

Arianna Henty
Senior Manager - Approvals
AGL Macquarie Pty Ltd
200 George Street
Sydney, NSW, 2000

07/11/2025

Subject: Tomago BESS – Project Staging Request

Dear Ms Henty

I refer to your letter dated 28 October 2025, seeking the Secretary's approval to stage the development and submission of specific plans that relate to construction works as per Schedule 2 condition C3 of the development consent for the Tomago Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) Project (SSD 57107216). I also acknowledge and thank you for your responses to the Department's requests for additional information in relation to this matter.

The Department has carefully reviewed the staging request and notes that the Tomago BESS Project is proposing the following stages of development:

- Stage 1 – Preconstruction: including public road works, dilapidation surveys and geotechnical investigations;
- Stage 2a – Construction: including site access works, vegetation clearing, bulk earthworks and laying of concrete slabs;
- Stage 2b – Construction: including OSOM transport and storage of batteries on concrete slabs;
- Stage 3 – Construction: including battery installation (defined as the connection of the batteries to energy supply and energisation);
- Stage 4 – Operation; and
- Stage 5 – Decommissioning.

The Department notes that the Final Layout Plan and Emergency Plan required by Schedule 2, Condition C8 and Condition B31 respectively, will be staged subject to the following requirements:

- an interim Emergency Response Procedure will be in prepared in consultation with the Rural Fire Service (RFS) and Fire and Rescue NSW (FRNSW) and in place prior to the commencement of Stage 2a Construction works;
- the Emergency Response Procedure will be revised prior to Stage 2b Construction works to comply with the requirements of the FRNSW '*Emergency plan requirements at sites having lithium batteries*' Position Statement Summary;
- battery storage on site will comply with the FRNSW '*Open yard storage of battery energy storage systems*' Position Statement Summary;

- the Final Layout Plan will be submitted to the Planning Secretary for review prior to the commencement of Stage 2b Construction that will include detailed final plans of battery storage locations, adjacent infrastructure (any fire source feature) and details of any required/additional firefighting infrastructure, if proposed;
- a comprehensive Emergency Plan will be developed prior to the commencement of Stage 3 Construction; and
- copies of the interim Emergency Response Procedure, revised Emergency Response Procedure and the Emergency Plan are to be provided to FNSW and RFS.

The Department understands that the staging of the Fire Safety Study required by Schedule 2, Condition 28 was approved on 23 May 2025 (PA-2) to allow it to be prepared to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary and sent to FRNSW at least three months prior to the installation of the batteries (Stage 3 construction).

All other relevant management plans including the Transport Management Plan must be approved by the Planning Secretary prior to the commencement of Stage 2a construction.

Accordingly, as nominee of the Planning Secretary, I approve the staging of the development including the staging of the Final Layout Plan and Emergency Plan in accordance with Schedule 2, Condition C3 of the consent.

You are reminded to ensure that the project development is carried out in compliance with the approved EIS and Conditions of Consent. If you wish to discuss the matter further, please contact Sarah Kamarudin on 02 8275 1861 or email sarah.kamarudin@dpie.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



Iwan Davies
Director
Energy Assessments

As nominee of the Planning Secretary