

Gerrit Prent
Senior Development Officer
The Trustee for Equis Energy (Australia) Ngumi 4 Asset Trust
40 The Esplanade
Brighton, VIC, 3186

10/07/2026

Subject: Calala BESS – Out of Hours Request – Cable Joining

Dear Mr Prent,

I refer to your letter dated 29 April 2026, requesting approval to vary construction hours to allow 330 kV XLPE underground cable jointing and termination works outside of standard working hours in accordance with Schedule 2, Condition B19 of the Development Consent for Calala BESS (SSD- 52786213).

The Department has carefully reviewed the correspondence and supporting information provided. It is noted that:

- the request is being sought to facilitate the safe and timely delivery of the project;
- the request seeks to extend standard construction hours including 7am – 8am and 1pm - 5pm on Saturdays, and 8am to 5pm on Sundays for approximately 8 weeks;
- you have consulted with Tamworth Regional Council, who do not object to the request;
- work will only be undertaken during 'day' time periods and no work will be undertaken in the evening or nighttime periods;
- the noise impact assessment found predicted noise levels are generally below the applicable Noise Management Level of 45 dBA at most receivers;
- you have commenced consultation with potentially affected neighbours; and
- to mitigate noise impacts, reasonable and feasible noise mitigation measures will be adopted.

The Department considers requests to alter hours of construction on a case by case or activity specific basis. In this case the Department considers it appropriate to approve the variation.

Accordingly, the Planning Secretary approves a variation to the construction hours subject to the requirements listed below.

In accordance with Schedule 2, Condition A3, the following requirements must be undertaken:

1. only the specific work scopes listed in the Out of Hours Works document can be undertaken;
2. all noise mitigation measures proposed in the noise impact assessment and Out of Hours Works document must be adopted and implemented;
3. no works are to be undertaken on public holidays;
4. all work is to be undertaken in accordance with the requirements of Schedule 2, Condition 20;
5. notify all potentially noise affected receivers within 500 metres of the work area boundary prior to the work commencing to advise them of the extended construction hours, the contact details and how to lodge a complaint – and if a complaint or concern is raised you are to notify the Department immediately;
6. for all noise monitoring completed under the existing approval and this approval, reports are to be consistent with the requirements of Section 8.2 of the Interim Construction Noise Guideline (ICNG) and include:
 - a. details on each monitoring location, including receptor number, address and a figure showing the locations;
 - b. the date and start time of each noise monitoring event;
 - c. confirmation that each attended noise monitoring event was 15 minutes in duration;
 - d. the parameters of the results, including total LAeq and LA90 levels for each monitoring event;
 - e. the estimated site-only noise contribution for each monitoring event reported as an LAeq(15minute). If construction noise is not audible during monitoring, this should be stated;
 - f. details of activities and equipment in use during the attended monitoring, including a figure showing the approximate location of equipment on site;
 - g. weather conditions including wind speed and wind direction during each monitoring event. This should be both local conditions and from the nominated site weather station; and

- h. a letter report must be provided to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary within 7 days of completing each round of attended monitoring addressing the details above.
- 7. fortnightly attended monitoring during out of hours work at three representative receptors, locations to be agreed with the Planning Secretary, is to be undertaken to confirm compliance with relevant limits, with records to be consistent with the requirements in (6) above;
- 8. where a complaint is received, attended monitoring should be undertaken to investigate the noise and reduce noisy activities as soon as feasibly actionable;
- 9. a record of any complaints made, or non-compliances identified during monitoring, regarding works undertaken during extended construction hours must be provided to the Department within 24 hours of the complaint/non-compliance; and
- 10. if any complaint is received, appropriate mitigation measures are to be identified, and the Department and the complainant are to be informed of the measures that will be implemented to address the complaint.

Note - This approval to extend the work hours may be revoked by the Department at any time.

If you wish to discuss the matter further, please contact Wayne Jones on (02) 6575 3406.

Yours sincerely,



Katie Weekes
Team Leader - Post Approvals
Energy Assessments

As nominee of the Planning Secretary