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MID-WESTERN REGIONAL COUNCIL

LD | LAN900078

10 October 2022

Attention: Javier Canon NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment 4 Parramatta Square, 12 Darcy St PARRAMATTA NSW 2150

Dear Javier Canon

RE: BERYL SOLAR FARM (SSD-8183-Mod-2)

Thank you for providing Mid-Western Regional Council the opportunity to provide input into the above-mentioned modification, and acknowledges the proponent's consultation with Council in November 2021 on this issue.

Council understands the difficulties experienced in establishing vegetation in times of drought, but drought conditions have not occurred in the region for nearly 24 months. Council questions why no plantings have occurred, in the intervening period – given favorable weather conditions?

Landscaping is such an important mitigation measure, advocated by small and large solar farm developments. It is used as a means of screening solar panels and associated infrastructure, to help them assimilate their developments into the wider landscape. As part of the subject development, visual impacts for neighbouring residents was a major concern and landscaping was part of the commitment to minimise these impacts.

Council does not support an extension of 3 years. Council requests, if an extension is granted, that it be limited to 2 years – and if that is not achieved, that formal compliance action is instigated by the Department.

Should you have any further enquiries in relation to this matter, please contact Council on (02) 6378 2850.

Yours Sincerely,

BRAD CAM

GENERAL MANAGER

Looking after Our Community