



Our reference: DOC22/861644-5, EF22/7885

Javier Canon  
Senior Environmental Assessment Officer  
Department of Planning and Environment  
[javier.canon@planning.nsw.gov.au](mailto:javier.canon@planning.nsw.gov.au)

*Advice referred through the Major Project Portal*

Dear Javier

**Advice on Environmental Impact Statement – State Significant Development  
SSD 14757962 – Peninsula Solar Farm – Forbes Shire Local Government Area**

Thank you for your referral dated 27 September 2022, inviting comment from Heritage NSW (HNSW) on the Environmental Impact Statement prepared for the above State Significant Development (SSD) proposal.

HNSW understands that Edify Energy Pty Ltd is proposing to establish the Peninsula Solar Farm, a utility-scale solar farm and integrated battery energy storage system (BESS) project at Paytens Bridge, southeast of Forbes, NSW. The project aims to increase the State's electricity generation capacity and provide increased dispatchable energy. The solar farm is proposed to occupy approximately 290 hectares of rural agricultural land at Paytens Bridge Road, (Lot 441 DP 1124885, part Lot 442 DP 1124885 and part Lot 9 DP 752938), Paytens Bridge and connect to the existing Forbes-Cowra Transgrid 132 kilovolt above-ground transmission line.

The proposed works will involve construction of the solar farm and BESS as well as all associated infrastructure including solar panels, inverters transformers, underground cabling, site office and maintenance building, accessways, road and electrical easement crossings, perimeter security fencing and a substation to connect the solar farm to the existing transmission line.

In preparing the below advice, HNSW has reviewed the following documentation:

- Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARs) for SSD-14757962, issued 18 March 2021
- *Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Peninsula Solar Farm*, 5 September 2022, prepared by Accent Environmental Pty Ltd
- *Appendix E: Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report (ACHAR) Peninsula Solar Farm*, 25 August 2022, prepared by OzArk Environment & Heritage.

HNSW is satisfied that the supplied documentation fulfils the SEARs by adequately identifying and assessing the impacts of the proposal on the Aboriginal cultural heritage values within the proposed development area.

One newly recorded Aboriginal isolated artefact site, AHIMS 43-6-0117 (Peninsula IF-1), was identified within the development area and will be subject to direct impacts from proposed construction activities. A program of surface collection is proposed to mitigate harm to the Aboriginal object at site AHIMS 43-6-0117 (Peninsula IF-1), as per the community collection procedures in the ACHAR (OzArk 2022).

In accordance with the recommended management measures outlined in the EIS and ACHAR, an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management Plan (ACHMP) for the project needs to be developed in consultation with the RAPs and HNSW, to manage Aboriginal objects and heritage values located within the proposed development area.

HNSW supports the proposed mitigation strategy outlined in the ACHAR and recommends that the proposed management measures are implemented in consultation with the Aboriginal community. This is in accordance with the SEARs for the project and the HNSW *Aboriginal cultural heritage consultation requirements for proponents* (DECCW 2010), to help ensure continued Aboriginal community involvement in the project.

If you have any questions regarding these comments, please contact Rebecca Yit, at Heritage NSW, on 4927 3244 or [rebecca.yit@environment.nsw.gov.au](mailto:rebecca.yit@environment.nsw.gov.au).

Yours sincerely



**Rose O'Sullivan**  
Senior Assessments Officer  
Heritage NSW  
Department of Planning and Environment

11 October 2022