

Nestor Tsambos  
Department of Planning

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## Birriwa Solar Farm and BESS - Amendment Report

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Dear Nestor

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comment on the Birriwa Solar Farm and Battery Energy Storage System Amendment Report.

The NSW Department of Primary Industries (DPI) Agriculture collaborates and partners with our stakeholders to protect and enhance the productive and sustainable use and resilience of agricultural resources and the environment.

DPI Ag notes that the project now includes a temporary accommodation facility, on an adjacent property. The temporary facility will initially accommodate 500 construction workforce, with potential to expand up to 1000 people when other developments by this proponent are approved. As such, there is limited information about how the accommodation site will be supplied with water and power, how wastes and agricultural biosecurity will be managed, and how any land use conflicts arising from ongoing agriculture on the workers' amenity will be mitigated.

DPI Agriculture requests that the following points are addressed:

- A Land Use Conflict Risk Assessment (LUCRA) be undertaken to specifically identify and mitigate any land use conflicts that may arise between accommodation inhabitants and ongoing agricultural operations in the vicinity.
- Any subdivision resulting in a lot that is smaller than the minimum lot size **should not create additional dwelling entitlements.**
- The Rehabilitation and Decommissioning Management Plan should include removal of **all above and below ground infrastructure.**
- The Pest and Weed Management Plan should address **specific biosecurity, weed and pest impacts relating to agriculture** in the vicinity of the proposal (not just impacts relating to Biodiversity), as well as how **emergency animal disease protocols will be developed and implemented.**

Should you require clarification on any of the information contained in this response, please do not hesitate to contact me on 0437812508 or by email at [landuse.ag@dpi.nsw.gov.au](mailto:landuse.ag@dpi.nsw.gov.au).

Sincerely

*L. Parker*

Lilian Parker  
Agricultural Land Use Planning

Esigned 16-10-2023