Draft Environmental Impact Report Summary and Proposed Environmental Objectives

Snowtown Battery Energy Storage System (BESS)

August 2025

The Snowtown Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) is a proposed project located approximately 10 kilometres north-west of Snowtown, South Australia.

The proposed Snowtown BESS project is a 100 MW, Battery Energy Storage System located beside the existing Snowtown I Wind Farm substation. Once constructed the Snowtown BESS will store off peak power so it can be used during peak periods. This will help maintain a reliable energy supply.

Tilt Renewables is seeking approval to build the Snowtown BESS from the South Australian Department for Energy and Mining ("the Department").

We are also seeking feedback on the draft Environmental Impact Report and Statement of Environmental Objectives.

This document provides an overview of:

- The planning and approvals process
- Key draft Environmental Impact Report findings
- Draft Statement of Environmental Objectives
- Where to access the full draft reports
- How to provide feedback

If you would like to find out more about the Snowtown BESS project please visit the project website via the QR code below:

Planning and Approvals Process

The Snowtown BESS (the Project) is a regulated activity under the *Hydrogen and Renewable Energy Act 2023* (HRE Act). Tilt Renewables will seek an Associated Infrastructure Licence from the Department.

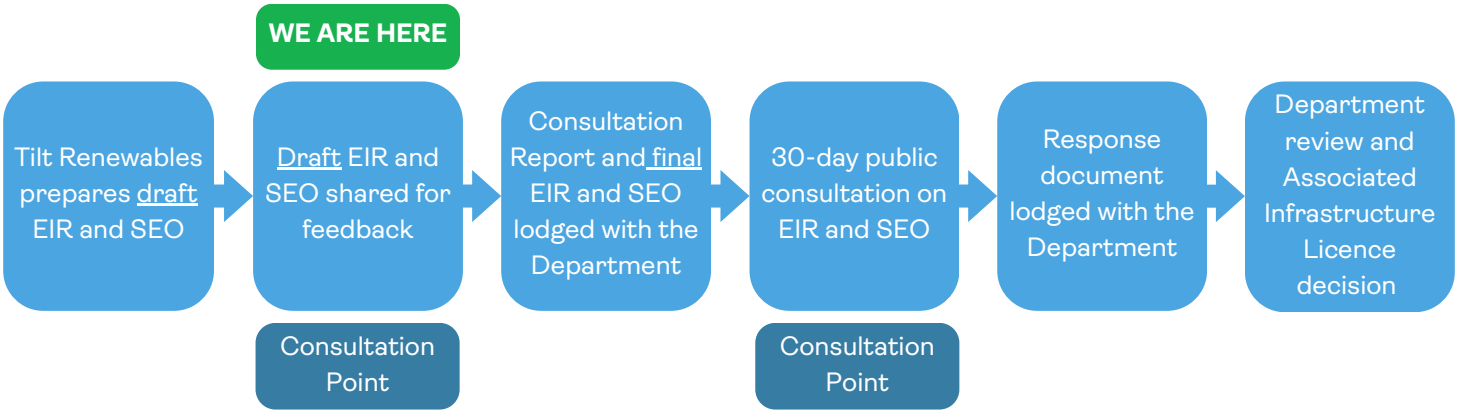
Tilt Renewables has conducted detailed environmental and social impact assessments of the Project as part of the licence application process.

Tilt Renewables is now seeking feedback on the draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) and Statement of Environmental Objectives (SEO) which have been prepared based on findings from the assessments.

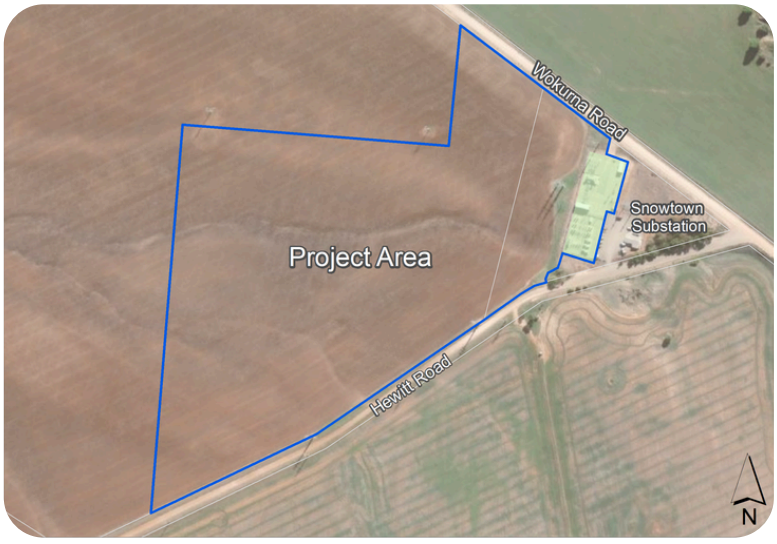
Comments on these documents can be made from **Monday 4 August 2025 to Friday 22 August 2025.**

Feedback received will be considered in the Environmental Impact Report and Statement of Environmental Objectives and documented in the final Environmental Impact Report which will be submitted to the Department.

