

Minimbah BESS

Introducing the Minimbah Battery

CleanGen is planning a battery on the property at 13556 Pacific Highway, Minimbah, and we would like to plan it with you. As a neighbour, you are among the first to hear about it. We are at an early stage, so your local knowledge and any concerns can still shape the design. This update explains what we are proposing, where it would sit and how you can be involved.



125 MW
power output



1,000 MWh
storage, up to 8 hours



100+
jobs



Late 2028
target start of
operations

What is a BESS?

BESS stands for battery energy storage system. Think of it as a large rechargeable battery for the grid, housed in enclosures about the size of a shipping container. It stores renewable energy when there is plenty available, such as sunny middle-of-the-day periods, and releases it in the evening when everyone needs it most. This helps keep the lights on and makes the grid stronger and more reliable for the whole region.

What we are proposing

We are proposing a fenced compound of about 1.3 hectares, with 224 battery enclosures about 3 metres tall. Next to it would be a substation and a switching station connecting to Transgrid's existing 132 kV line, which already crosses the property. The battery has no chimneys, burns no fuel and produces no emissions.

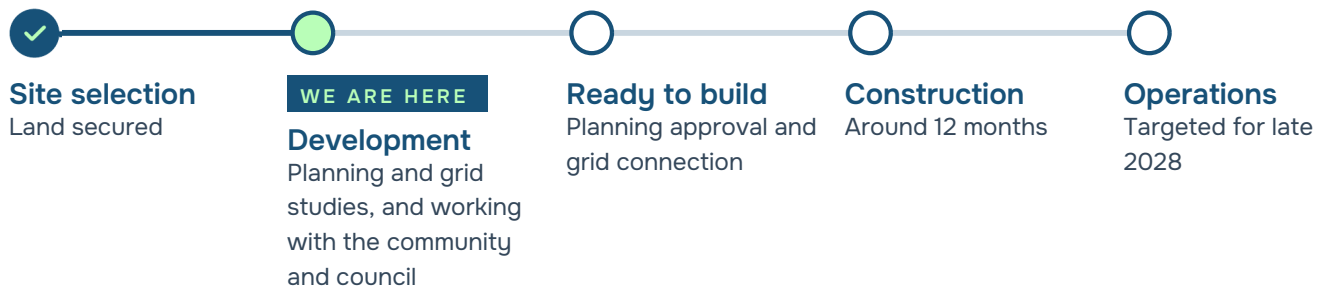
Where the battery would sit



Indicative layout, drawing CG-MIN-BESS-LAY-001. The green dashed line shows the development footprint of about 8 hectares. This layout is indicative only and subject to change based on detailed studies and planning approval. We would welcome your feedback before the design is finalised.

CleanGen acknowledges the Worimi people as the Traditional Custodians of the land on which the Minimbah BESS will be built, and pays respect to Elders past and present.

Where we are up to



Fitting the landscape

We have designed the layout to sit lightly on the land. The battery, substation and supporting buildings would use about 4 hectares of the 40-hectare property. The layout avoids clearing trees, keeps the farm dam and stays at least 20 metres back from the creek. The battery sits well back from the highway, and the surrounding forest already screens most views. If there are views or features that matter to you, please tell us.

Getting in and out

Vehicles would use the existing entrance on the southbound side of the Pacific Highway, upgraded to Transport for NSW standards. A second entrance at the southern end of the site is for emergency and fire access. An on-site car park will keep trucks and cars off the highway.

Safety and noise

We know safety and noise are often the first things neighbours ask about, and we take both seriously. A Fire Safety Study will be assessed by the NSW Rural Fire Service and Fire and Rescue NSW. The battery would be surrounded by a 10-metre cleared zone with a fire track, with firewater stored on site and 24/7 monitoring. We have placed the battery as far from homes as the site allows. Noise will be modelled at nearby homes, and we will share and talk through the results with you.

During construction

We know construction can be disruptive, and we want to keep it as easy on neighbours as possible. It is expected to take around 12 months. Working hours, traffic and dust will be managed under a construction plan set through the planning approval. We will let you know well before major works begin and give you a direct contact along the way.

\$250,000

every year for 20 years
\$5 million in total

Sharing the benefits

Working with the LBW Trust and the Forster Local Aboriginal Land Council, our Community Benefit Sharing Fund will support First Nations people, women and youth through community libraries, community cricket and Women for Change programs. We will also prioritise local jobs and local suppliers.

Let's talk

We want to hear from neighbours early. Tell us your questions, concerns or ideas now so we can factor them into our planning. We are happy to call, meet or visit, whatever suits you.

