

# Glanmire Solar Farm

## Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report

Bathurst Regional LGA NSW

Report to NGH Pty Ltd for Elgin Energy Pty Ltd

October 2022



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- ✓ Environmental impact assessment, auditing, and approvals
- ✓ High level preliminary environmental assessment (PEA)
- ✓ Review of environmental factors (REF)
- ✓ Peer review
- ✓ Community engagement
- ✓ Biobanking and biodiversity offsetting assessments
- ✓ Aboriginal heritage assessments and community walkovers
- ✓ Landscape architecture and design

**AREA Environmental & Heritage Consultants acknowledge Traditional Owners of the country on which we work**

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## Executive Summary

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Elgin Energy Pty Ltd (Elgin Energy) propose to construct a solar farm (the Project) at Lot 141 DP1133786, 4823 Great Western Highway, Glanmire, approximately 11 Kilometers (km) east of Bathurst, NSW (Figure 1-1). The development footprint will cover approximately 150 hectares (ha) and include a solar farm array containing approximately 128,000 panels, as well as ancillary infrastructure. The Project is a State Significant Development (SSD; application number SSD-21208499) as defined by the State Environmental Planning Policy (State and Regional Development) 2011 (the SRD SEPP).

AREA Environmental & Heritage Consultants (AREA) has been engaged by NGH Consulting Pty Ltd (NGH) to complete an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report (ACHAR) for the proposed Project. This report examines the impacts of the proposed Solar Farm development.

The archaeological assessment of the development footprint was undertaken by Kim Newman from AREA over two days from 12 to 13 July 2022. Representatives from Bathurst LALC attended this survey.

Two Aboriginal sites were recorded during the archaeological survey. One Aboriginal site (Glanmire-CMT-01) is within the riparian buffer of the development footprint and can be avoided, and one (Glanmire-ISO-01) isolated Quartz flake is within the development footprint. The following measures are recommended:

- The locations of the cultural heritage sites should be provided to the supervisors responsible for the construction and operation of the development footprint. They should be informed that cultural heritage sites are protected under the NPW Act and no harm is to come to them. The presence of the cultural heritage sites should be made clear to the workforce as part of an induction.
- The Aboriginal site G-ISO-01 (AHIMS ID Pending) will be impacted by the development footprint:
  - G-ISO-01 (AHIMS ID Pending) should be relocated by a an agreed upon person (RAP) to the base of G-CMT-01 in accordance with the *Code of Practice of archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in NSW (DECCW, 2010b)*.
  - The work crew should be made aware of the location of the relocated site and the protection afforded to them under the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2003*.
- While G-CMT-01 (AHIMS ID Pending) will be avoided, it should be protected against inadvertent impact during the construction of the proposal.
  - A high-visibility temporary fence should be erected around the tree with a minimum two-metre buffer from the dripline of the tree.
  - The work crew should be made aware of the locations of the site and the protection afforded to them under the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2003*.
- Following the completion of the development, members of the Aboriginal community who wish to access site G-CMT-01 (AHIMS ID Pending) must submit their request to the proponent no less than 6 weeks before the proposed visitation date. The proponent must respond within one week of the request submission acknowledging receipt of request and proposing date or range of dates for site visit. All visitors to the site are subject to all property entrance and Workplace Health and Safety requirements.



- If changes are made to the proposed works which could impact locations outside of the proposed development footprint disturbance area, further archaeological investigation may be required
- If any objects of suspected Aboriginal heritage origin are encountered during the proposed works, work in the area of the find should cease and the unexpected finds protocols should be implemented.
- If suspected human remains are located during any stage of the proposed works, work must stop immediately, and the NSW police must be notified.

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## Terms and acronyms used in this document

Acronym	Definition
AHIP	Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit
ASL	Above Sea Level
BOM	Bureau of Meteorology
CMT	Culturally Modified Tree
DECCW	Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water
DPE	Department of Planning and the Environment
EPBC Act	Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999
GPS	Global positioning system
GSV	Ground Surface Visibility
ICOMOS	International Council on Monuments and Sites
LALC	Local Aboriginal Land Council
LEP	Local Environmental Plan
LGA	Local Government Area
NP&W Act	National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974
NPWS	National Parks and Wildlife Services
NSW	New South Wales
OEH	Office of Environment and Heritage
RAP	Registered Aboriginal Party
Development footprint	Cumulatively all components disturbance areas affected by the proposal

# 1 Introduction

## 1.1 Background

Elgin Energy Pty Ltd (the Proponent) propose to construct a solar farm and associated battery energy storage (the Project) at Lot 141 DP1133786, 4823 Great Western Highway, Glanmire, approximately 11 kilometers (km) east of Bathurst, NSW (Figure 1-1). The development footprint will cover approximately 150 hectares (ha) and include a solar farm array containing approximately 128,000 panels, as well as ancillary infrastructure (Figure 1-2).

In 2021 AREA Environmental & Heritage Consultants (AREA) were engaged by NGH Pty Ltd (NGH) on behalf of the proponent to complete an Archaeological survey of the proposal. The survey was conducted over two days with members of Bathurst Local Aboriginal Land Council (Bathurst LALC). Two Aboriginal sites were recorded, a culturally modified tree (scarred) and an isolated quartz artefact.

NGH on behalf of the Proponent have engaged AREA to undertake an Aboriginal cultural heritage assessment report (ACHAR) for the proposed development footprint.

The Project is a State Significant Development (SSD; application number SSD-21208499) as defined by the State Environmental Planning Policy (State and Regional Development) 2011 (the SRD SEPP). An environmental impact statement (EIS) is to be prepared in accordance with Section 4.12(8) of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* and Part 8 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2021*. The Planning Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARS) for the Project in relation to heritage, and where in the report they are addressed, are outlined in Table 1-1.

Historic (Non-Aboriginal) heritage will be addressed in a separate report (AREA Environmental & Heritage Consultants (AREA), 2022a).

**Table 1-1: SEARs requirements and where they are addressed in this report**

Requirement	Section
An assessment of the impact to Aboriginal cultural heritage items (archaeological and cultural) in accordance with the <i>Guide to Investigating, Assessing and Reporting on Aboriginal Cultural Heritage in NSW</i> (NSW Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH), 2011:77) and the <i>Code of Practice for the Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in NSW</i> (NSW Department of Environment Climate Change and Water (DECCW), 2010b);	Sections 5 to 9
Evidence of consultation with Aboriginal communities in determining and assessing impacts, developing options and selecting options and mitigation measures (including the final proposed measures), having regard to the <i>Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents</i> (NSW Department of Environment Climate Change and Water (DECCW), 2010a); and	Section 3

## 1.2 Locality

The regional geographical context of the development footprint is provided in Table 1-1.

**Table 1-2: Regional geographical context of the development footprint**

Criteria	Development footprint
----------	-----------------------

Central coordinates (GDA94 z55)	751039.8 mN 6297538.6mS
Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation for Australia (IBRA Region)	South Eastern Highlands
State	NSW
Topographical map sheet	Bathurst 1:25000 (8831-3S)
Local Government Area	Bathurst Regional LGA
Local Aboriginal Land Council area (LALC)	Bathurst LALC
Parish	Melrose
County	Roxburgh
Schedule of Native Title Determination Applications (Claims, ILUA Future Acts etc.)	NA
Nearest town / locality	Bathurst
Accessed from nearest town by	Great Western Hwy
Land use / disturbance	Farming/ Residential
Nearest waterway (Name, Strahler Order)	Salt Water Creek (3rd order)
Spot point Australian Height Datum (AHD)	760m

### 1.3 Project description

Elgin Energy propose to construction and operate a solar photovoltaic (PV) energy generation facility and battery energy storage station (BESS) at Lot 141 DP1144786, 4823 Great Western Highway, Glanmire. The development footprint defines the uppermost area of land that would be directly impacted by the Project, including all construction, operational and decommissioning impacts. It includes disturbance areas required for the solar arrays, battery energy storage, ancillary power conversion infrastructure, perimeter fence, access roads and upgrades, transmission line footprint and areas used to store construction materials and manage environmental impacts (including all temporary and permanent impacts). The area is approximately 150ha (Figure 1-1).

The infrastructure layout shows where key infrastructure components would be likely be located within the development footprint. It most closely represents the area of actual impact required to construct and operate the solar farm. The final infrastructure layout will be subject to detailed design with appointed contractors (Figure 1-2).

Access to the site will be via Brewongle Lane which will undergo an upgrade to the point of site access. In addition, the NSW Government is currently undertaking improvement to the Great Western Highway including widening of the intersection with Brewongle Lane to facilitate the construction of turning lanes. The traffic impact assessment has indicated that further upgrades to the intersection of Brewongle Lane and The Great Western Highway to allow for construction and operation of the proposed project.

The Project is anticipated to take approximately 12 months to construct with an expected operation life of nominally 40 years.

For the purpose of this report the area effected by the proposal will be referred to as the **development footprint**.

### 1.4 Assessment objectives

The objectives of the cultural heritage assessment are as follows:

- Identify any recorded Aboriginal archaeological sites using database searches and assess the likelihood for such sites using background information
- Consult with the Aboriginal community regarding the proposal and seek out any relevant information about the development footprint they may have

- Undertake a physical inspection of the development footprint to identify any unrecorded sites of Aboriginal heritage and assess the possible need for further investigation
- Evaluate the significance of any sites of cultural heritage within the development footprint with the advice of the Aboriginal community, as well as the potential impact that the proposal will have on them
- Provide recommendations for the treatment of any cultural heritage remains within the development footprint.



Figure 1-1: Location of the development footprint

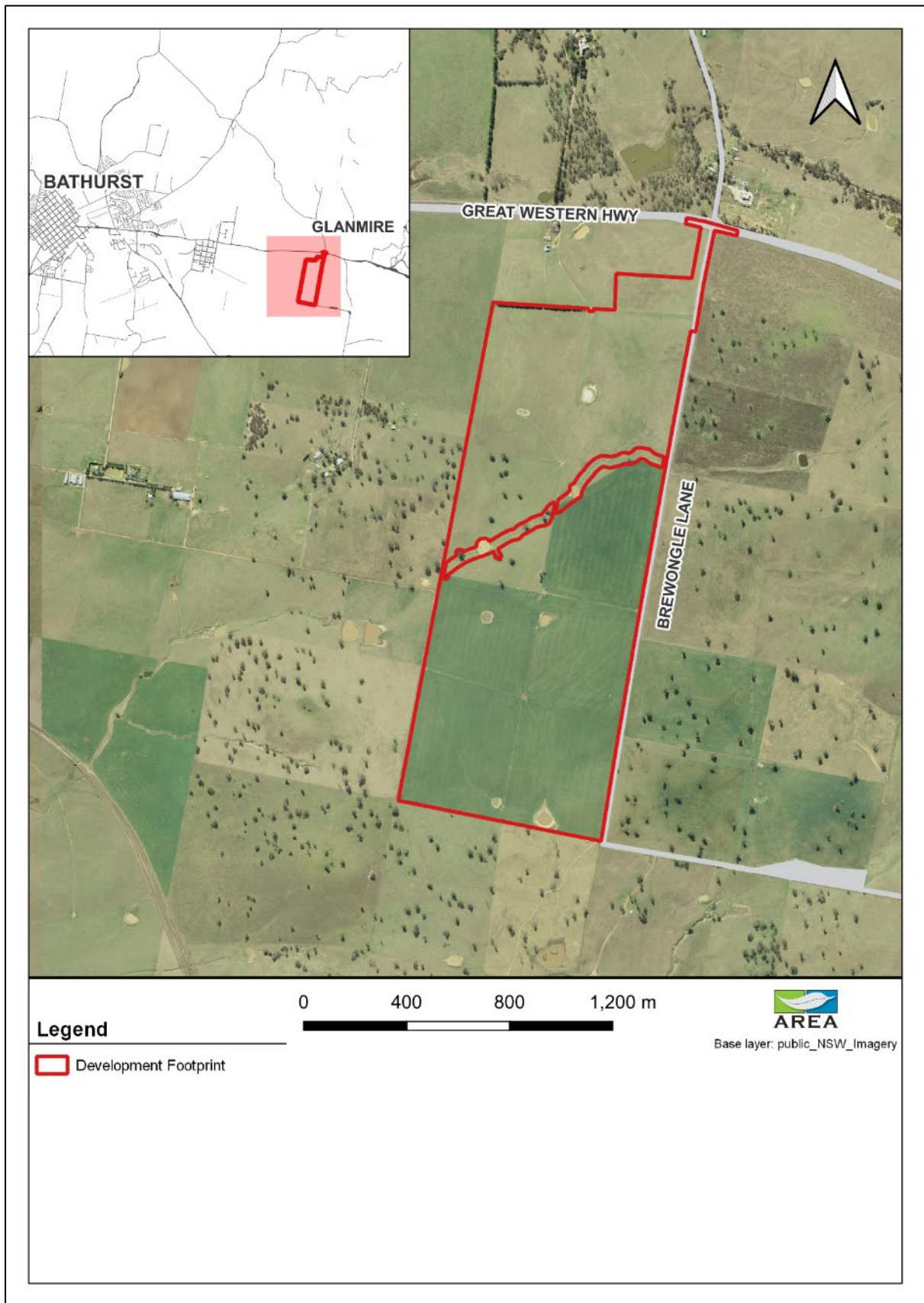
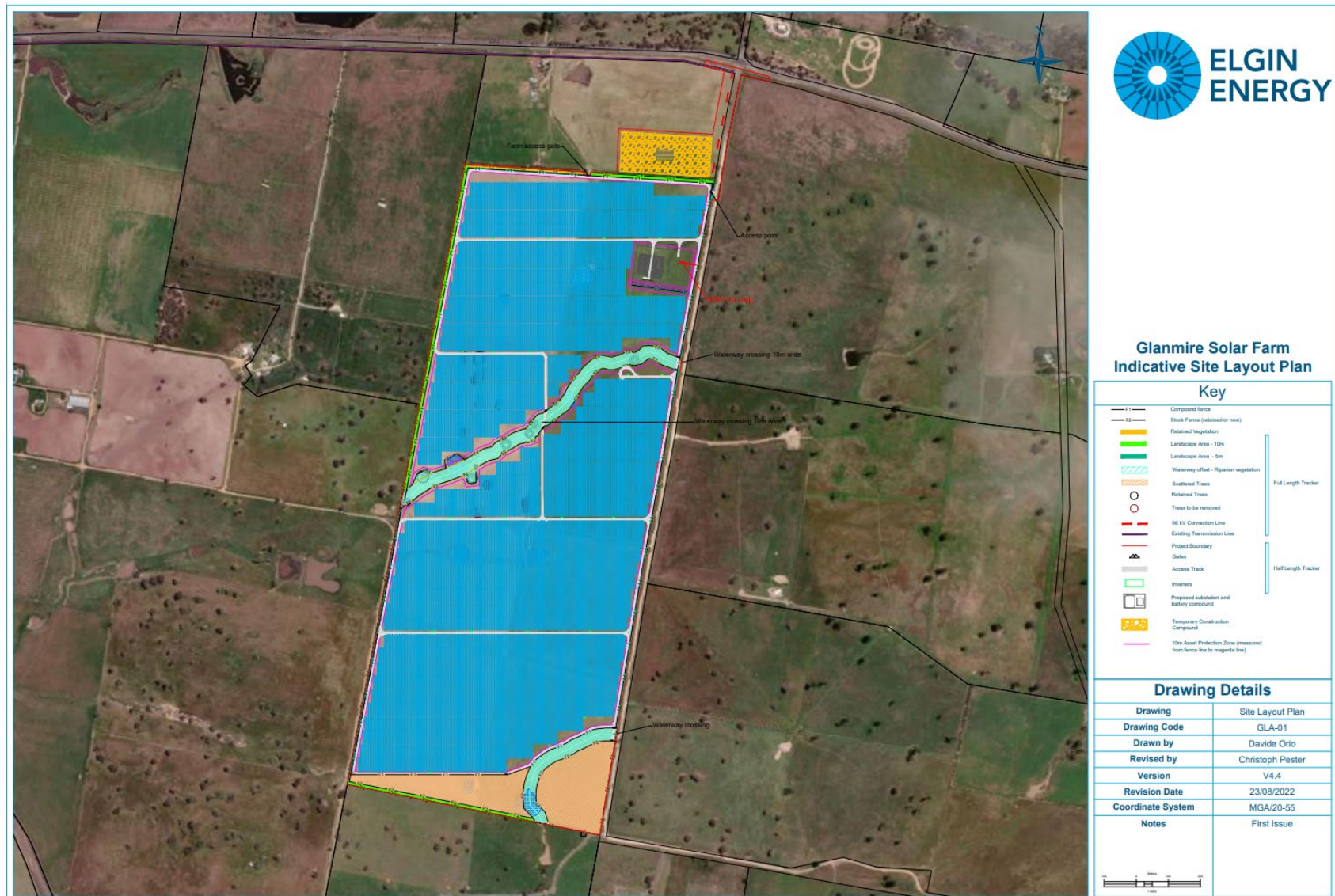


Figure 1-2: Infrastructure layout of the development footprint





## 1.5 Report structure

This report corresponds with the reporting requirements set out in the *Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in NSW* (NSW OEH 2011a) and the *Guide to Investigating, Assessing and Reporting on Aboriginal Heritage in NSW* (NSW OEH 2011b).

**Table 1-3: Report structure**

Section reference	Section heading	Description
1	Introduction	background to the project and purpose of the report
2	Legislative context and SEARs	overview of relevant legislation regarding heritage
3	Aboriginal Community Consultation	details of consultation with the Aboriginal community regarding the project
4	Landscape Features	environmental information that is relevant to the presence and survival of heritage items in the development footprint
5	Archaeological Context	local and regional archaeological information that is relevant to assessing the potential for archaeological remains and their significance
6	Archaeological Assessment	summary of the results of the fieldwork
7	Significance	description of the heritage values present across the development footprint
8	Impacts and Management	impacts that the proposal will have on any identified heritage items and proposed management
9	Recommendations	suggested steps for the Proponent to take with regards to heritage
10	References	list of reports, books, websites, and other resources used to produce this report

## 1.6 Project personnel

This assessment was carried out by appropriately experienced or qualified staff (Table 1-4). Kim Newman conducted the field survey and prepared this report. Phillip Cameron provided project management and Anna Darby reviewed this report.

**Table 1-4: Summary the project team's qualifications**

Name	Position	CV Details	Suitability for the task
Phillip Cameron	Principal consultant.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>BSc. Macquarie University</li> <li>Ass Dip App Sci. University of Queensland</li> <li>Certified Environmental Practitioner (EIANZ)</li> <li>Practicing member of the Environment Institute of Australia and New Zealand (EIANZ)</li> </ul>	Phillip Cameron is an appropriately skilled and experienced person (degree or relevant experience) in the field of Aboriginal cultural heritage management. He has the equivalent of two years full-time experience in Aboriginal archaeological investigation, including involvement in a project of similar scope, a demonstrated ability to conduct a project of the scope required through inclusion as an attributed author on a report of similar scope under the <i>NSW OEH Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in NSW</i> . Phillip has been undertaking heritage assessments as an environmental consultant since 2004.
Anna Darby	Archaeologist. Authored the report.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bachelor of Arts and</li> <li>Bachelor of Science (Archaeology, Palaeoanthropology and Forensic</li> </ul>	Anna has worked in Australian archaeology since 2015. She has been involved in all levels of assessment in Aboriginal archaeology, including survey and excavation. She has also worked to varying

Name	Position	CV Details	Suitability for the task
		<p>Science). University of New England</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bachelor of Science (Honours). University of New England</li> </ul>	degrees in historical archaeology.
Kim Newman	Archaeologist: Undertook site recording and authored the report.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bachelor of Archaeology (Honours) University of New England</li> <li>• Master of Science (Archaeology). University of New England</li> <li>• PhD candidate (Archaeology). Griffith University.</li> </ul>	Kim has worked in Australian archaeology since 2009. She has been involved in all levels of assessment in Aboriginal archaeology, including survey and excavation. She has also worked to varying degrees in historical archaeology.



