

Our Ref: C25/686

FE22/995

18 August 2025

Cameron Ashe

The Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure

Re: **Birriwa Solar Farm (SSD-29508870 Mod-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)*. In addition, DPIRD Fisheries is responsible for ensuring the sustainable management of commercial, recreational and Aboriginal cultural fishing, aquaculture, marine parks and aquatic reserves within NSW.

The modification outlines that additional creek crossings in Key Fish Habitat and vegetation clearing adjacent to riparian corridors is required for the modified project. DPIRD Fisheries recommend the following conditions of consent;

POTENTIAL CREEK CROSSINGS

The design of the potential creek crossings or Proposed Typical Creek Crossing (including internal tracks and MV cables) should be in accordance with the document *Why do Fish Need to Cross the Road? Fish Passage Requirements for Waterway Crossings (NSW Fisheries 2003)* and the *Policy and Guidelines for Fish Habitat Conservation and Management (Update 2013)*.

RIPARIAN CORRIDOR BUFFERS

DPIRD Fisheries policy advocates the use of terrestrial or riparian buffer zones as per the *Policy and Guidelines for Fish Habitat Conservation and Management (Update 2013)* available on the Department's website at <http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/fishing/habitat/publications/pubs/fish-habitat-conservation>.

Should you wish to discuss please contact me on 0429 908 856.

D. Ward

David Ward

Fisheries Manager