

EnergyAustralia Lithgow Region Community Consultative Committee

Final Meeting Minutes – 25 August 2026

Member attendees:

- Julie Favell
- Jim (Cricket) Whitty
- Brian Fitzgerald
- Rob White
- Jamie Giokaris
- Brad Cluff
- Cr Ray Smith – Lithgow City Council
- Ben Eastwood – EnergyAustralia
- Jonathon English – EnergyAustralia
- Dave Simpfendorfer – EnergyAustralia

Also present:

- Sandra Politi – Lithgow City Council
- Ashley Manning – LEG Alternate (observer)

Apologies:

- Auntie Helen Riley
- Brad Cluff for the latter part of the meeting

Presenters:

- Jarvis Lulham – EnergyAustralia
- Dr Tammy Weaver – ERM
- Harley McNamara – Lake Lyell Hydro

Chair:

- Brendan Blakeley

Item	Discussion Point
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| 1 | <p>Welcome and introductions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The meeting began at 5:00 pm.• The chair welcomed all members.• The chair acknowledged Country.• The chair asked for declarations of interest:<ul style="list-style-type: none">- The chair noted he chaired a similar group for EnergyAustralia at Tallawarra Power Station.- The chair declared payment received from EnergyAustralia for his role as independent chair of this CCC.- No other interests were declared.• The chair introduced Ashley Manning as the LEG alternate and noted apologies from Auntie Helen.• Dave Simpfendorfer announced Cath Russell has left EnergyAustralia and he has assumed her role on the CCC. |
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2	Questions on notice, standing items and actions (Slides 6 to 13)
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Action Item 1: Ben Eastwood to contact National Parks to present the groups' concern about the numbers of feral pigs and request a concerted control program noting the effectiveness of previous programs that used professional shooters.

Following the June meeting, Ben met with an NPWS representative in July 2026 and reported on the following points from the discussion:

- NPWS have experienced ongoing presence of pigs in the Marrangaroo National Park.
- They are undertaking a pig trap installation program across August/October 2026.
- They trapped approximately 80 pigs in 2025
- NPWS do have shooters engaged from time to time as part of their pig management program.

Rob White commented that pigs are still a problem and asked would EnergyAustralia undertake their own control program on their land

Ben replied that the pig traps are still being used on EnergyAustralia's land around Mt Walker and Lake Lyell. He added that there is no present consideration being given to engaging professional shooters as there is a drilling program underway in the area. EA will continue to review its pig management controls and support any regional management programs implemented by other agencies and landowners in the area.

Action Item 2: Wangcol Creek

Ben noted that EnergyAustralia has submitted the Wangcol Creek options assessment report to the EPA and that further information will be provided at the next CCC following discussion with the EPA on the preferred option. He added that there will also be presentation later in this meeting on EnergyAustralia's preferred option for an interim measure to address salt concentrations in sections of Wangcol Creek.

Action Item 3: MOD 10 Conditions – response under 3.1 Operations and Project Updates section

Action Item 4: Lake Lyell Hydro. The Chair requested that key aspects of the Response to Submissions (RTS) report for the LLH Project be presented at the August meeting.

Dave Simpfendorfer noted that the RTS was still being prepared and requested that this item be deferred to a CCC meeting after the RTS report is completed.

Standing update on the Wombat Mange Management Program

Jarvis noted the MPPS Environment Team has completed a wombat monitoring and treatment campaign at the Thompsons Creek Biodiversity Offset Area. The monitoring and treatment campaign is moving to land surrounding MPPS and this will commence in Q4 2026. The treatment program is undertaken in accordance with the Wombat Protection Society Australia (WPSA) policies and procedures.

Julie asked about the nature of the monitoring program and how is efficacy of the program measured

Jarvis replied that only relatively small numbers of animals are involved. As part of monitoring, the team have used cameras to track activity as well as surveys looking for active and inactive burrows.

Question on Notice 1: Could an overview of the Mod 10 conditions be presented.

This matter is covered in the Operations and Project Updates section for Environmental Planning Approvals (Agenda item 3.1)

Question on Notice 2: Please provide further details on the planned partial mining lease relinquishment for the eastern mining lease area (Jenkins property) near the end of View St. Can the committee have information of map location & current zoning of Jenkins property being relinquished? What are the proposed current land uses for that future zoning?

Ben outlined the area on the map (Slide 11). The land to be relinquished is private property and has been utilised by the landowner for grazing cattle for several years. It has been rehabilitated in agreement with the landowner. The land is currently zoned as rural. This zoning will not be changed by the relinquishment of the mining authorities by EnergyAustralia.

Julie added that recently there was shooting in the area near the haul road.

Ben responded that this area is private property and EnergyAustralia has not undertaken any shooting on this land. Dave Simpfendorfer added that if Energy Australia was to undertake shooting on their property, they would advise neighbours in advance.

Question on Notice 3: Julie Favell requested additional clarification on the mention of data centres as a possible future use under the Climate Transition Action Plan.

Julie Favell added that LEG didn't support data centres because of water and energy use.

Dave Simpfendorfer responded that:

- LEG's position on data centres is noted
- The planning for transition at Mt Piper is still in its earliest stages
- The mention of data centres was only as part of a group discussion about possible future uses that could utilise available land and existing transmission infrastructure
- As planning progresses any proposed projects will be shared with the CCC for consideration
- All development proposals will ultimately need to go through standard approvals processes which will include detailed reporting on environmental impacts such as water usage.

Question on Notice 4: A request for additional detail on the mention of stabilising agent added to stockpiled coal as part of Mod 10.

Ben stated that:

- EnergyAustralia does not intend to utilise any stabilising agent at this point in time
- At one point treatment was considered to improve flow of coal on conveyors but engineering controls have been adopted to reduce coal moisture content instead
- If used the stabilising agent will be a bentonite clay product (or a similar inert substance) as a coal conditioning agent.

Jonathon added that stabilising agents could reduce handling risk and wastage of coal, but they aren't needed currently.

3 Project Updates

Environmental Planning Approvals update. (Slide 15-17)

Ben noted that MOD 10 has now been approved and conditions are set out in the approval. He added that the conditions are largely standard. The full conditions are available at:

[MOD 10 - Water Management Changes | Planning Portal - Department of Planning and Environment](#)

Lake Lyell is the only remaining project undergoing assessment.

