

Our ref: SSD-72258210

Andrew Mills

Chair

Independent Planning Commission

GPO Box 3415

Sydney NSW 2001

[ipcn@ipcn.nsw.gov.au](mailto:ipcn@ipcn.nsw.gov.au)

10/11/2025

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**Subject: Deniliquin 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 Deniliquin Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) (SSD-72258210).

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

Avenis Energy Pty Ltd (Avenis) proposes to develop a new State significant BESS located approximately 8 kilometres south east of Deniliquin in the Edward River local government area.

The BESS would have a delivery and storage capacity of approximately 120 megawatts (MW) / 480 MW-hour (MWh) respectively. The project would connect to the existing Transgrid 132 kilovolt (kV) Deniliquin 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 68 unique submissions from the community, in addition to advice from ten government agencies. Of the public submissions received during exhibition of the EIS, 66 objected to the project, one supported the project, and one provided comment.

The Department notes that one public submission was made by Murray Irrigation Limited from within 50 km of the site (8 km away). The remaining 66 objections and 1 submission in support were from more than 50 km from the site, with 27 submissions from 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.

Avenis has reached an in-principle agreement with Edward River 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*.

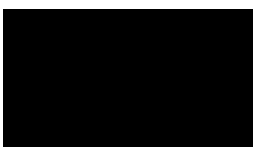
During the assessment process the Department visited the site and consulted with Council and relevant government agencies.

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**