## 2 Legislative context and SEARs

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### 2.1 The Burra Charter (Australia ICOMOS 2013)

Australia ICOMOS (International Council on Monuments and Sites) has developed a set of principles and practices for the management of cultural heritage in Australia. Local government authorities including the NSW DPIE have used the Burra Charter to guide their own heritage management documents. The charter promotes the conservation of places of cultural significance (Australia ICOMOS, 2013). It placed an emphasis on understanding significance as the basis for managing the heritage values for a place, as well as the importance of consulting with community groups to achieve this understanding (Australia ICOMOS, 2013).

### 2.2 Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act)

The EPBC Act is the primary framework of legislation for the protection of nationally significant ecological communities and heritage places. The act also has jurisdiction over environmental impacts other than those of national significance where they occur on commonwealth-owned land. The EPBC Act becomes the primary piece of legislation for the approval of a project when a proposal may significantly impact a matter of national environmental significance. In this case, the assessment is referred to the Department of Agriculture, Water and Environment.

### 2.3 Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 (EP&A Act)

The *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (NSW) (EP&A Act) establishes the framework for cultural heritage values to be formally assessed in the land use planning and development consent process. The EP&A Act consists of three main parts of direct relevance to Aboriginal cultural heritage; Part 3 which governs the preparation of planning instruments and Part 4 also includes the assessment requirements for each type of consent issued including State Significant Development (SSD) as detail in Division 4.7. Part 5 relates to activity approvals by governing (determining) authorities and the duty to consider the environmental impact.

The Project is a State Significant Development (SSD), application number SSD-21208499, under Section 4.12(8) of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* and Part 8 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2021*. The Minister for Planning and Public Spaces will be the consent authority for the Project in accordance with Section 4.5 of the EP&A Act.

### 2.4 National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 (NPW Act)

Under the NPW Act, the Director-General of the NPW is responsible for the care and protection of Aboriginal objects and places in NSW. An *Aboriginal object* means any deposit, object or material evidence (not being a handicraft made for sale) relating to the Aboriginal habitation of the area that comprises New South Wales, being habitation before or concurrent with (or both) the occupation of that area by persons of non-Aboriginal extraction, and includes Aboriginal remains. An *Aboriginal place* means any place of special significance with respect to Aboriginal culture as declared by the Minister.

Under Section 86 of the Act, a person must not harm an Aboriginal object or place. However, the Chief Executive may issue an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) subject to conditions. Penalties are in place for anyone who breaches these conditions or knowingly defaces or destroys an Aboriginal object or place without a permit.

## 2.5 Applicability of legislation to the proposal

The Project is a State Significant Development (SSD; application number SSD-21208499) as defined by the State Environmental Planning Policy (State and Regional Development) 2011 (the SRD SEPP). An environmental impact statement (EIS) is to be prepared in accordance with Section 4.12(8) of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* and Part 8 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2021*. The Planning Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARS) for the Project in relation to heritage are as follows:

- an assessment of the impact to Aboriginal cultural heritage items (archaeological and cultural) in accordance with the *Guide to Investigating, Assessing and Reporting on Aboriginal Cultural Heritage in NSW* (NSW Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH), 2011) and the *Code of Practice for the Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in NSW* (NSW Department of Environment Climate Change and Water (DECCW), 2010b);
- evidence of consultation with Aboriginal communities in determining and assessing impacts, developing options and selecting options and mitigation measures (including the final proposed measures), having regard to the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents* (NSW Department of Environment Climate Change and Water (DECCW), 2010a); and
- an assessment of the impact to historic heritage having regard to the *NSW Heritage Manual* (Heritage Office and Department of Urban Affairs & Planning, 1996).

## 3 Aboriginal Community Consultation

### 3.1 Overview

Consultation has been carried out with the local Aboriginal community according to the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010* (DECCW 2010) and the SEARs. For details of the consultation process, see Appendix A.

### 3.2 Identification of stakeholders and registrations of interest

In accordance with Step 4.1.2 of the Consultation Requirements AREA contacted a range of organisations on 24 February 2022 to request potential Registered Aboriginal Parties (RAPs) for consultation regarding the Project. The following organisations were contacted:

- Native Title Services Corporation Limited (NTS Corp)
- NSW Heritage
- Bathurst Local Aboriginal Land Council (Bathurst LALC)
- Bathurst Regional Council
- Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983 – ALRA
- Local Land Services – Riverina (LLS)
- National Native Title Tribunal (NNTT)

In addition, in accordance with Step 4.1.3 an advertisement was placed in the *Western Advocate* on 26 February 2022 requesting expressions of interest for consultation regarding the Project. This process resulted in 22 potential RAPs for the Project. These potential RAPs were contacted with an invitation to consult regarding the Project on 17 March 2022.

After Stage 1 of consultation nine individuals registered their interest to become RAPs (Table 3-1). Two individuals requested that their details be removed from this document.

**Table 3-1: Registered Aboriginal parties**

Contact	Organisation
Tonilee Scott	Bathurst LALC
Paul Boyd & Lily Carroll	Didge Ngunawal Clan
Robert Young	Konanggo Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Services
Steven Johnson	Woka Aboriginal Corporation
Phil Khan	Kamilaroi Yankuntjatjara Working Group
Ryan Johnson	Murra Bidgee Aboriginal Corporation, Cultural Heritage
Olivia Williams	Wolgaluumbe

### 3.3 Review of assessment methodology

A copy of the proposed survey and assessment methodology, and a request for cultural knowledge was communicated to the RAPs on 1 June 2022 requesting feedback by the 15 June 2022. Responses were received from three parties. The methodology was mistakenly reissued on 8 September and one additional response was received (Table 3-2).

**Table 3-2: Responses to methodology**

Contact	Organisation	Comments
Paul Boyd & Lily Carroll	Didge Ngunawal Clan	No issues with the methodology
Steven Johnson	Woka Aboriginal Corporation	No issues with the methodology
Phil Khan	Kamilaroi Yankuntjatjara Working Group	The whole study area and surrounds are of high significance to Aboriginal Peoples. The area would have been utilised for activities including camping, hunting, fishing and ceremonial practices etc. The study area is significant due to the multiple water ways Suggested that interpretive signage, displays, a keeping place or landscaping incorporating native food and medicine plants could be included in future designs for the site.
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	No issue with the methodology

### 3.4 Archaeological survey

The archaeological survey of the Project area was conducted by Kim Newman from AREA, over two days from 12 to 13 July 2022. Representatives from Bathurst LALC, Tina Scott and Tyson Sullivan, assisted with the survey. Representatives from Wiradyuri Traditional Owners Central West Aboriginal Corporation were also invited but had to withdraw at the last minute for personal reasons.

Two Aboriginal sites were recorded during the survey including one culturally modified tree and one isolated quartz flake.

Kim Newman discussed with Tina Scott the relocation of the isolated find Glanmire-ISO-01 to the base of the culturally modified tree Glanmire-CMT-01 following the survey. Tina had no objections to this recommendation.

### 3.5 Results from RAP review of the ACHAR

A draft copy of this ACHAR and the Archaeological Survey Report (ASR) was issued to the RAPS on the 20 September 2022, for a 28 day review period. A follow up phone call to the RAPS on the 20 September 2022 and email on the 27 September 2022 requested comment for this updated report. Responses were received from eight RAPS (Table 3-3).



**Table 3-3: Responses to ACHAR**

Contact	Organisation	Comments
Tina Scott	Bathurst LALC	Recommended same management actions for sites as listed in report
Paul Boyd & Lily Carroll	Didge Ngunawal Clan	No issues with the report
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	No issues with the report
Phil Khan	Kamilaroi Yankuntjatjara Working Group	No issues with the report
Ryan Johnson	Murra Bidgee Aboriginal Corporation, Cultural Heritage	No issues with the report
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	<p>Endorsed results of report.</p> <p>Requested details on procedure that Aboriginal community can use to access site G-CMT-01.</p> <p>Requested details on social responsibility measures that will be implemented as part of the development.</p> <p>AREA notes that the social responsibility measures feedback is not archaeological or cultural heritage in nature, but to address them they were referred to the social impact specialist for consideration and response.</p>
Steve Johnson	Woka Aboriginal Corporation	No issues with the report
Robert Young	Konanggo Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Services	No issues with the report

## 4 Landscape Features

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### 4.1 Overview

A review of the landscape of the development footprint and surrounds allows for comparison with other areas archaeologically investigated. It also assists in assessing existing and previous disturbances which may have affected the integrity of archaeological remains. Environmental features such as landforms, topography, water sources, geology, soils, and vegetation are also relevant for an archaeological assessment.

The proposal is in the South East Highlands Bioregion – Northern Granites subregion. The bioregion is in central NSW just west of the Great Dividing Range at an elevation between 780-740m above sea level (ASL). It is subject to a climate of mild summers and cold winters with consistent rainfall throughout the year (BOM, 2022).

The development footprint is located in a southward sloping landscape of gently undulating plains. This landscape was formed on a granite base overlaid with characteristic textured contrast soils on the slopes. An analysis of the soils in the development footprint determined it was a loam Grey-Brown Sodosol with poor drainage and moderately low fertility (SLR Consulting Australia, 2021). The whole development footprint is subject to waterlogging and erosion from clearing, crop cultivation and grazing activities. No stone outcrops are present in the development footprint. Isolated cobbles of primarily rose quartz of low quality and containing many internal faults ( $\sim 10\text{cm}^3$ ) were observed through most of the study area (approximately 1 per 20-50  $\text{m}^2$ ) (Figure 4-1). Cobble density increased in the southeastern portion of the development footprint up to approximately 1 per 2  $\text{m}^2$ , in addition to the quartz cobbles, poorly cemented sand and pebble conglomerate were observed.

Two ephemeral unnamed drainage lines cross the development footprint. One in a northeast-southwest direction through the middle of the development footprint and another in a south direction at the southern end of the footprint (Figure 4-2). These drainage lines have been used to feed water into dams across the property. Permanent water was important for women's activities and as a choice of camping location (Tina Scott pers. comm.). Salt Water Creek is the nearest permanent watercourse, located 1km to the south of the development footprint. Salt Water Creek drains into Fish River which in turn drains into the Macquarie-Wambuu River. The Macquarie-Wambuu River is the major river system in the region, located approximately 8km west of the development footprint.

The current landscape within the development footprint is highly modified. It has been mostly cleared of native vegetation containing only isolated Yellow Box trees (Figure 4-4). The land has historically been used as agricultural land. It has been divided into nine paddocks that are either currently cropped or show signs of cropping in the past and supports both sheep and cattle (Figure 4-3). The currently cropped paddocks have been sown with a fodder crop, while the uncropped paddocks contain wheat stubble and exotic groundcover including Hedge mustard (*Sisymbrium officinale*) and Saffron thistle (*Carthamus lanatus*).

While the drainage lines that cross the development footprint have likely gathered silt since the clearing of native vegetation and the commencement of regular ploughing, it is likely that they would have only held water during periods of heavy rains. In conversation with the Aboriginal sites officers from Bathurst LALC it was also speculated that the location of a dam to the west of the development footprint may have originally been the location of a natural pond or pool. If this was the case, this may have drawn people to the development footprint for longer periods of time. G-CMT-01 is located within 10m of the drainage line and less than

100m from the dam in the adjoining property, The position and age of this tree is consistent with the predictive model and context for cultural modified trees (carved or scarred) (Long, 2005) (Figure 4-4). It is possible that sites, like cultural modified trees (carved or scarred), hearths or artefact scatters, have been destroyed by disturbances caused by the historic agricultural uses of the site. However, the exposed location, the absence of knappable stone, ochre, and permanent water, in the development footprint suggests that there were few permanent natural resources to draw people to the site. The site instead was likely used for hunting or was traversed on the way to permanent water courses or more resource rich locations.

**Figure 4-1: Example of isolated quartz cobbles found in the paddocks**



**Figure 4-3: View to east across cleared paddocks**



**Figure 4-2: View west down drainage line**

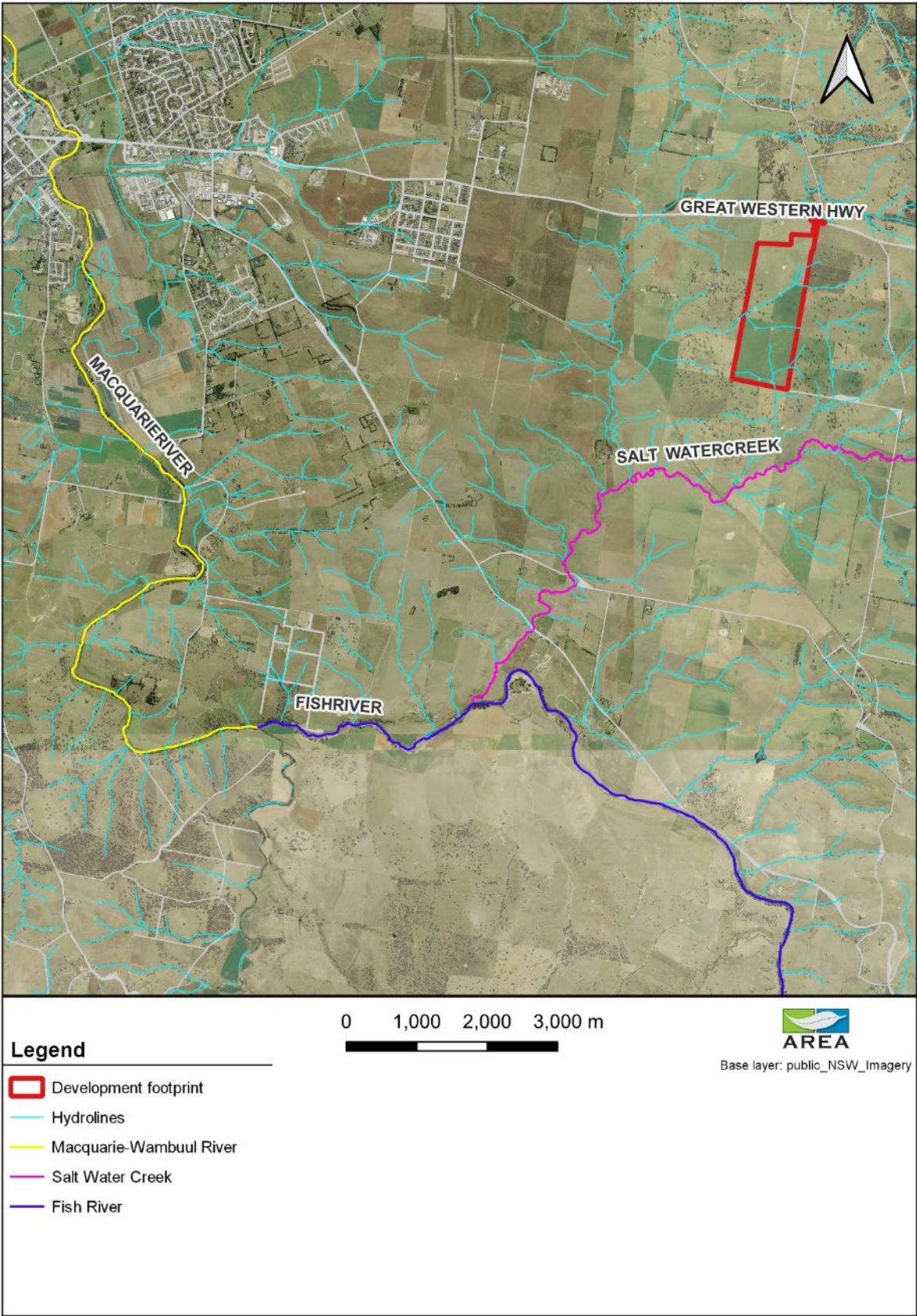


**Figure 4-4: Site G-CMT-01**





Figure 4-5: Overview of the landscape context of the development footprint





## 4.2 Current Disturbance

The landscape within the development footprint is highly modified. The majority of the development footprint are used as cultivated agricultural land that has been divided into paddocks and utilised to grow crops and graze livestock (Figure 4-6). Eight dams have been constructed in the development footprint across drainage lines causing localised surface disturbance and erosion (Figure 4-8). Most native vegetation has been cleared from these paddocks with the exception of isolated mature Yellow Box trees. Ploughing activities will have directly affect the top 20cm of soil, potentially disturbing surface sites, while tree clearing will have disturbed any cultural modified trees (carved or scarred) that many have been withing the development footprint.

A small section of the development footprint is contained within the road corridor of the Great Western Highway and Brewongle Lane. This area has been subject to a high degree of disturbance through the surface contouring associated with the construction of the road corridor (Figure 4-7 and Figure 4-9).

**Figure 4-6: Overview of cleared ploughed paddocks across the development footprint**



**Figure 4-8: Erosion in drainage line behind dam**



**Figure 4-7: Surface modifications at Great Western Hwy and Brewongle Lane intersection southwest side**



**Figure 4-9: Surface modifications Great Western Hwy and Brewongle Lane intersection northwest side**



## 5 Archaeological Context

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### 5.1 Aboriginal Cultural Heritage

#### 5.1.1 Regional Cultural Context

Aboriginal people have been present in Australia for approximately 60,000 years. The archaeological record provides evidence of a dynamic culture coupled with a long occupation of the land. While the boundaries of language groups, as defined by people like Tindale (1974) should be taken as indicative (Attenbrow, 2010), the development footprint is within the traditional lands of the Wiradjuri peoples (Tindale, 1974). The Wiradjuri are the people of the three rivers, inhabiting a widespread area which extended from the Great Dividing Range, west to the Macquarie-Wambuul, Lachlan (Kalare) and the Murrumbidgee (*Murrumbidjeri*) rivers (Coe, 1989, Bamblett, 2013).

The Wiradjuri is one of the largest language groups in Australia with an estimation of between 12,000 and 100,000 people at the time of European arrival (Bamblett, 2013). Wiradjuri people maintained connections across the long distances, through ceremonial cycles which moved around the tribal area (Tindale, 1974). The name Wiradjuri is an antonym derived from *wirraay* meaning 'no' and *-thuurray* or *tyuurray* meaning 'having' (Donaldson, 1984). Differences in dialect have been recorded amongst the Wiradjuri, and notably one has been recorded around the Bathurst region (Tindale, 1974) which coincides with a distinctive upper Macquarie clan territory centered around Bathurst (Pearson, 1984:68).

The first European explorer to travel to the 'Bathurst Plains' was the Assistant Surveyor of NSW George Evens, who in December of 1813 reached the headwaters of the Macquarie-Wambuul River. Traces of the Wiradjuri people were observed during their travels, but they were thought to have been deliberately avoiding the party. The first encounter between this group and the Wiradjuri people was with two women and four children near Mt Pleasant to the west of what is now Bathurst (Evans, 1813). By 1815 Bathurst was established as the Government Stock Establishment to protect against the effects of drought and overstocking in the Cumberland Plains. Up to 287 Europeans settling in the region by 1821, with unfenced farming and grazing activities limited to the Fish and Campbell Rivers.

Accounts from Governor Macquarie's visits to Bathurst in both 1815 and 1821 suggest that population densities of Wiradjuri people were low in the Bathurst region and had remained constant throughout this time period (Pearson, 1981:64). Limited observations from this time suggest that distinct local community groups existed. These localized groups would divide into smaller groups of up to 20 individuals for daily life and reform into larger groups during times of seasonal resource availability and for ceremonial or social events (Pearson, 1984:64). These groups might exploit an area up to 13000 km<sup>2</sup>.

