



Tailem Bend 3 BESS

Environmental and Social Impact Assessment Summary

The Tailem Bend 3 Battery Energy Storage System (TB3 BESS) is a 204 MW/408 MWh utility-scale energy storage Project located approximately 2.5 km south-east of Tailem Bend. The Project is located adjacent to Vena Energy's Tailem Bend Solar Farm Project Stage 1 and the Tailem Bend 2 Hybrid Project. The Project received development approval in June 2023 from the Minister for Planning with environmental and social impacts assessed as part of the development approval process.

Human Rights

Australia has comprehensive labour and human rights laws, supported by national and state legislation, standards, and codes of practice. Australia is also committed to the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs) and promotes their adoption across business and government. Vena Energy's Code of Conduct commits to adhering to the internationally recognised human rights that are articulated in the International Labour Organisation (ILO) core conventions set out in the Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work, the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, and the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Biodiversity

The Project is located on a site that has been modified by historical agricultural use. An ecological assessment confirmed that the site has low biodiversity value and that no nationally protected ecological communities or threatened species are likely to be significantly impacted by the Project. The Project has been designed to ensure no native vegetation will be impacted or cleared. A project-specific Construction Environmental Management Plan has been developed to manage any potential construction impacts. An Operational Environmental Management Plan will also be implemented to guide ongoing site operations.

Climate Change

By providing up to 408 MWh of energy storage, the TB3 BESS Project enhances grid stability by storing excess generation and dispatching power during periods of high demands, improving system reliability and contributing to a more resilient and sustainable energy system. By contributing to South Australia's target of net zero emissions by 2050 and supporting the Australian Government's Renewable Energy Target Scheme, the Project will help reduce the nation's greenhouse gas emissions.



Cultural Heritage

The Ngarrindjeri People are the traditional owner group recognised across the Project site. The Project has engaged directly with the Ngarrindjeri Regional Authority throughout the project's development. This collaboration included facilitating a Work Area Clearance Survey undertaken by Ngarrindjeri representatives, which confirmed that no artefacts or areas of cultural heritage significance are present on the site.

Stakeholder Engagement

A Stakeholder Engagement Plan has been developed for TB3 BESS, identifying key stakeholders, engagement approaches, and the protocols for feedback and evaluation mechanisms. The Stakeholder Engagement Plan follows the South Australian Community Engagement Charter and the IAP2 Spectrum for best-practice community consultation. It emphasises transparent, proactive and inclusive communication through employment, procurement, and community benefit initiatives. Vena Energy maintains project-specific contact channels, including an email address and a toll-free 1800 number, providing multiple avenues for engagement.

Decommissioning

Vena Energy will be responsible for site management from construction through to the end of the project's life. A Decommissioning and Rehabilitation Plan will be developed at the time of decommissioning for the Project.

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