Station Operations (19-23)

Jonathon English noted:

- Recent safety performance as summarised on [Slides 20 and 21](#).
 - There is a major focus on safety leading up to the outage given the nature of works and number of people on site.
 - Market patterns are largely unchanged and the growing contribution of solar and batteries into the grid continues.
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- Fuel supplies to the station are reliable and good quality.
- Both units are operating well cycling between low load and high load generation as required.
- Unit 2 is being prepared for the major outage.
- There is no change in utilisation of treated water.

Pine Dale Mine (Slide 24- 25)

Jarvis Lulham noted:

- Pine Dale remains in a steady state
- The annual Rehabilitation Monitoring is upcoming and will include a nesting box survey
- Annual mining regulation reporting is underway
- Pine Dale Mine is progressing with a partial mining lease relinquishment for the Eastern Portion of ML 1578
- Future land use options for the site continue to be investigated.

Mt Piper BESS (Slide 26-30)

Dave Simpfendorfer noted the BESS project has received planning approval, and work is being undertaken to inform the final investment decision (FID). Current BESS related activities include:

- Progressing the voluntary planning agreement with Council
- Having procurement discussions with suppliers
- Subject to FID sod turning could occur in early 2027
- Given the prolonged closure of Victoria Pass alternative haulage routes are being reviewed, including the location of ports to land equipment from overseas
- The traffic management plan may require modification to reflect any changes in haulage routes.

Dave then showed an image of the Wooreen battery in Victoria that was very close to completion.

Julie asked if rail was still being considered.

Dave replied that all modes are being looked at but there are constraints on rail given the size of some items of equipment.

Lake Lyell Pumped Hydro (Slide 31-32)

Harley noted:

- He was replacing Cath Russell as the point of community contact for Lake Lyell Pumped Hydro project.
 - A third round of geotechnical investigations is being undertaken. These investigations will serve to ground truth earlier studies and confirm geotechnical details arising from the reconfiguration of the upper reservoir and refining the location of the station cavern. The drilling will occur on previous bore pads from the lake up to the ridgeline. It is anticipated that drilling works will be completed before the end of this
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year and this work is not expected to be disruptive. Access for drilling equipment is via barge, Bloody Cutting Rd (the primary access route) and Oakey Forest Rd with some light vehicles using Girraween Rd as well.

- The lakeside site remains the preferred location for workers' accommodation
- The response to EIS submissions report was still being prepared and this is taking longer than envisioned.

Rob White asked about the notification process for drilling on Mt Walker
Harley replied that near neighbours were notified a week in advance of site establishment works commencing.

Rob White asked if the results of the drilling will made be public.
Harley replied that it wasn't intended to make this data public. It was for use by the project team to confirm details related to some changes in location of the reservoir and the station cavern. Harley added if there was specific information Rob was seeking, he could see if it could be provided.

Clr Smith asked if additional road works are needed to enable rig access up to Mt Walker.

Harley replied that the drilling program is using the existing pads and access routes that were used for earlier round of geotechnical works.

Clr Smith asked about the status of the excision of the proposed workers camp site from Council's lease.

Harley noted that Lake Lyell Pumped Hydro is engaging with Council re excising the Magpie Hollow Rd workers camp location from the lakeside lease. A negotiated outcome is preferred, and Lake Lyell Pumped Hydro doesn't want to go down a forced pathway. If excision isn't possible then the Pottery Estate site within Lithgow will need to be pursued.

Clr Smith asked what engagement has occurred with residents around Pottery Estate.

Harley explained that Silcock St residents have been doorknocked and are aware of this as an option. Some of the surrounding residents are not keen on having the workers accommodation near them and neighbours would need to be further engaged if this option was to go ahead.

Clr Smith noted that council had recently requested that EnergyAustralia provide a summary of all high impact aspects of the project and make this information readily available for council and the public. He added that this should have been available during the exhibition so that people didn't have to wade through all parts of the EIS. As examples he noted the 13-meter drop in the reservoir level for the dry construction option was hidden away in an appendix and things described as temporary

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vegetation removal were misrepresented, as when you looked at the detail it states 50 years' time is needed for the vegetation to grow back.

Harley noted that Lake Lyell Hydro has sent a letter to the General Manager responding to the council request. LLPH took the view that it was better to focus on what information was in the EIS and highlighting where it could be found, as people could judge the degree of impacts differently. Regarding the dry construction option, Harley emphasised it isn't Lake Lyell Hydro's preferred construction option, but lowering the water levels to permit a dry construction method still needs to be assessed as part of the EIS.

Rob White added that it wasn't just about the option for a significantly lower construction water level, there were several major issues that were only identified in appendices or supporting documents. Overall given the size of the EIS, there wasn't enough transparency or guidance on the nature of major impacts. It was too easy to miss key information, and the community had only one opportunity to comment during exhibition and overall, the process was a failure.

3.6	<u>Community Update</u> (Slides 33- 34)
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Dave Simpendorfer provided an overview of recent community engagement as follows:

- Ongoing community engagement for LLPH
- Council briefing on Mt Piper outage and LLPH
- 2027 Apprenticeships Info Night with 52 people attending. 12 people have progressed to further interviews and testing with 4 apprenticeships to be awarded later in September for a December start.
- Lithgow Chamber of Commerce Energy Business Briefing night
- Station tour by Electrical Energy Society of Australia
- Women's Shed solar panels installation
- Round 2 of the grants programs is open from 01 September through to 30 September.

4	Projects in Focus <u>Unit 2 Planned Outage</u> (Slides 35-36)
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Jonathon noted the amount of preparation that has occurred in advance of the actual outage commencing on 01 September. The efficiency improvements to the turbine will enable the generation of an additional 30 MW for the same amount of coal consumed. In addition to the turbine improvements, EnergyAustralia will take the opportunity to repack the second water cooling tower. Site safety is a major consideration and many of the early works have focused on getting areas ready for a large workforce to undertake their tasks in safe environment. To date EnergyAustralia has commenced establishment works including:

- Making work areas safe by installing fall barriers and drop protection
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- Unpacking and cleaning turbine components
- Setting up workrooms and village setup
- Erecting scaffolding in the boiler, turbine and cooling tower
- Cooling tower fill media construction and delivery
- Creating 800 specific work permits for a wide range of tasks throughout the outage.

