Karl Okorn
Department of Planning, Industry and
Environment
4 Parramatta Square
12 Darcy Street
Parramatta NSW 2150

Our ref: DOC21/449949
Your ref: SSD11437498

Emailed: via Planning portal

9 June 2021

Dear Mr Okorn

Subject: **Broken Hill Battery Energy Storage System (SSD11437498) – Advice on EIS**

Thank you for the opportunity to provide advice on the above matter. This is a response from the NSW Department of Regional NSW – Mining, Exploration & Geoscience (MEG) – Geological Survey of NSW (GSNSW).

MEG is responsible for providing strategic advice relating to the current and potential future uses of land in NSW pursuant to the State Environmental Planning Policy (Mining, Petroleum Production and Extractive Industries) 2007 and the Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979. Our role is to ensure that proposals do not unnecessarily preclude access to known resources or exploration for future resource discovery and extraction. MEG will also assess the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) in respect to biodiversity offset considerations.

MEG has reviewed the Environmental Impact Statement for Broken Hill Battery Energy Storage System and makes the following comment:

- The proponent states retirement of ecosystem and species credits are required to offset the residual impacts of the project. We request to be consulted in relation to the proposed location of any biodiversity offset areas (both on and off site) or any supplementary biodiversity measures to ensure there is no consequent reduction in access to prospective land for mineral exploration, or potential for sterilisation of mineral or extractive resources.

Queries regarding the above information should be directed to the GSNSW - Land Use team at landuse.minerals@geoscience.nsw.gov.au

Yours sincerely,

Malcolm Drummond
Senior Geoscientist - Land Use Assessment

for
Steven Palmer
Manager, Land Use Assessment
Geological Survey of NSW – Mining, Exploration & Geoscience