

**Hon. Sonya Kilkenny**  
Minister for Planning  
8 Nicholson Street  
East Melbourne, Victoria 3002

## ADVERTISED PLAN

30 October 2024

Dear Minister,

### **Dederang Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) – Application for a Planning Permit**

Mint Renewables Pty Ltd (Mint) makes this request for a planning permit for the Dederang Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) (the Project), a proposed project with an indicative capacity of 400MWh located approximately 2km north-west of Dederang in the Alpine Shire.

#### *Triggers for a Planning Permit*

The Project is situated within the local government area of the Alpine Shire and is subject to the requirements of the Alpine Planning Scheme.

The Project seeks planning approval from the Minister for Planning via the Development Facilitation Program utilising the approval pathway Clause 53.22 (Significant Economic Development) of the Alpine Planning Scheme.

Planning approval is being sought under the following clauses:

- Clause 35.07 – to use the land and buildings and works for the purposes of 'Utility Installation' in the Farming Zone (FZ);
- Clause 43.02 – to construct a building or carry out works in the Significant Landscape Overlay Schedule 1 (SLO1);
- Clause 52.05-13 – to construct a sign;
- Clause 52.17 – to remove, destroy or lop native vegetation, including dead native vegetation;
- Clause 52.06 – to provide car parking spaces to the satisfaction of the responsible authority, and
- Clause 52.29 - to create or alter access to a road in the Transport Zone 2 (TRZ2).

#### *Consultation*

The Projects engagement program commenced publicly in October 2023, with a purpose to:

- Build stakeholder and community awareness of the Project ahead of submission of the planning application.
- Provide clear information through public channels to assist in understanding of the proposal.
- Collect feedback from the community and key stakeholders to inform the Project design and development.

The Proponent introduced the Project to direct neighbours in October 2023, and consulted with Council and authorities, such as the CFA, Regional Roads Victoria, North East CMA, DTP, as well as a range of other stakeholders.

Three drop-in information sessions were held in February 2024. Engagement has continued including targeting meetings, calls and emails, newsletter updates, website updates and communication materials etc.

#### *Application Fee*

The application fee for the Project is \$63,589.00 and has been paid.

#### *Conclusion*

This planning application demonstrates that the Project will support the Alpine Shire Council and State Planning Policy (Clause 19) in its vision to facilitate the development of alternative energy systems that enrich the area's resilience,

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prosperity and sustainability. The Project will contribute to the shift towards clean energy and maximises the use of existing infrastructure to reduce impacts on nearby residents by minimising the need for new infrastructure.

The Project is considered to have met the current requirements and policy direction of the Alpine Planning Scheme and associate guidelines. The application is supported by environmental impact assessments that support the proposed site selection and indicative design. The application confirms the Project is suitable as:

- The Project supports the fair, orderly, economic and sustainable use and development of land.
- The Project will support the creation of a renewable, affordable and reliable energy supply using large-scale energy storage technology, by providing an indicative nominal installed capacity of 400MWh.
- The Project supports a strong and innovative economy through the provision of construction jobs and ongoing employment through this emerging technology project.
- The Project is compatible and complementary to the current land use and is strategically located adjacent to existing transmission infrastructure.
- The Project will not adversely impact the amenity of the local area. Landscape and visual, noise and traffic impact assessments have been undertaken to confirm required mitigation measures to minimise any perceived impact to the local community.
- The Project minimises biodiversity impacts. Native vegetation removal will be minimised with appropriate offsets secured to facilitate the Project.
- The Project has no impact on historical heritage and the Proponent is doing a voluntary CHMP to minimise any harm to Aboriginal cultural heritage.

We look forward to working with you as this application is assessed and are happy to provide any further detail as required.

Kind regards,



**Cara Layton**

Head of Planning, Environment and Stakeholder Relations

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