Wangcol Ck Proposed Interim Mitigation Measures (Slides 37 -58)

This presentation was commercial in confidence and only a high-level summary is provided in the minutes.

Dr Tammy Weaver noted that she and her team from ERM have been working on this project for some time.

Seepage from Mt Piper Ash Repository (MPAR) was identified as the source of increased analyte concentration in Wangcol Ck. In response to this Lamberts North Ash Repository (LNAR) was redesigned to be fully lined and capped and a methodology for reducing infiltration of water into MPAR was developed, approval for the works sought and they are now being implemented. The capping and water diversions off MPAR are long term measures to reduce infiltration of water through the repository and leaching out of dissolved salts into the groundwater system.

While LNAR is fully lined and not impacting groundwater, at MPAR it may still take up to 15 -20 years for the intervention to take effect and stop percolation of salt laden water into the groundwater system. Given this extended timeframe EnergyAustralia has asked ERM to look at interim mitigation measures that could help to reduce concentration of indicator analytes in surface water along sections of Wangcol Creek during low flow periods. ERM developed and assessed a series of six interim options against the following criteria:

- Effectiveness in reducing saline groundwater discharge into the creek
- Effectiveness in reducing key indicator analytes in the creek
- Timeframe to realise improvements
- Adaptability and performance risk uncertainties
- Constructability constraints
- Community acceptance
- Regulatory acceptance
- Overall sustainability.

Of these six options, the Wangcol Ck streamflow augmentation option was identified as the most sustainable and feasible short-term measure. This option would see the introduction of additional daily flows of approximately 1 Megalitre (ML) into the creek when flow rates are low. (Note a standard Olympic sized swimming pool is around 2.5 ML). Depending on the electrical conductivity of the water introduced into the creek, it is anticipated that typically flows would only need to be augmented for around 70 days each year.

This option has the benefit of being non-intrusive, low disturbance and adaptable. The other options entailed physical works within the creek and works within the riparian zone were seen as unlikely to improve water quality and have a high degree of approval uncertainty.

Discussion

Julie Favell noted that this work needs to be publicised to highlight the degradation of the creek that has been allowed to occur over the past 100 years of mining and electricity production. This is a legacy issue and the government should be covering the cost of a comprehensive response.

She noted that it was difficult to endorse this option on the spot as:

- it wasn't restoring a natural system or remediating the damage already done.*
- the real change is still up to 20 years away*
- there needs to be a much more ambitious target for reducing conductivity levels within creek water to less than 350 $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$ (above which is not conducive to aquatic life).*

Julie also expressed concerns that:

- there is still no surefire guarantee that the long-term works will stop the leaching*
- in dry times when problem was at its worst there will be other demands upon the water sources that will be used to augment the Wangcol Creek flows.*

Tammy noted that even without the seepage from MPAR there were at times naturally high levels of conductivity in creek water due to the geology of the area.

Julie asked about natural water cleansing systems such as algae and reed beds could be used to reduce concentration of salts within the creek.

Tammy replied that these can be used to control turbidity, and some organic elements they are not effective in removing salts. Stopping infiltration of the ash repository across the long term and in the shorter term diluting the creek water are the only way to address salt.

Ben Eastwood added that the benefit of Mt Piper was the multiple sources of water that are on hand to augment the flows.

Brian Fitzgerald commented that high levels of sulphates and oxidation of coal were problem in water bodies across the region.

Rob White noted that from the information given this seems like a viable temporary solution and that it comes down to the question of does

Item	Discussion Point
	<i>EnergyAustralia do something to address the problem in the interim, or do they do nothing while waiting for the long-term measures to take effect. Rob added that the other options also seem to have high costs, involve complex approvals and greater uncertainty as to whether they work or not.</i> <i>Jim Whitty congratulated EnergyAustralia on looking at interim options added that until the seepage through the ash repository stops dilution seems to be the best choice.</i> <i>Jamie Giokaris added that at times we need to rely on the experts. This is an historical problem, and affirmative action needs to be taken.</i> <i>Clr Smith noted that it is good to see EnergyAustralia putting in the effort to address a longstanding problem, and that this option has the benefit of being adaptable.</i> Ben Eastwood noted that independent of the options work that will still take time to finalise, EnergyAustralia will soon start to rehabilitate and revegetate some sections of land adjacent to Wangcol Ck. <u>Climate Transition Action Plan Update</u> This item was deferred to the November meeting.
5	Meeting close • The meeting closed at 7.15 pm. • The next standing CCC meeting will be held in late November 2026. • The chair thanked members for their participation.

EnergyAustralia Lithgow Region

Community Consultative Committee

25 August 2026

Presenters:

Jono English – Head of Mt Piper

Ben Eastwood – NSW Environment Planning Leader

Dave Simpfendorfer – NSW Community Engagement

Jarvis Lulham – Senior Environment Officer

Harley McNamara – LLH Community Engagement

Dr Tamie Weaver – ERM



EnergyAustralia
LIGHT THE WAY

Agenda

1. Welcome – Acknowledgement of Country – Apologies – Declarations of Interest
2. Minutes, Actions, Standing Items, and Questions on Notice
3. Operations and Project Updates
 1. Environmental Planning Approvals
 2. Mt Piper Power Station
 3. Pine Dale Mine
 4. Mt Piper BESS
 5. Lake Lyell Pumped Hydro
 6. Lithgow Community
4. Projects in Focus
 1. Mt Piper Unit 2 planned outage readiness
 2. Wangcol Creek Plan
 3. Climate Transition Action Plan 2027 – What We Heard report discussion
5. General discussion
6. Meeting Close

Acknowledgement of Country

We would like to acknowledge the Wiradjuri people as the Traditional Owners of the land on which we meet today, and recognise and respect their connection to culture, land and unity.

We pay our respect to their Elders past, present and emerging.



Artwork by Wiradjuri Elder and Mingaan Wiradjuri Aboriginal Corporation
representative Aunty Sharon Riley

Apologies

Declarations of Interest

2. Minutes, Actions, Standing Items, and Questions on Notice

Action Item 1 – Pig Management

Minute from 2 June 2026

The community CCC members requested that Ben contact National Parks to present the groups' concern about the numbers of feral pigs and also request a concerted control program noting the effectiveness of previous programs that used professional shooters.

