Project approval process

Indicative render (artist's impression)

Addressing planning and environmental requirements

Large-scale battery energy storage system projects require a planning permit approval from the Minister for Planning. A planning approval determines the appropriateness of the proposed land use and development to its location, considering its context, physical environment and ability to meet other technical criteria.

To support this process, specialist studies into a range of impact areas including biodiversity, cultural heritage, and noise have been undertaken. This will ensure the project minimises and manages any potential impacts and meets or exceeds all statutory requirements.

Separately, there are potential environmental approvals including under the federal *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act). The project also requires grid connection approval from the Australian Energy Market Operator (AEMO), to ensure stability of the electricity grid.

The project must comply with Victorian planning legislation, State and Federal environmental laws, and grid connection approvals.

To ensure the project meets those requirements, the following applications will be made:

- Planning permit application to Victorian Minister for Planning
- EPBC Act Referral to Federal Minister for Environment
- Grid connection approval to AEMO

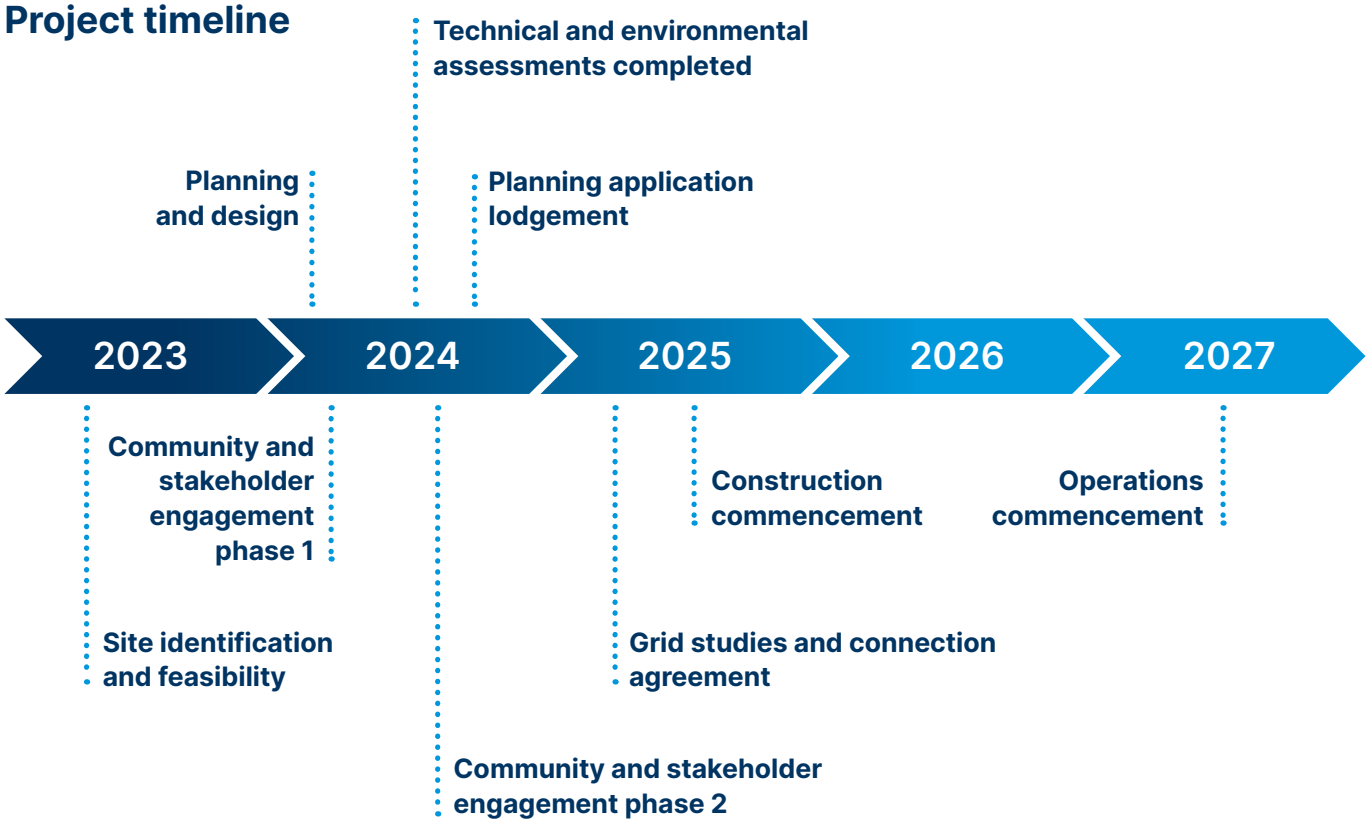
Project approval process (continued)

The following technical, environmental and operational assessments have been undertaken as part of the design and approval process:

- Biodiversity Assessment
- Cultural Heritage Management Plan (CHMP)
- Detailed Engineering Studies
- Fire Risk Management Assessment and Strategy
- Geotechnical Assessment
- Hydrological Assessment
- Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment
- Noise Assessment
- Planning Assessment
- Safety Management Assessment
- Traffic Impact Assessment

At this stage, the design is a concept layout – developed through multiple iterations but not completed to detailed design. Further detailed design will be completed after receiving planning approval. This flexibility is required as the planning permit process may require layout changes.

Project timeline



About Pacific Green

At Pacific Green we specialise in delivering grid-scale smart energy storage solutions from greenfield to operation. We are proud of our record in delivering safe, cutting-edge energy storage solutions, which are benefiting people and the planet.

To learn more about the Portland Energy Park via our project website, scan this QR code: **www.pacificgreen.com/aus/projects/portland** or contact us at **portland@pacificgreen.com**