

16 February 2026

Sally Munk
Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure

Via CNR Portal

**EPA Advice on Statement of Environmental Effects
Wagga North BESS – CNR-91901**

Dear Sally

I refer to your invitation to the NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA) to provide comment on the Wagga North Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) - DA26/353 (Proposal) located within the Wagga Wagga Special Activation Precinct.

The EPA has reviewed the *Statement of Environmental Effects - Wagga North BESS*, prepared by NGH Pty Ltd, dated December 2025.

The EPA understands the Proposal includes:

- 120 Megawatt (MW) / 480 Megawatt hour (MWh) lithium-ion phosphate (LFP) BESS
- Approximately 42 associated Power Conversion Systems (PCS).
- A switching substation, which collects all the individual medium voltage cables from the PCS units into one location.
- BESS would be connected via an underground connection to the Transgrid Wagga North Zone Substation, located immediately north of the subject land.
- A control room for battery-monitoring equipment and allows remote operation of the plant.
- Ancillary works that include an operations and maintenance building, water tank for static firefighting water supply, stormwater management infrastructure and security fencing,
- Road works: Basic left turn, from Byrnes Road to Bavin Road, sealing of Bavin Road, and other related access tracks.

Based on the information provided, the EPA is not the appropriate regulatory authority (ARA) due to the following:

- The onsite proposal does not constitute a Scheduled Activity under Schedule 1 of the *Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997* (POEO Act) and therefore will not require an Environment Protection Licence (EPL) under the POEO Act.
- The proposal is not being undertaken by or on behalf of a NSW Public Authority, nor are there activities for which the EPA is the appropriate regulatory authority.
- The site is not being regulated by the EPA under the *Contaminated Land Management Act* (1997).

The EPA provided points for consideration in a previous response to the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (DPHI) on the Proposal dated 20 October 2025 (CNR-87389). The EPA has no further comments on the proposal.

The EPA recommends that DPHI consider as part of its determination of the Proposal:

- The appropriateness of the revised noise impact assessment that considers the final layout design and selected equipment, on-site activities from the LFP BESS, and background noise levels.
- The updated Preliminary Site Investigation information and corresponding recommendations are based on relevant guidelines.
- DPHI consult with Wagga Wagga City Council, which will be the ARA for the proposed development under the POEO Act, if approved.

If you have any questions about this request, please contact Geo Lapina, Environmental Planning and Assessment Officer, at email environmentprotection.planning@epa.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



CHRISTIE JACKSON
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NSW Environment Protection Authority