Soon after European expansion into the Bathurst region, a rapid expansion of grazing lands occurred to offset the effect of the 1822-24 drought. With restrictions imposed to the Bathurst Clan traditional Aboriginal land use, the local Wiradjuri people started resisting these settlements (Pearson, 1984). Increased conflict arose between European stockmen and the Wiradjuri people between 1822-1824, culminating in martial law being established by Governor Darling in 1824. This resistance was taken up by multiple groups, including one led by famous resistance fighter Windradyne, throughout the wider Bathurst and Mudgee region but did not form a unified group. However, this resistance had been repressed by the end of 1824 when the martial law was repealed. The period of the 1824 Bathurst War coincided with stresses from overstocking and drought in the Bathurst region and had a limited effect in slowing the expansion of grazing lands for a short period of time (Pearson, 1984).

Thomas Mitchel Surveyor General of the colony on NSW, conducted several expeditions in the area in the 1830s and 1840s and noted that possums formed a large part of the diet, with the skins used for making winter cloaks, arm bands and other items of clothing. Other food sources also included daisy yams, and other roots and tubers (Gott, 1983). Seeds from the Kurrajong and Acacia would be ground into flour, similarly with certain grass seeds.

Aboriginal occupation of the Darling Basin (the Wiradjuri occupy the portion of the basin to the west) has been dated to c. 40,000 years BP (Bowler et al., 2003). Within the region, the period of occupation of several sites have been dated to c. 7,000 years BP. These Aboriginal sites are Granites 2 shelter near Manildra (Pearson, 1981) and the skeletal remains of a male individual near Cowra (Pardoe and Webb, 1986). To the east of the development footprint in the Blue Mountains a number of sites have dated from the Last Glacial Maximum (LGM) including the Kings Table site at Wentworth Falls which dated to c. 25,000 years BP (Stockton and Holland, 1974).

### 5.1.2 Local Archaeological Context

An Extensive search for the Aboriginal Heritage Information Management Systems (AHIMS) was conducted on the 11 July 2022 (Client ID: 699200). The AHIMS search provides archaeological context for the area and identifies whether any previously recorded Aboriginal sites are located within or near the development footprint.

A total of eight Aboriginal sites were recorded on the AHIMS database within the search area. Of these sites, seven were open artefact scatters and one contained grinding grooves and an Aboriginal ceremonial site. No Aboriginal sites were recorded within the development footprint. The distribution of recorded AHIMS sites is shown in Figure 5-1 and presented in Appendix B.

**Table 5-1: Summary of database searches for Aboriginal Heritage**

Database	Date of Search	Parameters	Results
Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System (AHIMS)	11/07/2022	GDA, Zone: 55, 746148 – 756148 mE 6292029 – 6302029 mN	8 sites recorded with the search parameters and 0 are located within the development footprint.
Bathurst LEP 2014	24/06/2022	Schedule 5 Environmental heritage	No Sites of Aboriginal Heritage are on the database nearby to the development footprint.
Native Title Vision <a href="https://nntt.maps.arcgis.com/">https://nntt.maps.arcgis.com/</a>	24/06/2022	NSW	There are no native title claims or determinations within the development footprint
State Heritage Register <a href="http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/heritageapp/heritagesearch.aspx">http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/heritageapp/heritagesearch.aspx</a>	24/06/2022	Bathurst LGA	No items relating to Aboriginal heritage are recorded on the State heritage register within the development footprint

Pearson (1981) conducted a comprehensive study of the upper Macquarie region in relation to his PhD dissertation. Through excavation and extensive research, he determined that the Wiradjuri functioned primarily in small groups of variable size, dependent on the season. These groups were comprised of immediate relations, the smallest being the basic family unit. During feasting and ceremonies these family groups gathered in numbers possibly between 80-150 people. Pearson (1981) also developed a pattern of Aboriginal occupation through the analysis of just over 40 open site within four regions between Bathurst and Dubbo. His findings indicated that archaeological sites can be grouped into two main types, occupation sites, and non-occupation sites, which can include scarred or carved trees, ceremonial sites, grinding grooves and burial sites.

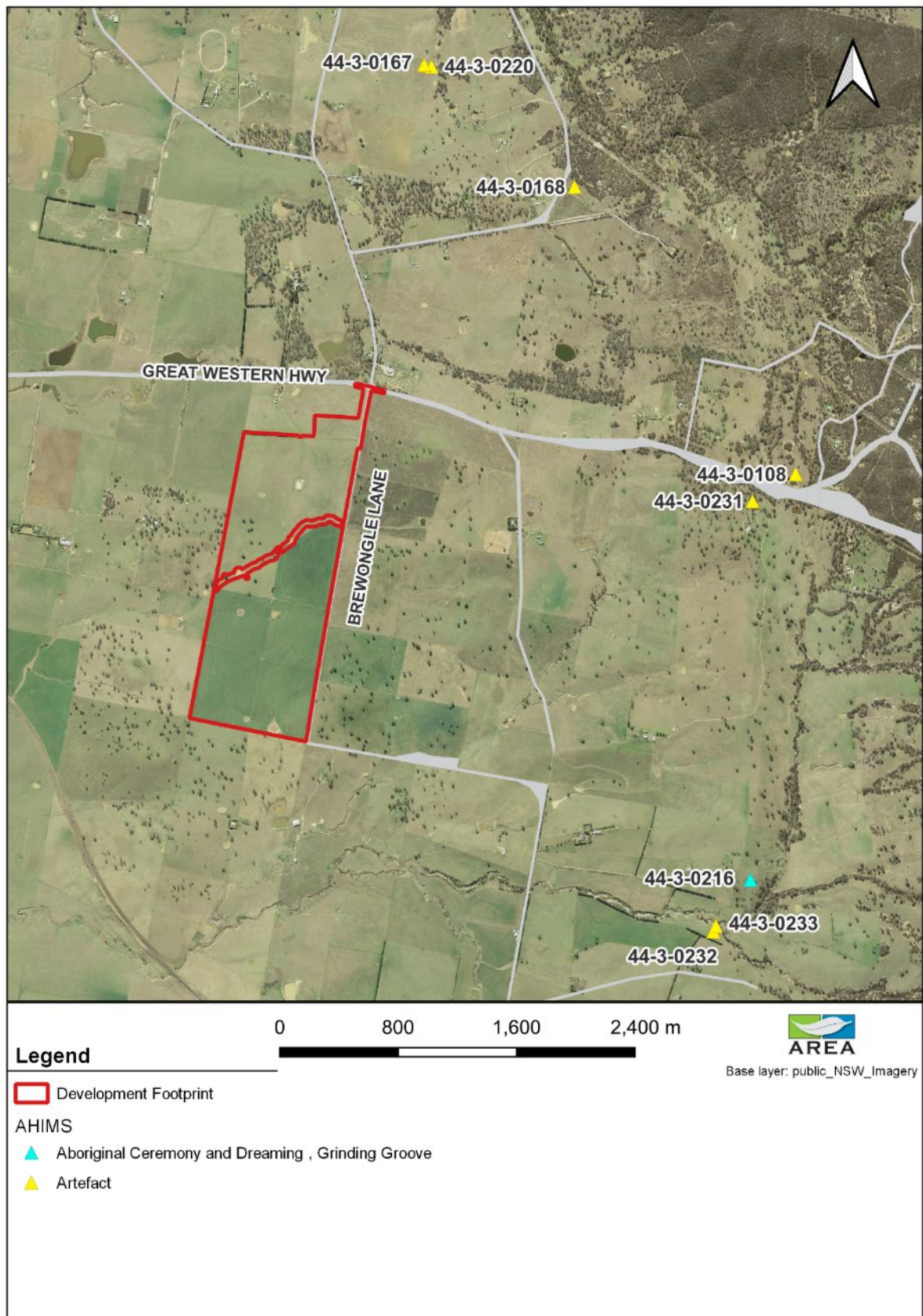
Through analysis of the location of these sites, Pearson (1981) suggested that occupation sites would range from between 10 to 500m from water sources. However larger sites were

generally located closer, at an average of 90m to water. Site locations that provided shelter, were protected from prevailing wind and cold air drainage, with well drained soil, and views of watercourses were favoured. These sites also tended to be situated in open woodlands and were rarely used for longer than three nights. Sites that showed evidence of dense archaeological deposits therefor represent accumulations from multiple occupation events. Non-occupation sites like scarred or carved trees, burial sites and grinding grooves were located in close proximity to these occupation sites. However, grinding grooves were also raw material depended, occurring only where there are suitable sandstone outcrops. Scarred or carved trees were also distinguished by their close proximity to occupation sites and watercourses. While quarry sites were located at places with stone of serviceable stone quality. Unlike these sites, ceremonial sites such as earth rings and stone arrangements were situated away from campsites, in isolated places, generally on small hills or knolls, although they could occur on flat land.

There is a growing body of archaeological investigations in the Bathurst area. There have been some compliance-based heritage assessments adding to the archaeological record. Many of these assessments have relied on the predictive model outline by (Pearson, 1981) which they have found to be supported in the archaeological record. The review of sites from across the Bathurst region found that of the 222 sites reviewed artefact scatters were by far the most frequently observed site type (n=102), followed by Isolated finds (n=20), stone arrangements (n=17), modified trees (n=16) and carved trees (n=11) (Extent Heritage, 2017). Quartz artefacts are the most frequently recorded artefact type across the Bathurst region with less frequent reporting of artefacts made of granite or volcanic stone (Williams and Barber, 1994 , Gollan and Bowdler, 1983 , OzArk, 2019 , Navin Officer Heritage Consultants, 2013).



**Figure 5-1: Result of the extensive AHIMS search within 5km of the development footprint**



## 6 Archaeological Assessment

### 6.1 Archaeological survey

#### 6.1.1 Methodology

The field methods used to assess the development footprint follow those described in the OEH's *Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales* (DECCW, 2010b).

The purpose of the field survey was to identify any previously undetected Aboriginal sites, places or areas with cultural heritage values and evaluate the possible need for further investigation (i.e., test-excavation). A GPS was used to ensure the survey covered the proposal area. It is important to note the tracks for the survey represent only one person from the survey team (AREA staff) (Figure 6-1). The survey was conducted by walking a series of transects at 20m apart across each survey unit in parallel lines at a pace that allowed opportunity to identify any features or objects. At the end of each transect the team would reposition along a new transect line at the same spacing and walk on the reverse compass bearing. It is important to note the GPS tracks recorded only represent only one person from the survey team or 33% of the survey effort.

Photographic and written records were made of the landscape features relevant to archaeological potential. These features include disturbance levels, Ground Surface Visibility (GSV) and landforms of higher archaeological potential.

All ground exposures were examined for Aboriginal objects (stone artefacts, imported shell, or other traces of Aboriginal occupation). All Old growth trees were examined for signs of cultural scarring and marking. Aboriginal sites were recorded using AREA's criteria conforming with *Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales* (DECCW, 2010b).

#### 6.1.2 Timing and personal

The archaeological survey was conducted from 12-13 July 2022 covering the proposed solar farm and associated roads. The archaeological survey was conducted by Kim Newman of AREA with Tina Scott and Tyson Sullivan of the Bathurst LALC. Representatives from Wiradyuri Traditional Owners Central West Aboriginal Corporation were also invited but were unable to attend.

#### 6.1.3 Results

Two new Aboriginal sites were observed within the study area (Table 6-1).

**Table 6-1: Summary of database searches for Aboriginal Heritage**

Database	Results
Glanmire Isolated find 01 (G-ISO-01)	Single quartz flake in disturbed ploughed location
Glanmire Culturally Modified Tree 01 (G-CMT-01)	Culturally modified Yellow Box tree located 10m from drainage line

Further details regarding the sites that were identified during survey can be found in the ASR (AREA, 2022b).



Figure 6-1: Survey units and survey transects (one person)

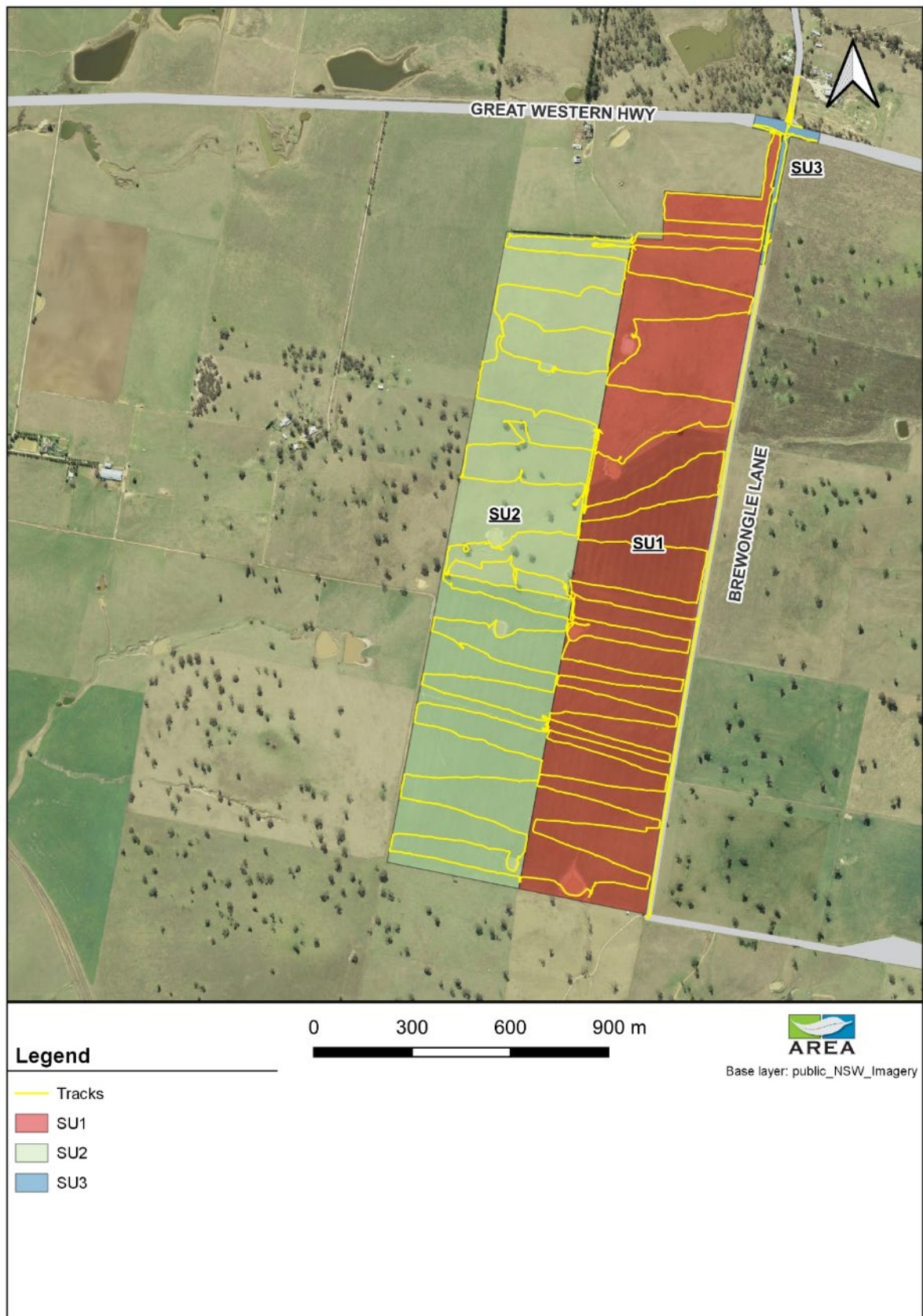
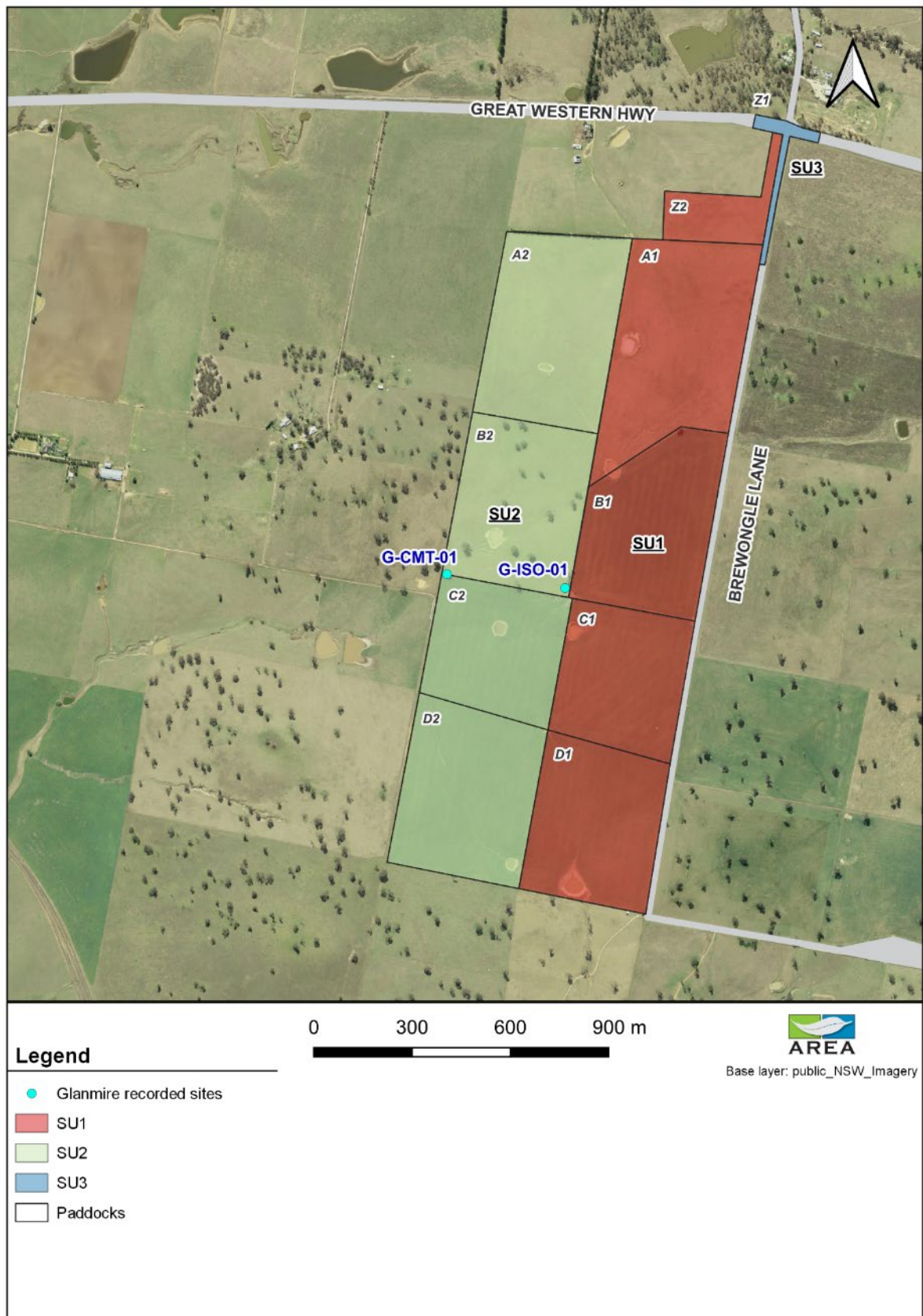


Figure 6-2: Location of newly recorded Aboriginal sites with survey units and paddock labels





## 7 Significance

Significance forms the basis for the management of Aboriginal cultural heritage. There are four main criteria for assessing the significance of Aboriginal cultural heritage sites listed in the *Guide to investigating, assessing, and reporting on Aboriginal cultural heritage in NSW (NSW Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH), 2011)*. These are Social or Cultural significance, Aesthetic significance, Historic significance, and Scientific significance.

Each criteria of significance are rated low, moderate, or high. The following questions can be asked to help guide this rating (OEH, 2011):

- **Research potential:** does the evidence suggest any potential to contribute to an understanding of the area and/or region and/or state's natural and cultural history?
- **Representativeness:** how much variability (outside and/or inside the subject area) exists, what is already conserved, how much connectivity is there?
- **Rarity:** is the subject area important in demonstrating a distinctive way of life, custom, process, land-use, function or design no longer practised? Is it in danger of being lost or of exceptional interest?
- **Education potential:** does the subject area contain teaching sites or sites that might have teaching potential?