There will be further opportunity to provide submissions as part of the Department's a 30-day public consultation period.



Overview of EIR and SEO Consultation Process



Project Area for the Snowtown BESS located next to the existing Snowtown Substation in Wokurna

Key Environmental Impact Report Findings

This section summarises the key findings from the draft Environmental Impact Report. Overall, the project impacts are expected to be limited as it would be located in a heavily disturbed field, adjacent to the existing substation and wind farm.

Aboriginal cultural heritage	• The Project Area is located on Narungga Country, which extends across the Yorke Peninsula. • A cultural heritage survey of the Project Area and adjacent road reserve was undertaken in June 2025. • The survey did not identify any Aboriginal heritage sites, objects or remains within the Project Area. • Excavations for the Project have the potential to impact previously unidentified Aboriginal heritage sites, objects or remains that may exist below the ground surface. • A Cultural Heritage Survey Report is currently being prepared which will provide management and mitigation measures to minimise risk of impacts to previously unidentified cultural heritage during the construction and operation of the Project.
Air quality	• Air quality may be impacted during construction from dust. Dust is created from typical construction activities including site preparation works, and installation of foundations and infrastructure. • Air quality impacts from construction are expected to be minimal and standard for projects of this nature. These will be managed though air quality management measures in the Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP).
BESS hazard and risk assessment	• A Preliminary Hazard Analysis of the Project investigated potential risks from the BESS, including electric shock and thermal runaway. These risks are inherent to the nature of BESS projects with appropriate design, safety and management measures in place to manage these. • There will be further studies conducted during the Project design process to help ensure Project hazards and risks are appropriately managed.

Ecology (flora and fauna)	• The Project Area is located on land used for cropping and will therefore have limited ecology impacts. • The only native vegetation clearance expected to be required will be within the adjacent road reserves along Wokurna and Hewitt Roads to facilitate site access (up to 0.0247 hectares of degraded *Austrostipa scabra* grassland with exotic grasses and herbs may be cleared). • Ecological surveys identified that the Project Area and adjacent road reserves do not host important habitat for threatened species. • Minor impacts to common bird species (e.g., Australasian Pipit, Brown Songlark) may occur due to vegetation clearance and construction noise. These impacts are not expected to be significant as the vegetation clearance required is minimal and the vegetation is not deemed to be important habitat for these species.
Hydrogeology, erosion, and drainage	• The Project will not impact any surface or groundwater resources. • Potential impacts to minor drainage lines within the Project Area will be addressed through the Project design. • Management and mitigation measures will ensure the quality of any stormwater runoff is managed in accordance with requirements of the South Australian EPA. • The Project will further consider the risk of flooding to ensure it is appropriately designed to accommodate any future flood events.
Land use	• The Project Area is cleared agricultural land and currently used for cropping. • The surrounding land is used for agriculture and the existing Snowtown I Wind Farm (with wind turbines on nearby hills). • The Project is designed to minimise hazard or nuisance to adjacent land users. It is not expected to adversely impact adjacent agricultural land users. • The Project is located within the Rural Zone under South Australia's land use planning system established under the Planning & Design Code. Renewable energy facilities are an appropriate land use in this zone according to the Planning & Design Code.

Agricultural Field where the BESS is proposed (next to the existing Snowtown Substation)

