

Benjamin Benfredj
Construction Project Manager
Neoen Australia Pty Ltd
570 George Street
Sydney, NSW, 2000

16/04/2025

Subject: Culcairn Solar Farm - Request to Extend Construction Hours

Dear Mr Benfredj

I refer to your request dated 16 October 2024 and your RFI responses dated 17 January and 18 February 2025 and your email of 9 March 2025. It is understood that you are requesting the Planning Secretary's agreement to allow extended working hours on Saturdays to 6pm until 31 May 2025 in accordance with Schedule 3, Condition 16 of the development consent.

I note from your advice that:

- the request is sought to facilitate the timely delivery of the project and to ensure that critical deadlines can be met prior to the planned energisation of the switchyard in June 2025;
- it is critical to complete the required substation works prior to Transgrid's final planned outage (31 May to 6 June 2025) of the transmission line before the no-outage winter period. If the wiring and pulling work has not progressed adequately prior to the outage, energisation of the substation will be delayed to September 2025;
- the timely delivery of the project is important to meet energy security requirements;
- the request is accompanied by the results of a noise assessment by DDEG Acoustic Engineering (17/2/25) which shows the predicted worst-case noise is compliant with the ICNG;
- in accordance with the EMS for the site, procedures outlined in the Construction Noise and Vibration Management Plan will apply; and
- consultation with residents has not yet been undertaken as construction noise is predicted to comply with the noise management levels in the ICNG.

The Department has carefully reviewed the correspondence, including the additional information provided in response to the RFIs and the noise assessment report prepared for the proposed activities.

The Department considers requests to alter hours of construction on a case by case or activity specific basis. In this case the Department considers it appropriate to approve the variation.

Accordingly, the Planning Secretary approves a variation to the construction hours to allow the variation of work hours on Saturdays to 6pm up to the end of May 2025.

This variation of hours only applies to the scenarios and equipment included in the noise assessment. It applies to work by your main contractor and Transgrid within the substation. However, it does not apply to the transformer works in Scenario 5 which is addressed in Post Approval Task PA-51.

Please notify nearby residents before the extended construction hours commence and ensure they have the contact details to raise issues should they occur. The Department may withdraw this approval at any time.

If you wish to discuss the matter further, please contact Keren Halliday on 8289 6444.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Iwan Davies', with a stylized, cursive script.

Iwan Davies
Director
Energy Assessments

As nominee of the Planning Secretary