

Your ref: Marulan Solar Farm
Our ref: DOC22/906786

Ms Julia Green
Senior Environmental Assessment Officer
Department of Planning and Environment
PARRAMATTA NSW 2150

Dear Ms Green

Biodiversity and Conservation Division (BCD) have reviewed the Biodiversity Development Assessment Report (BDAR) dated 17 August 2022 by Premise submitted as Appendix K of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for Marulan Solar Farm against the NSW Biodiversity Assessment Method (BAM) 2020 requirements.

BCD are satisfied that the BDAR meets the requirements of the BAM for the assessment of impacts on biodiversity values and the generation of credit obligations.

There are several habitat constraints for predicted species credit species recorded within the subject site that were not subject to the required targeted survey. These species were therefore assumed present in accordance with BAM, and a biodiversity credit obligation applied accordingly.

Although the residual impacts of the project will result in the loss of 3.65 hectares of moderate quality Box Gum Woodland (BGW) which is a Serious and Irreversible Impact entity (SAIL), the BDAR demonstrates that the project has had several re-iterations to achieve avoidance. The project has minimised impacts to better quality and more intact BGW, natural temperate grasslands and biodiversity values across the subject land, including retention of buffers to potential Pink Tailed Worm Lizard and Striped Legless Lizard habitat, buffers to watercourses and Natural Temperate Grassland.

The report makes several recommendations for the mitigation of impacts pre, during and post construction that are supported by BCD, including the preparation of a Conservation Environment Management Plan, Fauna Management Plan, Weed Management Plan, Natural Temperate Grassland Management Plan and Landscape Revegetation Plan that will require planting of BGW species for landscaping (Appendix H of the EIS). BCD recommend that all required measures are referenced and numbered to enable tracking of actions through post approval reports back to the BDAR.

BCD would welcome the opportunity to provide further comment at the Response to Submissions stage and guidance on post approval management plan requirements.

If you have any further questions about this issue, please contact Angela Jenkins, Senior Conservation Planner, on 6229 7075 or at angela.jenkins@environment.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



13/10/22

MICHAEL SAXON
**Director South East
Biodiversity and Conservation Division**