Noise	• During construction (approximately 14 months), there may be noise impacts from vehicles, plant or machinery to nearby noise sensitive receivers (e.g. houses). These impacts will be temporary, with appropriate measures to minimise noise. • Operational noise is expected to be low and compliant with the required noise levels. • Management and mitigation measures for noise will be included in management plans for construction and operations.
Public health and safety	• Construction and operation of the Project will present health and safety risks common to a project of this nature and scale. For example, safety risks to be managed include use of machinery, hazardous substances (e.g. fuel), traffic, live electricity and physical hazards like trips and falls. • These health and safety risks apply to any renewable energy project of this scale and will be managed appropriately through implementation of a Health and Safety Management Plan and Emergency Management Plan, and through establishment of site security measures to prevent unauthorised site access.
Site contamination	• There are no recorded contaminated sites or EPA licenced facilities within or near the Project Area. • The risk of finding site contamination during ground disturbing works is considered low. Preliminary site investigations are recommended before construction to confirm the absence of potentially contaminating materials.
Social impacts and benefits	• Construction of the Project is expected to boost the local economy through increased business spending, short-term accommodation demand, and regional employment opportunities. • Temporary traffic increases may result in minor temporary disruptions of farming activities (e.g. due to traffic delays) and may have minor impacts on local amenity through noise, dust, and visual impacts. These impacts will be managed through the implementation of appropriate mitigation measures and ongoing consultation with the local community. • Tilt Renewables has committed to a Benefit Sharing Plan, which will be designed to enhance social and economic outcomes for both local and regional communities, supporting sustainable development and community resilience.

Example of a completed BESS project - Latrobe Valley BESS which Tilt Renewables recently constructed in Victoria

Soils and geology	• The ground in the Project Area may include alluvial clay soils which can soften when wet. This can be managed through the right design measures. • Mitigation measures are also recommended to manage potential erosion and sedimentation, particularly during construction. • The foundations for the project are likely to be well above groundwater. This means that groundwater is unlikely to be encountered during excavations. This aspect will be further considered as the Project progresses.
Traffic and roads	• Construction traffic will temporarily increase traffic volumes on local roads, including Wokurna Road (east) and on Wokurna Road (west). This is manageable given the low current traffic volumes on these roads. • A Traffic Management Plan will be prepared to manage construction-related traffic impacts. This includes the safe movement of project vehicles to and from site. • Operational traffic will be minimal with no significant impacts expected.
Visual amenity	• The Project will have a limited impact on visual amenity. The area is generally shielded from view of surrounding towns and homes by the adjacent hills and located adjacent to the existing substation and wind farm. • Wherever possible, Project buildings will be painted in muted colours appropriate to the setting to blend in with the surrounding landscape.

Proposed Environmental Objectives

Tilt Renewables has developed and committed to the following environmental objectives for the Snowtown BESS Project:

1. No unauthorised disturbance to native vegetation and fauna.
2. No unacceptable spread of pest plants, pest animals, or plant and soil pathogens in the Project Area beyond pre-project levels.
3. No unacceptable disturbance, including contamination of surface water drainage or watercourses.
4. No unacceptable exposure of humans or the environment (including groundwater) to contaminated material and hazardous substances.
5. No unauthorised disturbance to Aboriginal cultural heritage sites and objects.
6. No unacceptable construction or operational noise impacts.
7. No unacceptable disturbance to the surrounding road network.
8. No unacceptable air quality impacts.
9. No unacceptable disturbance to stakeholders.
10. Maintain the health and safety of the public and other third parties.
11. No uncontrolled fires resulting from authorised operations.

The Project will report to the Department on performance against environmental objectives throughout the life of the Project.

Proposed Criteria

The Project's environmental objectives will be assessed using **assessment criteria**.

Leading performance criteria will also be used to identify if any additional measures are necessary to achieve compliance with the relevant environmental objective.

A table of the proposed criteria for the Project is provided in **Table 3.1** in the draft Statement of Environmental Objectives which can be found via the QR code below.

Where to access the full draft reports?

The full draft Environmental Impact Report and Statement of Environmental Objectives reports, and associated technical studies, can be found on the Snowtown BESS website via the QR code.

If you would like to request any further details or technical studies regarding the environmental aspects summarised above, please reach out to us.

How to provide feedback?

We are seeking feedback on the draft Environmental Impact Report and Statement of Environmental Objectives, particularly:

- Elements of the Project area that have significant environmental value
- How those values should be managed
- The environmental objectives and criteria proposed to protect and manage the environment

You can provide feedback via:

- **Email:** snowtownbess@tiltrenewables.com
- **Phone**: 1800 938 458

Comments on the draft the Environmental Impact Report and Statement of Environmental Objectives can be made until **22 August 2025**.

Next steps

Tilt Renewables will update the Environmental Impact Report and Statement of Environmental Objectives following review of all feedback received. A Consultation Report will be included in the updated Environmental Impact Report.

Following this, the report and objectives will be finalised and lodged with the Department for assessment. During the Department's assessment, they will release the Environmental Impact Report and Statement of Environmental Objectives for a further 30-day public consultation phase where additional feedback can be provided.