CaseStudy

How Origin Energy Improved Traffic Compliance at the Eraring BESS Project with Evercam Gate Monitoring

Project Overview

Origin Energy is building a **large-scale Battery Energy Storage System (BESS)** next to the Eraring Power Station in New South Wales, Australia. This first phase, already underway, has a capacity of 460MW and a dispatch duration of 2 hours. It is set to be fully operational by the end of 2025.

The BESS is essential for supporting renewable energy sources, charging during high solar generation, and discharging during peak demand to stabilize the National Energy Grid. Its strategic location leverages existing transmission and grid infrastructure at Eraring, minimising the need for new transmission lines and maximising efficiency.

Challenge: Ensuring Compliance with Community Traffic Limit Conditions

As required by the project Development Approval, the BESS project must adhere to key social and environmental conditions. These include limiting the number of truck movements to and from the site each day to minimize traffic impact and ensure environmental compliance.

During the construction period, the project must manage vehicle movements to stay within the capacity limits of the local road network. At peak times, daily construction traffic must not exceed 128 light vehicles and 60 heavy vehicles entering and exiting the site.

Solution: Implementing Evercam Gate Monitoring System

To ensure compliance with Development Approval conditions, Origin Energy has implemented the Evercam Platform for detailed monitoring and accurate reporting.

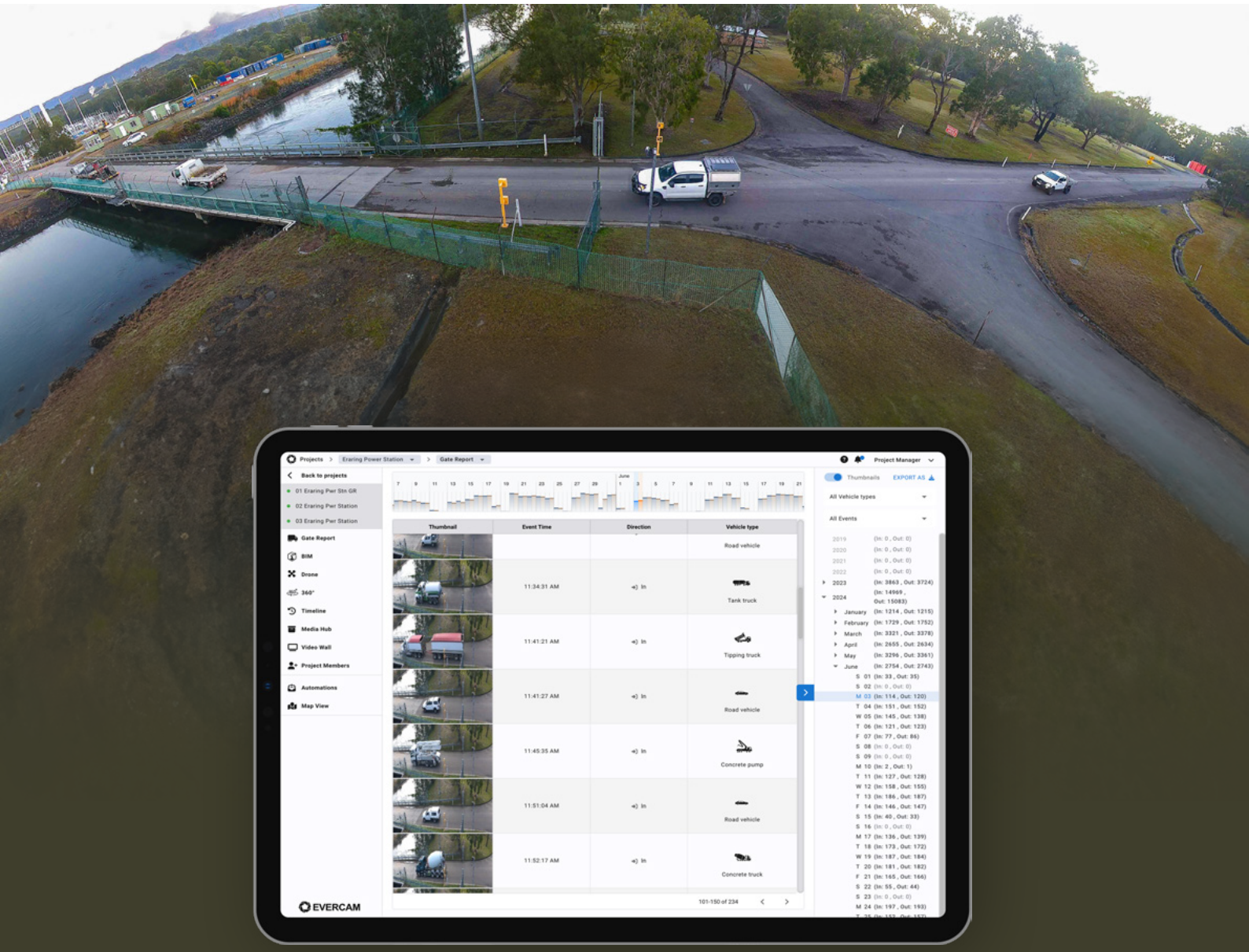
After an online demonstration, the Gate Monitoring System was installed, and integrated with the Fixed-position Cameras for live progress monitoring and time-lapse videos. The setup included solar-powered cameras on adjustable mounts, ensuring flexibility and sustainability.

