

Appendix A - Crown Sponsor Support for Proposal

Chris Smith

From: Lavelle, Mary (DEM) <Mary.Lavelle@sa.gov.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 16 December 2025 11:18 AM
To: Chris Smith
Cc: Catherine Way; Tamhane, Saindhav (DEM)
Subject: RE: Riverland Energy Project - variation proposal

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Good morning Chris,

In reply to your email below, I can confirm that as Crown sponsor of the Riverland Energy Project (Project), DEM is supportive of the variation to the Project as detailed below. I understand that you have also contacted the Office of the Technical Regulator (OTR) and are in the process of applying for an updated OTR Certificate, noting that this will need to be included in the variation submission to the Department of Housing and Urban Development, Planning and Land Use Services (DHUD-PLUS).

DEM would appreciate any updates on the Project as various milestones are reached.

Kind Regards

Mary Lavelle
Industry Analyst

Department for Energy and Mining
T +61884293515 | M 0466 485 855 | E Mary.Lavelle@sa.gov.au

Work Days: M-F, M-Th

DISCLAIMER:

The information in this e-mail may be confidential and/or legally privileged. It is intended solely for the addressee. Access to this e-mail by anyone else is unauthorised. If you are not the intended recipient, any disclosure, copying, distribution or any action taken or omitted to be taken in reliance on it, is prohibited and may be unlawful. If you have received this email in error, please delete it from your system and notify the sender immediately. DEM does not represent, warrant or guarantee that the integrity of this communication has been maintained or that the communication is free of errors, virus or interference.

From: Chris Smith <chris.smith@ox2.com>
Sent: Wednesday, 10 December 2025 11:26 AM
To: Lavelle, Mary (DEM) <Mary.Lavelle@sa.gov.au>
Cc: Catherine Way <catherine.way@ox2.com>; Tamhane, Saindhav (DEM) <Saindhav.Tamhane@sa.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Riverland Energy Project - variation proposal

Some people who received this message don't often get email from chris.smith@ox2.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Hi Mary,

As discussed in the email thread below, OX2 intends to request a Planning Variation to the approval variation reviewed by Department for Energy and Mining in March 2025 for the Riverland Solar Farm and BESS project. This follows confirmation from ElectraNet on the preferred connection layout option since OX2's meeting with Saindhav Tamhane on the 6th Nov 2025.

To provide some context, the need for this variation is driven by updated advice from ElectraNet regarding the Project's grid connection location, with justification provided below:

Request rationale

1. Following OX2's acquisition of the Riverland Solar Farm and BESS Project in 2023, OX2 undertook several detailed assessments investigating the connection strategy given there are three transmission lines traversing the Riverland site. These included possible connection via a) one or both of the 132 kV North West Bend–Monash lines traversing the site, or b) the new 330 kV Project Energy Connect (PEC) line traversing the site. OX2's preferred option at this time was for connection via the 330kV PEC line traversing the site.
2. OX2 engaged with ElectraNet to review these findings. As the PEC line was a new interconnector, ElectraNet required approximately six months to assess this option. Following this assessment ElectraNet advised the following:
 - a. Connection to the 330kV PEC line was not possible within the Riverland Property Boundary. Connection to the 330kV PEC line was only possible at the SA/NSW border (i.e. >100km away from the project).
 - b. Connection could be achieved via the utilisation of both 132 kV North West Bend–Monash lines traversing the site.

On this basis, OX2 decided to proceed with connection via the two 132kV lines and submitted an Extension of Time (EOT) and staging request to SA Planning in March 2025

3. Following this, during a project meeting in August 2025 ElectraNet strongly recommended against pursuing connection via the 2x 132kV traversing the site, advising that a 150 MW BESS connection would materially restrict ElectraNet's operation of the 132 kV lines and the BESS would also be constrained under system normal conditions. This was confirmed when OX2 received the Connection Options Report from ElectraNet which advised that not only is the 330kV PEC line preferred over the 2x 132kV lines, it is now possible for connection to the 330kV PEC line within the Riverland Property Boundary.
4. Based on this updated advice from ElectraNet (and following OX2's EOT and Staging request in March 2025) the Project now requires the point of connection changing from the 2x 132 kV lines traversing the Riverland property to the 330kV PEC line traversing the Riverland property.

Proposed changes to the Development Application via a Planning Variation for the Stage 1 Riverland BESS project

1. Modification of the transmission line connection point, changing from connection via the 2x 132kV North West Bend–Monash lines to the Robertstown–Buronga 330kV PEC line.
2. Shifting the location of the Stage 1 BESS Area to achieve this connection point. This includes moving areas allocated for the Stage 1 BESS, Substation, Switchyard and other connection infrastructure from property parcel CT 5990/945 Section 65 to CT 5990/945 Section 66 and CT 5990/945 Section 67. It should be noted this footprint is maintained within the Property Boundary area as defined in the original Development Approval.
3. To make the project commercially feasible at the new 330kV point of connection, an increase in the Stage 1 BESS capacity to 300MW/1200MWh (4-hour duration).

