

Social Licence Commitments

Mt Piper Battery Energy Storage
System | Lithgow, New South Wales



EnergyAustralia
LIGHT THE WAY

Contents

- About this publication.....3
- Shared community benefits commitments.....4
- First Nations commitments.....5
 - Economic participation – work contracted to First Nations Businesses.....5
 - Economic participation – First Nations workers.....5
 - Training and workforce development.....5
 - Additional First Nations commitments.....5
- Commitments to local employment.....6
- Commitments related to use of local content.....6
- Keeping this statement up to date and getting in touch.....7

About this publication

This statement sets out the Social Licence Commitments (SLCs) we've made for the Mt Piper Battery Energy Storage System (Mt Piper BESS) under our Capacity Investment Scheme Agreement (CISA) with the Commonwealth. We're publishing these commitments to be open and accountable about how we share the benefits of the project with the local community, First Nations people and Australian suppliers.

The Mt Piper BESS is located near Lithgow in the Central West of New South Wales (NSW), on Wiradjuri Country. The commitments below are grouped into four areas: shared community benefits, First Nations, local employment, and local content. We've also set out the strategies and approaches that sit behind these commitments.

How to read these commitments: the following notes apply throughout this statement.

- All dollar values are in real Australian dollars (AU\$) as at the signing date of the CISA, unless stated otherwise. As a compliance disclosure, exact values are published rather than rounded figures.
- "Local Content" means goods or services procured from Australia and New Zealand, and 'Local Worker' means jobs for people from New South Wales.
- Full-time Equivalent (FTE) is calculated as the estimated working hours of a group divided by (working days multiplied by 7.6 hours), as defined in the CISA.
- 'COD' means the commercial operations date of the project.
- Timeframes reflect the current project phases, including approved changes to the financial close and COD dates.



Shared community benefits commitments

We've committed to fund the following benefits to the local community. We have already made progress on these commitments with an update provided below:

Voluntary Planning Agreement: \$1,000,000 in total during operations, between 27 October 2028 and 26 October 2048, paid as \$250,000 every five years, as outlined in Appendix 4 of the NSW Government's Development Consent Conditions.

Agreed with Lithgow City Council. To be implemented by 2028.

Initial STEM Schools Program for Lithgow schools: \$150,000 (one-off), delivered between 1 May 2025 and 30 June 2025.

Impact Report available on the project's website – [STEM School Report](#)

Community battery grants: \$250,000 (one-off) by 26 October 2029, working with community organisations in the Lithgow local government area (LGA) to provide grants for community batteries.

Memorandum of Understanding executed between Lithgow City Council, the Lithgow Women's Shed, and EnergyAustralia to supply and install a 22kW solar and battery system. Installation scheduled for late July 2026.

This will be the first grant awarded as part of this commitment with expressions of interest sought from other community organisations.

Other commitments:

- NSW Fire Service and local Rural Fire Service: \$200,000 (one-off) by 26 October 2028 to fund and provide training and equipment, with specific equipment and training determined through consultation with both services.
- Women in Construction partnership: \$150,000 (one-off) by 26 October 2028 to fund and provide education, training and mentoring, plus \$75,000 (one-off) seed funding by 27 February 2027, with courses and programs decided in consultation with Women in Construction.
- NSW Government Infrastructure Traineeship Program: \$150,000 (one-off) by 26 October 2028 to act as Industry host, with event specifics determined in consultation with the NSW Government.
- Youth driving credentials program: \$25,000 (one-off) by 26 October 2029 for students from low socio-economic backgrounds to gain their driving credentials through TAFE NSW in Lithgow over the two-year construction period, recognising driving as a critical enabling skill for workforce participation.
- Western Sydney University STEM to Skills program: \$150,000 (one-off) by 26 October 2029 to further develop the program for six local STEM teachers and local schools, to inspire the future clean energy workforce.

First Nations commitments

Economic participation – work contracted to First Nations Businesses

We'll subcontract work related to the project to First Nations Businesses to at least the values and within the timeframes below. A First Nations Business is a business that is at least 50 percent First Nations-owned and certified through an appropriate organisation, such as Supply Nation or an Indigenous Chamber of Commerce.

