

BELHAVEN BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM

Project Update
August 2023

Environmental Impact Assessment

Belhaven BESS

The 400 MW Belhaven Battery Energy Storage System is being assessed as a State Significant Development by the New South Wales Department of Planning and Environment. The Project and its associated infrastructure will be capable of providing approximately 2 hours of storage and would contribute approximately 800 MWh of storage capacity to the National Electricity Market.

The state significant battery is located ~7 kilometres south of Wagga Wagga, within the Wagga Wagga City Council local government area. Strategically located within the Riverina Region, assisting in meeting New South Wales' energy generation and storage requirements.

The Belhaven BESS represents a positive outcome for the Riverina Murray Regional Plan 2041, which seeks integrated and resilient utility infrastructure, by contributing to the required energy storage infrastructure required to support the State's transition to net zero by 2050.

Vena Energy

A leading and fully integrated renewable energy company that owns, develops, constructs, operates, manages, and commercialises a renewable energy portfolio of onshore wind and solar, offshore wind, stationary and transportable energy storage projects totaling 43 GW, with an extensive local presence of ~900 employees across 77 corporate and site offices across the Asia Pacific region.

With a corporate mission to accelerate the energy transition, placing sustainability and affordable development at the center of the business strategy, Vena Energy is determined to be a catalyst in Australia's transition to renewable energy and answer the call for cleaner energy.

Focused on delivering utility-scale renewable projects across Australia, the team have actively developed a 6 GW pipeline since the establishment of the Australian business in 2016.

Lead by a team of experts across several technical fields, with extensive resource and energy experience, drawing on global experiences to deliver green energy alternatives as Australia redirects its renewable energy targets.

VENA ENERGY AUSTRALIA 2022

CONSTRUCTION



327 MW

- WANDOAN SOUTH SOLAR 1
- TALEM BEND 2 SOLAR
- TALEM BEND 2 BESS

OPERATIONAL



227 MW









- TALEM BEND 1
- WANDOAN SOUTH BESS

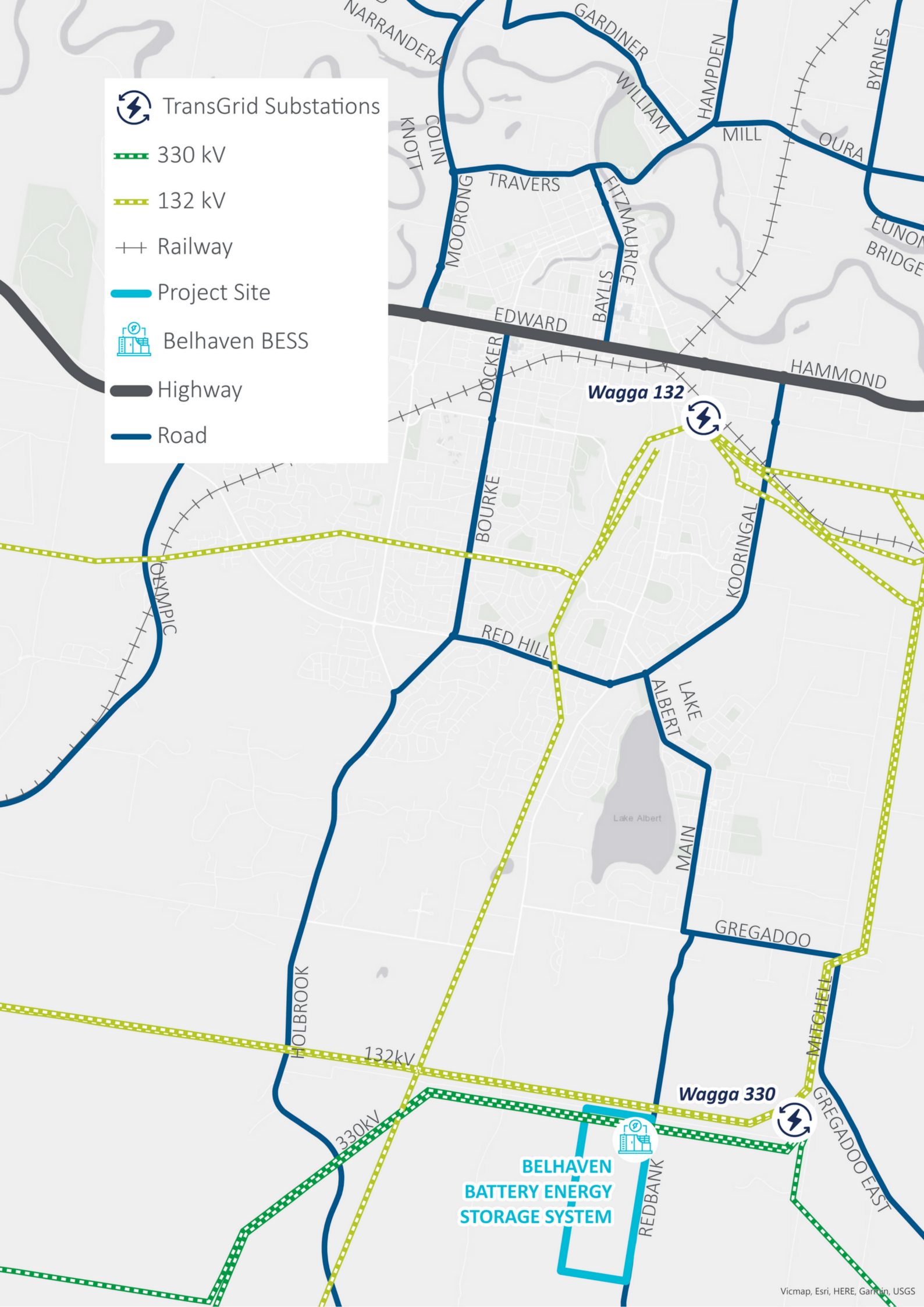
Vena Energy, Sustainability Report 2022.