The level of significance of each site is summarised in Table 7-1.

**Table 7-1: Summary of significance for sites recorded**

Development footprint / Site ID	Social Significance	Aesthetic Significance	Historic Significance	Scientific Significance
Glanmire-ISO-01	Low	Low	Low	Low
Glanmire-CMT-01	Moderate	Moderate	Low	Low

### Social or cultural significance

Social or cultural value refers to the spiritual, traditional, historical, or contemporary associations and attachments the place or area has for Aboriginal people (OEH, 2011). It relates to a contemporary connection that Aboriginal people have with events that have taken place in that location or general area.

In general, presence of Aboriginal sites provides evidence of connection to country and therefore is likely to be considered as important and significant regardless of its condition or representativeness. In consultation with the Bathurst LALC the site was considered to generally have **low** cultural significance as it offered limited resource opportunities as a camping or resource gathering location (Tina Scott pers comm.). The development footprint was likely traversed or used for hunting possibly accounting for G-ISO-01. Additionally, the cultural modified tree (carved or scarred) attests to the use of the site in the past. Based on this association these sites have **moderate** social or cultural significance.

No submissions were received from the Aboriginal community regarding the cultural significance level of the Aboriginal sites within the study area.

### Aesthetic significance

This refers to the sensory, scenic, architectural, and creative aspects of the place. It is often closely linked with the social values. It may consider form, scale, colour, texture and material of the fabric or landscape, and the smell and sounds associated with the place and its use (Australia ICOMOS, 2013, OEH, 2011).

The isolated artefacts have **low** aesthetic value.

Culturally modified trees inherently have some aesthetic value. Mature trees have some level of aesthetic appeal, and the cultural scars provide a clear link to the Aboriginal use of the area. These sites have **moderate** aesthetic significance.

No submission were received from the Aboriginal community regarding the aesthetic significance level of the Aboriginal sites within the study area.

### **Historic significance**

Historic value refers to the associations of a place with a historically important person, event, phase, or activity in an Aboriginal community. Historic places do not always have physical evidence of their historical importance (OEH, 2011).

There are no known historical associations between the development footprint and the local Aboriginal community. Therefore, there is **low** historic significance of the development footprint and sites within them.

No submission were received from the Aboriginal community regarding the historic significance level of the Aboriginal sites within the study area.

### **Scientific significance**

This refers to the importance of a landscape, area, place or object because of its rarity, representativeness, and the extent to which it may contribute to further understanding and information (Australia ICOMOS, 2013 , OEH, 2011).

The scientific significance of artefact scatters is dependent on the research potential of the site. This includes both the level of preservation of the site and how representative the site it of these site types in the area. The limited number of sites and high level of disturbance, means these sites have **low** scientific significance.



## 8 Impact and Management

### 8.1 Aboriginal Cultural Heritage

Cultural heritage values require management for any proposal where they have been identified (Figure 7-1). Whether an impact is direct, indirect, or possible, Aboriginal sites will require some level of intervention to avoid harm where possible.

#### 8.1.1 Impacts to Aboriginal Cultural Heritage

It is likely that the proposal will impact Aboriginal objects. The potential harm from construction activities from the proposal will include:

- Installation of solar panels
- Construction of internal access roads
- ancillary power conversion infrastructure
- perimeter fencing
- construction material storage

A total of two Aboriginal sites were recorded during the archaeological survey. According to the infrastructure layout (Figure 8-1) Glanmire-CMT01 is located within a riparian corridor and will be avoided by the development footprints disturbance areas. Glanmire-ISO-01 will be impacted by the Solar farm development footprint.

Further management is required to ensure no impact occurs to Aboriginal sites which are avoided and to minimise the potential for inadvertent or to any unrecorded sites.

**Table 8-1: Summary of Impacts to Aboriginal heritage under the current form of the proposal**

Development footprint Site ID	Impact Unless Managed	Effect of proposal on Significance	Actual impact with implementation of the mitigation measures
Glanmire-ISO-01	Direct	Total	Total loss of value
Glanmire-CMT-01	Indirect	None	No loss of value

#### 8.1.2 Ecological sustainable development statement

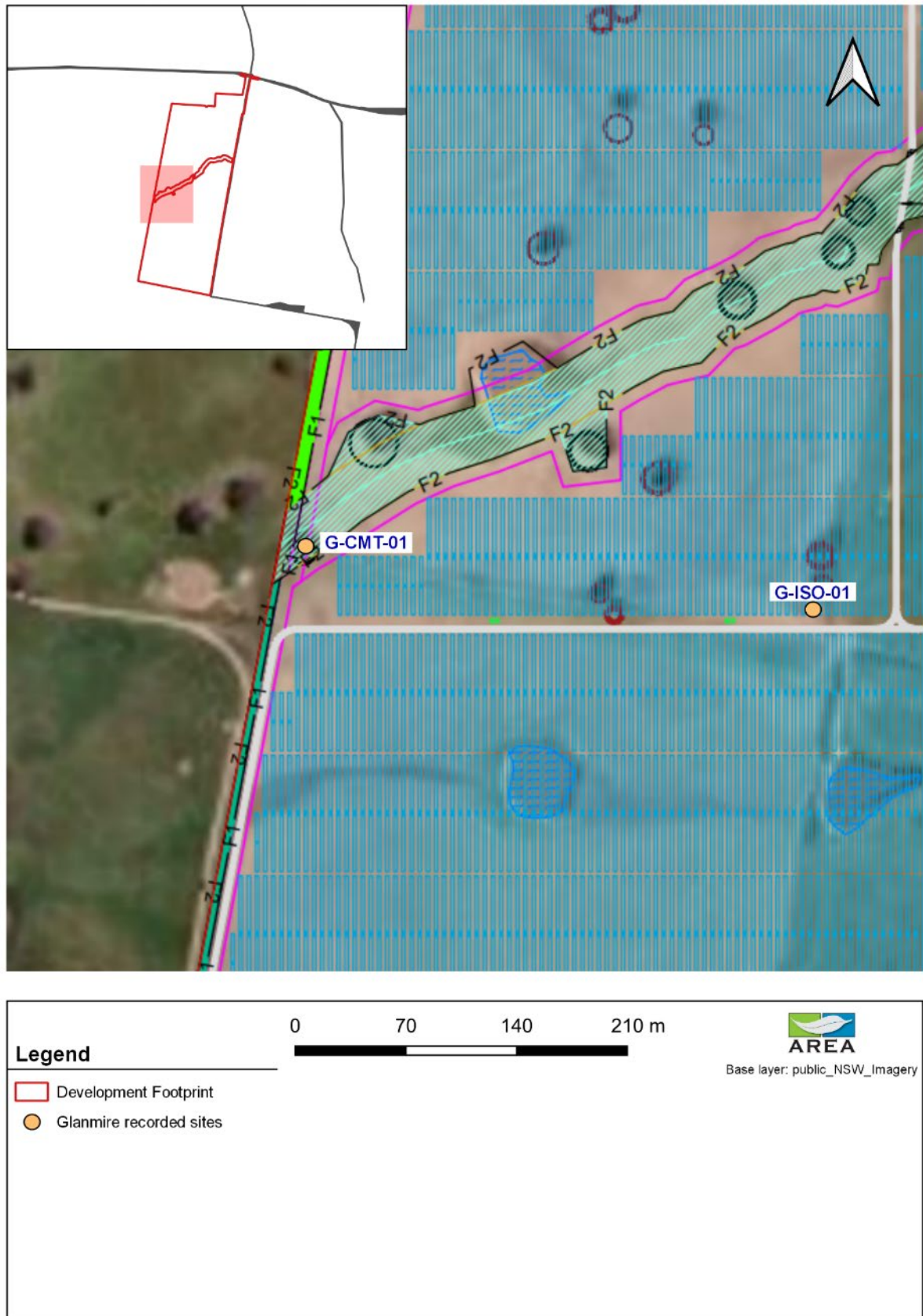
In accordance with the Heritage Guidelines (OEH 2011) the Ecologically Sustainable Development (ESD) principles should be considered when preparing a cultural assessment. The principles of ESD include options to avoid impacts to Aboriginal cultural heritage, assessment of unavoidable impacts, and identification of mitigation and management measures.

These principles of ESD are detailed in the *NSW Protection of the Environment Administration Act 1991*. The principles relevant to the assessment of the project as it relates to Aboriginal cultural heritage are considered:

- The precautionary principle - Full scientific certainty about the threat of harm should never be used as a reason for not taking measures to prevent harm from occurring.
- The principle of inter-generational equity - The present generation should make every effort to ensure that the health, diversity and productivity of the environment – which includes cultural heritage – is available for the benefit of future generations.

A thorough archaeological survey of the proposal was conducted to identify and minimise the harm to Aboriginal objects as guided by the precautionary principle. The proposal will avoid one Aboriginal site (Glanmire-CMT-01) identified within the riparian buffer of the development footprint.

Figure 8-1: Impacts on Aboriginal cultural heritage sites



### 8.1.3 Management and Mitigation Options

As a general principal, avoidance of impact to sites of Aboriginal cultural heritage is the preferred method of management. This is advocated in the Burra Charter as well as various other guidelines and codes of practice (Section 2). Total avoidance of all sites of heritage value is not always feasible. In the case avoidance presents a proponent with considerable difficulties, they may apply to damage or destroy a site.

As the impact of Aboriginal sites and objects would be required as part of the proposal, the following mitigation measures are recommended (pending approval):

- The Registered Aboriginal Parties identified during the consultation process be consulted in determining the management of Aboriginal objects. Glanmire-CMT-01 is located within the riparian buffer of the development footprint which will be avoided. It is recommended that a high-visibility temporary fence should be erected around the tree with a minimum 2 metre buffer from the dripline of the tree.
- Glanmire-ISO-01 is an isolated find within a disturbed context. It is recommended that this artefact should be relocated by an agreed upon person (RAP) to the base of G-CMT-01 in accordance with the *Code of Practice of archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in NSW*.
- The locations of the cultural heritage sites be provided to the relevant supervisors responsible for the construction and operation of the proposal. They should be informed that cultural heritage sites are protected under the NPW Act and no harm is to come to them. The presence of the cultural heritage sites should be made clear to the workforce as part of an induction.

The information provided in this report is based upon recent information made available to AREA. Any changes made to the proposal should be assessed by an archaeologist in consultation with the RAPs. Any changes that may impact on Aboriginal cultural heritage may warrant further investigation and may result in changes to the recommended management and mitigation measures.

## 9 Recommendations

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### 9.1 Overview

Cultural heritage values require management for any proposal where they have been identified. Whether an impact is direct, indirect, or possible, Aboriginal sites will require some level of intervention to avoid harm where possible.

Recommendations are based with consideration of:

- the requirements of the *Guide to investigating, assessing, and reporting on Aboriginal cultural heritage in NSW* (NSW Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH), 2011)
- the results of the background research and fieldwork
- the likely impacts of the proposed Glanmire Solar Farm Project.

A total of two Aboriginal sites have been recorded during the archaeological survey. One (Glanmire-CMT-01) within the riparian buffer of the development footprint (which can be avoided), and one (Glanmire-ISO-01) isolated Quartz flake within the development footprint. the following measures are recommended:

- The locations of the cultural heritage sites should be provided to the supervisors responsible for the construction and operation of the development footprint. They should be informed that cultural heritage sites are protected under the NPW Act and no harm is to come to them. The presence of the cultural heritage sites should be made clear to the workforce as part of an induction.
- The Aboriginal sites G-ISO-01 will be impacted by the development footprint. To protect the site the following suggestions are made:
  - G-ISO-01 (AHIMS ID Pending) should be relocated by an agreed upon person (RAP) to the base of G-CMT-01 in accordance with the Code of Practice of archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in NSW (DECCW, 2010b).
    - Kim Newman contacted Tina Scott from Bathurst LALC who has no objections to the above proposed mitigation measures.
  - The work crew should be made aware of the locations of the sites and the protection afforded to them under the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2003*.
- While G-CMT-01 (AHIMS ID Pending) will be avoided, it should be protected against inadvertent impact during the construction of the proposal:
  - A high-visibility temporary fence should be erected around the tree with a minimum 2 metre buffer from the dripline of the tree.
  - The work crew should be made aware of the locations of the sites and the protection afforded to them under the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2003*.
- Following the completion of the development, members of the Aboriginal community who wish to access site G-CMT-01 (AHIMS ID Pending) must submit their request to the proponent no less than 6 weeks before the proposed visitation date. The proponent must respond within one week of the request submission acknowledging receipt of request and proposing date or range of dates for site visit. All visitors to the site are subject to all property entrance and Workplace Health and Safety requirements.

- If changes are made to the proposed works which could impact locations outside of the proposed Development footprint disturbance area, further archaeological investigation may be required
- If any objects of suspected Aboriginal heritage origin are encountered during the proposed works, work in the area of the find should cease and the unexpected finds protocols should be implemented.
- If suspected human remains are located during any stage of the proposed works, work must stop immediately, and the NSW police must be notified.

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- PEARSON, M. 1981. *Seen through different eyes: Changing land use and settlement patterns in the Upper Macquarie River Region of N.S.W. from prehistoric times to 1860*. PhD, ANU.
- PEARSON, M. 1984. Bathurst plains and beyond: European colonisation and Aboriginal resistance. *Aboriginal History*, 8, 63-79.
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- STOCKTON, E. D. & HOLLAND, W. 1974. Cultural Sites and Their Environment in the Blue Mountains. *Archaeology & Physical Anthropology in Oceania*, 9, 36-65.
- TINDALE, N. B. 1974. *Aboriginal Tribes Of Australia: Their Terrain, Environmental Controls, Distribution, Limits, and Proper Names*, Canberra, ANU Press.
- WILLIAMS, D. & BARBER, M. 1994. An Archaeological Survey of the Foreshores of Ben Chifley Dam, Near Bathurst, NSW. Weston Creek.

## Appendix A: Aboriginal Community Consultation

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Date	Stage	Organisation Contacted	Contact	Contacted by	Organisation	comment/response	Method(s)
Stage 1							
24/02/2022	1a1	Native Title Services Corporation Limited		Nick Harrop	AREA	Step 4.1.2 request for list of potential Aboriginal parties	Email
24/02/2022	1a1	NSW Heritage		Nick Harrop	AREA	Step 4.1.2 request for list of potential Aboriginal parties	Email
24/02/2022	1a1	Bathurst Local Aboriginal Land Council	Tonilee Scott	Nick Harrop	AREA	Step 4.1.2 request for list of potential Aboriginal parties	Email
24/02/2022	1a1	Bathurst Regional Council		Nick Harrop	AREA	Step 4.1.2 request for list of potential Aboriginal parties	Email
24/02/2022	1a1	Officer of the Registrar		Nick Harrop	AREA	Step 4.1.2 request for list of potential Aboriginal parties	Email
24/02/2022	1a1	Riverina Local Land Services	Mark Ingram	Nick Harrop	AREA	Step 4.1.2 request for list of potential Aboriginal parties	Email
24/02/2022	1a1	National Native Title Tribunal		Nick Harrop	AREA	Step 4.1.2 request for list of potential Aboriginal parties	Email
24/02/2022	1a1	Native Title Vision		Nick Harrop	AREA		Webpage
26/02/2022	1a1	Western Advocate		Nick Harrop	AREA	Advertisement published in the general classifieds	Printed in press and online
24/02/2022	1a1	Nick Harrop	AREA	Tonilee Scott	Bathurst Local Aboriginal Land Council	Registered interest; NH replied requesting other possible RAPs	Email
27/02/2022	1a1	Nick Harrop	AREA			Registered interest; details for Heritage NSW only	Email
02/03/2022	1a1	Nick Harrop	AREA	Barry Gunther	Heritage NSW	Heritage NSW provided a list of potential RAPs	Email
3/02/2022	1a1	Nick Harrop	AREA	Jane McIntosh	Bathurst Regional Council	Bathurst Regional Council provided a list of potential RAPs	Email
18/03/2022	1a2	Wiradjuri Cultural Care Corporation	Tina Scott	Nick Harrop	AREA	Sent invitation to register interest as a RAP	Email
17/03/2022	1a2	Bill Allen	Bill Allen	Nick Harrop	AREA	Sent invitation to register interest as a RAP	Mail
17/03/2022	1a2	Cowra LALC	Cowra LALC	Nick Harrop	AREA	Sent invitation to	Mail

Date	Stage	Organisation Contacted	Contact	Contacted by	Organisation	comment/response	Method(s)
						register interest as a RAP	
17/03/2022	1a2	Dhuuluu-Yala Aboriginal Corp	Dhuuluu-Yala Aboriginal Corp	Nick Harrop	AREA	Sent invitation to register interest as a RAP	Mail
17/03/2022	1a2	Gundungurra Aboriginal Heritage	Gundungurra Aboriginal Heritage	Nick Harrop	AREA	Sent invitation to register interest as a RAP	Mail
17/03/2022	1a2	Gundungurra Tribal Council	Gundungurra Tribal Council	Nick Harrop	AREA	Sent invitation to register interest as a RAP	Mail
17/03/2022	1a2	Jodie McKinnon	Jodie McKinnon	Nick Harrop	AREA	Sent invitation to register interest as a RAP	Mail
17/03/2022	1a2	Mingaan Aboriginal Corp	Mingaan Aboriginal Corp	Nick Harrop	AREA	Sent invitation to register interest as a RAP	Mail
17/03/2022	1a2	Mooka	Neville Williams	Nick Harrop	AREA	Sent invitation to register interest as a RAP	Mail
17/03/2022	1a2	Murra Bidgee Aboriginal Corp	Murra Bidgee Aboriginal Corp	Nick Harrop	AREA	Sent invitation to register interest as a RAP	Mail
17/03/2022	1a2	North-East Wiradjuri	Lyn Syme	Nick Harrop	AREA	Sent invitation to register interest as a RAP	Mail
17/03/2022	1a2	North-Eastern Wiradjuri	North-Eastern Wiradjuri	Nick Harrop	AREA	Sent invitation to register interest as a RAP	Mail
17/03/2022	1a2	Trevor Robinson	Trevor Robinson	Nick Harrop	AREA	Sent invitation to register interest as a RAP	Mail
17/03/2022	1a2	Warrabinga Native Title Claim	Warrabinga Native Title Claim	Nick Harrop	AREA	Sent invitation to register interest as a RAP	Mail
17/03/2022	1a2	Windradyne	Windradyne	Nick Harrop	AREA	Sent invitation to register interest as a RAP	Mail
17/03/2022	1a2	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	Nick Harrop	AREA	Sent invitation to register interest as a RAP	Email
17/03/2022	1a2	Didge Ngunawal Clan	Didge Ngunawal Clan	Nick Harrop	AREA	Sent invitation to register interest as a RAP	Email
17/03/2022	1a2	Gunhigal Mayiny Wirradjuri-Dylang	Gunhigal Mayiny Wirradjuri-Dylang	Nick Harrop	AREA	Sent invitation to register interest as a	Email

