

# **RECORD OF BRIEFING** SOUTHERN REGIONAL PLANNING PANEL

### **BRIEFING DETAILS**

BRIEFING DATE / TIME	Wednesday, 22 January 2025, 2pm – 3.30pm Site inspection undertaken on 21 January 2025, 9.30am – 10.30am
LOCATION	Briefing: MS Teams Site Visit: on-site at 3 Turton Place MURRUMBATEMAN

### **BRIEFING MATTER(S)**

PPSSTH-461 – YASS – DA240159 - 3 Turton Place MURRUMBATEMAN - Distribution Battery Energy Storage System - Installation of a Distribution Battery Energy Storage System with an approximate capacity of 5 megawatts.

### **PANEL MEMBERS**

IN ATTENDANCE	Site Visit & Briefing: Chris Wilson (Chair), Juliet Grant, Grant Christmas, Ruth Ormella, Allan McGrath
APOLOGIES	Scott Martin
DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST	None

#### **OTHER ATTENDEES**

COUNCIL ASSESSMENT STAFF	Site Visit: Jeremy Knox, Kate Baker Briefing: Jeremy Knox, Kate Baker, Emily Dawe
APPLICANT REPRESENTATIVES	Site Visit: John Ghirardello Briefing only: Ahmed Adel (Senior Project Development Engineer, ACEenergy), Danny Wilkinson (ACEenergy), Henry King Sicad (ACenergy), Hamish Doncaster (ACEenergy), Daniel Balkin (Premise), Hugh Shackcloth- Bertinetti (Premise)
OTHER	<b>Briefing only:</b> Amanda Moylan (Snr Case Manager), Nikita Lange (Snr Planning Officer)

### **KEY ISSUES DISCUSSED**

#### Site Inspection and Council Briefing

- During the site inspection, the panel sought advice from council officers regarding potential visual and acoustic impacts including materiality and the location and size of the proposed acoustic wall, hazards including the disposal of firefighting water, landscaping, ingress and egress and community consultation.
- Council provided a presentation to the panel and the assessment to date including details of the development, site context, history, design details, distance from receptors, visual and acoustic issues and location of proposed electricity easement/connection which is proposed to be underground.
- 37 submissions received with the majority raising concerns about site suitability given the village nature of Murrumbateman, fire risk, noise, and visual impacts.

#### Planning Panels Team

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- 2 outstanding internal referrals tourism/economic development and environmental health.
- It was noted that council had recommended a revision of the acoustic report which had been undertaken by the Applicant. Council is now considering an independent peer review of the revised acoustic report.

# Applicant

The applicant presented to the panel and the following matters were discussed:

- Project objectives storing excess energy and reducing electricity prices.
- Scope of the project, location, materials, and colour of the development discussed. It was noted a material and finishes schedule would be submitted.
- Approval pathway and permissibility via Transport and Infrastructure SEPP.
- Constraints and mitigation strategies, potential water contamination impacts can be resolved through a fire retention basin and infiltration system.
- Consultation activities- letter box drops and 2x consultation drop-in sessions.
- Incentive for development location related to connectivity to local electrical grid and minimising associated impacts of extensive powerlines.
- Noise assessment conducted in accordance with industry noise policy and improvements to battery manufacturing has reduced potential noise impacts.

## **Panel Notes**

- The panel considered that visual impacts could be reduced through the use of appropriate materials and colours and through the provision of additional landscaping.
- The panel supports council's recommendation that the acoustic report be independently and expertly peer reviewed.
- Council should ensure that APZs are located on project related land or alternative, if not, landowners' consent is required.
- Council also needs to turn its mind to how the APZ and landscaping requirements coexist.
- Further consideration on the potential fire risks of the proposal should be provided to the panel, including firefighting water contamination risk and mitigation strategies.

# **Next Steps**

- Council to initiate independent peer review of acoustic report and adequacy of proposed mitigation measures
- Council to review public submissions.
- Council to follow up on internal referrals.
- Council to finalise assessment report and advise DPHI for a public meeting date when report is close to finalisation.

# TENTATIVE PUBLIC MEETING SCHEDULED FOR TBA