SAMSUNG C&T
Engineering & Construction Group

FACT SHEET | NOVEMBER 2025

Vales Point Battery Energy Storage System

Hazard and emergency management

Delta Power & Energy (Delta), in partnership with Samsung Construction & Trading (Samsung), is proposing to develop a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) at the Vales Point Power Station site. This large-scale battery system will store excess energy and release it to the grid when it's needed most, helping to keep NSW's electricity network stable and reliable as more renewable energy enters the network.

This fact sheet has been developed to answer some of the common questions we've received so far around potential hazards. This includes how the risk of battery fire, bushfire and chemical leaks will be managed to protect the safety of workers, the local community, and the environment.

As the project progresses, we'll continue to keep you informed, provide updates on key milestones, and ensure there are continued opportunities for you to share your feedback or concerns.

Is the BESS safe?

The BESS will be designed and built to meet all relevant standards, guidelines and regulatory requirements. It will incorporate multiple safety systems, including continuous monitoring, cooling systems, thermal (heat) and smoke detection, isolation and safety shutdown protocols, and fire suppression and containment systems. If any issue is detected – whether electrical, heat or chemical – the BESS will automatically shut down to prevent incidents.

We will work closely with Fire and Rescue NSW, the Rural Fire Service, the Local Emergency Management Committee and other emergency responders to develop and implement safety plans and ensure the site operates safely.

Will the BESS cause any health impacts to the surrounding community?

The BESS will use proven technology that is safe, clean and compliant with all government health and safety standards. It will not pose health risks to the surrounding community.

How would an emergency be managed?

Vales Point is an established energy site with robust emergency response systems in place. These existing plans have been developed in consultation with key agencies including Fire and Rescue NSW, the Rural Fire Service, and the Local

Emergency Management Committee. They are routinely tested, reviewed, and updated to ensure the health and safety of workers, the local community, and the environment.

As part of the BESS development, these existing plans will be expanded to include battery-specific safety and emergency protocols. This includes tailored procedures for managing fire incidents, hazardous materials, bushfire risks, and other potential hazards unique to battery energy storage technology.

What emergency plans and systems will be in place?

We will work closely with emergency services to prepare and refine comprehensive response plans that cover:

Fire and hazard response protocols.

Emergency site access and evacuation routes.

Spill containment and environmental safeguards.

Real-time 24/7 monitoring and automated alert systems.

On-site and joint training exercises with emergency services.

These systems are designed to enable early detection of any issues and immediate response, helping to prevent or contain incidents before they can impact people or the environment. The community's safety remains our highest priority, and emergency preparedness is a critical part of our planning and operations.

Is there a risk of electromagnetic radiation (EMF)?

Australia follows International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection (ICNIRP) guidelines, adopted by Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency (ARPANSA), to limit public and occupational exposure to EMF. EMF levels will be assessed as part of the project's Hazard and Risk Assessment in the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

During detailed design of the project, equipment layout will follow relevant safety standards and apply prevention principles to ensure EMF levels at the site boundary remain comparable to background levels. Fencing and restricted access will also minimise public exposure, with only trained personnel permitted entry.

How will a battery fire hazard be managed?

The likelihood of a fire at Vales Point is low due to existing equipment safety management systems and controls at the power station, and the site's location on low-risk bushfire prone land with an established asset protection zone.

The BESS will include robust safety features to detect and contain any incident. Maintaining safe working distances between equipment, 24-hour monitoring, cooling systems, thermal and smoke detection, fire suppression, and automatic isolation systems will be in place. If the project is approved, an Emergency Management Plan will be developed and refined in consultation with emergency services.

How will a bushfire hazard be managed?

The Vales Point site has an established Bushfire Management Plan. Key actions include maintenance of asset protection zones for infrastructure and surrounding landholdings, maintenance of roads and trails (fire-fighter access) and a schedule for priority hazard reduction-controlled burns.

The Bushfire Management Plan will be reviewed and updated to consider the BESS and establish protocols for managing bushfire related risks. We will continue to work closely with emergency services to ensure the site is safe and a bushfire risk assessment will be completed during the EIS phase to guide further safety measures.

How will a chemical hazard be managed?

While the technical risk of contamination is low, the community's concern is understandable given the site's proximity to Lake Macquarie and the man-made canal along the site's northern boundary, which flows from Chain Valley Bay to Wyee Bay.

The BESS will include spill containment systems to catch and manage any leaks from battery enclosures. Environmental management plans for construction and operational periods will set out protocols for monitoring and responding to potential chemical leaks or spills.

Further assessments to identify contamination and chemical hazard risks, impacts and mitigation measures will be undertaken in the EIS phase.

Will the BESS be monitored?

Once operational, the system will include 24-hour monitoring of the site and equipment in line with site safety procedures. All equipment will meet relevant standards, undergo pre-installation manufacturing testing, and follow a comprehensive maintenance schedule. Real-time monitoring, including a complex system of sensors for heat, smoke and system irregularities, will enable early detection of faults and operational issues to ensure a rapid response to maintain system safety.

How can I provide feedback or share my concerns about the project?

We will continue to engage with the community and stakeholders during the EIS preparation through a range of in-person and online activities.

This includes inviting community feedback on the concept design and as the EIS investigations progress, prior to submitting the State Significant Development (SSD) Application.

Visit the project website to learn more about the proposal and complete an online survey, or visit a community information display in November to talk with the project team.

What happens next?

Community and stakeholder feedback received will be considered to finalise the proposal and EIS.

The SSD Application, including the supporting EIS, is expected to be completed and lodged in early 2026 for assessment by the NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure.

The NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure will place the EIS on public exhibition, providing another opportunity for the community to provide feedback.

The community and stakeholders will be kept updated as planning and EIS activities progress.

Stay informed

We will continue to keep the community and stakeholders updated as the project progresses. Visit the project website for the latest updates, or send us an email to be added to our email list.

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