Date	Stage	Organisation Contacted	Contact	Contacted by	Organisation	comment/response	Method(s)
17/03/2022	1a2	Kamilaroi Tankuntjatjara Group	Kamilaroi Tankuntjatjara Group	Nick Harrop	AREA	RAP Sent invitation to register interest as a RAP	Email
17/03/2022	1a2	Konanggo Aboriginal Heritage	Konanggo Aboriginal Heritage	Nick Harrop	AREA	Sent invitation to register interest as a RAP	Email
17/03/2022	1a2	Wiradjuri Council of Elders	Wiradjuri Council of Elders	Nick Harrop	AREA	Sent invitation to register interest as a RAP	Email
17/03/2022	1a2	Wiradjuri Cultural Care Corp	Tina Scott	Nick Harrop	AREA	Sent invitation to register interest as a RAP	Email
17/03/2022	1a2	Woka Aboriginal Corp	Woka Aboriginal Corp	Nick Harrop	AREA	Sent invitation to register interest as a RAP	Email
17/03/2022	1a2	AREA	Mel Hancock	Paul Boyd & Lily Carroll	Didge Ngunawal Clan	Registered interest	Email
17/03/2022	1a2	AREA	Mel Hancock	Robert Young	Konanggo Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Services	Registered interest	Email
17/03/2022	1a2	AREA	Mel Hancock	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	Registered interest	Email
17/03/2022	1a2	AREA	Mel Hancock	Steven Johnson	Woka Aboriginal Corporation	Registered interest	Email
22/03/2022	1a2	AREA	Nick Harrop	Phil Khan	Kamilaroi Yankuntjatjara Working Group	Registered interest	Email
4/07/2022	1a2	NGH	Clancy Bowman	Ryan Johnson	Murra Bidjee Aboriginal Corporation, Cultural Heritage	Registered interest	Email
27/09/2022	1b	Bathurst LALC	Tonilee Scott	Kim Newman	AREA	Notify with list of RAPS	Email
27/09/2022	1b	DPIE	<a href="mailto:HERITAGEMailbox@environment.nsw.gov.au">HERITAGEMailbox@environment.nsw.gov.au</a>	Kim Newman	AREA	Notify with list of RAPS	Email
Stage 2							
1.6.2022	2	Bathurst LALC	Tonilee Scott	Mel Hancock	AREA	Methodology	Email
1.6.2022	2	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	Mel Hancock	AREA	Methodology	Email
1.6.2022	2	Didge Ngunawal Clan	Lillie Carroll and Paul Boyd	Mel Hancock	AREA	Methodology	Email
1.6.2022	2	Konanggo Aboriginal	Robert Young	Mel Hancock	AREA	Methodology	Email

Date	Stage	Organisation Contacted	Contact	Contacted by	Organisation	comment/respon se	Method(s)
		Cultural Heritage Services					
1.6.2022	2			Mel Hancock	AREA	Methodology	Email
1.6.2022	2	Woka Aboriginal Corporation	Steven Johnson	Mel Hancock	AREA	Methodology	Email
1.6.2022	2	Kamilaroi Yankuntjatjara Working Group	Phil Khan	Mel Hancock	AREA	Methodology	Email
1.6.2022	2	Murra Bidgee Aboriginal Corporation, Cultural Heritage	Ryan Johnson	Mel Hancock	AREA	Methodology	Email
2.6.2022	2	AREA	Mel Hancock	Steven Johnson	Woka Aboriginal Corporation	Methodology	Email
1.6.2022	2	AREA	Mel Hancock	Lillie Carroll and Paul Boyd	Didge Ngunawal Clan	Methodology	Email
7.6.2022	2	AREA	Phil Cameron	Ryan Johnson	Murra Bidgee Aboriginal Corporation, Cultural Heritage	Endorsed methodology	Email
22.06.2022	2	AREA	Mel Hancock	Phil Khan	Kamilaroi-Yankuntjatjara Working Group	Questioning methodology	Email
14.08.2022	3	AREA	Mel Hancock			Endorsed methodology	Email
Stage 3 (fieldwork)							
4.7.2022	3			Phil Cameron	AREA	Email requesting information about rates, insurances etc.	Email
4.7.2022	3	Bathurst LALC	Tonilee Scott	Phil Cameron	AREA	Email requesting information about rates, insurances etc.	Email
8.7.2022	3	Bathurst LALC	Tonilee Scott	Mel Hancock	AREA	Follow up phone call regarding the provision of RAPs, rates and insurance for field work. Toni-lee advised they can provide 1 possibly 2 RAPs and will send through the rates and insurance this afternoon.	Phone
8.7.2022	3			Mel Hancock	AREA	Follow up phone call	Phone



Date	Stage	Organisation Contacted	Contact	Contacted by	Organisation	comment/response	Method(s)
						regarding the provision of TO/RAPs, rates and insurance for field work. Jade advised they are unable to provide any TO's/RAPs due to illness. Questioned Bathurst LALC providing TOs - according to Jade, Bathurst don't have any.	
8.7.2022	3			Phil Cameron	AREA	Email regarding the CH process and the definitions around TOs & RAPs etc.	Email
11.7.2022	3	Bathurst LALC	Tonilee Scott	Kim Newman	AREA	Email with details regarding the upcoming field work.	Email
12.7.2022		Bathurst LALC	Tonilee Scott	Kim Newman	AREA	Email with details regarding the upcoming field work.	Email
21.7.2022	3	Bathurst LALC	Tina Scott	Kim Newman	AREA	Phone call to ask if there would be any community objection to relocating the isolated find G-ISO-01 to underneath the Culturally Modified Tree G-CMT-01. Tina did not have any objection to this recommendation	Phone
Stage 4 (step 4.4.2)							
8.9.2022	4	Bathurst LALC	Tonilee Scott	Mel Hancock	AREA	Emailed ACHAR and ASR with request for review	Email
8.9.2022	4			Mel Hancock	AREA	Emailed ACHAR and ASR with request for review	Email
8.9.2022	4	Didge Ngunawal Clan	Lillie Carroll and Paul Boyd	Mel Hancock	AREA	Emailed ACHAR and ASR with request for review	Email
8.9.2022	4	Konanggo Aboriginal	Robert Young	Mel Hancock	AREA	Emailed ACHAR and	Email

Date	Stage	Organisation Contacted	Contact	Contacted by	Organisation	comment/response	Method(s)
		Cultural Heritage Services				ASR with request for review	
8.9.2022	4			Mel Hancock	AREA	Emailed ACHAR and ASR with request for review	Email
8.9.2022	4	Woka Aboriginal Corporation	Steven Johnson	Mel Hancock	AREA	Emailed ACHAR and ASR with request for review	Email
8.9.2022	4	Kamilaroi Yankuntjatjara Working Group	Phil Khan	Mel Hancock	AREA	Emailed ACHAR and ASR with request for review	Email
8.9.2022	4	Murra Bidgee Aboriginal Corporation, Cultural Heritage	Ryan Johnson	Mel Hancock	AREA	Emailed ACHAR and ASR with request for review	Email
8.9.2022	4	Wolgaluumbe	Olivia Williams	Mel Hancock	AREA	Emailed ACHAR and ASR with request for review	Email
8.9.2022	4	Wolgaluumbe	Alice Williams	Mel Hancock	AREA	Emailed ACHAR and ASR with request for review	Email
8.9.2022	4	Wolgaluumbe	Nirikai Layton	Mel Hancock	AREA	Emailed ACHAR and ASR with request for review	Email
20.09.2022	4	Bathurst LALC	Tonilee Scott	Mel Hancock	AREA	ACHAR & ASR Report reissued with correct documents	Email
20.09.2022	4			Mel Hancock	AREA	ACHAR & ASR Report reissued with correct documents	Email
20.09.2022	4	Didge Ngunawal Clan	Lillie Carroll and Paul Boyd	Mel Hancock	AREA	ACHAR & ASR Report reissued with correct documents	Email
20.09.2022	4	Konanggo Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Services	Robert Young	Mel Hancock	AREA	ACHAR & ASR Report reissued with correct documents	Email
20.09.2022	4			Mel Hancock	AREA	ACHAR & ASR Report reissued with correct documents	Email
20.09.2022	4	Woka Aboriginal Corporation	Steven Johnson	Mel Hancock	AREA	ACHAR & ASR Report reissued with correct documents	Email
20.09.2022	4	Kamilaroi Yankuntjatjara Working Group	Phil Khan	Mel Hancock	AREA	ACHAR & ASR Report reissued with correct documents	Email

Date	Stage	Organisation Contacted	Contact	Contacted by	Organisation	comment/response	Method(s)
20.09.2022	4	Murra Bidgee Aboriginal Corporation, Cultural Heritage	Ryan Johnson	Mel Hancock	AREA	ACHAR & ASR Report reissued with correct documents	Email
20.09.2022	4	Wolgaluumbe	Olivia Williams	Mel Hancock	AREA	ACHAR & ASR Report reissued with correct documents	Email
20.09.2022	4	Wolgaluumbe	Alice Williams	Mel Hancock	AREA	ACHAR & ASR Report reissued with correct documents	Email
20.09.2022	4	Wolgaluumbe	Nirikai Layton	Mel Hancock	AREA	ACHAR & ASR Report reissued with correct documents	Email
20.09.2022	4	Bathurst LALC	Tonliee Scott	Kim Newman	AREA	ACHAR & ASR Report - Explain that correct document has been sent and ask could they provide comment	Phone
20.09.2022	4	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	Kim Newman	AREA	ACHAR & ASR Report - Explain that correct document has been sent and ask could they provide comment	Phone
20.09.2022	4	Didge Ngunawal Clan	Paul Boyd	Kim Newman	AREA	ACHAR & ASR Report - Explain that correct document has been sent and ask could they provide comment	Phone
20.09.2022	4	Konanggo Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Services	Robert Young	Kim Newman	AREA	ACHAR & ASR Report - Explain that correct document has been sent and ask could they provide comment	Phone
20.09.2022	4	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	Kim Newman	AREA	ACHAR & ASR Report - Explain that correct document has been sent and ask could they provide comment	Phone
20.09.2022	4	Woka Aboriginal Corporation	Steven Johnson	Kim Newman	AREA	ACHAR & ASR Report - Explain that correct document has been sent and ask	Phone

Date	Stage	Organisation Contacted	Contact	Contacted by	Organisation	comment/response	Method(s)
						could they provide comment	
20.09.2022	4	Kamilaroi Yankuntjatjara Working Group	Stefanie Khan	Kim Newman	AREA	ACHAR & ASR Report - Explain that correct document has been sent and ask could they provide comment	Phone
20.09.2022	4	Kim Newman	AREA	Stefanie Khan	Kamilaroi Yankuntjatjara Working Group	Endorsed content of the report	Phone
20.09.2022	4	Wolgaluambe	Olivia Williams	Kim Newman	AREA	ACHAR & ASR Report - Explain that correct document has been sent and ask could they provide comment	Phone
21.09.2022	4	Mel Hancock	AREA	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	Endorsed content of the report	Email
21.09.2022	4	Mel Hancock	AREA	Lillie Carroll and Paul Boyd	Didge Ngunawal Clan	Endorsed content of the report	Email
21.09.2022	4	Mel Hancock	AREA	Ryan Johnson	Murra Bidgee Aboriginal Corporation, Cultural Heritage	Endorsed content of the report	Email
21.09.2022	4	Mel Hancock	AREA	Phil Khan	Kamilaroi Yankuntjatjara Working Group	Endorsed content of the report	Email
21.09.2022	4	Phil Cameron	AREA	Tina Scott	Bathurst LALC	Replied saying no Aboriginal artefacts or significant items were found	Email
27.09.2022	4	Konanggo Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Services	Robert Young	Kim Newman	AREA	Follow up asking for update and if intend to reply to ARCHAR	Email
27.09.2022	4	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	Kim Newman	AREA	Follow up asking for update and if intend to reply to ARCHAR	Email
27.09.2022	4	Woka Aboriginal Corporation	Steven Johnson	Kim Newman	AREA	Follow up asking for update and if intend to reply to ARCHAR	Email
27.09.2022	4	Wolgaluambe	Olivia Williams	Kim Newman	AREA	Follow up asking for update and if intend to reply to ARCHAR	Email
27.09.2022	4	Bathurst LALC	Tina Scott	Kim Newman	AREA	Clarify content of the	Phone

Date	Stage	Organisation Contacted	Contact	Contacted by	Organisation	comment/response	Method(s)
						email from 21/09/2022 and ask could she reissue email	
27.09.2022	4	AREA	Kim Newman	Tina Scott	Bathurst LALC	Endorsed content of the report	Email
27.09.2022	4	AREA	Kim Newman	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	Endorsed results of report. Requested details on procedure for accessing G-CMT-01 site. Requested details on social responsibility measure that will be implemented as part of the development	Phone
28.9.2022	4	AREA	Kim Newman	Robert Young	Konanggo Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Services	Requested that draft ACHAR and ASR be resent	Email
28.09.2022	4	Konanggo Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Services	Robert Young	Kim Newman	AREA	Resent copy of draft ACHAR and ASR	Email
04.10.2022	4	Woka Aboriginal Corporation	Steven Johnson	Kim Newman	AREA	No comments to add to report	Email
04.10.2022	4	Konanggo Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Services	Robert Young	Kim Newman	AREA	No issue with the ACHAR or ASR	Email



## Advertisement

### • Expression of Interest •

AREA Environmental and Heritage Consultants (AREA) is seeking Aboriginal people who hold cultural knowledge relevant to the Bathurst area to register interest in community consultation regarding a proposed solar development. The proposal is assessed as an SSD of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*.

NGH Pty Ltd on behalf of Elgin Energy has engaged AREA to undertake an Aboriginal heritage assessment for the proposal.

Interested parties should register via email or letter, providing their name and contact details.

Please be advised that the details of the registered parties will be forwarded to Heritage NSW and Bathurst Local Aboriginal Land Council unless specified otherwise. Please register your interest in the project by **25 March 2021** by contacting:

AREA Environmental and Heritage Consultants,  
6 Belmore Street, Dubbo, 2830

✉ [nick@areaenv.com.au](mailto:nick@areaenv.com.au)

## Example of Stage 1a agency letter

AREA Landscape Design Consultants Pty Ltd ABN: 56 646 194 176

- ✓ Commercial external landscape designs for built or natural environments
- ✓ Vegetation Management Plans
- ✓ Stakeholder and community engagement
- ✓ Peer review / project briefs / budgeting assistance

AREA Environmental Consultants & Communication Pty Ltd. Trading as  
'AREA Environmental & Heritage Consultants' ABN: 29 616 529 867

- ✓ Environmental impact assessments and approvals : REFs, MW REFs, PEAs
- ✓ Ecology, Aboriginal and historic heritage assessments
- ✓ Biodiversity assessment method (BAM) assessments (BDAR) and offsetting (BSAR)
- ✓ Plans of Management Aboriginal community engagement
- ✓ Stakeholder and community engagement
- ✓ Peer review / project briefs / budgeting assistance / expert witness



24 February 2022

Tonilee Scott  
Bathurst Local Aboriginal Land Council  
149 Russell Street  
Bathurst NSW 2795  
[ceo@bathurstlalc.com](mailto:ceo@bathurstlalc.com), [bathlalc2@bigpond.com](mailto:bathlalc2@bigpond.com)

To Whom It May Concern,

**Re: Proposed Glanmire Solar Farm – Section 4.1.2 request for list of potential Aboriginal parties**

Elgin Energy Pty Ltd propose to construct a solar photovoltaic energy generation facility at 4823 Great Western Highway, Glanmire, approximately 11km east of Bathurst, NSW. An environmental impact statement is to be prepared in accordance with clauses 6 and 7 of Schedule 2 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation*. The planning secretary's environmental assessment requirements include provision for an Aboriginal cultural heritage assessment and consultation according to the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents* (DECCW, 2010).

NGH Pty Ltd (NGH) on behalf of Elgin Energy has engaged AREA Environmental and Heritage Consultants (AREA) to conduct an Aboriginal heritage assessment and consultation for the proposal. It is anticipated the assessment will require cultural heritage input from the traditional custodians of the land and other knowledge holders.

The contact details for NGH are:

Clancy Bowman  
02 8202 8349  
[clancy.b@nghconsulting.com.au](mailto:clancy.b@nghconsulting.com.au)  
Unit 17, Level 3, 21 Mary St  
Surry Hills, NSW, 2010

If your organisation can provide contact details for Aboriginal people who hold knowledge relevant to determining the cultural significance of Aboriginal heritage in the area of the proposal, we would be grateful. AREA will use these contact details to provide an opportunity for relevant Aboriginal people to register an interest in a process of community consultation for the proposal. Please forward any information you have before **11 March 2022** to:

Nick Harrop  
AREA Environmental and Heritage Consultants  
6 Belmore Street  
Dubbo, 2830  
[nick@areaenv.com.au](mailto:nick@areaenv.com.au)  
0405793146



If you have any additional information, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nick Harrop".

Nick Harrop  
Manager | Heritage  
AREA Environmental & Heritage Consultants

P 0405 793 146  
E [nick@areaenv.com.au](mailto:nick@areaenv.com.au)

We acknowledge Traditional Owners and Custodians and their ancestors.

Figure 1: Location of the proposal

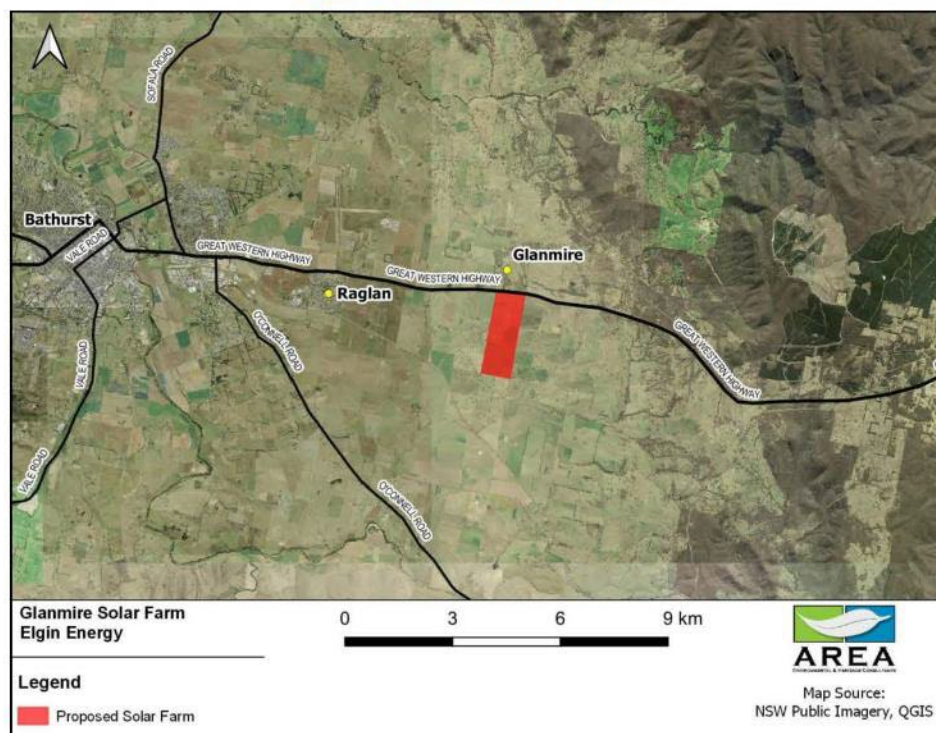
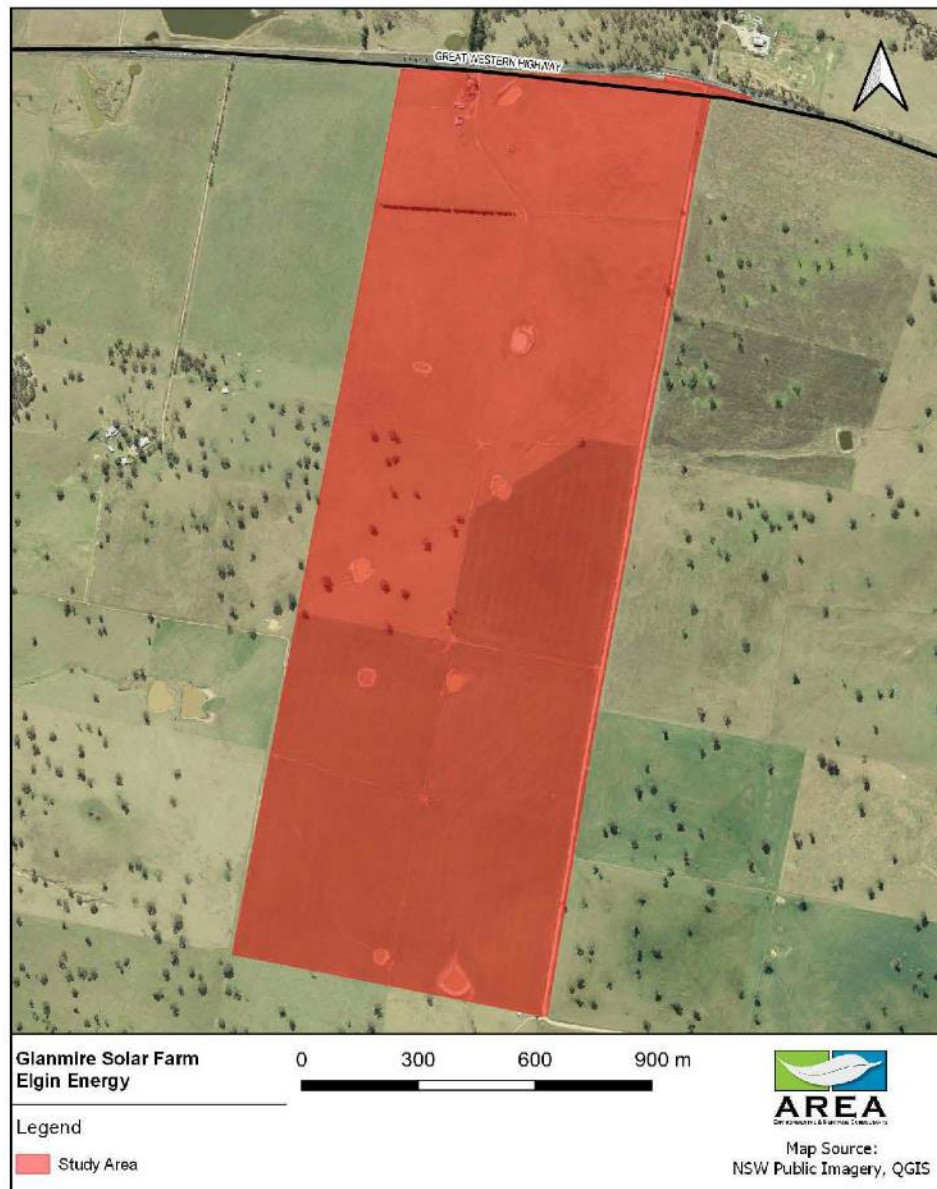




