

23 June 2026

Hon Sonia Kilkenney MP
Minister for Planning
C/- Department of Transport and Planning (Renewables)

ADVERTISED PLAN

Dear Minister,

Lodgement of Planning Permit Application - Bendigo Battery Energy Storage System (BESS), 20 Hattam Street, Golden Square, Victoria

Cogency Australia Pty Ltd has been engaged by Pacific Hydro Australia Developments Pty Ltd, trading as Pacific Blue Australia Developments (Pacific Blue) to prepare and lodge this planning application under section 47 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* (Vic) (Act), for a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) primarily located at 20 Hattam Street, Golden Square, Victoria.

The proposal was discussed at a pre-application meeting held on 16 March 2026 with the Department of Transport and Planning (Renewables).

We lodge this planning application in accordance with Clause 53.22 (Significant Economic Development) of the Greater Bendigo Planning Scheme, under the Development Facilitation Program. This means that it is exempt from the decision requirements of sections 64(1), (2) and (3), and the review rights of sections 82(1) of the Act.

In accordance with Clause 72.01 of the Greater Bendigo Planning Scheme, the Minister for Planning is the responsible authority for this application.

Planning approval is sought from the Minister for Planning for the following permit triggers:

- **Clause 33.01-1** – Section 2 Use of land for a Utility Installation
- **Clause 33.01-4** – Buildings and works associated with a Section 2 Use
- **Clause 37.01-4** – Buildings and works
- **Clause 52.02** – Create, vary or remove an easement
- **Clause 52.06-6** – Provide car parking to satisfaction of the Responsible Authority
- **Clause 52.17-1** – To remove, destroy or lop native vegetation, including dead native vegetation.

Please find enclosed with this application the following documents:

- Planning Report
- Certificates of Title
- Application Plans
- Communication Materials
- Biodiversity Assessment
- Noise Impact Assessment
- Stormwater Management and Drainage Strategy Memo
- Fire Safety Study
- Traffic Impact Assessment

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- Route Assessment
- Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment
- Economic Impact Assessment.

The proposal has been rigorously assessed and the potential impacts evaluated. Based on the technical assessments, the proposal is not expected to generate any unreasonable or significant environmental or community impacts. Additionally, the Proposal supports significant economic development for the region and contributes to Australia's energy security and progression towards the renewable energy transition.

The project team has undertaken community and stakeholder engagement, including with DTP, and other key stakeholders including the City of Greater Bendigo Council, the Registered Aboriginal Party, Dja Dja Wurrung Clans Aboriginal Corporation (trading as DJAARA – Balaki Wuka), CFA and Parks Victoria.

For the reasons outlined above and in the enclosed Planning Report, it is considered that the proposal warrants planning approval. The landowners are aware of this application lodgement.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me on 0452 593 428 or at billy@cogencyaustralia.com.au.

Yours sincerely,



Billy Greenham

Associate Director

Cogency Australia

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