

Final decision

GreenPoint Energy's Designated Network Asset
Access Policy for the Calala BESS

August 2026

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Inquiries about this publication should be addressed to:

Australian Energy Regulator
GPO Box 3131
Canberra ACT 2601
Email: aer inquiry@ aer.gov.au
Tel: 1300 585 165

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1 Purpose

On 11 March 2026, GP Energy (Cal) Common AssetCo Pty Ltd, (GreenPoint Energy, ABN 54 679 229 602), submitted its Designated Network Asset (DNA) Access Policy for the Calala BESS designated network asset to us for approval.¹

Our final decision is to approve the access policy. This decision document sets out our assessment leading to the approval of the access policy.

Copies of approved access policies can be found on our website.

1.1 Background

Privately owned and operated extension lines are commonly required to connect generators and large energy customers to the shared transmission network. These extension lines from generation sources and energy customers to the transmission network are broadly described as connection assets.

'Designated network assets' (DNA) are a type of connection asset. The definition of a designated network asset in Chapter 10 of the National Electricity Rules (NER) is as follows:

The apparatus, plant and equipment that:

- (a) are used from the *boundary point* to convey, and control the conveyance of, electricity, for an *identified user group*
- (b) are for the exclusive use of the *identified user group* and may be owned by different persons within that *identified user group*
- (c) include power lines that have a route length of:
 - (1) 30 kilometres or more, or
 - (2) less than 30 kilometres where the owner of those assets has entered into a *network operating agreement* in respect of those assets.

The NER, at Chapter 11 clause 11.139.4, allows connecting parties to treat transmission infrastructure as a DNA, even if it would not be classified as a DNA and 'opt in' to the DNA framework.

The NER creates a third-party access regime designed to protect DNA owners and access seekers to their network. As part of this access regime, the asset owner is required to develop and publish a DNA access policy, based on the negotiating principles for DNAs. The access policy must be approved by the AER.

DNA access policies provide essential information to access seekers and we will seek further information from asset owners where we do not consider that a policy meets the minimum NER requirements.

¹ GP Energy (Cal) Common AssetCo Pty Ltd is referred to in the DNA access policy as AssetCo and in this decision as GreenPoint Energy.

Information requests will have the effect of 'stopping the clock' until the relevant changes to the access policy are made and submitted to us. DNA owners must address the requirements in the NER in order for us to approve their policies.

The Calala BESS DNA owned by GreenPoint Energy connects the Calala BESS Substation to Transgrid's Tamworth 330/132/11 kV Substation. It is comprised of a 1.612 km 330 kV underground cable and associated 330 kV substation infrastructure.

2 AER's decision

2.1 Legal framework

Under 5.2A.8(f) of the NER, we must, within 60 business days of receiving a Designated Network Asset access policy:

- approve the policy (or a variation of the policy) if we are reasonably satisfied that it complies with the relevant requirements outlined in 5.2A.8(b1) of the NER; or
- notify the owner of the designated network asset of the reasons for not approving the access policy; or
- request further information from the owner of the designated network asset.

If the AER does not approve the policy within 6 months of the date of policy submission, the AER must itself develop an access policy.

The framework includes a 'stop the clock' mechanism to calculate the 6 month period before the AER must develop the policy. Specifically:

- If we do not consider that a policy meets the minimum NER requirements, we will request further information from the asset owner.
- This request for further information will 'stop the clock' until the relevant information is provided as soon as reasonably practicable to us by the asset owner, and in any case within 30 business days of our request.
- If we provide the asset owner with reasons why the submitted access policy cannot be approved and request a change to the access policy in order to comply with cl 5.2A.8(b1), the notification of reasons will likewise 'stop the clock' until the relevant changes to the access policy are made and submitted to us. This again should be as soon as reasonably practicable and in any case within 30 business days of our notification.
- For the avoidance of doubt, should the further information or amendment to the access policy not be provided as soon as reasonably practicable and in any case within 30 business days of our request or notification, cl 5.2A.8(f2) operates to 'stop the clock' up to a limit of 30 business days after the request for information is issued or the asset owner is notified of reasons for not approving the access policy (as applicable).
- If the AER has not approved the access policy within 6 months of submission (this can include multiple rounds 'back and forth' between the asset owner and us which would 'stop the clock' each time), then we must ourselves develop an access policy in accordance with 5.2A.8(g), (h), and (i) of the Rules.

