



Beryl BESS Project Update

The proposed Beryl Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) at 5 Holleys Lane, Gulgong, is located 6km west of Gulgong in central west New South Wales.

The BESS is being designed to integrate with projects in the Central West Orana Renewable Energy Zone (REZ) to unlock a firm supply of

power for up to 1.4 million homes – including homes in the Beryl and Gulgong area. The BESS will store variable renewable energy generated in periods where supply exceeds demand, so that it can be dispatched at times of greater need.

EIS assessment underway

Since our last update issued in August 2023, our [Scoping Report](#) has been reviewed by the Department of Planning and Environment (DPE) and in September 2023, a [Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements \(SEARs\)](#) issued.

The SEARS outlines the environmental, social and economic impact assessments we are

required to complete, as part of preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the project.

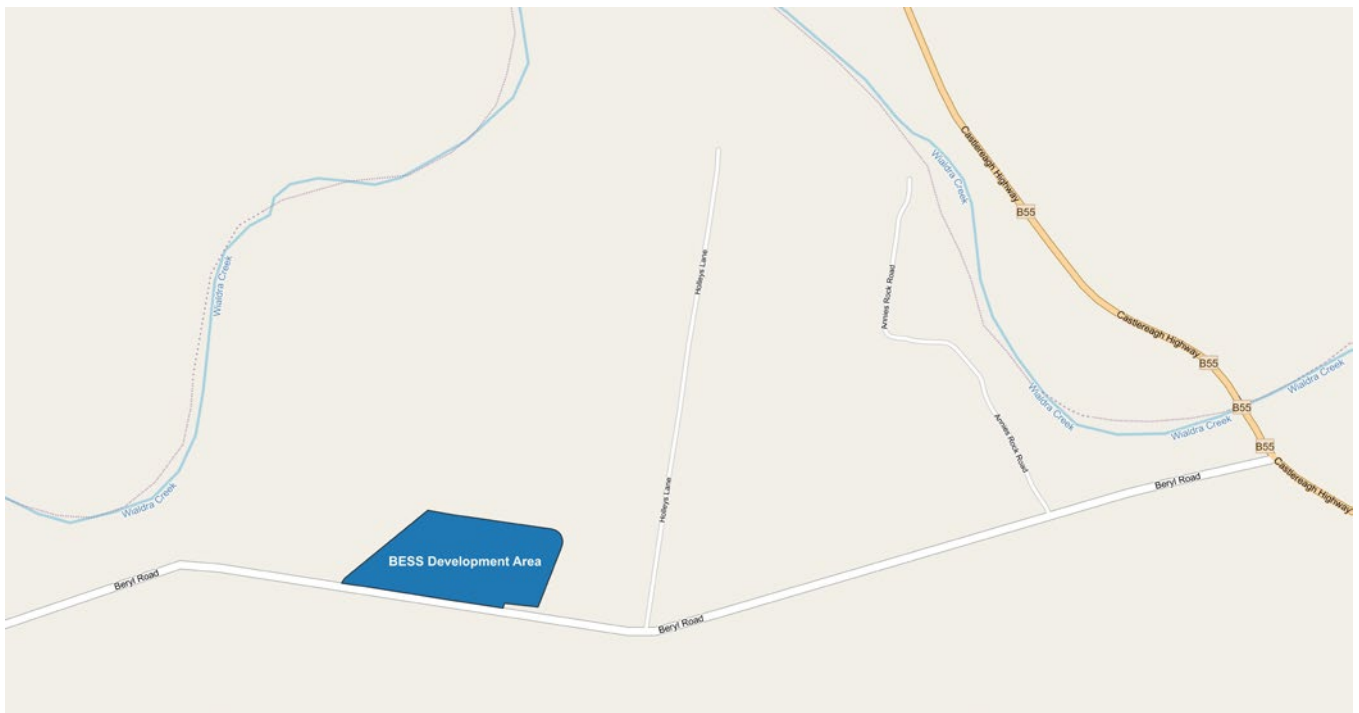
You can find out more about development approval process:

<https://www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects/>.

Next steps

We will be visiting neighbours to discuss planning to minimise potential impacts, meeting with key stakeholders such as the Rural Fire Service and community groups to hear feedback which we will use to inform and guide our EIS assessments and project planning.

We will be also holding a community information session at a stall at the Gulgong Show 17 February 2024 at the Gulgong Showgrounds, 24 Guntawang Street, Gulgong 2852.



Site area of the proposed Beryl BESS

Beryl BESS development progress



- Mid 2023 – Met with neighbouring landowners and stakeholders
- August 2023 – [Scoping Report published](#)
- September 2023 – [DPE Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements \(SEARS\)](#) issued
- Late 2023 / Early 2024 – continuing our consultation with community and key stakeholders, to share information and gather feedback to inform the project's Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and planning
- Mid 2024 – EIS published and formal consultation with stakeholders and the community
- Mid / Late 2024 – Response to Submissions Report published, sharing responses to submissions from community and stakeholders
- Late 2024 – Anticipated development approval
- Early 2025 – Construction expected to start

Having Your Say

We invite stakeholders and the community to provide feedback on the Beryl BESS at every stage of the planning process.

Caring for our communities and the environment is a vital part of RAC's vision.

We're committed to genuinely engaging with neighboring landowners, community and

stakeholders to seek views and local knowledge to inform our planning.

If you missed our recent visit, please contact us to book an online personal briefing or send your comments or questions to: berylbess@ratchaustralia.com

What we've heard so far and what we're doing

Our project team met with nearby property owners to hear first-hand what's important to them and the wider community. RAC reviewed this feedback and has revised the initial location design to minimise potential impacts.

Key outcomes resulting directly from your feedback include:

- updating the design to furthest set-back distance possible from neighbouring landowners, moving the site closer to Beryl Road to minimise potential amenity impacts such as visual or noise
 - vegetation screening planting where feasible in the Project area to reduce potential visual amenity impacts and potential construction noise
 - additional areas of avoidance or protection within the Project area that would result in reduced potential for biodiversity and heritage impacts.
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Contact us

If you have questions or would like more information call our free community information line on 1800 280 013, or email berylbess@ratchaustralia.com.

You can also scan the QR code to view Frequently Asked Questions on our website: <https://ratchaustralia.com/berylbess/>



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BERYL
BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM