

Mr Rob Beckett
Environmental Assessment Officer
Resource and Energy Assessments
Department of Planning, Industry and Environment

By email: rob.beckett@planning.nsw.gov.au

Dear Mr Beckett

**RE: Environmental Impact Assessment – Silverleaf Solar Farm – SSD 9358 - 330
Logans Lane and 12461 Newell Highway, Narrabri**

I refer to your email dated 30 August 2019 inviting advice and recommended conditions on the proposed photovoltaic solar farm and associated transmission line corridor. The works will occur on agricultural grazing land and across road and electricity easements.

The affected land is not within the curtilage of a State Heritage Register (SHR) item. The nearest SHR item is the *Narrabri Goal and Residence*, located in the Narrabri township, 4km south of the proposed solar farm and 1km west of the proposed transmission line. There are several locally listed heritage items within the Narrabri township.

Whilst the physical fabric of these heritage items is not intended to be affected by the proposal, there may be adverse visual impacts arising from the transmission line infrastructure. The EIS contains insufficient visual impact assessment with respect to heritage items.

It is recommended that if the project is approved, a condition of approval be included requiring further assessment and the inclusion of any necessary mitigation measures to alleviate any visual impacts the project may have on heritage items, their setting and key views and vistas. In particular, the locally listed Old Narrabri Cemetery (I108) on Stoney Creek Road will be impacted as the transmission line will wrap around this cemetery.

With respect to non-Aboriginal archaeology, the Aboriginal and Historic Archaeological Impact Assessment (OzArk, April 2019) concludes that there is low likelihood of harm to historic heritage objects, sites or potential archaeological deposits. The mitigation measures outlined in this report, which includes an Unexpected Finds Protocol, are supported.

Please note that the North West Planning Team within the Biodiversity and Conservation Division may provide separate comments in relation to Aboriginal cultural heritage.

If you have any questions regarding the above advice related to the EIS for Silverleaf Solar Farm – SSD 9358 please contact Lily Chu, Senior Heritage Assessment Officer on 9873 8595 or at lily.chu@environment.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



12/09/2019

Katrina Stankowski

Senior Team Leader, Regional Heritage Assessments – North
Heritage NSW, Department of Premier and Cabinet

As Delegate of the NSW Heritage Council