Figure 1: Landscape context of the study area





## Example of Stage 1a2 registration of interest letter

AREA Landscape Design Consultants Pty Ltd ABN: 56 646 194 176

- ✓ Commercial external landscape designs for built or natural environments
- ✓ Vegetation Management Plans
- ✓ Stakeholder and community engagement
- ✓ Peer review / project briefs / budgeting assistance

AREA Environmental Consultants & Communication Pty Ltd, Trading as  
'AREA Environmental & Heritage Consultants' ABN: 29 616 529 867

- ✓ Environmental impact assessments and approvals : REFs, MW REFs, PEAs
- ✓ Ecology, Aboriginal and historic heritage assessments
- ✓ Biodiversity assessment method (BAM) assessments (BDAR) and offsetting (BSAR)
- ✓ Plans of Management Aboriginal community engagement
- ✓ Stakeholder and community engagement
- ✓ Peer review / project briefs / budgeting assistance / expert witness



17<sup>th</sup> March 2022

Kamilaroi Yankuntjatjara Working Group  
Phil Khan  
78 Forbes St  
Emu Plains NSW 2750

Sent via email [philipkhan.acn@live.com.au](mailto:philipkhan.acn@live.com.au)

To Phil

### Re: Proposed Glanmire Solar Farm – Expression of Interest Invitation

Elgin Energy Pty Ltd propose to construct a solar photovoltaic energy generation facility at 4823 Great Western Highway, Glanmire, approximately 11km east of Bathurst, NSW. An environmental impact statement is to be prepared in accordance with clauses 6 and 7 of Schedule 2 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation*. The planning secretary's environmental assessment requirements include provision for an Aboriginal cultural heritage assessment and consultation according to the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents* (DECCW, 2010).

NGH Pty Ltd (NGH) on behalf of Elgin Energy has engaged AREA Environmental and Heritage Consultants (AREA) to conduct an Aboriginal heritage assessment and consultation for the proposal. It is anticipated the assessment will require cultural heritage input from the traditional custodians of the land and other knowledge holders.

The contact details for NGH are:

Clancy Bowman  
02 8202 8349  
[clancy.b@nghconsulting.com.au](mailto:clancy.b@nghconsulting.com.au)  
Unit 17, Level 3, 21 Mary St  
Surry Hills, NSW, 2010

If you hold knowledge relevant to determining the cultural significance of Aboriginal heritage in the area of the proposal, we invite you to register interest to be consulted throughout the project. Should you wish to register, please forward your contact details by 1 April 2022 to:

Nick Harrop  
AREA Environmental and Heritage Consultants  
6 Belmore Street  
Dubbo, 2830  
[nick@areaenv.com.au](mailto:nick@areaenv.com.au)  
0405793146



If you have any additional information, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nick Harrop".

Nick Harrop  
Manager | Heritage  
AREA Environmental & Heritage Consultants

P 0405 793 146  
E [nick@areaenv.com.au](mailto:nick@areaenv.com.au)

We acknowledge Traditional Owners and Custodians and their ancestors

Figure 1: Location of the proposal

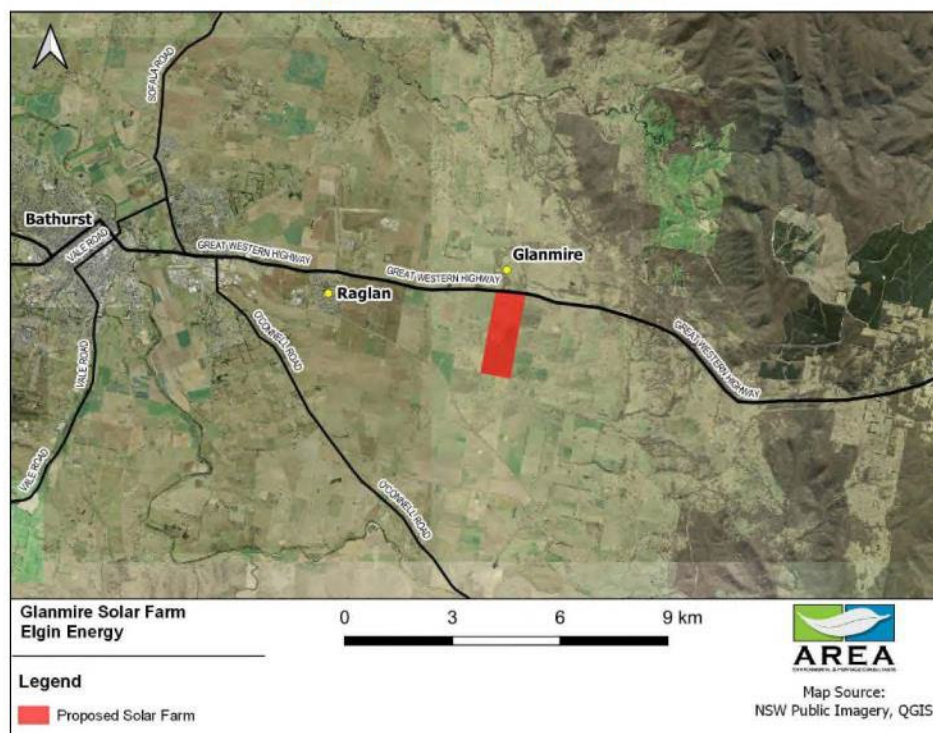
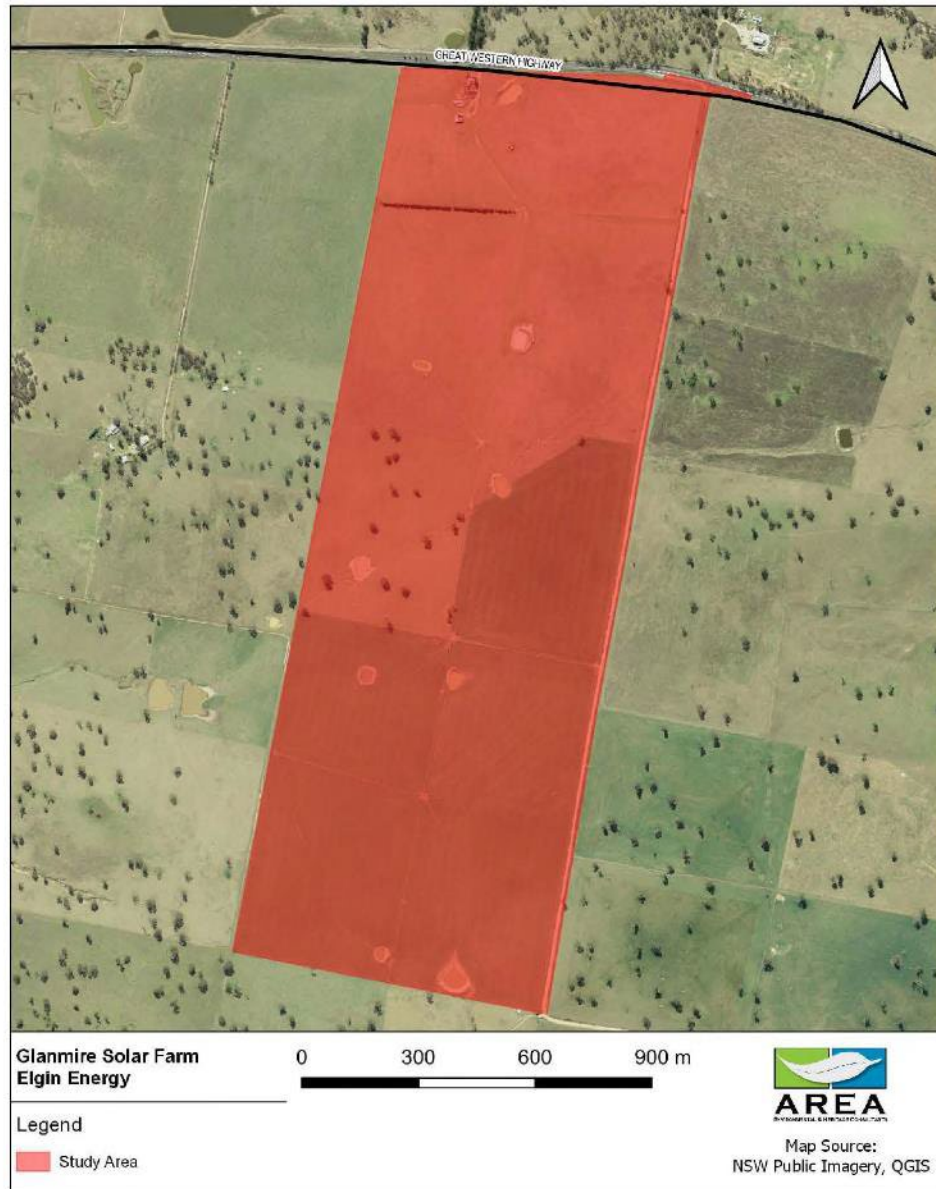


Figure 1: Landscape context of the study area





## Example of Stage 1b Notification letter to NSW Heritage and LALC

**Kim Newman**

---

**From:** Kim Newman  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 27 September 2022 11:52 AM  
**To:** ceo@bathurstalc.com; bathlalc2@bigpond.com  
**Subject:** Consultation for the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment for the proposed Glanmire solar farm

To whom it may concern,

Elgin Energy Pty Ltd propose to construct a solar photovoltaic energy generation facility at 4823 Great Western Highway, Glanmire, approximately 11km east of Bathurst, NSW. An environmental impact statement is to be prepared in accordance with clauses 6 and 7 of Schedule 2 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation*. The planning secretary's environmental assessment requirements include provision for an Aboriginal cultural heritage assessment and consultation according to the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents* (DECCW, 2010).

In accordance with section 4.1.6 of the OEH *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents* (2010), please find below a list of Registered Stakeholders for the project.

A total of nine organisations registered their interest to become stakeholders. Two organisations requested that their details not be shared. The registered Aboriginal stakeholders include:

- Tonilee Scott – Bathurst LALC
- Lillie Carroll and Paul Boyd – Didge Ngunawal Clan
- Robert Young – Konanggo Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Services
- Steven Johnson – Woka Aboriginal Corporation
- Phil Khan – Kamilaroi Yankuntjatjara Working Group
- Ryan Johnson – Murra Bidgee Aboriginal Corporation, Cultural Heritage
- Olivia Williams - Wolgaluumbé

If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact me

Regards  
Kim

AREA Environmental & Heritage  
Consultants Pty Ltd  
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## Example of Aboriginal cultural heritage assessment methodology

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- ✓ Commercial external landscape designs for built or natural environments
- ✓ Vegetation Management Plans
- ✓ Stakeholder and community engagement
- ✓ Peer review / project briefs / budgeting assistance

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'AREA Environmental & Heritage Consultants' ABN: 29 616 529 867

- ✓ Environmental impact assessments and approvals : REFs, MW REFs, PEAs
- ✓ Ecology, Aboriginal and historic heritage assessments
- ✓ Biodiversity assessment method (BAM) assessments (BDAR) and offsetting (BSAR)
- ✓ Plans of Management
- ✓ Aboriginal community engagement
- ✓ Stakeholder and community engagement
- ✓ Peer review / project briefs / budgeting assistance / expert witness



1<sup>st</sup> June 2022

Bathurst LALC  
Tonliee Scott

Sent via Email: [ceo@bathurstlalc.com](mailto:ceo@bathurstlalc.com) & [bathlalc2@bigpond.com](mailto:bathlalc2@bigpond.com)

Dear Tonliee

### Re: Glanmire Solar Farm – Proposed ACHAR Methodology

Thank you for registering as an Aboriginal stakeholder for the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment of the proposed Glanmire Solar Project. I am looking forward to working with you on this project. Included below are details of the project, and the proposed assessment methodology for your review.

If you would like to comment on the Aboriginal cultural heritage of the assessment area or the proposed methodology, please provide your response by **30<sup>th</sup> June 2022**. Please address your response to me at:

Phillip Cameron  
AREA Environmental & Heritage Consultants  
6 Belmore Street, Dubbo NSW 2830 or  
[phil@areaenv.com.au](mailto:phil@areaenv.com.au)

In your response, please consider the following points:

- Do you know of any objects or places of value to Aboriginal people in the assessment area or locality?
- Are there any protocols that you would like incorporated into the assessment methodology?
- Are there any access requirements or restrictions that should be applied to the information you are providing?

Please also note that consultation will not necessarily involve paid engagement, as this is not a requirement of the consultation guidelines issued by Heritage NSW.

### Proposed development

Elgin Energy was founded in 2009 following research into the German solar market and the founders' first visit to Intersolar, Europe's largest solar trade exhibition held in Munich. Their Australian office was opened in 2018 Elgin Energy has successfully obtained planning permission for close to 60 projects, and they are currently developing 600MW of solar farms across Victoria and New South Wales for deployment from 2022 onwards.



Elgin Energy are proposing to develop the Glanmire Solar Farm at 4823 Great Western Highway, Glanmire, NSW 2795. Glanmire is approximately 11 kilometres east of Bathurst and approximately 4.5 kilometres east of Raglan (Figure 1). Glanmire is approximately 186 hectares and is currently used for grazing and cropping. The general area comprises a range of farming properties and rural living properties.



The proposal includes all of Lot 141 DP1144786 (186 hectares), it is anticipated the operational development footprint shown in red hatch on Figures 1 to 3 and comprise single axis tracking solar photovoltaic technology laid out in north south rows and will also include ancillary infrastructure such as inverters, connection equipment and energy storage equipment. Additional land on Glanmire within the red boundary but not shown in red hatch on Figures 1 to 3 will be required during construction for site compounds, set down, areas, storage etc. The existing house and its yards will be avoided by the proposal.

An AHIMS database search does not show any previously recorded Aboriginal sites on the property (Figure 2). Notwithstanding, absence of evidence on AHIMS does not mean evidence of absence on Glanmire and a physical assessment will need to occur.

An EIS is being prepared in accordance with Part 4.1 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act* 1979 to assess the likely environmental impacts associated with the proposed work.

