

# Rathmines Battery Energy Storage System (BESS)

Community update #1  
May 2025



**Ausgrid is proposing a battery in Rathmines to add energy storage to the local electricity network.**

**We're planning for the energy network of the future, now.**

**This battery will store 480MWh of energy - that's enough to power over 32,400 Ausgrid households a day.**

As we switch to renewable sources like solar and wind power, we need more energy storage to make sure we have power when the sun isn't shining, and the wind isn't blowing. This will mean we can provide our customers with more sustainable, more reliable and more affordable power.

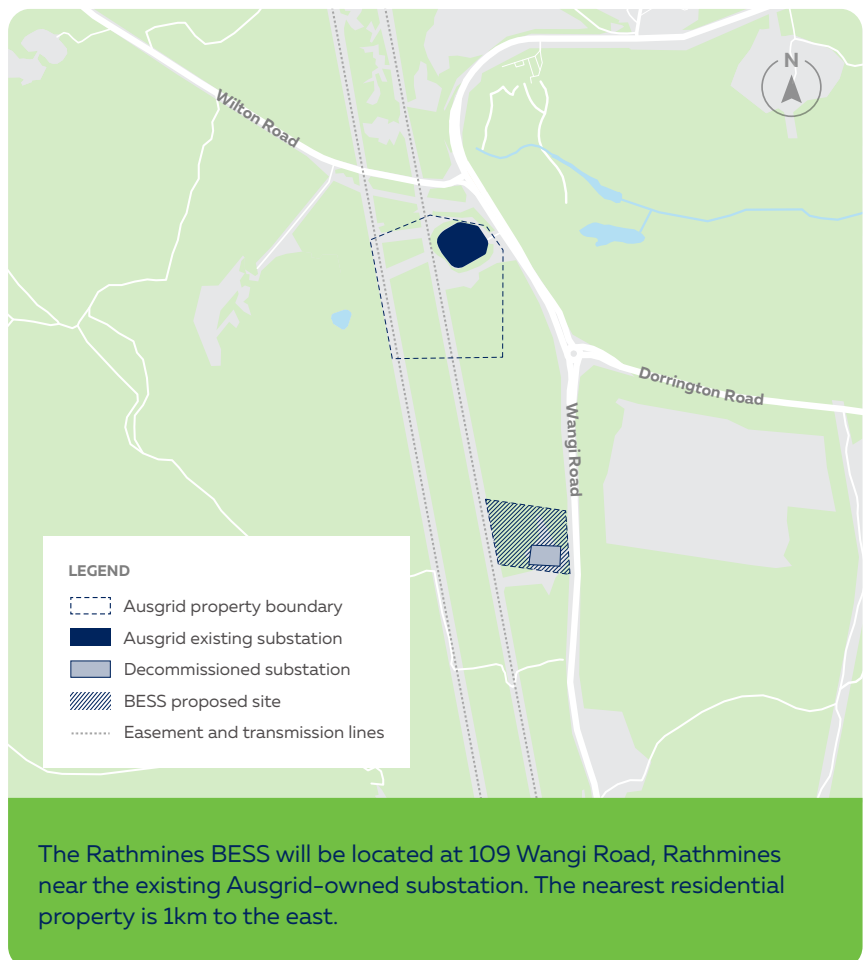
NSW needs six times more energy storage before 2030. Projects like the Rathmines BESS are important to help keep our electricity supply stable.



Store **480MWh**  
of energy



Power **32,400**  
households a day



# What is a BESS?

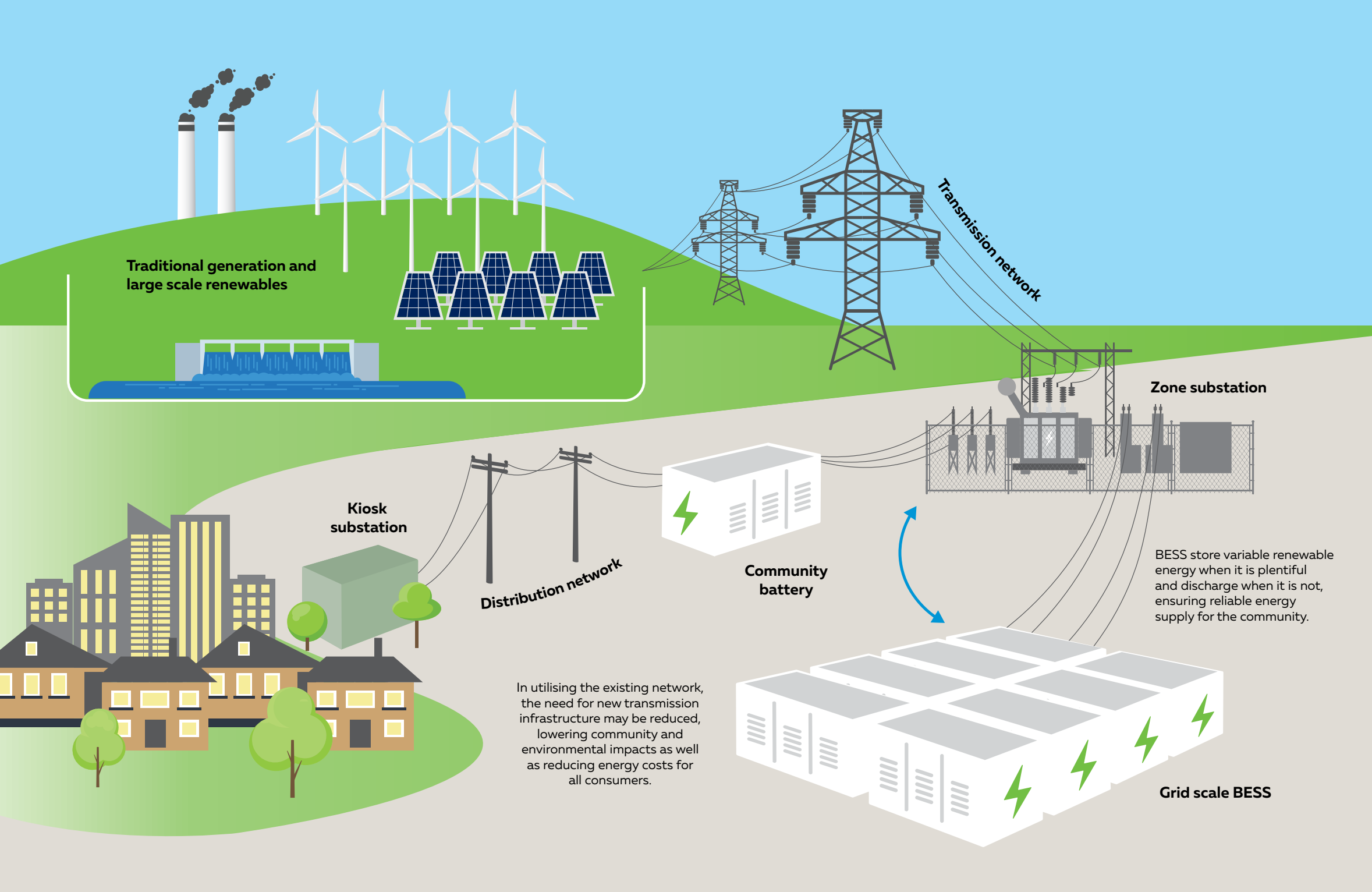
A Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) is a group of large rechargeable batteries, connected to form one very large battery. BESS collect energy, store it when there is a lot and then release it when there is high demand for electricity. These large batteries are critical to ensuring the reliability of electricity supply for households and businesses.