Update

- Ben spoke to National Parks representative in July 2026, National Parks stated:
 - They have experienced ongoing pig management challenges in the Marrangaroo National Park.
 - They are undertaking pig trap installation program August/October 2026.
 - They trapped approx. 80 individuals in 2025
 - They do have shooters engaged from time to time as part of their pig management program.

Action Item 2 – Wangcol Creek

Minute from 2 June 2026

EnergyAustralia has submitted the Wangcol Creek options assessment report to the EPA and that further information will be provided at the next CCC following discussion with the EPA on the preferred option.

Update

Action item acknowledged. The plan for Wangcol Creek will be discussed later in the meeting (Agenda item 4.2)

Action Item 3 – MOD 10 Conditions

Minute from 2 June 2026

Julie Favell requested that an overview of the Mod 10 conditions be presented at the next meeting.

Update

Action item acknowledged. Mod 10 status and the nature of conditions will be presented in the Operations and Project Updates section for Environmental Planning Approvals (Agenda item 3.1)

Action Item 4 – Lake Lyell Hydro

Minute from 2 June 2026

The Chair requested that key aspects of the Respond to Submissions report be presented at the August meeting.

Update

Action item acknowledged. As the Response to Submissions (RTS) is still in progress, a report will be presented at the CCC meeting after the completion of the report.

Response deferred.

Standing Item 1 –Wombat Mange Program

Wombat Management Program

Current activities

- MPPS Environment Team has completed a wombat monitoring and treatment campaign at the Thompsons Creek Biodiversity Offset Area
- A monitoring and treatment campaign on lands surrounding MPPS is scheduled to commence in Q4 2026
- The wombat treatment program is undertaken in accordance with the Wombat Protection Society Australia (WPSA) policies and procedures



Question on Notice 1 – Pine Dale Mine

Raised by Julie Favell

From 2 June Minutes: "Currently looking at a partial mining lease relinquishment for the eastern mining lease area (Jenkins property) near the end of View St. Future land uses are being investigated"

Can the committee have information of map location & current zoning of Jenkins property being relinquished? What are the proposed current land uses for that future zoning?

Response

The land to be relinquished is private property and has been utilised by the landowner for grazing cattle for several years. The land has been rehabilitated in agreement with the landowner who intends to use the area for agricultural activities. The land is currently zoned as rural under the LCC LEP. This zoning will not be changed by the relinquishment of the mining authorities by EnergyAustralia.



Question on Notice 2 – Data Centres

Raised by Julie Favell

Referring to Climate Transition Action Plan (CTAP) previous CCC minutes ideas for future planning uses of Mt Piper site. One suggestion was data centres and as we know the massive water requirements needed, the Coxs River or Farmer Creek system flow is limited. LEG does not support data centres given the historic and ongoing current environmental contamination impacts with residual (salinity/salt) issues with the only available source of water being mine discharge water. Another point is that community supply of ongoing potable water is a priority in particular in drought times.

Response

LEG's position on Data Centres is noted. EA is in the earliest phase of planning for the Mt Piper transition. As planning matures, key project elements will be shared with CCC for more detailed consideration. All development proposals will ultimately need to go through standard approvals processes which will include detailed reporting on environmental impacts such as water usage.

Question on Notice 3 – Stabilising Agent

Raised by Julie Favell

From 2 June Minutes: Please advise for detail on what is: Mod 10 "stabilising agent to stockpiled coal"?

Response

EnergyAustralia does not intend to utilise any stabilising agent at this time. Other engineering controls have been adopted to reduce coal moisture content at MPPS.

The stabilising agent will be a bentonite clay product (or a similar inert substance) as a coal conditioning agent.

3. Operations and Project Updates

3.1 Environmental Planning Approvals

Environment Planning Approvals

	Approval Stage					
	Project Description/ Introduction (SEARs or MOD briefing, application briefing)	Complete Environmental Studies & Prepare Report (SEE, EIS, or Mod report)	Lodge Application with Determining Authority (DPHI or LCC)	Public Exhibition	EA Response to Submissions (RTS)	Determining Authority Assessment & Project Determination
EA Project	Community Consultation					
Lake Lyell Pumped Hydro Site Investigation Geotech (Council DA)						Approved
Lake Lyell Pumped Hydro Site Investigation Geotech Mod 1 (Council DA)						Approved
Lake Lyell Pumped Hydro (CSSI)						
Mt Piper Battery Energy Storage System (SSD)						Approved
Lamberts North Ash Repository Mod 2 – extension of operating hours (SSD)						Approved
Mt Piper MOD 9 – Ash repository capping (SSD)						Approved
Mt Piper Mod 10 – Coal Settling pond augmentation (SSD)						Approved
Springvale Water Treatment Plant Mod 11 – Transfer of water from SWTP to TCR (SSD)						Approved

Mt Piper Mod 10 – coal settling pond augmentation

Approved June 2026

Scope comprises changes to coal settling ponds.

Conditions: s published

- (g) details of a risk assessment for the proposed coal conditioning agent to be used within the coal stockpile as described in Modification 10, including toxicity, pH and solubility.

BIODIVERSITY IMPACTS

- 55A. Prior to commencing any work that would directly or indirectly impact on biodiversity values, the Applicant must retire biodiversity credits of the number and classes specified in Table 1.
- 55B. Condition 55A must be carried out in accordance with section 6.4 and section 6.29A of the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016* and clause 6.2 of the *Biodiversity Conservation Regulation 2017*.
- 55C. Prior to carrying out any work that would directly or indirectly impact on biodiversity values, evidence must be provided to the Secretary that conditions 55A and 55B have been met. Evidence must be provided to the Secretary that the correct number and class of credits has been retired prior to commencing the disturbance associated with each offset stage.

Table 1| Biodiversity credit requirements

Credit Type	Credits Required
Ecosystem Credits	
PCT 3347 – Southern Tableland Creekflat Ribbon Gum Forest	16
PCT 3510 – Capertee Slopes Stringyback-Box Forest	4
Species Credits	
Black Gum – <i>Eucalyptus aggregata</i>	6
Large Bent-winged Bat – <i>Miniopterus orianae oceanensis</i>	4
Squirrel Glider – <i>Petaurus norfolcensis</i>	36

55D. Prior to any removal of culverts associated with Modification 10, the Applicant must engage a suitably qualified ecologist to inspect potential breeding structures and relocate any roosting microbats for Large Bent-winged Bat (*Miniopterus orianae oceanensis*).