Figure 1: Locality



 Glanmire Lot and DP  
 Glanmire development area

0 250 500 m





Figure 2: AHIMS database search results

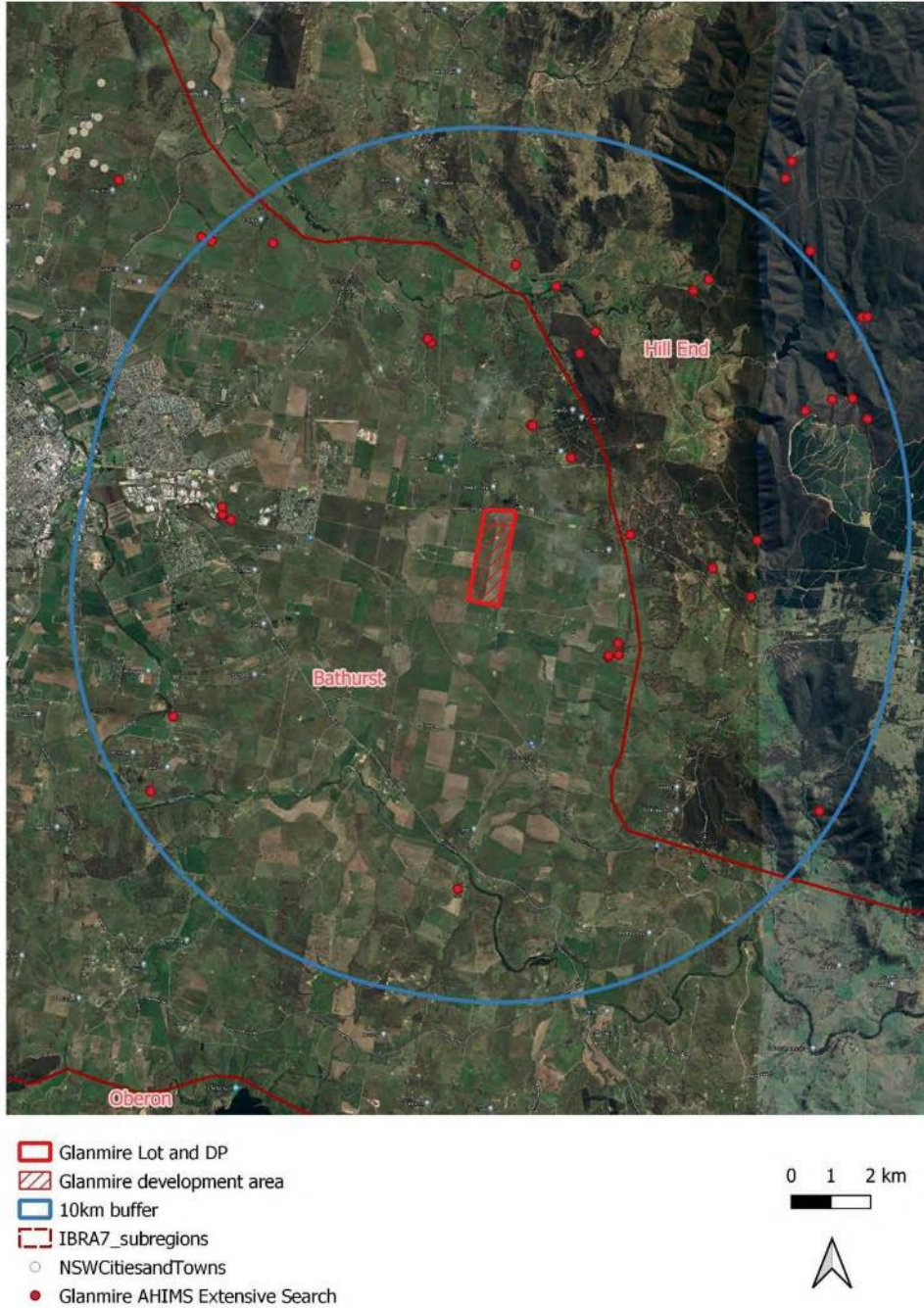
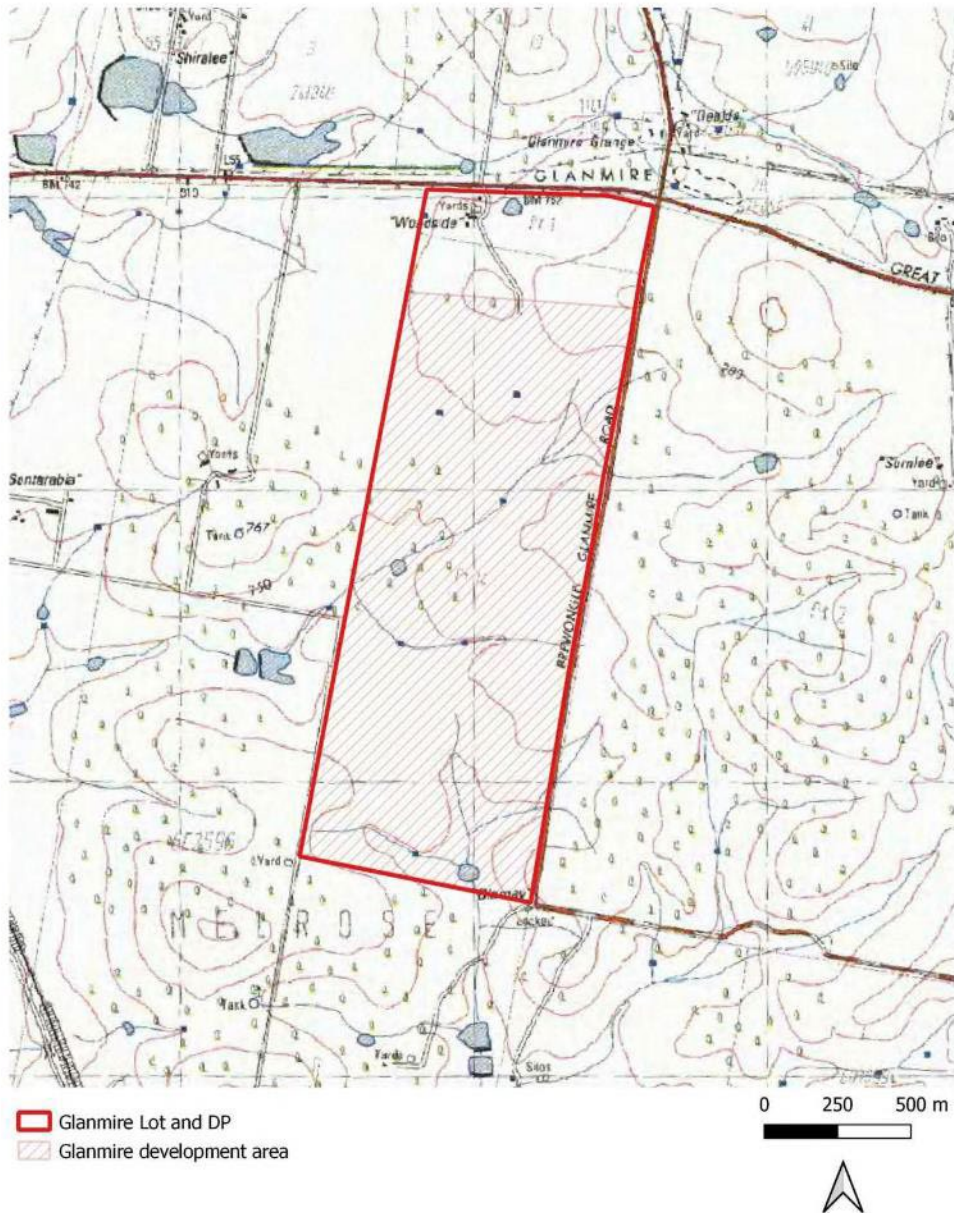


Figure 1: Locality showing waterways / topography







## Proposed Assessment Methodology

An archaeological survey report and an Aboriginal cultural heritage assessment report (ACHAR) will be completed in accordance with the relevant Heritage NSW guidelines:

- *Guide to Investigating, Assessing and Reporting on Aboriginal Cultural Heritage in NSW*
- *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents*
- *Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales*

The initial stages of this process have been completed, and a list of Registered Aboriginal Parties (RAPs) has been compiled. The present letter provides the RAPs with project information and the proposed assessment methodology for review.

A two day archaeological survey has been scheduled for June 2022. The objectives of the survey are to:

- Assess the Aboriginal cultural heritage values of the study area in accordance with the Code of Practice.
- Identify Aboriginal archaeological and cultural heritage values that may be impacted by the proposed work.
- Identify any further investigations, and mitigation and management measures that may be required, should the project proceed.

Reporting relating to the archaeological survey will include:

- The project background and the extent of the assessment area
- A description of the statutory requirements for the protection of Aboriginal heritage
- A predictive model based on the environmental and archaeological context of the assessment area
- Details of the survey methodology
- A description of archaeological sites recorded and discussion
- An impact assessment for recorded Aboriginal sites and areas of archaeological potential
- Proposed measures to avoid, minimise, and if necessary, offset the predicted impacts on Aboriginal heritage values.

An ACHAR would be completed which assesses Aboriginal heritage significance of the assessment area, based on comments received from the RAPs and the results of the survey report. The potential impact of the proposed development on this significance would be assessed, and management recommendations would be developed accordingly. A draft copy would be sent out for your review, prior to finalisation of the document.

I would like to ask you to review the above information and let me know if you have any comments to make. Thank you for your involvement in the project.

Kind regards,

**Phillip Cameron**  
A/ Manager | Heritage  
AREA Environmental & Heritage Consultants

E [phil@areaenv.com.au](mailto:phil@areaenv.com.au)

We acknowledge Traditional Owners and Custodians and their ancestors

## Example of the Glanmire draft ACHAR sent to RAPS

**Kim Newman**

---

**From:** Mel Hancock  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 20 September 2022 1:10 PM  
**To:** Mel Hancock  
**Subject:** Glanmire ACHAR & ASR Reports

Good afternoon

As an Aboriginal registered party (RAP) for the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment of the proposed Glanmire Solar Farm, I have attached the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report and the Archaeological Survey Reports for your review and feedback. **Feedback is due by 18<sup>th</sup> October 2022** however it would be appreciated if your feedback was received sooner, if convenient to you. These reports should have been sent earlier, but there was an oversight on my part, my apologies.

Please contact me should you have any questions.

Regards

Mel

AREA Environmental & Heritage  
Consultants Pty Ltd  
ABN: 29 616 529 867

AREA Landscape Design Consultants  
Pty Ltd  
ABN: 56 646 194 176



Mel Hancock  
**Administrator**

**JP NSW 18807**

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e: [mel@areaenv.com.au](mailto:mel@areaenv.com.au)

w: [www.areaenvironmental.com.au](http://www.areaenvironmental.com.au)

m: **0408 433 493**

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## Appendix B: Database search results

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## AHIMS 5 Kilometer Buffer Search Result



### AHIMS Web Services (AWS) Extensive search - Site list report

Your Ref/PO Number : Glanmire\_5km\_KN2

Client Service ID : 699200

SiteID	SiteName	Datum	Zone	Easting	Northing	Context	Site Status **	SiteFeatures	SiteTypes	Reports
44-3-0108	BH-OS-1; Browns Hill Napoleon Reets;	AGD	55	754500	6297400	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -	Open Camp Site	
	<a href="#">Contact</a>	<a href="#">Recorders</a>				Central West Archaeological and Heritage Services Pty Ltd		<a href="#">Permits</a>		
44-3-0231	Salt Water Creek IF-2	GDA	55	754321	6294548	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -		104280
	<a href="#">Contact</a>	<a href="#">Recorders</a>				OzArk Environmental and Heritage Management - Dubbo, Doctor. Alyce Cameron		<a href="#">Permits</a>		
44-3-0220	W20 A9 & W20 A13 - Artefact Relocation	GDA	55	752151	6300337	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -		
	<a href="#">Contact</a>	<a href="#">Recorders</a>				OzArk Environmental and Heritage Management - Dubbo, Miss. Philippa Sokol		<a href="#">Permits</a>		
44-3-0232	Salt Water Creek IF-1	GDA	55	754055	6294493	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -		104280
	<a href="#">Contact</a>	<a href="#">Recorders</a>				OzArk Environmental and Heritage Management - Dubbo, Doctor. Alyce Cameron		<a href="#">Permits</a>		
44-3-0167	W20 A9	GDA	55	752101	6300348	Open site	Destroyed	Artefact : 1		104298
	<a href="#">Contact</a>	<a href="#">Recorders</a>				Navin Officer Heritage Consultants Pty Ltd, OzArk Environmental and Heritage Man		<a href="#">Permits</a>	3764	
44-3-0233	Salt Water Creek OS-1	GDA	55	754073	6294530	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -		104280
	<a href="#">Contact</a>	<a href="#">Recorders</a>				OzArk Environmental and Heritage Management - Dubbo, Doctor. Alyce Cameron		<a href="#">Permits</a>		
44-3-0168	W20 A10	GDA	55	753118	6299525	Open site	Valid	Artefact : 1		
	<a href="#">Contact</a>	<a href="#">Recorders</a>				Navin Officer Heritage Consultants Pty Ltd		<a href="#">Permits</a>	3764	
44-3-0216	Stone fire pit Penrise	GDA	55	754307	6294842	Closed site	Valid	Aboriginal Ceremony and Dreaming : -, Grinding Groove : -		
	<a href="#">Contact</a>	<a href="#">Recorders</a>				Mr. Jade Flynn, Wiradyuri Traditional Owners Central West (WTOCWAC)		<a href="#">Permits</a>		

#### \*\* Site Status

**Valid** - The site has been recorded and accepted onto the system as valid

**Destroyed** - The site has been completely impacted or harmed usually as consequence of permit activity but sometimes also after natural events. There is nothing left of the site on the ground but proponents should proceed with caution.

**Partially Destroyed** - The site has been only partially impacted or harmed usually as consequence of permit activity but sometimes also after natural events. There might be parts or sections of the original site still present on the ground

**Not a site** - The site has been originally entered and accepted onto AHIMS as a valid site but after further investigations it was decided it is NOT an aboriginal site. Impact of this type of site does not require permit but Heritage NSW should be notified

Report generated by AHIMS Web Service on 11/07/2022 for Anna Darby for the following area at Datum : GDA, Zone : 55, Eastings : 746148.0 - 756148.0, Northings : 6292029.0 - 6302029.0 with a Buffer of 0 meters.. Number of Aboriginal sites and Aboriginal objects found is 8

This information is not guaranteed to be free from error omission. Heritage NSW and its employees disclaim liability for any act done or omission made on the information and consequences of such acts or omission.

Page 1 of 1

## Appendix C: Archaeological Survey Report

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# Glanmire Solar Farm

Archaeological survey report

Bathurst Regional LGA NSW

Report to NGH Pty Ltd for Elgin Energy Pty Ltd

August 2022



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## AREA Environmental & Heritage Consultants

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Ph 0409 852 098

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**AREA Environmental & Heritage Consultants ABN:29 616 529 867**

- ✓ Environmental impact assessment, auditing, and approvals
- ✓ High level preliminary environmental assessment (PEA)
- ✓ Review of environmental factors (REF)
- ✓ Peer review
- ✓ Community engagement
- ✓ Biobanking and biodiversity offsetting assessments
- ✓ Aboriginal heritage assessments and community walkovers
- ✓ Landscape architecture and design

**AREA Environmental & Heritage Consultants acknowledge Traditional Owners of the country on which we work.**

## Document Controls

Proponent	Elgin Energy Pty Ltd		
Client	NGH Pty Ltd		
Project No / Purchase Order No	Not issued		
AREA Job No.	QU-0700		
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AREA Person(s) Managing this Document	Phil Cameron (PJC) Director		
Cover image	View to west across SU1		
Document Status	Version	Date	Action
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FINAL	V3.0	12/08/2022	Final Draft to Client
	V3.1	28/09/2022	Final
Prepared For	Tammy Vesely – Senior Project Manager <b>NGH Consulting Ptd Ltd</b> T3, Level 7, 348 Edward St Brisbane, QLD 4000 M 0452 151 752 E <a href="mailto:tammy.v@nghconsulting.com.au">tammy.v@nghconsulting.com.au</a>		
Prepared By	Kim Newman – Archaeologist <b>AREA Environmental &amp; Heritage Consultants Pty Ltd</b> 6 Belmore Street Dubbo NSW 2830 M 0409 038 628 E <a href="mailto:kim@areaenv.com.au">kim@areaenv.com.au</a> ABN: 29 616 529 867		
<p style="text-align: center;">COPYRIGHT</p> <p style="text-align: center;">© AREA Environmental &amp; Heritage Consultants Pty Ltd, 2022 and ©NGH Pty Ltd, 2022</p> <p style="text-align: center;">All intellectual property and copyright reserved.</p> <p>Apart from any fair dealing for private study, research, criticism or review, as permitted under the <i>Copyright Act 1968</i>, no part of this report may be reproduced, transmitted, stored in a retrieval system or adapted in any form or by any means (electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise) without written permission.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Enquiries would be addressed to AREA Environmental &amp; Heritage Consultants Pty Ltd.</p>			

## Executive Summary

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Elgin Energy Pty Ltd (the proponent) propose to construct a solar farm (the Project) at Lot 141 DP1133786, 4823 Great Western Highway, Glanmire, approximately 11km east of Bathurst, NSW (Figure 1-1). The Development footprint will cover approximately 150ha and include a solar farm array containing approximately 128,000 panels, as well as ancillary infrastructure. The Project is a State Significant Development (SSD; application number SSD-21208499) as defined by the State Environmental Planning Policy (State and Regional Development) 2011 (the SRD SEPP).

AREA Environmental & Heritage Consultants (AREA) has been engaged by NGH Consulting Pty Ltd (NGH) on behalf of the proponent to complete an Aboriginal cultural heritage report for the proposed Development footprint in accordance with the *Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales* (DECCW, 2010b) and the *Guide to Investigating, Assessing and Reporting on Aboriginal Cultural Heritage in NSW* (OEH, 2011).

Kim Newman from AREA conducted the archaeological survey of the Development footprint, with Tina Scott and Tyson Sullivan from Bathurst LALC, over two days from 12 to 13 July 2022.

A total of two Aboriginal sites have been recorded during the archaeological survey. One (Glanmire-CMT-01) within the riparian buffer of the Development footprint (which can be avoided), and one (Glanmire-ISO-01) isolated Quartz flake within the Development footprint. In order to avoid inadvertent impact to Aboriginal sites, the following measures are recommended:

- The locations of the cultural heritage sites should be provided to the supervisors responsible for the construction and operation of the Development footprint. They should be informed that cultural heritage sites are protected under the NPW Act and no harm is to come to them. The presence of the cultural heritage sites should be made clear to the workforce as part of an induction.
- The Aboriginal sites G-ISO-01 will be impacted by the Development footprint:
  - a) G-ISO-01 (AHIMS ID Pending) should be relocated by a an agreed upon person (RAP) to the base of G-CMT-01 in accordance with the *Code of Practice of archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in NSW* (DECCW, 2010b).
  - b) The work crew should be made aware of the location of the relocated site and the protection afforded to them under the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2003*.
- While G-CMT-01 (AHIMS ID Pending) will be avoided, it should be protected against inadvertent impact during the construction of the proposal.:
  - c) A high-visibility temporary fence should be erected around the tree with a minimum two-metre buffer from the dripline of the tree.
  - d) The work crew should be made aware of the locations of the sites and the protection afforded to them under the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2003*.
- If changes are made to the proposed works which could impact locations outside of the proposed Development footprint, further archaeological investigation may be required

- If any objects of suspected Aboriginal heritage origin are encountered during the proposed works, work in the area of the find should cease and the unexpected finds protocols (Appendix B) should be implemented.
- If suspected human remains are located during any stage of the proposed works, work must stop immediately, and the NSW police must be notified.



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### Terms and acronyms used in this document

Acronym	Definition
BOM	Bureau of Meteorology
DECCW	Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water
DPIE	Department of Planning, Industry, and the Environment
EPBC Act	Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999
GPS	Global positioning system
GSV	Ground Surface Visibility
LALC	Local Aboriginal Land Council
LEP	Local Environmental Plan
LGA	Local Government Area
NP&W Act	National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974
NPWS	National Parks and Wildlife Services
NSW	New South Wales
OEH	Office of Environment and Heritage
RAP	Registered Aboriginal Party
Development footprint	The uppermost area of land that would be directly impacted by the Project



# 1 Introduction

---

## 1.1 Background

Elgin Energy Pty Ltd (the proponent) propose to construct a solar farm and associated battery energy storage (the Project) at Lot 141 DP1133786, 4823 Great Western Highway, Glanmire, approximately 11km east of Bathurst, NSW (Figure 1-1). The Development footprint will cover approximately 150ha and include a solar farm array containing approximately 128,000 panels, as well as ancillary infrastructure (Figure 1-1).

AREA Environmental & Heritage Consultants (AREA) has been engaged by NGH Pty Ltd (NGH) on behalf of the proponent to complete an Aboriginal cultural heritage report for the proposed Development footprint.

The Project is a State Significant Development (SSD; application number SSD-21208499) as defined by the State Environmental Planning Policy (State and Regional Development) 2011 (the SRD SEPP). An environmental impact statement (EIS) is to be prepared in accordance with Section 4.12(8) of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* and Part 8 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2021*. The Planning Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARS) for the Project in relation to heritage are as follows:

- an assessment of the impact to Aboriginal cultural heritage items (archaeological and cultural) in accordance with the *Guide to Investigating, Assessing and Reporting on Aboriginal Cultural Heritage in NSW* (NSW Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH), 2011) and the *Code of Practice for the Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in NSW* (NSW Department of Environment Climate Change and Water (DECCW), 2010b);
- evidence of consultation with Aboriginal communities in determining and assessing impacts, developing options and selecting options and mitigation measures (including the final proposed measures), having regard to the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents* (NSW Department of Environment Climate Change and Water (DECCW), 2010a); and
- an assessment of the impact to historic heritage having regard to the *NSW Heritage Manual* (Heritage Office and Department of Urban Affairs & Planning, 1996).

## 1.2 Assessment objectives

The objectives of the cultural heritage assessment are as follows:

- Identify any recorded Aboriginal archaeological sites using database searches and assess the likelihood for such sites using background information
- Undertake a physical inspection of the Development footprint to identify any unrecorded sites of Aboriginal heritage and assess the possible need for further investigation
- Evaluate the significance of any sites of cultural heritage within the Development footprint with the advice of the Aboriginal community, as well as the potential impact that the proposal will have on them
- Provide recommendations for the treatment of any cultural heritage remains within the Development footprint.

### 1.3 Project description

Elgin Energy propose to construction and operate a solar photovoltaic (PV) energy generation facility and battery energy storage station (BESS) at Lot 141 DP1144786, 4823 Great Western Highway, Glanmire. The Development footprint defines the uppermost area of land that would be directly impacted by the Project, including all construction, operational and decommissioning impacts. It includes disturbance areas required for the solar arrays, battery energy storage, ancillary power conversion infrastructure, perimeter fence, access roads and upgrades, transmission line footprint and areas used to store construction materials and manage environmental impacts (including all temporary and permanent impacts). The area is approximately 150ha (Figure 1-1).

