

WAUBRA BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM (BESS) CONSULTATION SUMMARY

JUNE 2026

ADVERTISED
PLAN



Contents

1.	Project overview.....	2
1.1	About ACCIONA Energía	2
1.2	Project context.....	2
2.	Engagement approach	3
2.1	Our principles	3
2.2	Project engagement objectives	3
3.	Project stakeholders	4
3.1	Project stakeholders	4
4.	Project engagement	6
4.1	Stakeholder meetings	6
4.2	Community information sessions	6
4.3	Project communication.....	7
4.4	Engagement record	8
5.	Project collateral.....	8
6.	Ongoing consultation	8
	Appendices.....	9
A.	Indicative Infrastructure Layout	10
B.	QR Code.....	11
C.	Landscape Visual Impact Assessment Images.....	12
D.	Proposed Troys Road Intersection Upgrade	15

1. Project overview

1.1 About ACCIONA Energía

ACCIONA Energía, the world's largest renewable energy company without a fossil fuel legacy, develops, builds and owns renewable energy assets in Australia. We collaborate with communities to produce sustainable energy, create jobs, and contribute to establishing Australia's low-carbon economy.

In Australia, we not only develop, but also build, own and operate renewable energy assets. This unique approach demonstrates our long-term commitment to the regions where we work. We collaborate with landowners and regional communities to produce renewable energy, create jobs, and deliver a positive social impact.

Currently, we have 1,900MW of renewable energy installed or under construction across Queensland, Victoria, New South Wales and South Australia. With a track record of successful projects across Australia and dedicated local teams, we deliver the best renewable energy projects in the country. Our projects and associated investments contribute directly to establishing Australia's low-carbon economy, providing future job growth alongside social and economic benefits to regional and First Nations communities.

1.2 Project context

The proposed Waubra Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) is located in the Western Victoria area of Waubra, 35 kilometres north-west of Ballarat in the Pyrenees Shire Council. The proposed BESS is located on land that is part of the existing operational Waubra Wind Farm and adjacent to the Waubra Terminal Station.

The area has been chosen for its proximity to the Waubra Terminal Station. ACCIONA Energía believes the addition of a BESS in the area will alleviate congestion and strengthen the capacity and reliability of the grid network. The Indicative Infrastructure Layout is provided in Appendix A.

The project is proposing a 200MW BESS with a 2-4 hour duration with a proposed footprint of approximately 7.2 hectares. The project would see an investment of approximately \$275 million, with up to 200 jobs created during construction and 5-10 ongoing roles during operations.

The proposed BESS will function by storing excess energy from the grid network when demand is low or supply is high, then releasing it back when demand increases. The BESS will be able to quickly handle energy network fluctuations (in microseconds) by absorbing or releasing energy, providing an essential role in stabilising the grid. Importantly, the proposed BESS will aid the transition to cleaner energy sources in line with the legislated Victorian renewable energy targets and ensure that there is more power available during periods of high demand, when electricity is typically more expensive for consumers.

ACCIONA Energía recognises the importance of landowners, key stakeholders, and the community in which we will build and operate our projects. With the Waubra Wind Farm already being operational in the area for more than 16 years, and another wind farm under development nearby (Nyaninyuk Wind Farm), ACCIONA Energía already has established relationships with many of the key stakeholders in the project area and the broader region.

A community and stakeholder consultation program for the proposed Waubra BESS was initiated in early 2025, in the lead-up to the Development Application, and will continue throughout the life of the project. The program was developed to be proportionate to the project proposed, the local context and the broader environment in which the project is being developed.

2. Engagement approach

2.1 Our principles

We are committed to active consultation with stakeholders from the early phases of the development, right through to operations and decommissioning, to ensure community issues and opportunities form part of the planning and execution processes.

We operate in accordance with the International Association of Public Participation (IAP2) Core Principles and the Clean Energy Council (CEC) Charter. We will continue to work to address issues of concern to the community and interest groups throughout the project lifecycle.