**VENA
ENERGY**
AUSTRALIA

Answering Australia's Call for Cleaner Energy

-  TransGrid Substations
-  330 kV
-  132 kV
-  Railway
-  Project Site
-  Belhaven BESS
-  Highway
-  Road



Development Assessment Process

The Project is being assessed as a State Significant Development, under Part 4 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979.

The Project's Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirement's outline the required site investigations, studies, and consultation required to support the Environmental Impact Statement.

The Environmental Impact Statement will be supported by a range of engagement initiatives and opportunities, including involvement from stakeholders to inform and consult on matters relating to the Project. Vena Energy understands that effective engagement is a key element of a transparent and fair environmental impact assessment process.

The Impact Assessment investigations have commenced and will include further detailed environmental surveys to inform Vena Energy's understanding of the existing environment, matters relevant to development refinement and future detailed design, and identify any mitigation measures.

Vena Energy Australia has engaged EMM Consulting Pty Ltd to undertake the environmental, social, and other technical studies required as part of preparing the Environmental Impact Statement.

Environmental Key Matters



BIODIVERSITY



HERITAGE



VISUAL



LAND



NOISE



TRANSPORT



ECONOMICS



HAZARDS



SOCIAL



WASTE



WATER

Milestones Achieved

The Belhaven BESS has been in the pipeline since 2018 and has been a priority project of our development pipeline since 2022. The Project's assessment documentation, including the Scoping Report and SEARs and future documentation can be accessed via the Department's Major Project Portal.

2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initial stakeholder engagement commenced with landholders, key regulatory stakeholders, and Transgrid.
2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-lodgement with Wagga Wagga City Council and Transgrid connection enquiry request initiated. • Collaborate with Transgrid on connection route opportunities. • Stakeholder briefings to detail Project refinement. • Introduction to State and Federal Members for Wagga Wagga and Riverina Region .
2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scoping Report submitted to the Department of Planning and Environment. • Department issued Planning Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements. • Environmental Impact Assessment's commenced.

Upcoming Milestones

The Project team are anticipating that the impact assessments will be completed over the coming months, with the following key milestones planned for the Project over the next 6 to 12 months.

2023

Preparation of Environmental Impact Statement - Q4

2024

**Public Exhibition - Q1
Assessment & Determination - Q2**



Stakeholder Engagement

Vena Energy Australia will be hosting ongoing, transparent, fair, and educational community engagement during the assessment process of the Project.

The approach to engagement will be in accordance with the principles and objectives of the Engagement Guideline for State Significant Projects.

Focused on improving the transparency and capacity for participation with the development of the Belhaven BESS, seeking to facilitate a strong connection between the Project and its stakeholders to attain social licence.

The following key principles underpin the Project's engagement approach:

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- 1 Purposeful & of Value**
 - 2 All-Inclusive & Accessible**
 - 3 Comprehensive & Robust**
 - 4 Genuine & Equitable**
 - 5 Creative & Innovative**

Feedback For The Social Impact Assessment

The New South Wales Government requires all Environmental Impact Assessments for State Significant Projects to have a clear and consistent approach to assessing social impacts.

Social impacts are the consequences that people experience when a project brings changes to their lives. Respectful, inclusive, and meaningful engagement is a fundamental part of Social Impact Assessment and provides first-hand insights into what people value and how they expect a project to affect them.

As part of this process EMM Consulting seek to understand the interest people have in the Project, and how possible impacts or benefits may be experienced from their perspective.

If you would like the Social Impact Assessment to address your thoughts on the Project, please contact the EMM Consulting team or reach out via the Project's contact points to arrange an interview.



Email

sia@emmconsulting.com.au



How To Get Involved

The Project invites the community to participate and identify their interest by registering their details via the QR code below or by reaching out to the team on the Project's contact points.



Belhaven BESS Community
Engagement Registration



Contact us

For more information about the Belhaven Battery Energy Storage System Project EIS, please contact the project team or visit the Vena Energy Australia website:



Website

www.venaenergy.com.au



Phone

1800 841 229



Email

belhaven.mailbox@venaenergy.com

Our mission is to accelerate the energy transition across the Asia-Pacific region through the development of sustainable and affordable renewable energy solutions that deliver lasting economic, social, and environmental benefits to our host communities and stakeholders.