

25th October 2010

Our Ref: A460976
Your Ref: 10/20065

James Archdale
Department of Planning
GPO Box 39
Sydney 2001

Dear Mr Archdale,

RE: Solar Farm Request for Environmental Assessment Requirements (Application Reference MP10_0174)

Thank you for providing the Border Rivers-Gwydir Catchment Management Authority (CMA) with the opportunity to comment on the environmental assessment requirements for the proposed Solar Farm development near Moree.

I am satisfied that the Director General's Requirements address the main issues of concern for the Border Rivers – Gwydir CMA. In providing a response to the Director General's Requirements, the Proponent should also consider the following:

Catchment Action Plan

The Border Rivers – Gwydir Catchment Action Plan (CAP) is a strategic document identifying desired improvements to natural resources. The CAP identifies the current state of natural resources, threats to condition and provides strategies for their management. In considering the CAP, the Proponent should consider any impacts with respect to the CMA Catchment Targets for the four CAP Themes of Community, Native Vegetation, Water, and Soils and Landuse.

Native Vegetation

The Border Rivers – Gwydir CMA is responsible for the administration of the Native Vegetation Act 2003. While this proposed development is excluded from this legislation, it is recommended that the intent of the Act be applied in regard to the impact of the development. It is noted that the proposed area includes cultivation with scattered paddock trees and grazed areas with several clumps of trees and scattered paddock trees. In particular, any clearing of native vegetation (including groundcover) associated with the development should include appropriate offsets or mitigating management actions to "improve or maintain" environmental outcomes.

Should you have any queries or require additional information, please don't hesitate to contact Mr Rod Williams, Program Manager on (02) 6757 2564.

Yours sincerely,



Paul Hutchings
General Manager

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PO Box 411
15 Vivian Street
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Telephone (02) 6728 8020
Facsimile (02) 6728 8098

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"Helping people in our communities look after their land for future generations."

25th October 2010

Our Ref: A461011
Your Ref: 10/20067

James Archdale
Department of Planning
GPO Box 39
Sydney 2001

Dear Mr Archdale,

RE: Solar Farm Request for Environmental Assessment Requirements (Application Reference MP10_0175)

Thank you for providing the Border Rivers-Gwydir Catchment Management Authority (CMA) with the opportunity to comment on the environmental assessment requirements for the proposed Solar Farm development near Moree.

I am satisfied that the Director General's Requirements address the main issues of concern for the Border Rivers – Gwydir CMA. In providing a response to the Director General's Requirements, the Proponent should also consider the following:

Catchment Action Plan

The Border Rivers – Gwydir Catchment Action Plan (CAP) is a strategic document identifying desired improvements to natural resources. The CAP identifies the current state of natural resources, threats to condition and provides strategies for their management. In considering the CAP, the Proponent should consider any impacts with respect to the CMA Catchment Targets for the four CAP Themes of Community, Native Vegetation, Water, and Soils and Landuse.

Native Vegetation

The Border Rivers – Gwydir CMA is responsible for the administration of the Native Vegetation Act 2003. While this proposed development is excluded from this legislation, it is recommended that the intent of the Act be applied in regard to the impact of the development. It is noted that the proposed area includes cultivation with scattered paddock trees and grazed areas with several clumps of trees and scattered paddock trees. In particular, any clearing of native vegetation (including groundcover) associated with the development should include appropriate offsets or mitigating management actions to "improve or maintain" environmental outcomes.

Should you have any queries or require additional information, please don't hesitate to contact Mr Rod Williams, Program Manager on (02) 6757 2564.

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