To this end, we will ensure there is:

- a stringent record-keeping process for stakeholder and community interactions, and all commitments made
- an inclusive and transparent approach to our interactions with community members and key stakeholders, ensuring a wide availability of channels, guided by their preferences
- clear opportunities for community members and stakeholders to ask questions and provide feedback
- a process for feedback to be considered within project design
- consideration of potential risks, issues and opportunities, through both informal and formal methods (such as a social impact assessment), to ensure we work with the local community to achieve the best possible outcomes
- development at the earliest opportunity of a Social Impact Management Plan to capture agreed mitigations
- clear communication of and adherence to the ACCIONA Energia Complaint Management Handling Process, and individual project Complaint Investigation Plans, where available.

2.2 Project engagement objectives

The project engagement objectives are:

- Ensure external stakeholders are clearly identified, and their specific needs are understood and managed.
- Ensure all stakeholders understand and are aware of the Project and work to increase acceptance of the project in the region.
- Ensure the social licence to operate (reputation and trust) is built and maintained through the engagement of external stakeholders.
- Engagement and communication activities are transparent, equitable, and accessible, with adequate opportunities for stakeholders to comment or provide input.
- Deliver engagement targeted at mitigating identified stakeholder risks so that the Project can be delivered on budget and schedule.

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- Relationships are built with stakeholders to ensure effective dialogue with the project team.
 - All stakeholders, including relevant Traditional Owners, are aware of the statutory consultation process, timeframes, and opportunities to provide feedback.
 - Stakeholders are aware of the project and understand the early field studies, environmental approvals, and design development process.
 - Provide opportunity for the public to engage with the Project Delivery team via stakeholder engagement activities.
 - Involve the community in negotiable decision points to build trust and buy-in with the project about the design.
 - Feedback from relevant authorities is incorporated into the design and approvals process.
 - Gain stakeholder and community cooperation, understanding, and acceptance of the design through meaningful interactions and appropriate engagement.

3. Project stakeholders

3.1 Project stakeholders

A stakeholder is defined as anyone who (currently, or in the future):

- has an influence on the Project (including its process and outcomes)
- has an interest in the Project
- is directly impacted by the Project.

ACCIONA Energia recognises the importance of landowners, key stakeholders, and the community in which we will build and operate our projects.

Stakeholder groups and stakeholders identified for the proposed Waubra BESS are outlined in Table 1: Waubra BESS stakeholders.

Table 1: Waubra BESS stakeholders

Stakeholder Group	Stakeholder(s)
Host Landowners	Host Landowner
Wind Farm Hosts	Waubra Wind Farm Hosts
Neighbours	Neighbours bordering the proposed site
Neighbourhood	Neighbours in the vicinity of the proposed site
Local Community	Waubra
Surrounding / nearby towns	Learmonth, Lexton, Beaufort, Clunes
Regional Centres	Ballarat
First Nations stakeholders	Traditional Owners – Wadawurrung people
First Nations stakeholders	Wadawurrung Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation
Members of Parliament	Martha Haylett, Member for Ripon
Members of Parliament	Catherine King, Member for Ballarat
Members of Parliament	Dan Teehan, Member for Wanon
State Government Agencies & Departments	Department of Transport and Planning
State Government Agencies & Departments	Country Fire Authority
Local Government	Pyrenees Shire Council
Local Government	City of Ballarat
Local Businesses	Impacted businesses
Local Businesses	Businesses who could work on the project
Community Groups	Waubra Wind Farm Fund
Community Groups	Waubra Football & Netball Club
Community Groups	Waubra Hub Committee
Emergency Services	Local Country Fire Authority Brigades
Electricity / Utility Network Service Providers	AusNet
Media	The Pyrenees Advocate
Media	The Courier Ballarat
Other Infrastructure Developers	ACCIONA and Genus, Western Renewables Link

4. Project engagement

4.1 Stakeholder meetings

Stakeholder meetings, including Project Briefings, have been held with a number of project stakeholders. These have included Local Government, Traditional Owners and Emergency Services. Feedback from these meetings has been incorporated into both the consultation and engagement plans and the broader project.

Items of interest raised in the stakeholder meetings includes:

- Fire management
- Project timeline
- Cumulative impacts
- Site selection
- Water management, including run-off
- Voluntary Cultural Heritage Management Plan (CHMP)
- Community benefits
- Methods of consultation with the community

Communication between the Project Team and key stakeholders is ongoing and will continue as the project progresses to ensure information and feedback are shared.

