



NATIONAL RATIONAL ENERGY NETWORK INCORPORATED

To protect and advance public welfare and the natural environment by opposing Commonwealth, State or Territory Law, or Corporate actions, that impose counterproductive energy policies and costs on all citizens.

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**Canyonleigh BESS (SSD-78247462)
300MW, 1200MWh BESS**

The project justifies itself as below:

Why is the project needed?

Both the Commonwealth and NSW Governments have made commitments to increase renewable energy generation and reduce carbon emissions. The Canyonleigh BESS will help provide a reliable source of renewable energy storage while also reducing Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions and the impacts of climate change.

This is a poor facsimile of the Objectives of the National Electricity Law, reproduced below:

NATIONAL ELECTRICITY (NSW) LAW - SECT 7

National electricity objective

7 NATIONAL ELECTRICITY OBJECTIVE

The objective of this Law is to promote efficient investment in, and efficient operation and use of, electricity services for the long term interests of consumers of electricity with respect to--

- (a) price, quality, safety, reliability and security of supply of electricity; and
- (b) the reliability, safety and security of the national electricity system; and
- (c) the achievement of targets set by a participating jurisdiction--
 - (i) for reducing Australia's greenhouse gas emissions; or
 - (ii) that are likely to contribute to reducing Australia's greenhouse gas emissions.

It should be obvious to anyone observing 'The Transition' that arguably none of these Objectives are currently being met, and Canyonleigh BESS will not change matters.

- BESS do not produce any power and actually consume power due to losses when both charging and discharging.
- The manufacturing of batteries consumes large amounts of power and materials, including rare earths, It is unlikely a battery will repay this debt to the planet over its lifetime.
- BESS lose efficiency and have short lives, 7-10 years, and then need replacement. The mining, transport, manufacturing, shipping, installation, decommissioning and recycling energy and materials cost must then be repeated. If a conventional thermal power station has a life of 70 years, the BESS would need replacement 7 times over the same period of operation.
- BESS and Lithium battery fires are too common to brush off with mere assurances. CSIRO

states that battery fires cannot be fought using any conventional means. Fire and Rescue and the RFS cannot extinguish battery fires.

- BESS fires create toxic smoke and are a bushfire ignition risk in rural areas.
- Ever since embarking on 'The Transition' electricity prices to consumers have increased excessively, making many businesses and industries uncompetitive.
- As shown by the Iran/USA/Israel conflict, oil remains the backbone of an advanced economy – no amount of unreliable wind, solar and BESS can replace oil, coal and gas.
- The gross inefficiency of wind, solar and BESS combined with their relatively short working life and large sunk energy and materials cost, make them counterproductive to the stated objective of reducing global emissions and reducing climate change.
- We cannot trust the NSW Government's intentions regarding farming and food production. The NSW Emissions Reduction Act 2023 which is touted to codify the 2015 Paris Agreement principles, excluded the Paris proviso '... low greenhouse gas emissions development, in a manner that does not threaten food production'. (Article 2 (1)(b) cf. Section 3(1)(c)).
- GENCOST and AEMO ISP are deficient and cannot be quoted as reliable information in regard to least-cost or most efficient development pathway. Both have been debunked by experts and organisation working in this field. The proponent claims that this project will provide cheap and reliable power – technical analysis and experience in Australia and overseas shows this is clearly not the case.

- The National Electricity Law (NEL) does not prioritise emission reduction over the other long standing objectives of 'price, quality, safety and security'. The NEL was only amended in September 2023 to include emissions targets as an additional Objective. The Department and Minister must consider these objectives equal in priority when assessing novel power system projects such as this one.

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