Proposed Kamay Energy Storage

Community update #3
November 2025

Ausgrid is proposing a battery in Kurnell to add energy storage to the local electricity network. We're planning for the energy network of the future, now.

Thank you to everyone who has engaged with us so far. Your feedback is helping shape the project design, technical studies, and planning processes.

Since our last update, we've submitted our Scoping Report to the NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (DPHI), and are now preparing the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

This next phase involves detailed field studies to assess potential impacts and guide project design. We remain committed to keeping you informed throughout the process.

Capacity to store up to **150MW** for 2 hours

Power **16,200** households a day

About Kamay Energy Storage

This battery will have capacity to store up to 150MW for 2 hours – enough to power over 16,200 households a day. This is a slight increase in capacity since early consultation. This increase is possible as battery technology is continuing to evolve, enabling more power without increasing in size.

The project is designed to store energy and release it during times of high demand – helping to improve stability and resilience across the electricity network. By using land already owned and managed by Ausgrid, the project avoids the need for new land acquisition or transmission infrastructure.

To learn more and provide your feedback visit **yoursay.ausgrid.com.au/kurnellenergystorage**

Technical assessments – findings so far

A range of technical field studies are underway to assess potential impacts and inform the project's design. These studies will be submitted as part of the EIS and made publicly available during exhibition.

Here's a summary of what's being assessed and our findings so far:

Preliminary Hazard Analysis

This analysis evaluates risks from electrical incidents, weather events, equipment failure, fire safety, and other operational hazards. While unlikely, if a fire were to occur, we must have measures in place to prevent it from spreading.

To meet safety standards, we will maintain safe spacing between all battery units and ensure water is available on-site. If the project is approved, a detailed Fire Safety Study - developed in consultation with Fire and Rescue NSW - will include an emergency response plan.

Biodiversity

Early findings show the site, as defined by land within the fenced boundary, has limited ecological value, with mostly concrete areas and some introduced grasses and weeds. It forms part of the existing Kurnell Zone Substation, which is already developed land. We recognise the surrounding Towra Point Nature Reserve is internationally significant.

Our environmental assessments and construction plans will include a detailed review of indirect impacts such as stormwater runoff, lighting, and firewater management.

Cultural heritage

We've commenced studies, including a walk on Country with Registered Aboriginal Parties (RAPs). So far, no artefacts of significance have been found on site.

Heritage assessments will continue for another few months, and we'll report additional findings if they arise.

Noise

Noise assessments consider worst-case scenarios. The main source of noise is cooling fans. With noise walls along the northern and eastern boundaries installed and lower fan speeds set, noise limits can be managed, ensuring compliance with NSW Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) standards and minimal impact on nearby homes.

Visual

Photomontages showing how the BESS will look are being finalised and will be publicly available in the EIS. To help manage visual impact, we're planning for a noise wall along the site frontage, which will also serve as an opportunity to showcase local artists.

We intend to collaborate with local Aboriginal artists to create an artwork for the wall, adding a meaningful and visually appealing feature along Captain Cook Drive. We will share details of this with the community once available.

Social and economic

Construction is expected to create around 100 jobs at peak construction, with a small number of ongoing operational roles once the project is complete. We're working with contractors to set targets for local workforce participation and will actively engage local suppliers and service providers wherever possible.

These efforts aim to contribute to the local economy and ensure the benefits of the project are shared within the community.

What is a BESS?