CONSTRUCTION ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

56. Prior to the commencement of construction of Modification 10, a Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) must be prepared to outline environmental management practices and procedures to be followed during the construction of Modification 10. The CEMP must:
- be prepared:
 - in accordance with condition 70; and
 - in consultation with NSW Heritage and WaterNSW; and
 - include details of measures to be implemented to manage impacts to:
 - Aboriginal heritage, including:
 - an unexpected finds protocol to manage encountering previously unrecorded or unanticipated Aboriginal objects, developed in consultation with the development's RAPs;
 - an unanticipated skeletal remains protocol including a stop works procedure, measures to secure the area to avoid further harm to remains, notification requirements to local police and Heritage NSW and consultation requirements with RAPs (for reburial) and with the Department to resume works; and
 - measures to protect known Aboriginal heritage sites including AHIMS 45-1-2847;

- ii. biodiversity values, including:
 - short, medium, and long-term measures to be undertaken to manage the remnant vegetation and fauna habitat on the site;
 - a description of measures to be implemented within the approved disturbance areas to:
 - minimise the amount of clearing;
 - minimise impacts on fauna, including outcomes of requirements in condition 55D and management of impacts to roosting microbats for large bent-winged bat (*Miniopterus orianae oceanensis*) prior to removal of potential suitable breeding habitat and culverts; and
 - maximise the salvage of resources, including tree hollows, vegetation and soil resources, for beneficial reuse, including fauna habitat enhancement;
 - a description of measures to be implemented in the site to:
 - minimise impacts on fauna habitat resources such as hunting and foraging areas, habitat trees, fallen timber and hollow-bearing trees;
 - control access to vegetated or revegetated areas;
- iii. water resources, including:
 - erosion and sediment controls; and
 - measures to minimise groundwater seepage during expansion of the setting pond, water storage ponds and pollution control structures described in Modification 10; and
- iv. air quality and noise, including:
 - minimising off-site dust, fume and other air pollutants of the development;
 - a description of the reasonable and feasible measures that will be implemented to minimise noise impacts of the development.

57. Construction of Modification 10 must not commence until the CEMP is approved by the Secretary.

57A. The CEMP, as approved by the Secretary, must be implemented.

MANAGEMENT PLAN REQUIREMENTS

70. Management plans required under this consent must be prepared in accordance with relevant guidelines, and include:
- (a) quality control information, including document version control details and the management plan author(s);
 - (b) a summary of the environmental management context, including:
 - a brief development description, including visual representation of any development staging; and
 - the purpose and scope of the management plan;

- (c) the relationship of the management plan with other environmental management documents or systems;
- (d) a site location plan identifying the development boundary, disturbance area and related environmental aspects;
- (e) a brief summary of background or baseline data, where relevant;

Note: If detailed baseline data must be included in a management plan, it must be appended and summarised in the main text of the management plan.

- (f) a summary of consultation undertaken during the preparation of the management plan that includes when and how consultation was undertaken and the outcomes of the consultation;
- (g) details of the statutory requirements, limits or performance measures and any specific performance indicators that are proposed to be used to judge the performance of, or guide the implementation of, the development or any management measures;
- (h) a description of the measures to be implemented to comply with statutory requirements, and the limits, performance measures, criteria and operational requirements of conditions of this consent;
- (i) a program to monitor and report on the:
 - impacts and environmental performance of the development; and
 - effectiveness of the management measures implemented for the development
- (j) a contingency plan to manage any unpredicted impacts and their consequences and to ensure that ongoing impacts reduce to levels below relevant impact assessment criteria as quickly as possible; and
- (k) a protocol for periodic review of the plan.

Note: The Secretary may waive some of these requirements if they are unnecessary or unwarranted for particular management plans.

EVIDENCE OF CONSULTATION

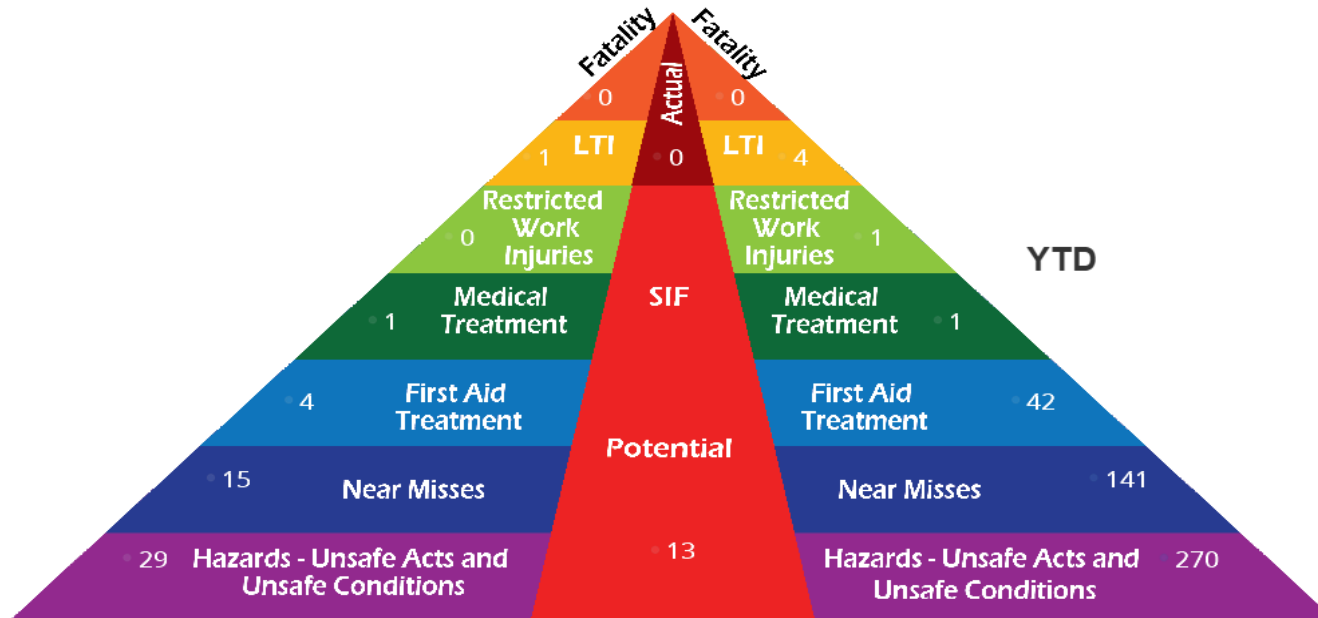
71. Where conditions of this consent require consultation with an identified party, consultation must be undertaken with the relevant party prior to submitting the subject document to the Secretary for approval. Documentary evidence and a tabulated summary of the consultation must be submitted with the subject document via the NSW planning portal (Major Projects), including:
- (a) dates of the consultation with the identified party, copies of the identified party's response, and a summary of the issues raised;
 - (b) the outcome of that consultation, including how the issues have been addressed in the subject document; and
 - (c) details of any disagreement remaining between the party consulted and the Applicant, and how the Applicant has addressed the matters not resolved.