To improve traffic management and ensure compliance, project managers adopted a dual-layered approach:

Manual Checks:
The security guard manually counts and verifies each truck entering and leaving the site.

Automated Monitoring:
Evercam's AI-powered cameras at the site access gate differentiate trucks from light vehicles, record the time of each truck movement, and report the total vehicle movements daily, ensuring accurate and reliable records.

This setup ensures adherence to truck movement regulations and integrates with Origin Energy's broader Traffic Management Plan, enhancing overall operational efficiency.



Beyond compliance, Origin Energy also benefits from:

Increased Efficiency:
The AI-powered cameras provide highly accurate data on vehicle movements, ensuring precise tracking and logging that surpasses manual methods.

Community Fine and Impact Mitigation:
Optimized scheduling reduces traffic during peak community hours, preventing council fines and minimizing local disruptions.

Cost Efficiency:
By reducing the need for extensive on-site security, Origin can allocate resources more effectively, contributing to significant cost savings.

Environmental Monitoring:
Live feeds and site recordings enable real-time oversight of critical areas, helping promptly address environmental concerns, such as erosion and sediment control during adverse weather.

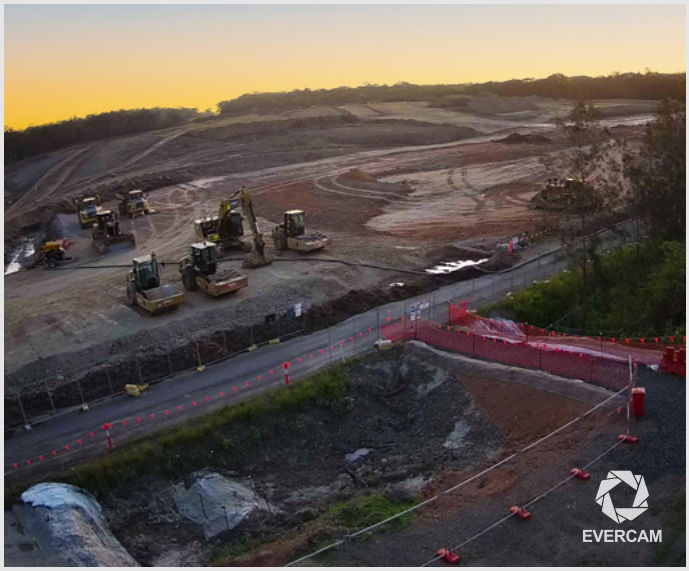
Improved Reporting:
The detailed, automated records and time-lapse videos aid in internal reporting and project management, making it easier to track progress and ensure compliance.

Results

The Evercam Gate Monitoring system had a significant impact on:

Operational Savings:
The AI's accuracy in logging vehicle movements reduced the need for extensive on-site security personnel, leading to substantial cost savings.

Risk Mitigation:
Remote access to the Evercam Platform has enabled monitoring and assisted management of erosion and sediment risks on-site during a season of above-average rainfall. Proactive monitoring helps to manage compliance and minimize the risk of potential fines.



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