

DPIRD Fisheries

Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development



Our Ref: C24/896

FE20/958

28 October 2024

Carl Dumbleton
The Department of Planning and Environment

Re: **Modification 1 Tilbuster Solar Farm Modification (SSD-9619-Mod-1)**

Thank you for providing DPIRD Fisheries, a division of NSW Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development, with the opportunity to comment on draft conditions of consent for Tilbuster Solar Farm Modification 1.

DPIRD Fisheries is responsible for ensuring that fish stocks are conserved and that there is no net loss of key fish habitats upon which they depend. To achieve this, DPIRD Fisheries ensures that developments comply with the requirements of the *Fisheries Management Act 1994* (namely the aquatic habitat protection and threatened species conservation provisions in Parts 7 and 7A of the Act, respectively), and the associated *Policy and Guidelines for Fish Habitat Conservation and Management (2013)*.

DPIRD Fisheries are of the opinion that the modification will result in minor impacts to Key Fish Habitats, however inclusion of the following draft conditions will ensure that the development still complies with the requirements of the *Fisheries Management Act 1994* and the associated *Policy and Guidelines for Fish Habitat Conservation and Management (Update 2013)*.

Watercourse Crossings

The construction of all watercourse crossings or services through waterways should be in accordance with DPIRD document *Policy and Guidelines for Fish Habitat Conservation and Management (Update 2013)*.

Riparian Stream Buffers

Stream buffers are to be established and maintained as per Appendix A.1. Updated General Layout of the Tilbuster Solar Farm Modification Report. There is to be no disturbance or development within established stream buffers except for the construction of approved watercourse crossings and access tracks, or measures outlined within the Biodiversity Management Plan.

If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me on 0429 908 856.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "D. Ward".

David Ward
Fisheries Manager (Tamworth)