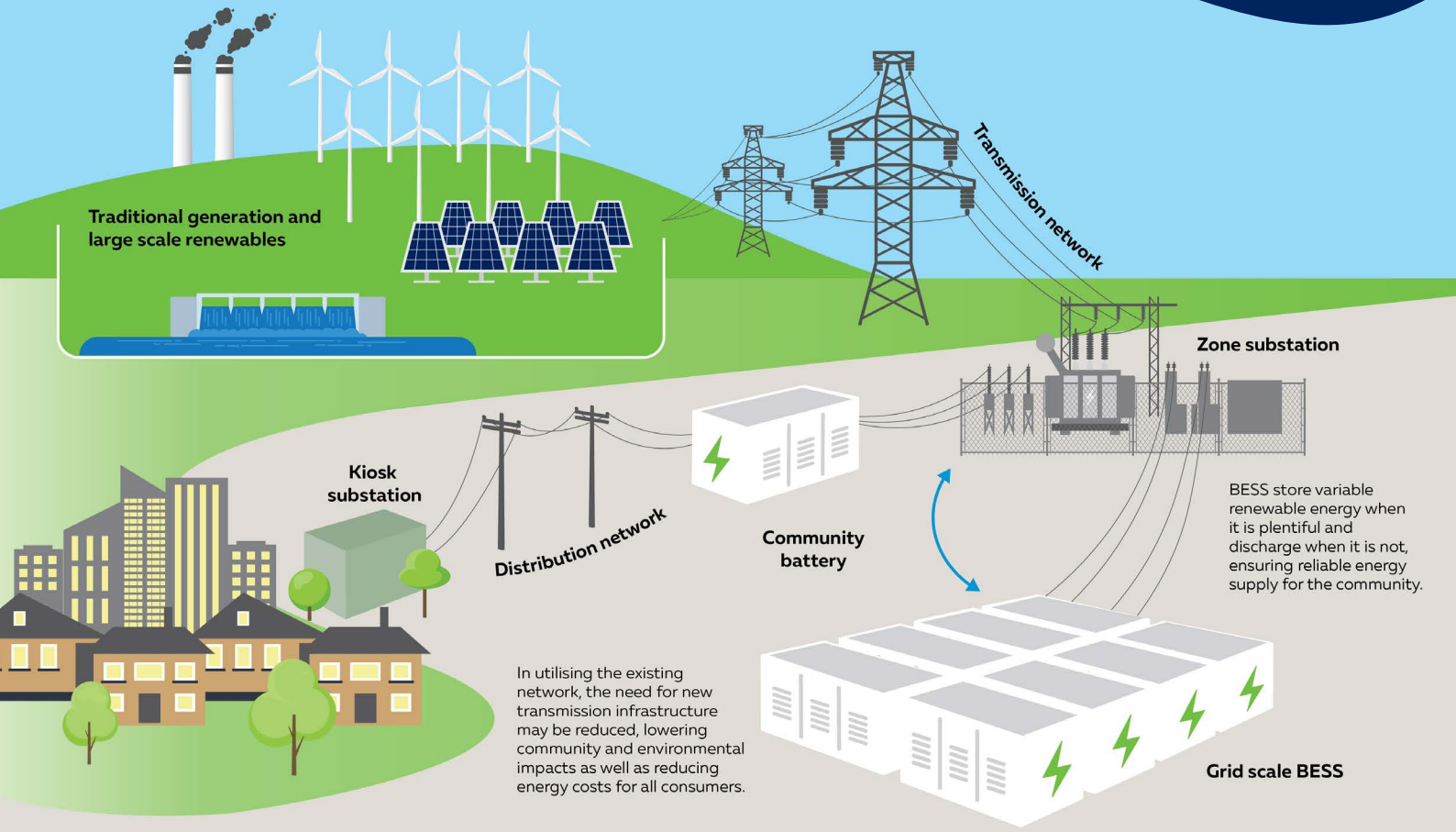
A Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) is a group of large rechargeable batteries, connected to form one very large battery. A BESS collects energy, stores it when there is a lot and then releases it when there is high demand for electricity. These large batteries are critical to ensuring the reliability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

By connecting a BESS to our existing substations, we are reducing the impact on communities and the environment, and decreasing the need to build more large transmission and distribution lines. This 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 rooftop 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**



Join us for a community information drop-in session

We're holding another drop-in session to share more about the project and answer your questions. Come along to:

- Learn more about the EIS and technical studies
- Speak with project team members
- Share your feedback and ask questions.

No RSVP required – drop in anytime during the session.

27

Thursday, 27 November
3.30pm-6.30pm
Marton Community Hall

Tell us what you think

We are seeking your feedback to help inform the project design and the Social Impact Assessment (SIA) being prepared by Colliers Urban Planning (formerly Ethos Urban). The SIA is an independent study required as part of the State Significant Development Application (SSDA).

This social impact survey will take about 10 minutes to complete. All information provided is confidential and only reported in an anonymous aggregated form. We may use specific quotes to highlight stakeholder sentiment, but these are never attributed to you personally.

Planning pathway

Kamay Energy Storage is being assessed as a **State Significant Development (SSD)** under the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 (NSW)* by DPHI.

July-August 2025

Early community consultation with stakeholders and the community.

September 2025

- Scoping Report submitted to DPHI, outlining the project concept and key issues identified through the community consultation.
- Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARs) received – issued by DPHI.

Next steps

- **Late 2025:** Community consultation to continue, including another community drop-in session to share findings of preliminary studies.

We are here

- **Early 2026:** Finalise the EIS and submit to DPHI for public exhibition.
- **Early-mid 2026:** The full EIS and supporting technical assessments will be publicly exhibited, allowing community, stakeholders and government agencies to provide formal comments and submissions.

We'll keep our project website regularly updated with new information as it becomes available.

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.

yoursay.ausgrid.com.au/kurnellenergystorage

1800 574 044
Monday to Friday 9am to 4:30pm

batteries@ausgrid.com.au

Ausgrid BESS Project Team
GPO Box 4009 Sydney NSW 2001

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.

Ausgrid