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1. Purpose of Consultation

The purpose of this consultation is to:

- inform nearby stakeholders and the broader community about the proposed development
- provide an opportunity for feedback and questions and participate in the DA process
- build understanding of the project’s benefits
- address any concerns early and transparently

Engagement for this project is primarily inform and consult, given the small scale and low impact nature of the development.

2. Consultation Objectives

- Ensure nearby landholders and staff and board members of CSD are aware of the proposal
- Provide clear, accessible information about what is being built
- Explain safety, flood and bushfire considerations
- Highlight local benefits (energy, resilience, community grants)
- Identify and respond to any concerns early
- Complement Council’s formal notification process
- Provide opportunity to have input into the public consultation phase of the DA

3. Engagement Principles

- Open, transparent and respectful communication
- Proportionate to the scale and impact of the project
- Early engagement where possible with stakeholders who are directly involved
- Clear, accessible and non-technical information
- Responsive to feedback and community concerns

3. Key Stakeholders








Primary stakeholders

1. Adjacent and nearby landholders (within ~1–2 km)
2. Cotton Seed Distributors (site owner and operator) staff and board
3. LEMC and emergency services representatives
4. Narrabri Shire Councillors and staff
5. Federal Department of Climate Change, Energy, Water and the Environment
6. Project input suppliers

Secondary stakeholders

- Wee Waa Aboriginal Land Council, Wee Waa Progress Association, Lower Namoi Cotton Growers Association
- Other Wee Waa community members, businesses and groups
- Geni.Energy board, staff and supporters
- Narrabri Chamber of Commerce
- Broader Narrabri Shire Community

4. Key Messages

-  This is a small community battery (500 kWh)
-  Located within an existing industrial site
-  Minimal to no measurable increase in noise, traffic or emissions
-  Flood and bushfire risks have been assessed and managed
-  Designed in accordance with relevant Australian Standards and battery safety guidelines
-  Helps store excess solar and improve local energy reliability
-  Supports community benefit funding through project outcomes

5. Consultation Activities

1. Primary Stakeholders Activities

- Seek assistance from CSD for lists and email addresses
- Seek advice from Narrabri Shire Council as to the process for LEMC and enact
- Letter And Fact Sheet distributed directly to primary stakeholders
- Backed up by webpage and socials
- Offer in-person briefings to groups
- Responses provided to any questions and records kept

2. Secondary Stakeholder Activities

- Provide broader awareness through the media
- Offer online zoom briefing
- Project outline email to supporters
- Backed up by webpage and socials
- Follow up with DA email encouraging submissions

4. Products

A. **Fact Sheet** of project including:

- site map
- what the battery does

- safety features
 - benefits
 - contacts
- B. Project Outline Letter** including:
- what the project is
 - where it is
 - why it matters
 - contact details for questions
 - offer in person Briefing for groups
- C. Project Outline Briefing and Zoom** As a response to requests for briefings, as a zoom for supporters including:
- what the project is
 - where it is
 - why it matters
 - what the benefits are
 - contact details for questions
- D. Webpage** update including:
- Fact Sheet
 - New site details
- E. Social Media** posts:
- New site announcement
 - Project details and factsheet link
 - DA process
- F. Project Outline Email** to supporters:
- New site announcement
 - Project details and Factsheet link
- G. Project Outline Media Release** including:
- New site announcement
 - Quote from CSD
 - Project outline
 - Benefits
 - To The Courier, Max FM and Renew Economy
- H. DA consultation phase email** including:
- Details of DA timing and process
 - Encouraging submissions

9. Timing

Stage	Activity - Primary Stakeholders	Activity - Secondary Stakeholders
Pre-DA / At submission	Project outline letter and Factsheet sent by email	Webpage update Project outline social media posts Media release sent Project outline email to Geni.Energy list Project Briefing Zoom
During exhibition	Project Briefing request response DA social media posts Respond to enquiries	DA Social media posts Respond to enquiries DA Email to Geni.Energy list
Post-submission	Follow up with any stakeholders who engaged	

10. Feedback and Response

- Provide a contact point (email + phone)
- Log any feedback received
- Respond promptly and respectfully
- Where relevant, incorporate feedback into project delivery

Maintain a simple consultation register including:

- stakeholder name (where provided)
- date of contact
- issue raised
- response provided

11. Risk Management

Risk	Mitigation
Misunderstanding of “battery” safety	Clear explanation of safety systems and standards

Risk	Mitigation
Misinformation or confusion about lithium battery fires (e.g. EV incidents)	Provide clear distinction between grid-scale batteries and consumer battery incidents Reference standards (e.g. UL 9540A etc)
Perception of industrial expansion	Emphasise small scale + existing site
Consultation fatigue in region	Keep engagement light, targeted and respectful