4.2 Community information sessions

The Project Team has hosted two (2) rounds of community information sessions in Waubra. The first round of sessions were held in May 2025. The purpose of these sessions was to introduce the proposed project to the community.

Three (3) drop-in sessions were held with attendance from local community members, neighbours, local Country Fire Authority (CFA) brigade members, and Pyrenees Shire Council staff.

Those who attended the sessions had a general interest in battery technology and fire safety, and overall, they seemed satisfied with the information provided.

Topics raised at the first round of information sessions included:

- Fire management and risk
- General interest in how batteries work
- Interest in where the technology is from
- Water run-off
- Community benefits
- Location selection
- Traffic management for Troys Road
- Timing of project

A second round of community information sessions was held in June 2026. The key purpose of these sessions was to share with the community and other stakeholders that the Development Application was being finalised and would soon be submitted.

Four (4) sessions were held. The sessions included a morning, afternoon, evening and weekend session. Attendees included Waubra community members, community members from neighbouring towns and regional centres, wind farm hosts, members of the local CFA brigades, people interested in working on the proposed project during both construction and operations, a staff member from Pyrenees Shire Council, representatives from the Waubra Hub Committee and a team member from a local BESS developer.

The matters raised were generally in line with those from previous sessions, with a number of new topics also raised. These included:

- The purpose of the BESS
- How the BESS will interact with existing and planned wind farms
- Confirmation of the location and the size of the proposed project
- Availability of water onsite and source(s) of water
- How previous feedback has been included
- Process to go through before construction commences
- Interaction with other projects, including Western Renewables Link (WRL)
- Employment opportunities
- Road upgrades
- Rationale behind the project
- Interest in having other batteries in the area, including community batteries
- Accommodation of workers
- Opportunities for local businesses and services
- Noise
- Potential for joint training with local emergency services

4.3 Project communication

A range of communication methods has been used to share information in relation to the proposed project, including both targeted and general communications.

In addition to the stakeholder meetings and community information sessions, information on the project and engagement opportunities was shared via the following methods:

- Project [webpage](#).
- Advertisements in local newspapers, including The Courier Ballarat and The Pyrenees Advocate.
- Digital advertisements via local newspaper sites, including The Courier Ballarat and The Pyrenees Advocate.
- Emails to key stakeholders, including Waubra Wind Farm Hosts, First Nations stakeholders, Members of Parliament, State government agencies and departments, local government, community groups, local emergency services, electricity/utility network service providers, and people who had previously engaged with the proposed project.
- Direct mail to neighbours of the proposed site and neighbours within the vicinity of the proposed project.
- Placement of posters in local venues and facilities in Waubra.
- Sharing of information in local Facebook Groups.

4.4 Engagement record

All stakeholder interactions are recorded within Consultation Manager, a centralised stakeholder relationship management platform that acts as a dynamic repository for the project's engagement-related data.

5. Project collateral

Communication materials and project collateral developed and distributed to share information about the proposed project included:

1. [Project factsheet](#)
2. [Indicative Infrastructure Layout](#)
3. [Battery Energy Storage System \(BESS\) factsheet](#)
4. [Project webpage](#)
5. A QR code to link people to the project webpage
6. Images from the Landscape Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA)
7. An image of the proposed upgrades for the Troys Road intersection

A copy of the items not linked is provided in Appendices B – D.

6. Ongoing consultation

A Community and Stakeholder Engagement Action Plan (CSEAP) was developed to guide consultation and engagement during the development phase of the proposed project.

A Community and Stakeholder Engagement Plan (CSEP) will be developed for further stages of the project, outlining the key consultation and engagement activities corresponding to each project milestone.

