



## Fact sheet

# Battery Energy Storage System (BESS)

## Managing Health and Safety FAQ

### Will the BESS have any health impacts?

Independent technical experts have not identified any direct health impacts associated with BESS facilities.

Our BESS must meet stringent Health, Safety and Environmental (HSE) standards set out by the Australian Government and Environment Protection Authorities, to ensure they are safe and reliable. Like a regular battery used to power electronic devices, our BESS will work in a similar way, but on a much larger scale, using extra components to make them safe and prevent faults.

### How will emergencies be managed?

We will adhere to prescribed processes, standards, and guidelines to deal with an emergency by adopting a comprehensive Emergency Plan (EP), including an emergency responders induction package and detailed emergency procedures for the development. The plan will address emergencies in the area while setting out the management of all construction requirements, including safety, security, working hours, water, noise, dust and traffic management.

### How will a fire hazard be managed?

To ensure our BESS operates safely and can quickly shut down to mitigate fire hazards, it will have a Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) and a Battery Management System (BMS). Together, these will monitor for faults in real-time, including smoke and system temperatures.

Other measures we will take to mitigate fire hazards, include:


- Complying with guidelines, standards, and conditions to operate in accordance with the applicable legislations as set out by Government and regulating bodies.
- Adhering to stringent fire safety measures set out in an Environmental Planning and Assessment (Development Certification and Fire Safety Regulation 2021).
- Adopting an Emergency Response Management Plan to outline the protocols and requirements for fires and other risks.
- Activating a Risk Management Plan (developed with relevant fire authorities) to identify, assess, and outline controls to manage on-site and off-site risks at our BESS facility.

### How will a bushfire hazard be managed?

We consider a range of protection measures during the planning and design process to ensure our BESS meets fire safety requirements.

We will manage a bushfire hazard by:

- Implement Asset Protection Zones around the perimeter of the BESS to create a fire break and defendable space in the event of a bushfire.
- Install a minimum 20,000 litre water supply tank for fire fighting purposes.
- Building our BESS (and related infrastructure) for Australian local conditions using materials that are resilient to heat, wind and bush fire impacts.

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*This document is based on the information known to Equis as at October 2024.  
It contains assumptions and estimates that may be subject to change.*



- Implementing an Environmental Management Plan to provide a framework to manage and address environmental issues and respond to bush fire management measures.
- Activating a local Emergency Response Management Plan (EP) when dealing with emergencies such as a fire in the area.

### How will a chemical hazard be managed?

We will mitigate chemical hazards which may arise from acid or corrosive components leaking from our BESS by installing containment measures (as identified by the Environmental Protection Authority and planning authorities).

Our Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP), Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) and Battery Management System (BMS) will also help to identify, address, and manage dangerous goods and chemical hazards.

### How can I provide feedback or raise a concern about your project?

You can email us at [AUProjects@equis.com](mailto:AUProjects@equis.com) or phone 1800 161 249 to provide feedback or raise a concern about our project in your area so that we can understand and try to address your concern.

### How can I learn more about your project?

You can learn more about our projects by:

- Visiting our [website](#)
- Registering on our [engagement hub](#)
- Attending a project information session.

We will publish project information and updates in our newsletters, emails, and fact sheets which will be available from our website and engagement hub.

We encourage you to follow our project by registering on our engagement hub. On the engagement hub you can provide feedback, subscribe for project updates, register as a supplier and register for community benefits.