



Regional
NSW

Kurtis Wathen
Environmental Assessment Officer
NSW Department of Planning & Environment
12 Darcy Street
Parramatta NSW 2150

Our ref: RDOC22/113452
Your ref: SSD-13166280

Emailed: via Major Projects Portal

4 July 2022

Dear Mr Wathen

Subject: Blind Creek Solar Farm – Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) exhibition.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide advice on the above matter. This is a response from the Department of Regional NSW – Mining, Exploration & Geoscience (MEG) – Geological Survey of NSW (GSNSW).

MEG-GSNSW note that the project site is located within an area that has been producing construction sand supplying the Canberra market over a long period of time. The EIS acknowledges Bungendore Sands Quarry is located approximately 250m south-west of the project site and the Paragalli Sands Quarry is approximately 500m east of the site. MEG-GSNSW recommends ongoing consultation with the quarry operators throughout the life of the project to minimise the impacts to their operations.

MEG would appreciate the opportunity for early consultation in relation to the proposed location of any biodiversity offset areas (should they be required) or any supplementary biodiversity measures to ensure there is no consequent reduction in access to prospective land for mineral exploration, or potential for sterilisation of mineral or extractive resources.

Queries regarding the above information should be directed to the MEG-GSNSW Land Use team at: landuse.minerals@geoscience.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Drummond'.

Malcolm Drummond
Senior Geoscientist - Land Use
for
Steven Palmer
Manager, Land Use
Geological Survey of NSW – Mining, Exploration & Geoscience