



Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action

Ref 00008231

Mr Baifu Du
Senior Project Manager
Atmos Renewables
Email: baifu.du@atmosrenewables.com.au

Dear Baifu

PROJECT: HEYWOOD BESS
PROPOSAL: LARGE-SCALE BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM (BESS) & ASSOCIATED TRANSMISSION INFRASTRUCTURE
REQUEST: PUBLIC LAND MANAGER CONSENT
ADDRESS: 100 GOLF COURSE ROAD, HEYWOOD
CROWN LAND

Thank you for your correspondence dated 25 February 2025 seeking Public Land Manager Consent to the making of a planning permit application for the construction of an underground 275kV electricity cable within the transmission line corridor in Mt Clay State Forest as part of the Heywood Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) project.

The subject land is affected by the following zone and overlays under the Glenelg Planning Scheme:

Zone: Farming Zone (FZ)
Public Use Zone, Schedule 1 (PUZ1)
Public Conservation and Resource Zone (PCRZ)

Overlays: Environmental Significance Overlay, Schedule 3 (ESO3)
Bushfire Management Overlay (BMO)

The Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA) acts on behalf of the Minister for Environment as land owner for Crown land in Victoria. The Crown land subject to this proposal includes:

- **CA 21B, Section A, Parish of Narrawong** – is a Park or conservation reserve, reference number 21B-A\PP3278, P043241. The Crown land is subject to temporary reservation for the purposes of Reserved Forest. The reserve is under direct management by DEECA.
- **CA 29, Section A, Parish of Narrawong** – is a Park or conservation reserve, reference number 29~A\PP3278, P043239. The Crown land is subject to temporary reservation for the purposes of Reserved Forest. The reserve is under direct management by DEECA.
- **Rifle Range Road, Government Road Reserve** – is a Government road reserve. The Crown land is a declared government road. The road is under direct management by DEECA.

Comments

This letter was prepared in anticipation of it being forwarded to the Responsible Authority, together with a planning permit application, within three months of the date of this letter. The following commentary may assist both the applicant and Responsible Authority.

Public Land Manager's Consent

Clause 36.01-3 and Clause 36.03-3 of the Glenelg Planning Scheme requires an application for a permit within an area zoned PUZ1 and PCRZ, respectively, by a person other than the relevant land manager to be accompanied by the written consent of the public land manager, including that the public land manager consents generally or conditionally either:

- To the application for permit being made
- To the application for permit being made and to the proposed use or development

Native Title and Cultural Heritage

The proposed works are within the Gunditjmara Traditional Owner Settlement Act Negotiation Area. DEECA has assessed the proposed works under the *Native Title Act 1993* and the *Traditional Owner Settlement Act 2010* and have determined that there are no procedural requirements that apply.

Please note that the proposed works are within a landform considered to have the potential for the identification and possible disturbance of Aboriginal Cultural Heritage values. It is the responsibility of all persons or bodies proposing to undertake an activity on private or public land to determine the requirements of the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006* in relation to Aboriginal cultural heritage.

Tenure

A Section 52 *Forests Act* licence for a maximum term of 20 years will authorise the construction of an underground electricity cable within the current transmission line easement. The licence will be over Crown allotments 21B and 29, Section A, Parish of Narrawong.

The Rifle Range Road Government Road is exempt from requiring occupation with a licence for activities including electricity services under section 138A (11) of the *Land Act 1958* by Governor in Council gazetted 18 July 2002, pg. 1704.

Public Land manager's Consent to Making a Planning Permit Application

The Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action, as Public Land Manager for Crown land described in this letter hereby consents to a planning permit application being made for the use and development of land for a utility installation (underground 275kV electricity cable) within the transmission line corridor in Mt Clay State Forest as part of the Heywood Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) project.

Please note the above Public Land Manager's consent does not provide consent to a planning permit being issued for the proposed works (including native vegetation removal). DEECA, as a recommending referral authority (on behalf of the Secretary to DEECA) will await referral of the planning permit application when lodged to comment on that element of the proposal.

For the purposes of Section 48 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*, this letter also acknowledges that the applicant has notified the landowner about the proposed development.

Moreover, DEECA notes that the proposal will additionally require Land Owner Consent for the proposed use and development of Crown land. Please contact DEECA's Land and Built Environment team via the email publicland.grampians@delwp.vic.gov.au

If you have any queries regarding this matter, please contact me on 0497 740 351 or at olivia.hughes@deeca.vic.gov.au.

Yours sincerely,



Olivia Hughes
Acting Team Leader – Energy
Planning & Environment Assessment
07/05/2025

OFFICIAL

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