

Our ref: SSD- 67478479

Andrew Mills

Chair

Independent Planning Commission

GPO Box 3415

Sydney NSW 2001

ipcn@ipcn.nsw.gov.au

02/09/2025

Subject: Yanco Battery Energy Storage System – Referral to the Independent Planning Commission

Dear Mr Mills,

The Department has completed its assessment of the merits of the application for the Yanco Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) (SSD- 67478479).

The application is referred to the Independent Planning Commission for determination as there were more than 50 unique submissions objecting to the project.

ACEnergy Pty Ltd (ACE) proposes to develop a new State significant BESS located approximately 7 kilometres south of Leeton in the Leeton Shire local government area.

The BESS would have a delivery and storage capacity of approximately 250 megawatts (MW) / 1,100 MW-hour (MWh) respectively. The project would connect to the existing Transgrid 330 kilovolt (kV) Yanco substation which is located directly to the east of the site.

During the exhibition of the environmental impact statement (EIS) the Department received a total of 64 unique submissions from the community, in addition to advice from 12 government agencies. Of the public submissions received during exhibition of the EIS, 63 objected to the project and one supported the project.

The Department notes that no public submissions were made by individuals from Yanco, only five submissions (all objections) were received from within 100 km of the site (the nearest being at least 6 km from the site) and the remaining 58 objections and 1 submission in support were from more than 100 km from the site (17 of which were interstate).

The Department considers there is a very low level of local interest or concern towards the project and that there are relatively low levels of residual impacts associated with the proposal.

ACE has reached an in-principle agreement with Albury City Council to enter into a Voluntary Planning Agreement (VPA).

In assessing the merits of the project, the Department has considered the environmental, social and economic impacts of the project, submissions on the EIS, relevant environmental planning instruments, the suitability of the site, and the public interest, in accordance with the requirements of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*.

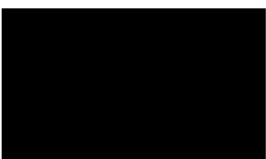
During the assessment process the Department visited the site and consulted with Council and relevant government agencies.

Based on this assessment, the Department concludes that the project is approvable, subject to the recommended conditions of consent.

I have attached a copy of the Department's assessment report and other relevant documents for the Commission's consideration.

If you have any questions, please contact me on [REDACTED] or via email at [REDACTED]

Yours sincerely,

A black rectangular box redacting the signature of Iwan Davies.

Iwan Davies

Director

Energy Assessments