



NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE

Department of Planning and Environment (Sydney Offices)
GPO Box 39
Sydney NSW 2001

Your reference: SSD 9619
Our reference: DA-2018-03664-EIS & DA
Exhibition-1

ATTENTION: Javier Canon
ATTENTION:

Date: Tuesday 24 November 2020

Dear Sir/Madam,

**State Significant Development - Electricity Generating Works
Request for comments - exhibited Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)
11947 NEW ENGLAND HWY BLACK MOUNTAIN NSW 2365, 71//DP755823**

Reference is made to correspondence dated 15/10/2020 seeking comments regarding the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) currently being exhibited, for the above State Significant Development in accordance with the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*.

The New South Wales Rural Fire Service (NSW RFS) has reviewed the EIS and provides the following comments;

The subject land is mapped bush fire prone land by Armidale Regional Council. Further, the NSW RFS is the primary response agency for all structural fires on the land.

The NSW RFS recommends the following conditions be included in any approvals granted:

1. A Fire Management Plan (FMP) shall be prepared in consultation with NSW RFS Northern Tablelands Fire Control Centre. The FMP shall include:

- 24 hour emergency contact details including alternative telephone contact;
- Site infrastructure plan;
- Fire fighting water supply plan;
- Site access and internal road plan;
- Construction of Asset Protection Zones (APZ) and their continued maintenance;
- Location of hazards (Physical, Chemical and Electrical) that will impact on fire fighting operations and procedures to manage identified hazards during fire fighting operations;
- Such additional matters as required by the NSW RFS District Office (FMP review and updates).

2. The entire solar array development footprint, including associated buildings, to be managed as an Asset Protection Zone as outlined in Appendix 5 of 'Planning for Bush Fire Protection 2019' and the NSW Rural Fire Service's document 'Standards for Asset Protection Zones'.

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3. A 20,000 litre water supply (tank) fitted with a 65mm storz fitting shall be located adjoining the internal property access road within the required APZ.

4. To allow for emergency service personnel to undertake property protection activities, the following separation distances are required to permit unobstructed vehicle access around the perimeter of the solar array development site(s) including associated infrastructure.

- a 10 metre defensible space (APZ) for grassland hazard
- a 20 metre defensible space (APZ) for woody vegetation hazard.

For any queries regarding this correspondence, please contact Alan Bawden on 1300 NSW RFS.

Yours sincerely,

Timothy Carroll
Manager Planning & Environment Services
Planning and Environment Services