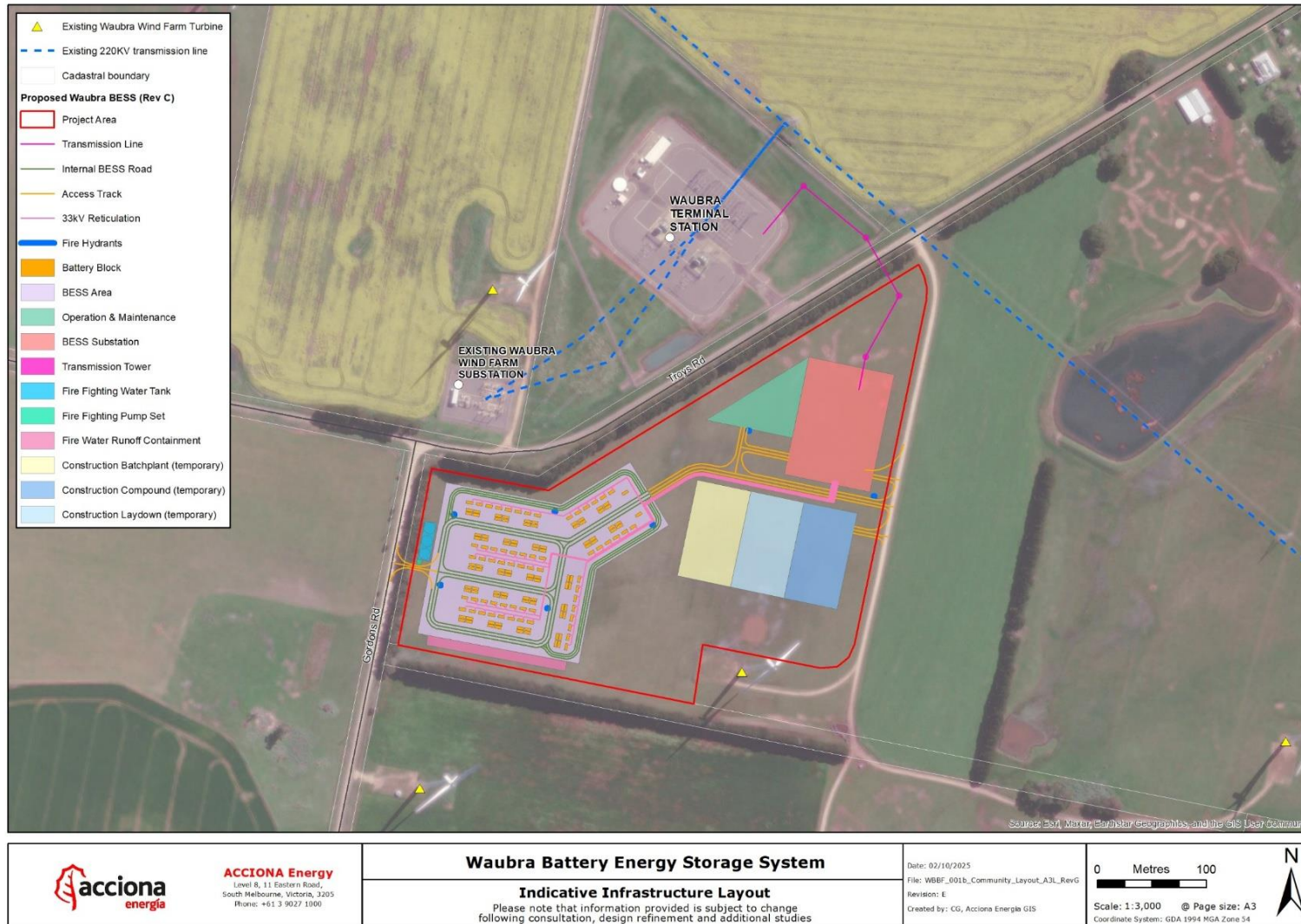
The plan will be reviewed and adjusted following each key engagement milestone to ensure that community and stakeholder feedback regarding engagement activities is considered and applied to future engagement opportunities.

ACCIONA Energía is committed to continued engagement with the Waubra community and project stakeholders as we develop, and, if approved, construct and operate the Waubra BESS project, with a key component of the engagement expected to be ongoing work with the community to establish a bespoke community benefits program.

