



# RFS



Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (Major Projects)  
(none)

Your reference: SSD-69799460  
Our reference: DA20240702002693-EIS & DA Exhibition-1

**ATTENTION:** Rita Hatem

Date: Wednesday 11 June 2025

Dear Sir/Madam,

**State Significant Development - Electricity Generating Works  
Request for comments - exhibited Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)  
Tilbuster 2 Solar Farm - 11915 NEW ENGLAND HIGHWAY BLACK MOUNTAIN NSW 2365, 4//DP800611**

Reference is made to correspondence dated 21/05/2025 seeking comments regarding the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) currently being exhibited, for the above State Significant Development in accordance with the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*.

The New South Wales Rural Fire Service (NSW RFS) has reviewed the EIS and provides the following comments;

The NSW RFS recommends the following conditions be included in any approval granted. The recommendations are made for the future design and operation of the project such that improved levels of protection are afforded to the development, its occupants and fire fighters:

1. A Bush Fire Emergency Management and Operations Plan is to be prepared, in consultation with the NSW RFS New England Fire Control Centre, and shall identify all relevant risks and mitigation measures associated with the construction and operation of the solar farm. This should include:

- 24 hour emergency contact details including alternative telephone contact;
- site infrastructure plan identifying asset protection zones, access roads, fire fighting water supplies, etc.;
- fire fighting operations plan including methods and resources to manage and extinguish solar panel fires;
- detailed measures to prevent or mitigate fires igniting;
- work that should not be carried out during total fire bans;
- availability of fire-suppression equipment, access and water;
- storage and maintenance of fuels and other flammable materials;
- notification of the local NSW RFS Fire Control Centre for any works that have the potential to ignite surrounding vegetation, proposed to be carried out during a bush-fire fire danger period to ensure weather conditions are appropriate; and
- appropriate bush fire emergency management planning.

2. The solar farm development footprint is to be managed as an Asset Protection Zone (APZ) in accordance with Appendix 4 of '*Planning for Bush Fire Protection 2019*'.

1

**Postal address**

NSW Rural Fire Service  
Locked Bag 17  
GRANVILLE NSW 2142

**Street address**

NSW Rural Fire Service  
4 Murray Rose Ave  
SYDNEY OLYMPIC PARK NSW 2127

**T** (02) 8741 5555  
**F** (02) 8741 5550  
[www.rfs.nsw.gov.au](http://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au)





# RFS



3. A minimum 10,000 litre water supply (tank) fitted with a 65mm storz fitting shall be located adjoining the internal property access road entrance within the required APZ.

4. Internal access roads within the development shall comply with the property access requirements of '*Planning for Bush Fire Protection 2019*'.

5. To allow for emergency service personnel to undertake property protection activities, a 10 metre wide trafficable defensible space (APZ) that permits unobstructed vehicle access is to be provided around the perimeter of the solar array footprint including associated infrastructure.

For any queries regarding this correspondence, please contact Neil Pengilly on 1300 NSW RFS.

Yours sincerely,

Katrina Lindsay  
**Development and Planning Supervisor**  
**Built & Natural Environment**