Under clause 5.2A.8(o) Schedule 2 of the NER we must publish a [register](#) of DNAs, the identity of DNA owners and a copy of each DNA owner's access policy. This provides a source of information for access seekers on all DNAs.

2.2 AER assessment

On 11 March 2026, GreenPoint (ABN 54 679 229 602) submitted its Designated Network Asset Access Policy for the Calala BESS DNA for AER approval.

The AER's role in approving access policies is limited to assessing whether DNA access policies comply with clause 5.2A.8 of the NER.

We have undertaken a review of GreenPoint's Calala BESS DNA access policy in accordance with the NER, so that we can be reasonably satisfied that it complies with the requirements of the NER.

In undertaking our assessment, we came to the initial view that not all requirements had been fully satisfied. As permitted under the NER, we sought further information from GreenPoint throughout the assessment process, which resulted in the 'clock being stopped' on the assessment. GreenPoint subsequently provided all requested information so that we could complete our assessment process.

We assessed GreenPoint Energy's Calala BESS DNA access policy against a framework based on the requirements of clause 5.2A.8 of the Rules. Following our review and iterative requests for further information and amendments, GreenPoint Energy submitted an updated access policy on 24 June 2026 that addressed the AER's areas of concern.

Table 1 provides an overview of the broad categories against which we assessed GreenPoint Energy's Calala BESS DNA access policy. Although our assessment was in greater detail, Table 1 provides an overview of the nature of the assessment.

Table 1: AER assessment of GreenPoint Energy's Calala BESS DNA Access Policy

Category and corresponding NER references	Where addressed in the Calala BESS access policy
Information requirements: description of the asset, capacity and other limitations Clauses 5.2A.8(b1)(1); 5.2A.8(b1)(2)	Section 4 – Designated Network Asset Details, p.7 Section 9 – DNA Capacity, pp.14–15 Appendix C – DNA Route/Boundaries, pp.24–25 Appendix D – DNA Components, p.26
Consistency with schedule 5.12 in respect of costs, revenues, contractual rights and obligations Clause 5.2A.8(b1)(3)	Section 8 – Main DNA-related Obligations, pp.12–13 Appendix B – Key terms which apply to the provision of the Calala DNA Services, pp.22–23

Information and requirements regarding pricing, cost sharing, timeframes and good faith negotiations Clauses 5.2A.8(b1)(4), 5.2A.8(b1)(5), 5.2A.8(b2), 5.2A.8(b3), 5.2A.8(b4)	Appendix A – Pricing Methodology, pp.20–21 Section 6 – Timeframe for commencing, progressing and finalising negotiations, pp.9–10 Section 12 – Notices, p.19 Section 8 – Main DNA-related Obligations, p.12
Availability of commercial arbitration Clause 5.2A.8(b1)(6)	Section 10 – Dispute, p.16

2.3 Consultation

Under clause 5.2A.8(h) of the NER, we may decide to consult on a DNA access policy. To assist our decision, we considered GreenPoint Energy’s engagement with the AER and the information provided about the foundation parties and existing connected parties.

GreenPoint Energy confirmed that the foundation parties of the Calala DNA are Calala BESS A1 and Calala BESS A2, both owned by GreenPoint Energy, and that there have been no approaches from access seekers to date.

We were satisfied that consultation was not necessary, as the foundation parties (through GreenPoint Energy) were involved in the development of the access policy and there were no known current applications for access to the DNA.

2.4 Conclusion

In accordance with clause 5.2A.8(f) of the NER, on 6 August 2026 we decided to approve GreenPoint Energy’s Calala BESS DNA access policy.

3 Glossary

Acronym	Definition
AER	Australian Energy Regulator
BESS	Battery energy storage system
DNA	Designated network asset
kV	Kilovolt
NER	National Electricity Rules