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Be part of the project

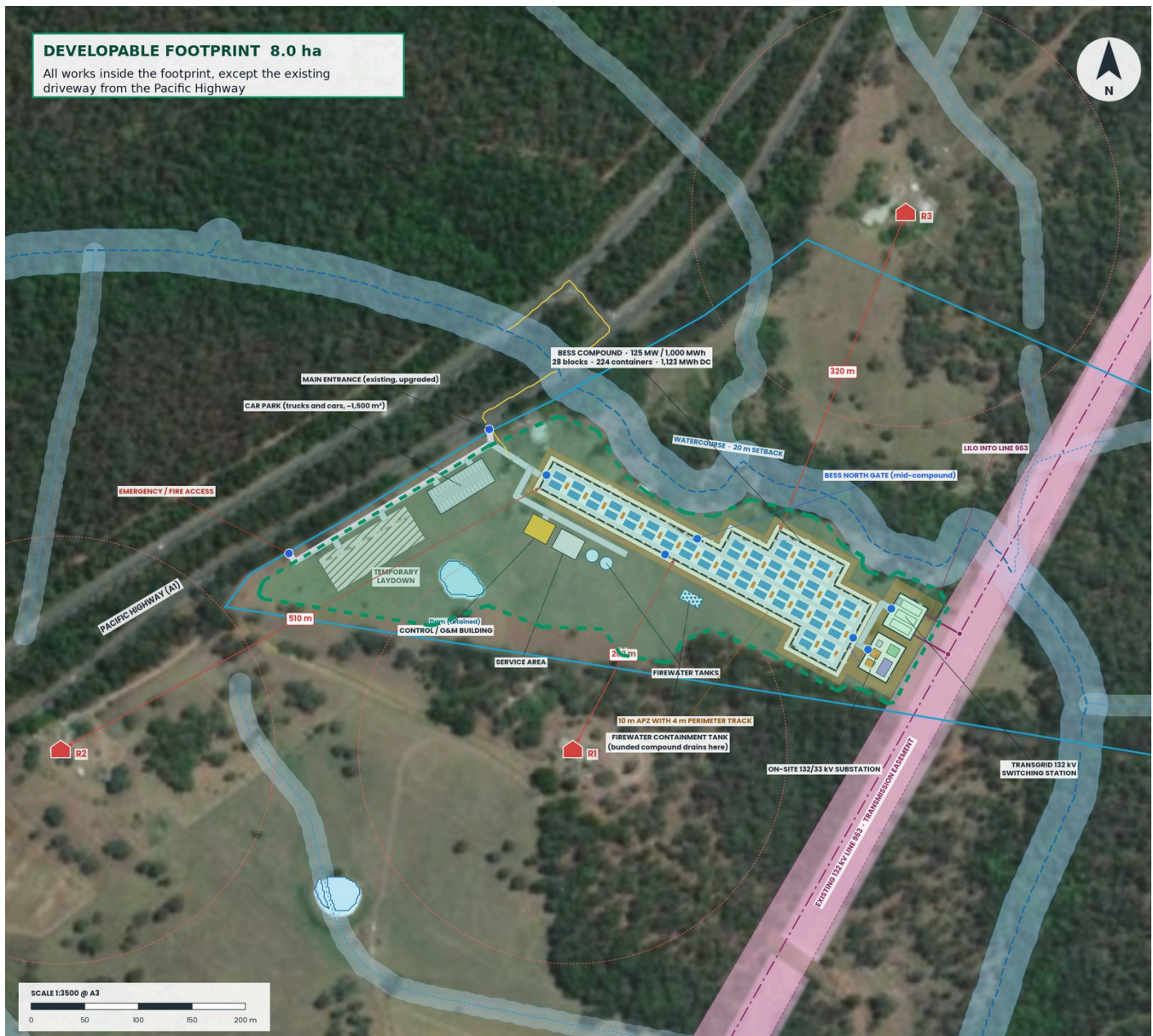
Construction and operations will need trades, maintenance, transport and local supplies. If you or your business would like to play a role, express your interest through the project page or email us.



Scan to express your interest
cleangen.com.au/projects/minimbah-bess

Site layout

The plan shows the property, the development footprint of about 8 hectares within it, the battery compound and supporting infrastructure, the Transgrid easement and the site entrance off the Pacific Highway.



Indicative layout, drawing CG-MIN-BESS-LAY-001 Rev N. Subject to change based on detailed studies and planning approval.

Getting in and out

Vehicles would use the existing site entrance on the southbound side of the Pacific Highway, modified to meet Transport for NSW requirements. Traffic from Newcastle will turn right at the existing median turning point north of the site, then turn left into the entrance. The final arrangement will be confirmed with Transport for NSW through detailed design and our environmental assessment.

Disclaimer: All plans in this update are indicative and subject to change based on completion of detailed studies and NSW environmental approval.