3.2. Operations - Mt Piper Power Station

Site Safety – July 2026

Safety Triangle

Jul 26



YTD is calculated to the end of the previous month

Site Safety – July 2026

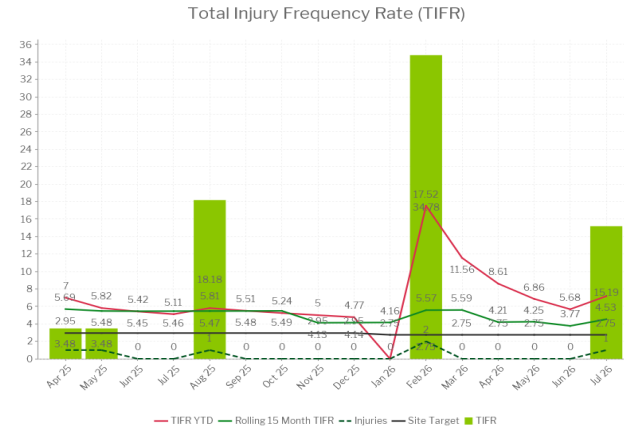
YTD – TIFR (As of July 2026)

Actual = 15.19

Target = 5.5

Ops and Projects

(Note 2.75 is EA Target overall)



Month	TIFR	TIFR YTD	Rolling 15 Month TIFR	Site Target	Injuries
Apr 25	3.48	7.00	5.69	2.95	1
May 25	3.48	5.82	5.48	2.95	1
Jun 25	0.00	5.42	5.45	2.95	0
Jul 25	0.00	5.11	5.46	2.95	0
Aug 25	18.18	5.81	5.47	2.95	1
Sep 25	0.00	5.51	5.48	2.95	0
Oct 25	0.00	5.24	5.49	2.95	0
Nov 25	0.00	5.00	4.13	2.95	0
Dec 25	0.00	4.77	4.14	2.95	0
Jan 26	0.00	0.00	4.16	2.75	0
Feb 26	34.78	17.52	5.57	2.75	2
Mar 26	0.00	11.56	5.59	2.75	0
Apr 26	0.00	8.61	4.21	2.75	0
May 26	0.00	6.86	4.25	2.75	0
Jun 26	0.00	5.68	3.77	2.75	0
Jul 26	15.19	7.18	4.53	2.75	1

Market update – operation in the market

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Operations update – August

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Operations update – August

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3.3. Operations – Pine Dale Mine

Pine Dale Mine

- No non-compliances at the Pine Dale Mine reported
- Annual Rehabilitation Monitoring is upcoming including nesting box survey
- Annual mining regulation reporting is underway
- Pine Dale Mine is progressing with a partial mining lease relinquishment for the Eastern Portion of ML 1578
- Future land use options for the site continue to be investigated



3.4 Project - Mt Piper BESS

Early works underway



- Early works commenced to prepare the project for **Final Investment Decision (FID)**.
- Targeting in late 2026:
 - Final Investment Decision
 - Executed Voluntary Planning Agreement (VPA) with Lithgow Council
- Project sod turn in early 2027.