Attached is the map "022_RIV_PRJ_07A" showing the updated Stage 1 Riverland BESS indicative development footprint areas (including the BESS area, Substation, Switchyard, 330kV OHTL and internal access tracks). For additional context, I have also included "Appendix H – 022_RIV_PRJ_04A", which was submitted along with the March 2025 EOT request and outlines the previous connection point and BESS configuration.

Lastly, I'd like to note that we anticipate that this change will not impact commercial timelines and we are still anticipating reaching financial close by the end of 2026 for the Stage 1 Riverland BESS project.

On this basis, OX2 is hopeful that an updated Crown Support letter can be issued to accompany the proposed Planning Variation, as this is a request from the South Australian Department of Housing and Urban Development as part of its submission.

If you have any questions on this, please do not hesitate to reach out to myself on 0491169030 or to Catherine Way on catherine.way@ox2.com or +61421627905. Also happy to organise a call to run through these details if required.

Thanks

From: Catherine Way <catherine.way@ox2.com>
Sent: Thursday, 6 November 2025 5:31 PM
To: Tamhane, Saindhav (DEM) <Saindhav.Tamhane@sa.gov.au>
Cc: Lavelle, Mary (DEM) <Mary.Lavelle@sa.gov.au>; Chris Smith <chris.smith@ox2.com>
Subject: RE: Riverland Energy Project - variation proposal

Hi Saindhav (and sorry to miss you, Mary!),

Thanks so much for meeting with us at short notice today, it is much appreciated.

We understand the requirements from the OTR and will be making contact again with them.

Once we have clarity from ElectraNet as to whether we can cross the 132kV line and whether we can go with our preferred option, we will get back to you with a formal request including maps etc.

Cheers,
Catherine

Catherine Way
Director of Development

OX2, Level 4, 65 Dover St
Cremorne, Victoria, 3121
Email: catherine.way@ox2.com
Mobile: +61 421 627 905
www.ox2.com.au

From: Tamhane, Saindhav (DEM) <Saindhav.Tamhane@sa.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, 6 November 2025 3:27 PM
To: Catherine Way <catherine.way@ox2.com>
Cc: Lavelle, Mary (DEM) <Mary.Lavelle@sa.gov.au>
Subject: Riverland Energy Project - variation proposal

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Dear Catherine,
It was a pleasure meeting with you and Chris Smith this afternoon.

Thank you for dropping by to provide the Department for Energy and Mining (DEM) with visibility of an update variation to the previous approval variation reviewed by the department in March 2025 for your Riverland Energy Project.

I understand that key changes include:

- Change of location for the Stage 1 BESS
- Change to grid connection from 132kV line to 330kV line as directed by ElectraNet; and
- Resizing of the BESS storage capacity

As discussed please provide DEM (via email to Mary Lavelle and cc'd to myself) details and reasoning (including layout maps) behind the proposed variation such that these can be formally reviewed by the department for determination and advice to the planning unit in DHUD.

Based on the outlined project variations in our meeting, it would be anticipated that the Office of the Technical Regulator will require a new application for OTR consideration.

As I mentioned Mary Lavelle is expected to be back from leave on Monday and I will update Mary on our discussion today.

Kind regards
Saindhav

Mr. Saindhav Tamhane
Strategy and Industry Facilitation

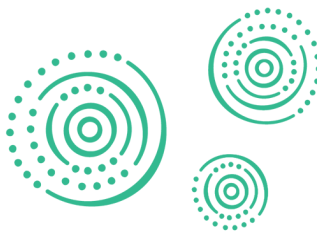
Strategic Policy and Delivery
Department for Energy and Mining
T +61 (0)8 8429 4311
M +61 (0)466 621 976
E saindhav.tamhane@sa.gov.au
W www.energymining.sa.gov.au

Work Days: Mon – Thu

GPO Box 320, Adelaide, South Australia 5001
Karna Country, Level 12, 11 Waymouth Street, Adelaide, South Australia 5000



Government of South Australia
Department for Energy and Mining



The Department for Energy and Mining (DEM) acknowledges Aboriginal people as the First Nations Peoples of South Australia. We recognise and respect the cultural connections as the Traditional Owners and occupants of the land and waters of South Australia, and that they continue to make a unique and irreplaceable contribution to the State.

DISCLAIMER:

The information in this e-mail may be confidential and/or legally privileged. It is intended solely for the addressee. Access to this e-mail by anyone else is unauthorised. If you are not the intended recipient, any disclosure, copying, distribution or any action taken or omitted to be taken in reliance on it, is prohibited and may be unlawful. If you have received this email in error, please delete it from your system and notify the sender immediately. DEM does not represent, warrant or guarantee that the integrity of this communication has been maintained or that the communication is free of errors, virus or interference.