



7 May 2019

Natasha Homsey
Environmental Assessment Officer
Resource Assessments
Department of Planning & Environment
GPO BOX 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Your Ref: SSD 9254
Our Ref: DOC19/377649

Emailed: Natasha.Homsey@planning.nsw.gov.au

Dear Ms Homsey

Re: Wollar Solar Project (SSD 9254)

Thank you for the opportunity to provide advice on the for the Wollar Solar Project (SSD 9254). This is a response from the Department of Planning & Environment – Division of Resources & Geoscience (the Division).

The Division's role is to ensure that proposals, including associated electricity transmission infrastructure do not unnecessarily preclude access to known resources or exploration for future resource discovery and extraction. The Division has reviewed the EIS for the project and provides the following comments:

The Division notes that a letter was sent to Hunter Gas Pty Ltd. providing proposal information and that no response has been received. The Division requests further attempts to consult with Hunter Gas regarding the project, with a record of authentic consultation included in the EIS.

The Division notes that there are 'offset options under consideration' and that consultation will be undertaken with NSW OEH and Commonwealth DoE to provide a detailed offset strategy. To ensure there is no reduction in access to prospective land for mineral exploration, or potential for sterilisation of mineral or extractive resources, the Division requests it be consulted on the proposed location of any biodiversity offset areas (both on and off site) or any supplementary biodiversity measures.

Queries regarding the above information should be directed to the Division of Resources & Geoscience - Land Use team at landuse.minerals@geoscience.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Steven Palmer'.

Steven Palmer
Acting Manager – Land Use