



Our ref: DOC20/853471
Senders ref: SSD-9619

Javier Canon
Senior Policy Officer
Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
By email: javier.canon@planning.nsw.gov.au

Dear Mr Canon

RE: Tilbuster Solar Farm (SSD9619) Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment

Thank you for your referral uploaded to the major projects portal on 15 October 2020 inviting comments from Heritage NSW on the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report (ACHAR) for the construction of a solar farm and associated infrastructure at Tilbuster approximately 17 kilometres north of Armidale in the Armidale Regional local government area.

We have reviewed the ACHAR, and concur with the findings and support the recommendations therein. We note that the current project footprint includes a number of Aboriginal scar trees which will be directly or indirectly harmed by the proposal. Heritage NSW considers all Aboriginal scar trees to be of high scientific and cultural value. We note the recommendations in Section 9 of the ACHAR to redesign the project footprint so as to avoid harm to all Aboriginal scar trees and we support those recommendations. Heritage NSW strongly opposes any approval which would result in direct, or indirect, harm to any Aboriginal scar trees.

If you have any questions regarding the above advice, please contact Roger Mehr, Archaeologist at Heritage NSW on 04 5907 5354 or roger.mehr@environment.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

Dr Samantha Higgs
Senior Team Leader
Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Regulation - North
Heritage NSW

Date: 16 November 2020