As we transition to new forms of energy, there is more variability in when energy is produced. This energy generation, such as solar and wind, doesn't always produce electricity at times that match when we use it. Energy storage matches energy generation and energy use.

BESS store extra electricity from both rooftop solar systems and large-scale generators. When electricity is in higher demand, such as when the sun goes down, BESS then feed it back into the network.

By connecting BESS to our existing substations, we are reducing the impact on our communities and the environment, and decreasing the need to build more large transmission and distribution lines, which helps reduce costs and makes electricity more affordable.

Ausgrid is also connecting community batteries to our network infrastructure. Community batteries are the same technology, at a smaller size and help manage energy from roof top solar, locally.



Enabling more renewable energy



Reducing the need for new transmission lines



Local construction jobs



Improving grid stability and reliability



Enabling more affordable electricity

## BESS support the clean energy transition and make the energy network more:



### Reliable

BESS helps more renewable energy to come online by storing energy when there is more than we need and releasing it when it's required. This keeps the power supply steady, even when the sun isn't shining or the wind isn't blowing, providing a more resilient and reliable electricity network.



### Affordable

BESS connected to Ausgrid's current network makes the most of existing infrastructure. It reduces the need for additional investment. This makes the cost of electricity cheaper over time than it would be without this investment.



### Sustainable

BESS enable more renewable energy, like wind and solar, to connect to the energy network. By connecting to our existing substations, it avoids the need for new transmission lines, reducing the environmental and community impacts.

## Planning and approval process

Ausgrid is proposing the BESS to be located next to the existing substation at 109 Wangi Road, Rathmines. If approved, the project will be built and operated by a third party.

We are in the early planning stage. We are engaging with stakeholders and local community to help us better understand how the project might affect the environment and local residents.

We want to hear from the local community and answer any questions you might have. The feedback we get from this early consultation will help shape the project.

### ONGOING COMMUNITY CONSULTATION AND ENGAGEMENT

#### 1 Mid 2025

- Submit Scoping Report to NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure and request SEARS
- Prepare Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)

#### 2 Late 2025

- Submit EIS to NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure
- EIS Exhibition

#### 3 Mid 2026

- Project determination

#### 4 Mid to late 2026

- Start construction

## Community pop-up

We are holding a pop-up information session and invite you to come to learn more about the project and have your questions answered.



**Saturday 14 June, 9am - 12pm**

Toronto Town Square  
63 The Boulevard,  
Toronto, NSW 2283

For more information and to register your interest, scan the QR code or visit:

[yoursay.ausgrid.com.au/rathminesbess](https://yoursay.ausgrid.com.au/rathminesbess)

To talk to the project team, please email:

[batteries@ausgrid.com.au](mailto:batteries@ausgrid.com.au)



## Who is Ausgrid?

Ausgrid is a distribution network service provider. We operate, maintain, repair and build the electricity network in Sydney, the Central Coast and the Hunter.

We distribute electricity to your home or business, maintain existing infrastructure, and invest in new technologies to make the network more sustainable, reliable and affordable. We also need to make sure the network is ready for our customers' future needs.

## Find out more

We want to hear from local community members about our project and answer your questions.

Stay up-to-date by visiting our website:



[yoursay.ausgrid.com.au/rathminesbess](https://yoursay.ausgrid.com.au/rathminesbess)



**1800 574 044**

Monday to Friday 9am to 4:30pm



**[batteries@ausgrid.com.au](mailto:batteries@ausgrid.com.au)**



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If you need an interpreter, please call the Translating and Interpreting Service on **131 450** and ask them to call the project team on **1800 574 044**. The interpreter will then help you with translation.