Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure

Our ref: SSI-48492458-PA-39

Andrew Sheed
Senior Project Manager
Energy Corporation Of New South Wales
GPO Box 39
Sydney NSW 2001
15/11/2024

Subject: Waratah Super Battery - Request to Extend Construction Hours 4, Request for Information

Dear Mr Sheed,

Reference is made to your letter dated 6 November 2024, requesting approval for extended construction hours for the Waratah Super Battery Energy Storage System, submitted as required by Schedule 2, Condition B12 of the project approval (SSI-48492458).

The Department notes that the Planning Secretary has approved several requests to vary construction hours, the most recent being a variation to construction hours until 31 December 2024 (existing approval dated 26 August 2024). The existing approval permits undertaking construction outside standard construction hours during the following times:

- Saturdays from 7am to 8am, and from 1pm to 5pm; and
- Sundays from 7am to 5pm.

Your letter dated 6 November 2024 requests approval to undertake construction outside the standard construction hours as follows:

- Saturdays – 7am to 8am, and 1pm to 5pm;
- Sundays – 7am to 5pm;
- Public holidays occurring between the date of an approval and 31 May 2025, with the proposed public holiday hours to follow approved hours from Monday to Friday (7am to 6pm), and above proposed hours for weekend works).

The Department considers requests to alter hours of construction on a case-by-case or activity specific basis. The Department has reviewed your request and considers more information is required to satisfy the conditions of the project approval.

Please submit a response to this request for information addressing the below points by Friday 29 November 2024 (or as otherwise agreed by the Planning Secretary):

- Nominate specific public holidays between now and 31 May 2025 that are being considered in the request for extension to construction hours. Include all likely activities that will be undertaken on each public holiday and comment on what this will gain in practical terms for the project.

- Provide additional information on the types of activities and equipment that will be used during proposed out of hours works. Include a marked-up figure showing the approximate location of these proposed activities on the site to assist in this description.

- Comment further on the closure date for Eraring Power Station and how it relates to the project timelines for the Waratah Super Battery.

- Provide further details, such as location and equipment used, on the demolition works referred to in the justification '.....will not only ameliorate the impact of demolition works and rainfall to date, but also ensure that future risk from inclement weather is able to be adaptively managed'.

- Provide further justification for assessing 7am to 8am on Sundays and public holidays against day criteria (and not night criteria). This should include:

    - A review of the relevant criteria for 7am to 8am on Sundays and public holidays, noting that unattended monitoring results presented in the *Waratah Super Battery – Munmorah, Appendix G - Noise and Vibration Assessment* (GHD, 2022) established construction NMLs at sensitive receivers, based on the established Rating Background noise Levels (RBL). Table 3.1 of Appendix G provides the established RBL's for the project, including a note to the table stating 'Night: 10pm to 7am Monday to Saturday and 10pm to 8am Sunday'.

    - A review of Table 2.1 provided in Attachment A of your letter for 7am to 8am on Sundays and public holidays.

    - How applying a night-time project specific noise management level at NCA1 receivers for the period 7am to 8am on Sundays and public holidays compares to predicted construction noise levels at residential receivers.

    - Results from any noise monitoring undertaken during this worst-case period to justify discontinuing the requirement for attended noise monitoring of activities during extended work hours.

Should you wish to discuss the matter further, please contact Katie Weekes on (02) 4927 3223 or via email at katie.weekes@dpie.nsw.gov.au

Yours sincerely



Iwan Davies
Director
Energy Assessments

As nominee of the Planning Secretary