Phase	Timeframe	Value (real AU\$ as at signing date)
Development	1 August 2022 – 26 February 2027	\$115,000
Construction	27 February 2027 – 26 October 2028	\$7,545,990
Operations	27 October 2028 – 26 October 2048	\$3,448,282

Commitment update:

EnergyAustralia has released two expressions of interest to First Nations businesses and artists seeking responses to provide Cultural Awareness Training to the Mt Piper BESS project team, as well as the commissioning of a signature artwork will become the visual identity of the project, reflecting the connection between Country, energy, community and the future energy system.

Economic participation – First Nations workers

We'll employ people from a First Nations background for at least the following share of the Total Project Workforce in each phase.

Phase	Timeframe	% of Total Project Workforce
Development	1 August 2022 – 26 February 2027	0.5%
Construction	27 February 2027 – 26 October 2028	0.8%
Operations	27 October 2028 – 26 October 2048	0.2%

Training and workforce development

- \$385,000 during construction (27 February 2027 – 26 October 2028) to fund First Nations training and workforce development initiatives. No funding is committed under this item for the development or operations phases.

Additional First Nations commitments

- Mingaan Wiradjuri Aboriginal Corporation partnership: \$25,000 in total during development and construction (1 January 2026 – 26 October 2028) and \$125,000 in total during operation (27 October 2028 – 26 October 2033), extending the existing partnership through a Caring for Country onsite arrangement with the newly established Wiradjuri Indigenous Rangers Program.
- Sustained shared benefit program: a co-designed \$3.1 million shared benefit program through revenue sharing dedicated to First Nations capacity building, delivered as \$250,000 in total during construction (27 February 2027 – 26 October 2028) and \$2,850,000 in total during operation (27 October 2028 – 26 October 2047). The sustained annual funding over the operating life of the project will enable scaling opportunities and additional resources for First Nations businesses and organisations operating on Wiradjuri Country and in the Lithgow region.
- Wiradjuri Cultural Centre establishment payment: \$250,000 in total during construction (27 February 2027 – 26 October 2028) as critical seed funding to purchase a property or establish a site for the Wiradjuri Cultural Centre and the office operations of Mingaan Aboriginal Corporation.

Commitments to local employment

Throughout the development, construction and operations phases, we'll employ at least the following workforce, measured as Full-time Equivalent (FTE) roles by phase and as a share of the Total Project Workforce.

Workforce category	Development (FTE)	Construction (FTE)	Operations (FTE)	% of Total Project Workforce
Learning Workers	0.21	26.27	0.85	12%
Underrepresented Groups	6.97	25.44	1.13	17%
Women	3.77	12.93	0.61	9%
Local Workers	1.76	97.02	3.13	46%

We'll also deliver the following trades participation, measured as a share of total trades positions.

Trades category	Development (FTE)	Construction (FTE)	Operations (FTE)	% of total trades positions
Apprentices	0.00	6.00	0.18	12%
Women in Trades	0.00	1.00	0.00	1%
Local Trades	0.00	32.00	0.76	61%

Commitments related to use of local content

We've committed to purchase Local Content to at least the following values, supporting local businesses through procurement opportunities across the life of the project. Before COD (development and construction phase): \$122,357,643 committed to Local Content in real terms. We have already made progress on these commitments with an update provided below:

Lithgow Business Chamber partnership: \$250,000 in total during development, construction and operation (1 January 2026 – 30 October 2029) to deliver innovation and capacity-building workshops for local suppliers.

A Memorandum of Understanding has been executed with the Lithgow Business Chamber to progress this partnership.

Other commitments:

- After COD (operation and maintenance phase): \$136,773,811 committed to Local Content in real terms.
- Local Steel: at least to the value of \$2,084,474, as part of construction activities.

Keeping this statement up to date and getting in touch

We'll keep these commitments accessible throughout the life of the CISA and update this statement to reflect approved changes, such as where the Commonwealth has agreed a commitment has been satisfied or where an approved cure plan updates a commitment.

We welcome engagement on recruitment, procurement and partnership opportunities for the Mt Piper BESS. To find out more, visit mtpiperbess.com.au.

