

19 February 2024

Nestor Tsambos
Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure
Locked Bag 5022
PARRAMATTA NSW 2124

Contact: *Justine Clarke*

Telephone: *0457 535 955*

Our ref: *D2024/10642*

Dear Mr Tsambos,

Lambruk Solar Project (SSD-67436209) - Request for SEARs

Thank you for your Major Projects Planning Portal referral dated 7 February 2024, requesting WaterNSW's input into the preparation of the Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARs) for the above project. It is understood that the project proposes the construction, operation and decommissioning of a PV solar facility with a capacity of approximately 500 megawatt (MW) DC and 300 MW AC, and a BESS with an indicative capacity of up to 300 MW / 1,200 megawatt hour (MWh).

WaterNSW has reviewed the project Environmental Scoping Report and draft Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARs). Whilst the proposal is considered unlikely to impact on any WaterNSW land assets or infrastructure, it is requested that the applicant consider the potential impacts from the project on water quality and any existing water monitoring infrastructure within the Upper Peel River catchment. Detailed assessment, including hydrological modelling should be carried out to inform appropriate solar infrastructure placement, to protect the hydraulic function of waterways and prevent erosion.

WaterNSW considers that the industry specific draft SEARs will cover the required environmental assessment components.

WaterNSW would appreciate being advised when the EIS is exhibited for further review, and requests the Department continues to consult with us on any development that may impact on our assets, infrastructure or land, using the email address Environmental.Assessments@waternsw.com.au.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Justine Clarke at justine.clarke@waternsw.com.au.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alison Kniha", with a stylized flourish at the end.

ALISON KNIHA
Environmental Planning Assessments & Approvals Manager