

Notice of decision

Section 2.22 and clause 20 of Schedule 1 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*

Application type	State significant development
Application number and project name	SSD 10415 Yarren Hut Solar Farm
Applicant	BayWA r.e. Projects Australia Pty Ltd
Consent Authority	Minister for Planning and Public Spaces

Decision

On 28 January 2021, the Executive Director granted consent to the development application for the Yarren Hut Solar Farm subject to conditions, under delegation from the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces and section 4.38 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 (the Act)*.

A copy of the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment's Assessment Report and development consent are available [here](#).

Date of decision

28 January 2021

Reasons for decision

The following matters were taken into consideration in making this decision:

- the relevant matters listed in section 4.15 of the Act and the additional matters listed in the statutory context section of the Department's Assessment Report;
- the prescribed matters under the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000*;
- the objects of the Act;
- the considerations under s 7.14(2) and 7.16(3) of the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016* (NSW);
- all information submitted to the Department during the assessment of the development application; and
- advice from relevant NSW Government agencies and Bogan Shire Council.

The findings and recommendations set out in the Department's Assessment Report were accepted and adopted as the reasons for making this decision.

The key reasons for granting consent to the development application are as follows:

- the project would provide a range of benefits for the region and the State as a whole, including:
 - contributing to a more diverse local economy;
 - a capital investment of approximately \$42 million;
 - community contributions of \$20,000 (plus CPI) per annum to Bogan Shire Council;
 - creating up to 40 construction jobs;
 - generating enough electricity to power around 10,000 homes, saving over 59,000 tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions per year; and
 - assisting in transitioning the electricity sector from coal and gas fired power stations to renewable energy;
- the project is permissible with development consent under *State Environmental Planning Policy (Infrastructure) 2007*;
- the project is consistent with relevant NSW Government policies, including the *Climate Change Policy Framework*, *Net Zero Plan Stage 1: 2020 – 2030*, *Large – Scale Solar Energy Guideline* and the *Central West and Orana Regional Plan 2036*;
- the impacts on the community and the environment can be appropriately minimised, managed or offset to an acceptable level, in accordance with applicable NSW Government policies and standards;
- none of the NSW Government agencies objected to the project and Council is supportive of the project;
- there were no community objections to the project; and
- weighing all relevant considerations, the project is in the public interest, subject to strict conditions of consent.