Appendices

- A. Indicative Infrastructure Layout
- B. QR Code
- C. Landscape Visual Impact Assessment Images
- D. Proposed Troys Road Intersection Upgrade

A. Indicative Infrastructure Layout



B. QR Code



WAUBRA BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM (BESS)

Find out more about the proposed Waubra BESS
community.acciona.com.au/waubra-bess



C. Landscape Visual Impact Assessment Images

Waubra BESS facility - Landscape Visual Impact Assessment

VP-1 Existing view



VP-1 Potential view

| | | 214° | | |



24

VP-2 Existing view



VP-2 Potential view

| | | 250° | | |



27

VP-3 Existing view



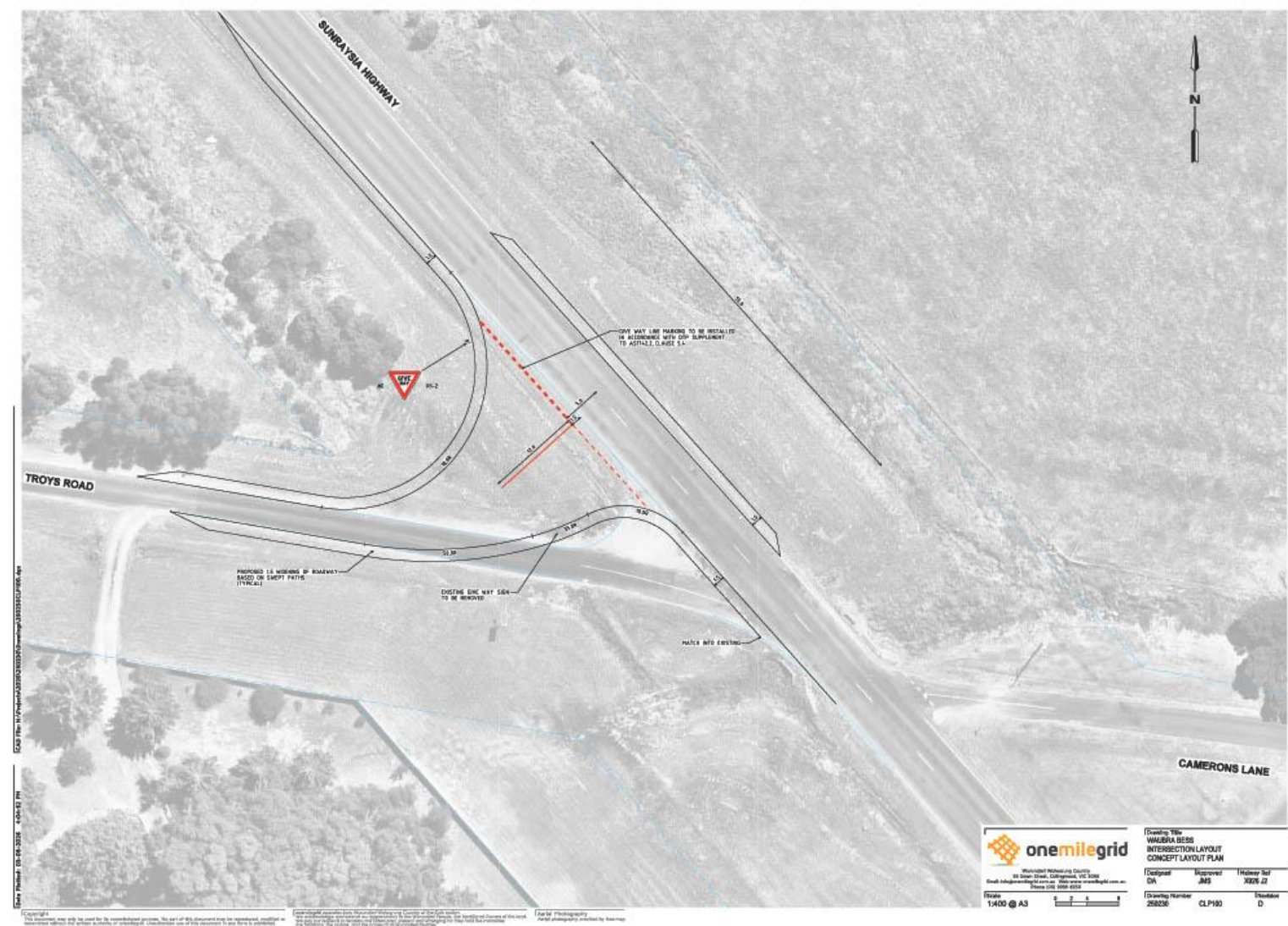
VP-3 Potential view

| | | 138° | | |



31

D. Proposed Troys Road Intersection Upgrade





www.community.acciona.com.au/waubra-bess

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