

DA24/0452 - PPSSTH-469

Electricity Generating Works - 6.3 MW Solar Farm and 11MW
Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) facility and
Associated Electrical Infrastructure

Proposal

‘Electricity generating works’ comprising a 6.3 MW solar farm and 11 MWh Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) facility and associated electrical infrastructure.

- 10,692 solar photovoltaic panels mounted on single axis trackers with a total capacity of up to 6.3 MW.
- A four module BESS with 11MWh capacity.
- Cabling from the solar arrays and BESS to panel inverters.
- A HV switchboard and connection to the existing Essential Energy 22kV distribution lines.
- Access off Burkes Creek Road and ancillary works.

Proposal

- Development proposed to occupy approximately 15 hectares of a 195-hectare rural allotment.
- Construction time approximately 6-12 months.
- Proposed to operate for up to 30 years after which it will be subject to further operation or decommissioning and removal of all components.

The Site and Locality



The Site and Locality



Environmental Planning Instruments

- Site is zoned RU1 Primary Production under the Wagga Wagga Local Environmental Plan 2010.
- Electricity generating works permitted with consent in the RU1 zone.
- Relevant State Environmental Planning Policies (SEPPs):
 - SEPP (Resilience and Hazards) 2021
 - SEPP (Transport and Infrastructure) 2021
 - SEPP (Biodiversity and Conservation) 2021
 - SEPP (Planning Systems) 2021

Consultation

- Public exhibition of the Development Application was carried out consistent with the requirements and processes set out in the Wagga Wagga Development Control Plan 2010.
- The application was publicly exhibited from 2/12/24 to 16/12/24. Upon request, extensions to make submissions were granted until 7/1/25.
- 48 unique written submissions objecting to the development were received, along with a petition containing 103 signatures.
- Referrals from Essential Energy and APA were also received.

Key Assessment Issues

- Visual Impact
- Agricultural land
- Bushfire and hazard risk
- Construction and traffic
- Decommissioning
- Hydrology and contamination

Recommendation

- The application is recommended for approval subject to conditions.