Project timeline

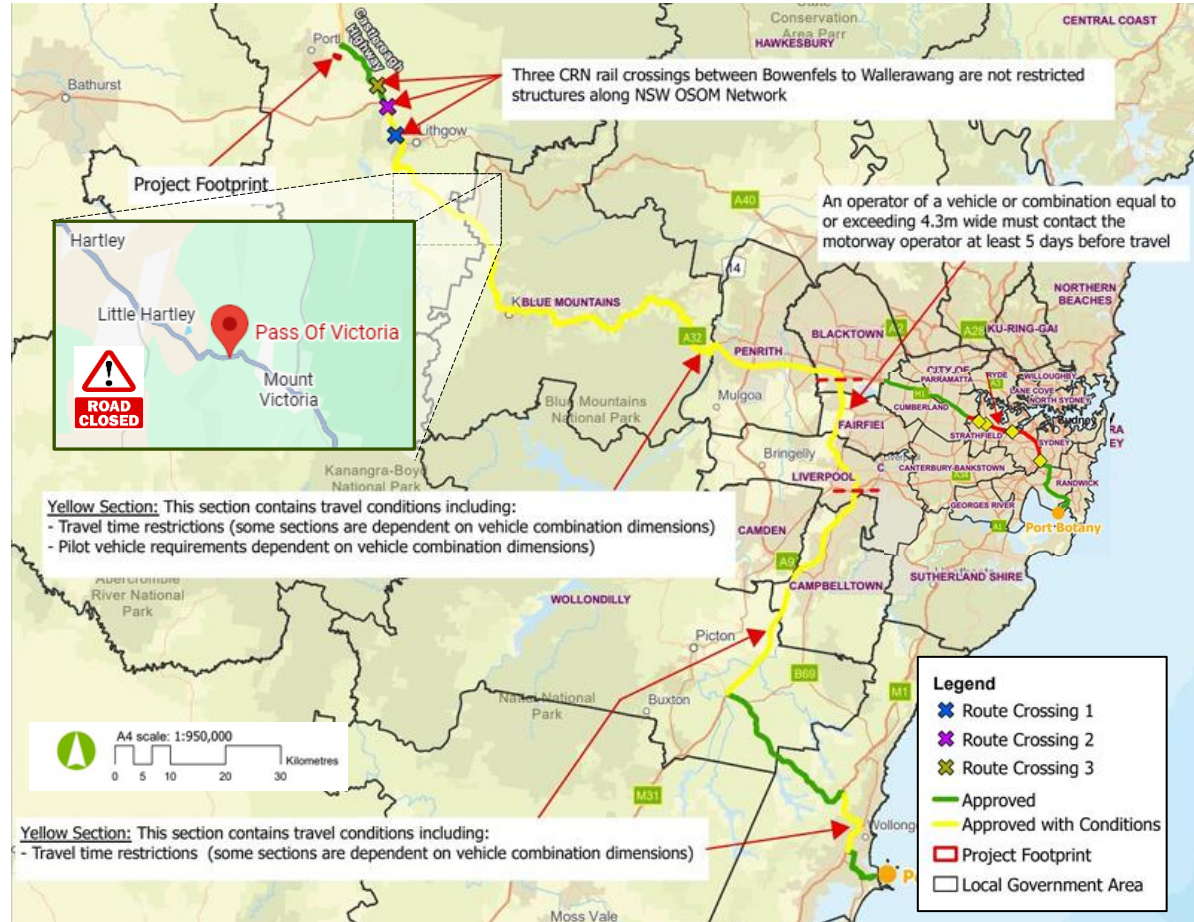


Artist's render of the completed Mt Piper BESS

Haulage

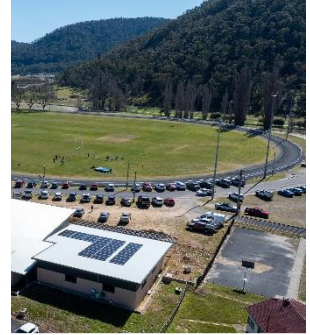
- A planning modification is under consideration to add a new haulage route for OSOM loads given the road closure at Victoria Pass is extending into 2027.
- Modification will likely be lodged early next year following confirmation of the project's Traffic Management Plan

Source: Development Consent - Mt Piper Battery Energy Storage System, 15 Nov 2024, NSW Government – Planning, Housing and Infrastructure. Appendix 3, combined figures 1 & 2.



Delivering for the community

- Solar and battery storage installed on the Lithgow Women's Shed. (Pictured right – Mayor Coleman attending)
- Cultural Awareness Training and First Nations Artwork tenders awarded





Aerial photo from sister project, "Wooreen," a 350MW/4hr BESS, in Gippsland Victoria.

All battery packs now on site.
Substation to be energised this month.

3.5 Project – Lake Lyell Pumped Hydro

Project Update

Third round of geotechnical investigations now under way

Workers' accommodation location identification underway - Lakeside remains preferred

Preparing response to EIS submissions report



3.6 Community engagement

Community engagement

Mt Piper and Projects

RECENT EVENTS

- Ongoing community engagement for LLH
- Council briefing on Mt Piper Outage and LLH
- 2027 Apprenticeships Info Night
- Lithgow Chamber of Commerce Energy Business Briefing night
- Station tour by Electrical Energy Society of Australia
- Women's Shed solar panels installation

2026 Round 2 Lithgow Region Grants

Community funding for local initiatives that will deliver sustainable benefits to the Lithgow region.

Open 1 to 30 September



Mt Piper community grants opening soon

Image: 2026 grant recipient, Lithgow High School



2027 Apprenticeships Info night

2 July 2026

52 people attended

4 positions advertised

72 applicants including 17 female and 10 First Nations applicants

23 applicants shortlisted and now undertaking psychometric testing; 12 to be interviewed.

Offers to be made by end-September

Apprenticeships commence Monday 14 December

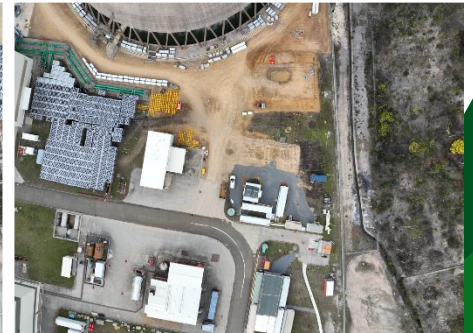
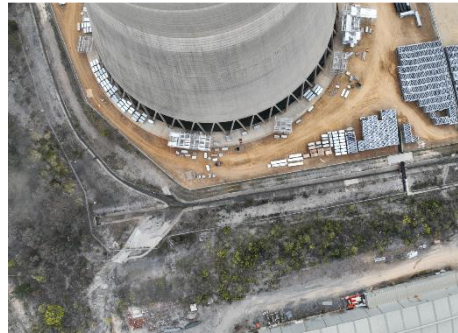


4. Projects in Focus

4.1 Mt Piper Unit 2 Planned Outage

Mt Piper Unit 2 Upgrade Outage

- Unit 2 outage planning remains on track
- Early works and preparations are well underway – we've already spent \$14.84M
 - Turbine components unpack and clean up
 - Village setup
 - Scaffolding preparation (Boiler, Turbine and Cooling Tower)
 - Cooling tower fill media construction and delivery
- 800 individual permits for work created
- All systems go to start on 1st September



