



The future happens here

ARMIDALE EAST BESS FACT SHEET



Overview

Leading Australian solar developer, FRV Services Australia (FRV), is pursuing development approval for a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) located approximately 16 km east of Armidale NSW. The proposed Armidale East BESS is located within the New England Renewable Energy Zone (REZ), will be built on a approximate development site of 12 hectares, and is expected to have a capacity of up to 400MW and 2400MWh.

The benefits

Increases clean energy storage

The BESS improves the stability and reliability of the electricity network by storing energy during periods of low demand, and dispatching energy during periods of peak demand and emergency events.

Create jobs

Up to 130 full-time equivalent (FTE) construction jobs and up to 5 FTE operational jobs.

Income for local area

Diversify income and increase revenue to ancillary services such as food and accommodation to the local area.

The project

The Armidale East BESS will utilise the latest technology in the sector, complying with all safety and hazards parameters that are highly regulated by the Australian Government. Design and layout of the project will be compliant with local planning laws and will specifically aim to minimise any potential environmental, cultural heritage and neighbour impacts.

Construction and operation of the project would involve the following key components:

400MW / 2400MWh BESS including:

- Battery containers
- Inverters
- Transformers
- Cooling systems if required
- Fire suppressions systems
- Switch rooms
- Switch yard
- New access road to the site
- Parking site, site office and amenities for operational use.

Temporary infrastructure, including construction facilities, site offices and amenities, tool and material storage sheds, construction staff car parking, component laydown areas and truck parking and unloading would also be required.



Figure 1.1 Example of a BESS development

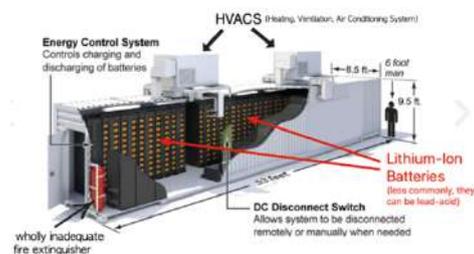


Figure 1.2 Artist impression of a BESS

Armidale East BESS site map

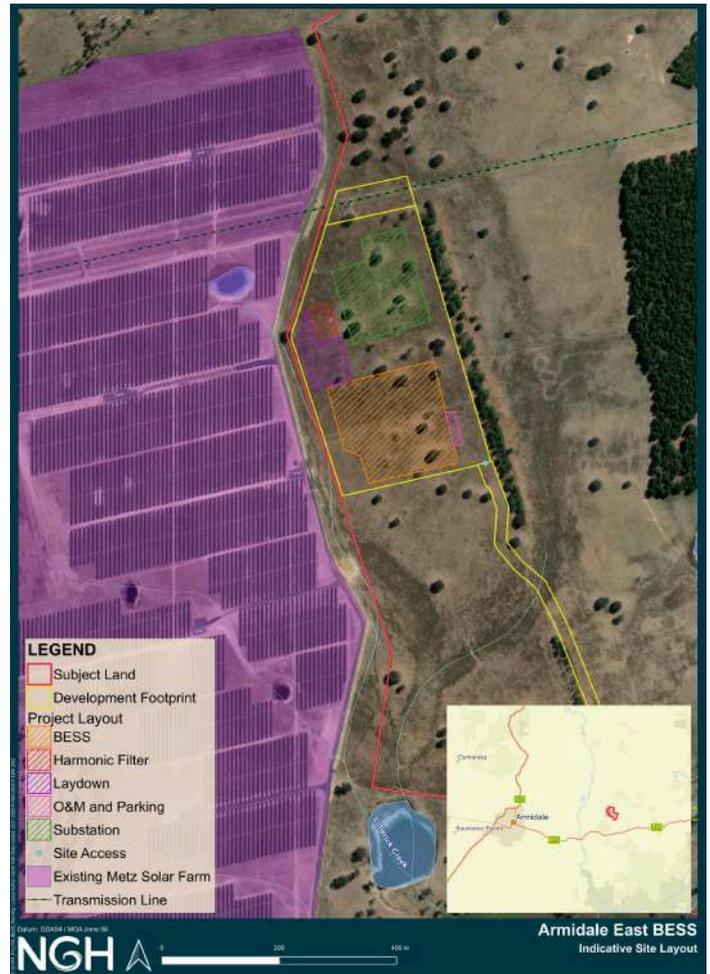
The project site (outlined in yellow) would have a development footprint of about 12 hectares. Its location makes for an easy connection to the existing transmission line to the north of the site (drawn in pink).

The planning and approval process

The project is currently in the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) phase. Early studies and community engagement began in 2023, including preparation of a Scoping Report, which was submitted to the NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (DPHI) in December 2023. The Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARs) were subsequently issued, outlining the studies needed for the EIS. Since then, environmental, technical and design assessments have continued alongside refinements to the project layout, capacity and delivery planning. The EIS submission is currently targeted for March 2026.

At the Commonwealth level, the project will be assessed under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act). This assessment will be undertaken in coordination with the NSW Government as part of the EIS process, enabling a single, streamlined environmental review.

In parallel, the project has secured a long-term energy service agreement, providing financial certainty and supporting progress toward delivery if approved. This milestone underpins commitments to local procurement, employment and training opportunities. Discussions are also underway with Council regarding a Voluntary Planning Agreement (VPA), in line with NSW benefit-sharing guidelines, to help ensure the project delivers lasting community benefits alongside the planning process.



About FRV

FRV Services Australia Pty Ltd is a subsidiary of Fotowatio Renewable Ventures (FRV), founded in Spain. FRV is a leading global developer of renewable energy solutions for a cleaner and more sustainable future.

Since entering the Australian market in 2010, FRV has primarily focused on renewable development projects along the east coast, with eight operational photovoltaic (solar) plants, two under construction and five in development across Queensland, NSW Victoria.

FRV is an Independent Power Producer (IPP), fully owning its assets from development to construction and through to operation, for the entirety of their lifetime. FRV is entirely committed to their projects and does not develop projects to sell post-construction.

Get in touch



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