

Our ref: Stubbo Solar Farm - SSD-10452-PA-2 Mr Cedric Berge Development Manager UPC\AC Renewables Australia 15 Castray Esplanade Battery Point Tasmania 7005

24/08/2022

Subject: Stubbo Solar Farm – Request for Staged Development (SSD-10452)

Dear Mr Berge

I refer to your request seeking the Secretary's approval to stage the development of the Stubbo Solar Farm under condition 3 of Schedule 4.

The Department has reviewed your proposal to develop the project in two stages comprising:

- Stage 1: Road upgrades including construction of the main site access;
- Stage 2: Construction of the solar farm site

The Department notes that:

- Staging would reduce construction time for works occurring outside the solar farm footprint by up to 3 months, reducing impacts to the local community;
- Mid-Western Regional Council supports the proposed staging noting UPC/AC's (now ACEN) commitment to enter into a Voluntary Planning Agreement (VPA) prior to commencement of Stage 2 works;
- The Biodiversity, Conservation and Science Directorate (BCS) of the Department of Planning and Environment raised no objections to staging, noting ACEN's commitment to meet the biodiversity offset obligations prior to each respective stage of construction;
- ACEN has committed to supporting each of the above stages with relevant strategies, plans and programs, in accordance with the Table of Commitments included in ACEN's submission (1 June 2022).

Accordingly, under Condition 3 of Schedule 4 of the development consent, as nominee of the Planning Secretary, I approve the staging of the development to enable the commencement of construction works for the main site access and road upgrades (Stage 1) prior to the commencement of full construction works (Stage 2) for the Stubbo Solar Farm.



If you have any queries, please contact Julia Green on 9585 6409 or via email at julia.a.green@dpie.nsw.gov.au

Yours sincerely,

Nicole Brewer Director Energy Assessments As nominee of the Secretary