4.2 Wangcol Creek Plan



MT PIPER POWER STATION

Wangcol Creek Proposed Mitigation Measure

PRESENTED TO: COMMUNITY CONSULTATION COMMITTEE

PRESENTED BY: ERM, DR TAMIE WEAVER ON BEHALF OF ENERGYAUSTRALIA

25 AUGUST 2026

Sustainability is our business

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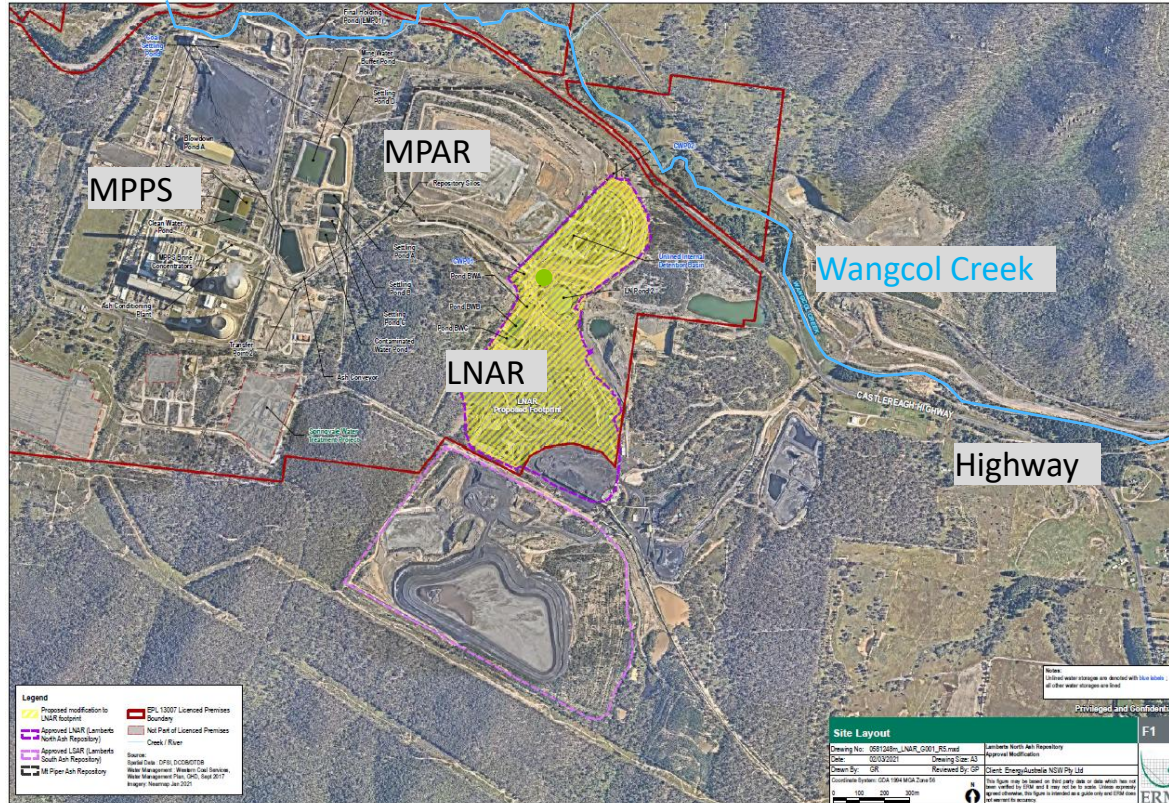
Agenda

- 1 Introduction and Background
- 2 Overall Objectives
- 3 Independent Investigation Findings
- 4 Outcomes for Repository Designs
- 5 Wangcol Creek Options – Assessment of Interim Measures
- 6 Closing



Introduction and background

Project Background – Site layout, key terminology



- MPPS – Mt Piper Power Station
- MPAR – Mt Piper Ash Repository
- LNAR – Lamberts North Ash Repository
- BCA – Brine Conditioned Ash
- Wangcol Creek on the other side of the Castlereagh Highway

Introduction and background

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Mining in Wangcol Creek

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Outcomes from Independent Investigation

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Redesign of LNAR – Prevent seepage from BCA at LNAR

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MPAR Capping and Drainage Strategy

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Mitigation of impacts to Wangcol Creek

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Wangcol Creek Options – Assessment of Interim Measures

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Wangcol Creek Options – Assessment of Interim Measures

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Wangcol Creek Options – Assessment of Interim Measures

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Wangcol Creek Options – Assessment of Interim Measures

Wangcol Creek Options – Assessment of Interim Measures

Wangcol Creek Options – Assessment of Interim Measures

Outcomes

Interim measure while the source controls (Capping and Drainage Strategy) at MPAR take effect

The **Wangcol Creek streamflow augmentation option** was identified as:

- The most sustainable and feasible **short- to medium term** option to improve water quality in Wangcol Creek while the MPAR Capping Strategy takes effect
- A **non-intrusive, low-disturbance, and adaptive** hydrologically-based approach that would avoid unnecessary disturbance

The Wangcol Creek streamflow augmentation option would:

- Be effective in reducing key indicator analyte concentrations in Wangcol Creek
- Have the shortest timeframe to realise water quality improvements once implemented
- Require minimal new disturbance, with input infrastructure confined to the existing MPPS operational footprint
- Be highly adaptable, enabling responsive management under variable climatic conditions
- Have lower ecological and approvals risks compared with backfilling, excavation or redirection of a section of Wangcol Creek

Many of the alternative additional options considered would require material physical works in the riparian zone and present a wide range of environmental risks associated with such works, and related timeline constraints. Others do not address the key indicator analytes.

The options with physical works in the riparian zone are unlikely to improve water quality in Wangcol Creek.



Wangcol Creek – revegetation

- EA NSW will be undertaking vegetation planting along a section of Wangcol Creek in Q3 of 2026
- Plants were sourced from the Lithgow local community nursery
- Species that will be planted include:

Trees	Shrubs
<i>Eucalyptus rossii</i> (Scribbly Gum)	<i>Acacia dealbata</i> (Silver Wattle)
<i>Eucalyptus sparsifolia</i> (Narrow-leaf Stringybark)	<i>Bursaria lasiophylla</i> (Hairy Native Blackthorn)
<i>Eucalyptus rubida</i> subsp. <i>rubida</i> (Candlebark)	<i>Bursaria spinosa</i> (Native Blackthorn)
<i>Eucalyptus bridgesiana</i> (Apple Box)	<i>Cassinia arcuata</i> (Chinese Shrub)
<i>Eucalyptus polyanthemus</i> (Red Box)	<i>Cassinia laevis</i> (Cough Bush)
<i>Eucalyptus dalrympleana</i> (Mountain Gum)	<i>Acacia ulicifolia</i> (Prickly Moses)
<i>Eucalyptus macrorhyncha</i> (Red Stringybark)	

- Approximately 800 trees and shrubs will be planted in this area



Native Blackthorn



4.3 Climate Transition Action Plan 2027

CTAP 2027 What We Heard

Climate Transition Action Plan

- Did we capture the community's views correctly?
- Are there any important issues, perspectives, or stakeholder groups that you feel are missing from the report?
- If EnergyAustralia could focus on only one thing over the next 12 months to improve confidence in the transition process, what should that be?



5. General discussion and closing remarks

Thank you