

OUT22/16772

Ms Julia Green Department of Planning and Environment Major Projects Planning Portal

Julia.a.green@dpie.nsw.gov.au

Marulan Solar Farm (SSD -48225958) (Goulburn Mulwaree Council)

Dear Ms Green,

Thank you for your correspondence of 15th September 2022 requesting Environmental Assessment Requirements (EARs) for the above proposal. The NSW Department of Primary Industries (DPI) Agriculture collaborates and partners with our stakeholders to protect and enhance the productive and sustainable use and resilience of agricultural resources and the environment.

NSW DPI has reviewed the draft EIS, prepared by Premise, dated 27th July 2022 and advise that the report adequately addresses the key agricultural aspects of the SEARs issued to the proponent, with the exception of integrating the solar farm operation with livestock grazing. The following is submitted for your consideration:

The solar farm is proposed to be grazed to manage ground cover and bushfire risks. A groundcover plan is also proposed in the EIS which is fully supported. The integration of the solar farm operations with livestock grazing will be critical to managing the groundcover on site. The design of the solar farm (i.e., height and spacing of the panels) will also influence the efficiency with which livestock can graze and therefore manage groundcover. Detailing how the livestock will be managed with the solar farm operations and how the solar farm has been designed to enable livestock grazing would address those aspects.

Should you require clarification on any of the information contained in this response, please contact Ms Wendy Goodburn, Agricultural Land Use Planning Officer by email at landuse.ag@dpi.nsw.gov.au.

Sincerely

fille

29/9/22

Wendy Goodburn Agricultural Land Use Planner Agriculture Strategic Policy and Initiatives