

Expression of Interest

First Nations Wiradjuri Artwork

Mt Piper Battery Energy Storage System (BESS)

1. Overview

EnergyAustralia is seeking Expressions of Interest (EOI) from First Nations artists, with a strong preference for artists connected to Wiradjuri Country, to develop a signature artwork for the Mt Piper Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) project in Lithgow, NSW.

This artwork will become the visual identity of the project, reflecting the connection between Country, energy, community and the future energy system.

2. About the Mt Piper BESS project

The Mt Piper BESS is a proposed large-scale battery energy storage system located near Lithgow, NSW. The project will:

- Support energy reliability and grid stability
- Store energy for use when it is needed most
- Enable greater integration of renewable energy into the system
- Contribute to the energy transition and future of electricity in NSW

The project is expected to enter construction from 2026, with a peak workforce of approximately 150–200 people, and transition into operations thereafter.

3. Artwork vision and themes

The commissioned artwork should be inspired by:

- Wiradjuri Country and cultural connection to place
- The concept of energy as a life force
- Storage, keeping and holding (energy, knowledge, community)
- Light, movement and transformation
- The role of Lithgow as a place that has long powered NSW

Artists are encouraged to interpret these themes in a way that is authentic, culturally grounded and contemporary.

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4. Use of artwork

The selected artwork will be adapted and applied across a range of project materials, including:

- Workforce uniforms and PPE elements
- Project site signage and hoarding
- Communication materials (digital and print)
- Community engagement collateral
- Internal project materials

The artwork will become a recognisable and enduring identity for the project.

5. Licensing and cultural consent

EnergyAustralia is seeking to enter into an agreement that provides:

- Exclusive usage rights to the artwork for project-related purposes
- Application across multiple formats and materials
- Use for the duration of the project lifecycle

Term of use

- 2026 to 2030

The agreement will be structured to ensure:

- Appropriate cultural consent and integrity is maintained
- The artist retains authorship and recognition
- Use of the artwork is respectful and aligned with cultural protocols

6. Related EOI - Cultural awareness training opportunity

EnergyAustralia is also seeking Expressions of Interest for the delivery of Cultural Awareness Training for the Mt Piper BESS project.

This may be delivered by the same artist or organisation, or separately.

Scope includes:

- Delivery of up to 5 training sessions across 2026–2027
- Target audience of approximately 150 project personnel (including contractors)
- Content to include:
 - Understanding Wiradjuri Country and culture
 - Cultural protocols and engagement practices
 - Local context and heritage

Integration opportunity

There is a strong preference for proposals that can:

- Integrate the commissioned artwork into the training experience
- Use the artwork to help tell a story about Country, energy and place

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7. Submission requirements

EOI submissions should include:

- Artist profile and connection to Country
- Examples of previous work (portfolio or links)
- A short written response (max 2 pages) outlining:
 - Artistic approach to the brief
 - Interpretation of themes
 - Experience delivering similar work
- Indicative fee proposal for:
 - Artwork development and licensing
 - (Optional) Cultural awareness training delivery

8. Evaluation criteria

Submissions will be assessed based on:

- Demonstrated connection to Wiradjuri Country (preferred)
- Strength and relevance of artistic concept
- Experience delivering similar commissions
- Ability to work collaboratively with project stakeholders
- Capacity to deliver within required timeframes
- Value for money

9. Timeline

- EOI Release: 1 June 2026
- EOI Close: 1 July 2026
- Evaluation and Shortlisting: 20 July 2026
- Artist Engagement: 3 August 2026
- Artwork Development: 25 September 2026

10. Submission details

For further information or to provide a submission, contact us at:

community@energyaustralia.com.au

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11. Commitment to First Nations Engagement

EnergyAustralia is committed to working in genuine partnership with First Nations peoples, ensuring cultural knowledge, perspectives and leadership are embedded in how we plan and deliver our projects.

This Expression of Interest aligns with EnergyAustralia's 2026–2028 Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP), which focuses on:

- Building genuine partnerships with Traditional Owners
- Creating opportunities for First Nations employment and business participation
- Embedding cultural understanding across our workforce and operations

Through this Cultural Awareness Training, we aim to support these commitments by strengthening cultural capability, deepening understanding of Country, and ensuring our people and partners engage respectfully and meaningfully with First Nations communities.

[Implementing Our 2026–2028 Innovate RAP | EnergyAustralia](#)