The following are key recommendations that aims to mitigate the impact of the proposed works on potential and as yet unidentified heritage values of the Project Area:

9.1.1 RECOMMENDATION 1 – HERITAGE INDUCTION

Prior to the commencement of works, all staff and contractors should be briefed on the requirements of the Heritage Act and the Unexpected Finds Protocol (outlined in **Section 9.1.2.1**).

9.1.2 RECOMMENDATION 2 – UNEXPECTED FINDS PROTOCOL

In the event that relics are unexpectedly exposed, works should cease immediately. The management of relics should be in accordance with NSW Heritage guidelines and policies, as outlined in the Unexpected Finds Protocol (**Section 9.1.2.1**).

9.1.2.1 UNEXPECTED FINDS PROTOCOL

This HHA has identified that the archaeological potential of the Project Area is Low. However, in the event that relics are unexpectedly recovered during the proposed works, all works should cease immediately, and the Unexpected Finds Protocol should be followed. The following steps are provided below in the event that unexpected heritage items are identified during the proposed works:

- Where a potential historic heritage item is found during works, all works within the vicinity of the item, or with the potential to impact the item should cease and a temporary exclusion zone established;
- An appropriately qualified heritage consultant should examine the item to assess its significance and further archaeological potential;
- Where a relic is found, the NSW Heritage Council should be notified (in accordance with Section 146 of the Heritage Act) and approval will likely be required prior to the continuation of works. Other archaeological deposits should be recorded and assessed for significance and potential salvage by an appropriately qualified heritage consultant; and
- Depending on the nature of the discovery, additional assessment and approval under the Heritage Act may be required prior to the recommencement of works in the affected area

10. REFERENCES

Australia ICOMOS (2013) The Burra Charter: The Australia ICOMOS Charter for Places of Cultural Significance 2013. Australia ICOMOS Incorporated. Burwood, Victoria.

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STATEMENT OF LIMITATIONS

This report is based solely on the scope of work described in **Section 1** (Scope of Work) and performed by Environmental Resources Management Australia Pty Ltd (ERM) as commissioned by X-Elio Aus2 Pty Ltd (X-Elio) (the Client). The Scope of Work was governed by a contract between ERM and the Client (Contract).

No limitation, qualification or caveat set out below is intended to derogate from the rights and obligations of ERM and the Client under the Contract.

The findings of this report are solely based on, and the information provided in this report is strictly limited to that required by the Scope of Work. Except to the extent stated otherwise, in preparing this report ERM has not considered any question, nor provides any information, beyond that required by the Scope of Work.

This report was prepared in February 2025 and is based on conditions encountered and information reviewed at the time of preparation. The report does not, and cannot, take into account changes in law, factual circumstances, applicable regulatory instruments or any other future matter. ERM does not, and will not, provide any on-going advice on the impact of any future matters unless it has agreed with the Client to amend the Scope of Work or has entered into a new engagement to provide a further report.

Unless this report expressly states to the contrary, ERM's Scope of Work was limited strictly to identifying typical environmental conditions associated with the subject site(s) and does not evaluate the condition of any structure on the subject site nor any other issues. Although normal standards of professional practice have been applied, the absence of any identified hazardous or toxic materials or any identified impacted soil or groundwater on the site(s) should not be interpreted as a guarantee that such materials or impacts do not exist.

This report is based on information provided by the Client or third parties (including regulatory agencies). All conclusions and recommendations made in the report are the professional opinions of the ERM personnel involved. Whilst normal checking of data accuracy was undertaken, except to the extent expressly set out in this report, ERM:

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Although the data that has been used in compiling this report is generally based on actual circumstances, if the report refers to hypothetical examples those examples may, or may not, represent actual existing circumstances.

Only the environmental conditions and or potential contaminants specifically referred to in this report have been considered. To the extent permitted by law and except as is specifically stated in this report, ERM makes no warranty or representation about:

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- The presence, absence or otherwise of any environmental conditions or contaminants at the site(s) or elsewhere; or
- The presence, absence or otherwise of asbestos, asbestos containing materials or any hazardous materials on the site(s); and

- Use of the site for any purpose may require planning and other approvals and, in some cases, environmental regulator and accredited site auditor approvals. ERM offers no opinion as to the likelihood of obtaining any such approvals, or the conditions and obligations which such approvals may impose, which may include the requirement for additional environment works.

The ongoing use of the site or use of the site for a different purpose may require the management of or remediation of site conditions, such as contamination and other conditions, including but not limited to conditions referred to in this report.

This report should be read in full and no excerpts are to be taken as representative of the whole report. No responsibility or liability is accepted by ERM for use of any part of this report in any other context.

Except to the extent that ERM has agreed otherwise with the Client in the Scope of Work or the Contract, this report:

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- Has not been prepared nor is intended for the purpose of advertising, sales, promoting or endorsing any Client interests including raising investment capital, recommending investment decisions, or other publicity purposes;
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