The infrastructure layout shows where key infrastructure components would be likely be located within the Development footprint. It most closely represents the area of actual impact required to construct and operate the solar farm. The final infrastructure layout will be subject to detailed design with appointed contractors (Figure 1-2).

Access to the site will be via Brewongle Lane which will undergo an upgrade to the point of site access. In addition, the NSW Government is currently undertaking improvement to the Great Western Highway including widening of the intersection with Brewongle Lane to facilitate the construction of turning lanes. The traffic impact assessment has indicated that further upgrades to the intersection of Brewongle Lane and The Great Western Highway to allow for construction and operation of the proposed project.

The Project is anticipated to take approximately 12 months with an expected operation life of nominally 40 years.

For the purpose of this report the area effected by the proposal will be preferred to as the Development footprint.

### 1.4 Locality

The regional geographical context of the Development footprint is provided in Table 1-1.

**Table 1-1: Regional geographical context of the Development footprint**

Criteria	Development footprint
Central coordinates (GDA94 z55)	751039.8 mN 6297538.6mS
Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation for Australia (IBRA Region)	South Eastern Highlands
State	NSW
Topographical map sheet	Bathurst 1:25000 (8831-3S)
Local Government Area	Bathurst Regional LGA
Local Aboriginal Land Council area (LALC)	Bathurst LALC
Parish	Melrose
County	Roxburgh
Schedule of Native Title Determination Applications (Claims, ILUA Future Acts etc.)	NA
Nearest town / locality	Bathurst
Accessed from nearest town by	Great Western Hwy
Land use / disturbance	Farming/ Residential
Nearest waterway (Name, Strahler Order)	Salt Water Creek (3rd order)
Spot point Australian Height Datum (AHD)	760m
Surrounding land use	Farming/Residential

**Figure 1-1: Location of the Development footprint**

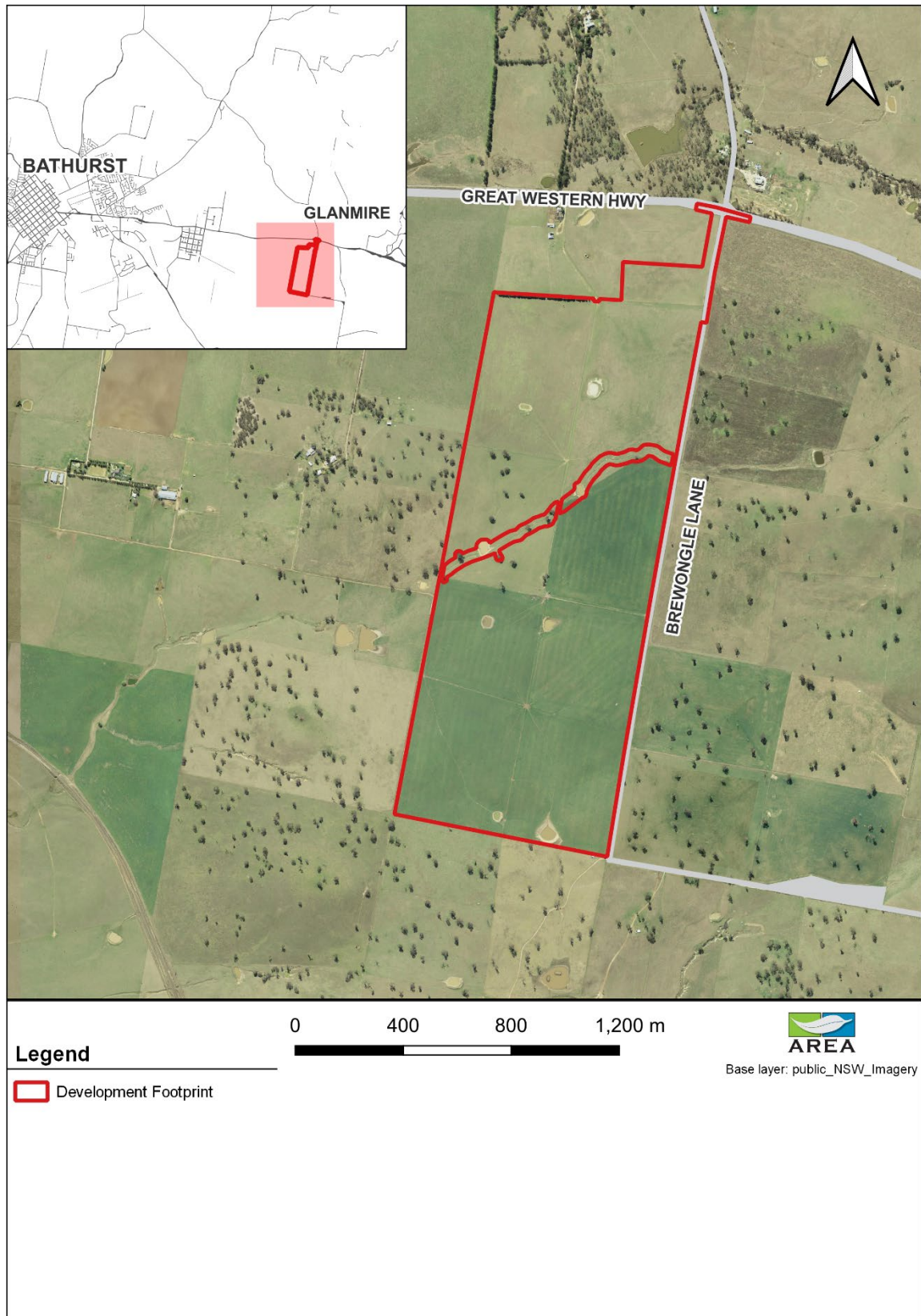
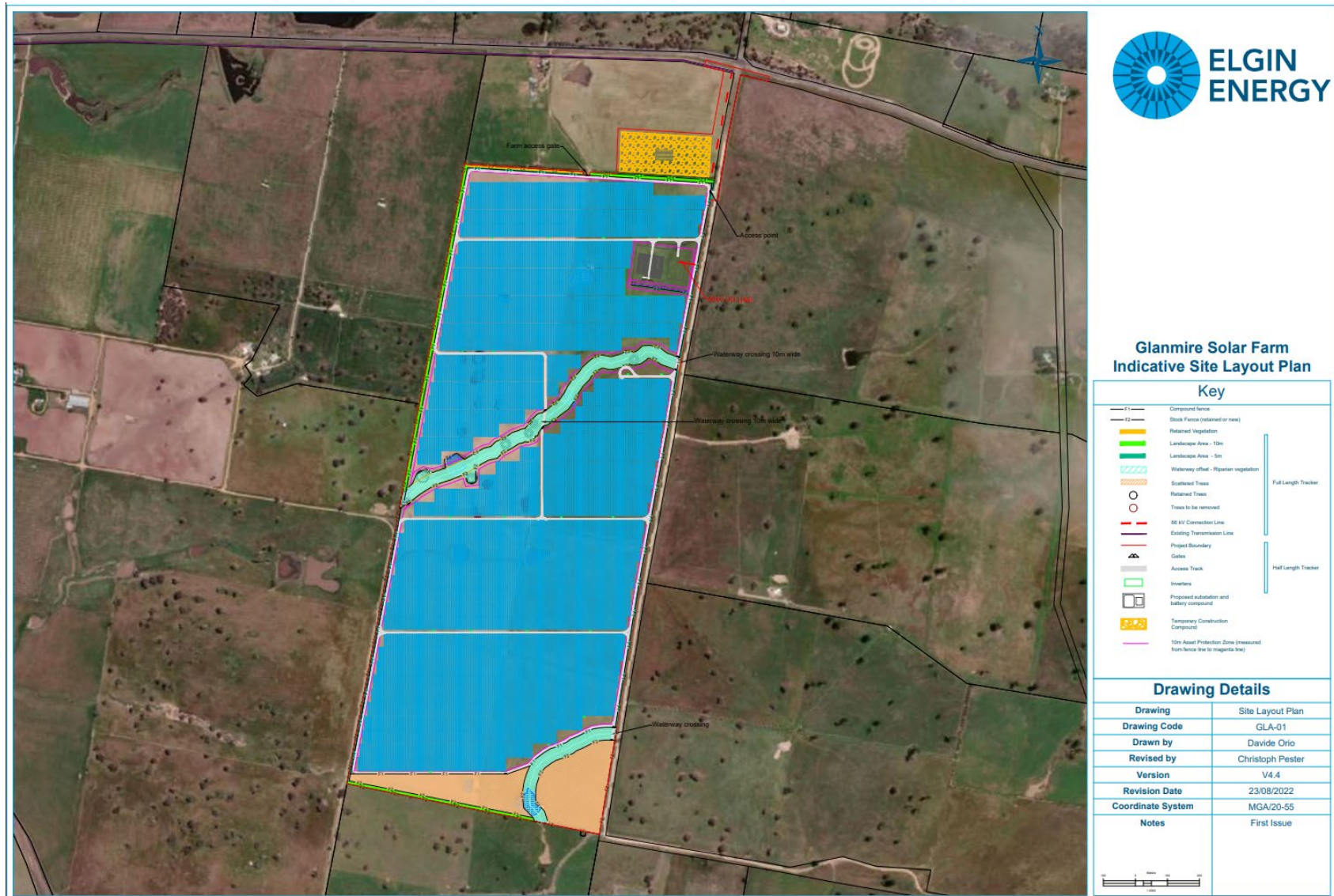




Figure 1-2: Infrastructure layout of the Development footprint



## 1.5 Report structure

This report corresponds with the reporting requirements set out in the *Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in NSW* (DECCW, 2010b) and the *Guide to Investigating, Assessing and Reporting on Aboriginal Heritage in NSW* (NSW Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH), 2011).

**Table 1-2: Report structure**

Section reference	Section heading	Description
1	Introduction	background to the project and purpose of the report
2	Legislative Context	overview of relevant legislation regarding heritage
3	Landscape Features	environmental information that is relevant to the presence and survival of heritage items in the Development footprint
4	Archaeological Context	local and regional archaeological information that is relevant to assessing the potential for archaeological remains and their significance
5	Field Methods	description of the methodology used for the physical assessment of the Development footprint
6	Fieldwork Results	summary of the results of the fieldwork
7	Impacts and Management	impacts that the proposal will have on any identified heritage items and proposed management
8	Recommendations	suggested steps for the Proponent to take with regards to heritage
9	References	list of reports, books, websites, and other resources used to produce this report

## 1.6 Aboriginal community involvement

Tina Scott and Tyson Sullivan represented Bathurst LALC during the survey. Wiradyuri Traditional Owners Central West Aboriginal Corporation were also invited to the survey but were unable to attend.

## 1.7 Project personnel

This assessment was carried out by appropriately experienced or qualified staff (Table 1-3). Kim Newman conducted the field survey and prepared this report. Phillip Cameron provided project management and Anna Darby reviewed this report.

**Table 1-3: Summary the project team's qualifications**

Name	Position	CV Details	Suitability for the task
Phillip Cameron	Principal consultant.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>BSc. Macquarie University</li> <li>Ass Dip App Sci. University of Queensland</li> <li>Certified Environmental Practitioner (EIANZ)</li> <li>Practicing member of the Environment Institute of Australia and New Zealand (EIANZ)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Phillip Cameron is an appropriately skilled and experienced person (degree or relevant experience) in the field of Aboriginal cultural heritage management. He has the equivalent of two years full-time experience in Aboriginal archaeological investigation, including involvement in a project of similar scope, a demonstrated ability to conduct a project of the scope required through inclusion as an attributed author on a report of similar scope under the <i>NSW OEH Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in NSW</i>.</li> <li>Phillip has been undertaking heritage assessments as an environmental consultant since 2004.</li> </ul>
Anna Darby	Archaeologist. Authored the	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bachelor of Arts and</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Anna has worked in Australian archaeology since 2015. She has been involved in all</li> </ul>



Name	Position	CV Details	Suitability for the task
	report.	<p>Bachelor of Science (Archaeology, Paleoanthropology and Forensic Science). University of New England</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bachelor of Science (Honours). University of New England</li> </ul>	<p>levels of assessment in Aboriginal archaeology, including survey and excavation. She has also worked to varying degrees in historical archaeology.</p>
Kim Newman	Archaeologist: Undertook site recording and authored the report.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bachelor of Archaeology (Honours) University of New England</li> <li>• Master of Science (Archaeology). University of New England</li> <li>• PhD candidate (Archaeology). Griffith University.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kim has worked in Australian archaeology since 2009. She has been involved in all levels of assessment in Aboriginal archaeology, including survey and excavation. She has also worked to varying degrees in historical archaeology.</li> </ul>

## 2 Legislative context and SEARs

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### 2.1 Relevant legislation

#### 2.1.1 The Burra Charter (Australia ICOMOS 2013)

Australia ICOMOS (International Council on Monuments and Sites) has developed a set of principles and practices for the management of cultural heritage in Australia. Local government authorities including the NSW DPIE have used the Burra Charter to guide their own heritage management documents. The charter promotes the conservation of places of cultural significance (Australia ICOMOS, 2013). It placed an emphasis on understanding significance as the basis for managing the heritage values for a place, as well as the importance of consulting with community groups to achieve this understanding (Australia ICOMOS, 2013).

#### 2.1.2 Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act)

The EPBC Act is the primary framework of legislation for the protection of nationally significant ecological communities and heritage places. The act also has jurisdiction over environmental impacts other than those of national significance where they occur on commonwealth-owned land. The EPBC Act becomes the primary piece of legislation for the approval of a project when a proposal may significantly impact a matter of national environmental significance. In this case, the assessment is referred to the Department of Agriculture, Water and Environment.

#### 2.1.3 Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 (EP&A Act)

The *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (NSW) (EP&A Act) establishes the framework for cultural heritage values to be formally assessed in the land use planning and development consent process. The EP&A Act consists of three main parts of direct relevance to Aboriginal cultural heritage; Part 3 which governs the preparation of planning instruments and Part 4 also includes the assessment requirements for each type of consent issued including State Significant Development (SSD) as detail in Division 4.7. Part 5 relates to activity approvals by governing (determining) authorities and the duty to consider the environmental impact.

The Project is a State Significant Development (SSD), application number SSD-21208499, under Section 4.12(8) of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* and Part 8 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2021*. The Minister for Planning and Public Spaces will be the consent authority for the Project in accordance with Section 4.5 of the EP&A Act.

#### 2.1.4 National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 (NPW Act)

Under the NPW Act, the Director-General of the NPW is responsible for the care and protection of Aboriginal objects and places in NSW. An *Aboriginal object* means any deposit, object or material evidence (not being a handicraft made for sale) relating to the Aboriginal habitation of the area that comprises New South Wales, being habitation before or concurrent with (or both) the occupation of that area by persons of non-Aboriginal extraction, and includes Aboriginal remains. An *Aboriginal place* means any place of special significance with respect to Aboriginal culture as declared by the Minister.

Under Section 86 of the Act, a person must not harm an Aboriginal object or place. However, the Chief Executive may issue an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) subject to conditions. Penalties are in place for anyone who breaches these conditions or knowingly defaces or destroys an Aboriginal object or place without a permit.

#### **2.1.5 Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in NSW**

This Code of Practice establishes the requirements for undertaking test excavation as part of archaeological investigation without an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) and the requirements when carrying out archaeological investigation in NSW where an application for an AHIP is likely to be made.

#### **2.1.6 Guide to Investigating, Assessing and Reporting on Aboriginal Cultural Heritage in NSW**

This guidance document provides direction regarding the process for investigating and assessing Aboriginal cultural heritage in NSW and presents the NSW government's requirements for an Aboriginal cultural heritage assessment report. Under this document, and the NPW Act, value (social, historical, scientific, and aesthetic) is assessed, type and extent of harm is determined, avoidance and minimisation and management principles are applied. Consultation with Aboriginal people is an integral part of the process of investigating and assessing Aboriginal cultural heritage.

#### **2.1.7 Native Title Act 1994**

The *Native Title Act 1994* was introduced to work in conjunction with the Commonwealth *Native Title Act 1993*. Native Title claims, registers and Indigenous Land Use Agreements are administered under the Act.

There are no Native Title claims currently registered in the Development footprint.

## 3 Landscape features

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### 3.1 Overview

A review of the landscape of the Development footprint and surrounds allows for comparison with other archaeologically investigated areas. It also assists in assessing existing and previous disturbances which may have affected the integrity of archaeological remains. Environmental features such as landforms, topography, water sources, geology, soils, and vegetation are also relevant for an archaeological assessment.

The proposal is in the South East Highlands Bioregion – Northern Granites subregion. The bioregion is in central NSW just west of the Great Dividing Range.

### 3.2 Landforms and topography

Northern Granites subregion is a landscape of undulating to steep hills with a general elevation of 650 to 1000m. Tors and granite outcrops are common along the contact margins of igneous rock intrusions creating distinctive steep sloped ridges (Mitchell, 2010).

The Development footprint consists of gently undulating plains that slope to the south, with an elevation between 780 and 740m.

### 3.3 Waterways

The South East Highlands is a large bioregion that extends from the central section of the Great Dividing Range south to the border and into Victoria. The Lachlan, Macquarie, Murray, Murrumbidgee, Shoalhaven and Snowy Rivers all flow across the bioregion (NSW Department of Planning, 2022).

Two ephemeral unnamed drainage lines cross the Development footprint, one in a northeast-southwest direction through the middle of the Development footprint and another in a south direction at the southern end of the footprint (Figure 3-1). These drainage lines have been used to feed water into dams across the property. Salt Water Creek is the nearest permanent watercourse, located 1km to the south of the study area. Salt Water Creek drains into Fish River which in turn drains into the Macquarie-Wambuul River. The Macquarie-Wambuul River is the major river system in the region, located approximately 8km west of the Development footprint.

### 3.4 Geology and soils

The Northern Granites subregion sits on a base of Carboniferous granites and granodiorite forming plutons and exposures of rocky outcrops. Soils include shallow red earths or siliceous sands along ridges and gritty texture contrast soils with yellow clay subsoils on the slopes. Along streamlines are deep coarse sands and dense black clays in swamps (Mitchell, 2010).

The Development footprint is characteristic of the textured contrast soils of the slopes containing Subnatric Grey Brown sodosols (SLR Consulting Australia, 2021). Soils within the Development footprint have been subject to deflation and gully erosion from clearing, crop cultivation and grazing activities. Natural stone was limited throughout the Development footprint. No stone outcrops were observed and only isolated cobbles of primarily rose quartz of low quality and containing many internal faults (~10cm<sup>3</sup>) were observed through most of the study area (approximately 1 per 20-50 m<sup>2</sup>). Cobble density increased in the southeastern portion of the Development footprint up to approximately 1 per 2 m<sup>2</sup>, in addition to the quartz

cobbles, poorly cemented sand and pebble conglomerate were observed. Extensive historic agricultural activities in the Development footprint suggest that (if present) cultural materials will likely be confined to the surface and/or upper sections of the soil profile.

### 3.5 Vegetation

Vegetation within the Northern Granites subregion is characterised by woodland and open forest containing yellow box (*Eucalyptus melliodora*), broad-leaved peppermint (*Eucalyptus dives*) and red stringybark (*Eucalyptus macrorhyncha*). Ridges and slopes contain white box (*Eucalyptus albens*) communities, while manna gum (*Eucalyptus viminalis*) and river oak (*Casuarina cunninghamiana*) can be found in valleys, and black cypress pine (*Callitris endlicheri*) amongst rocky outcrops. Cold air drainage hollows contain grasslands with patchy snow gum (*Eucalyptus pauciflora*) woodlands (Mitchell, 2010).

The Development footprint has been mostly cleared of native vegetation with only isolated Yellow Box trees remaining. The land has historically been used as agricultural land and has been divided into nine paddocks that are either currently cropped or show signs of cropping in the past. The uncropped paddocks contain dominant exotic groundcover including Hedge mustard (*Sisymbrium officinale*) and Saffron thistle (*Carthamus lanatus*).

### 3.6 Climate

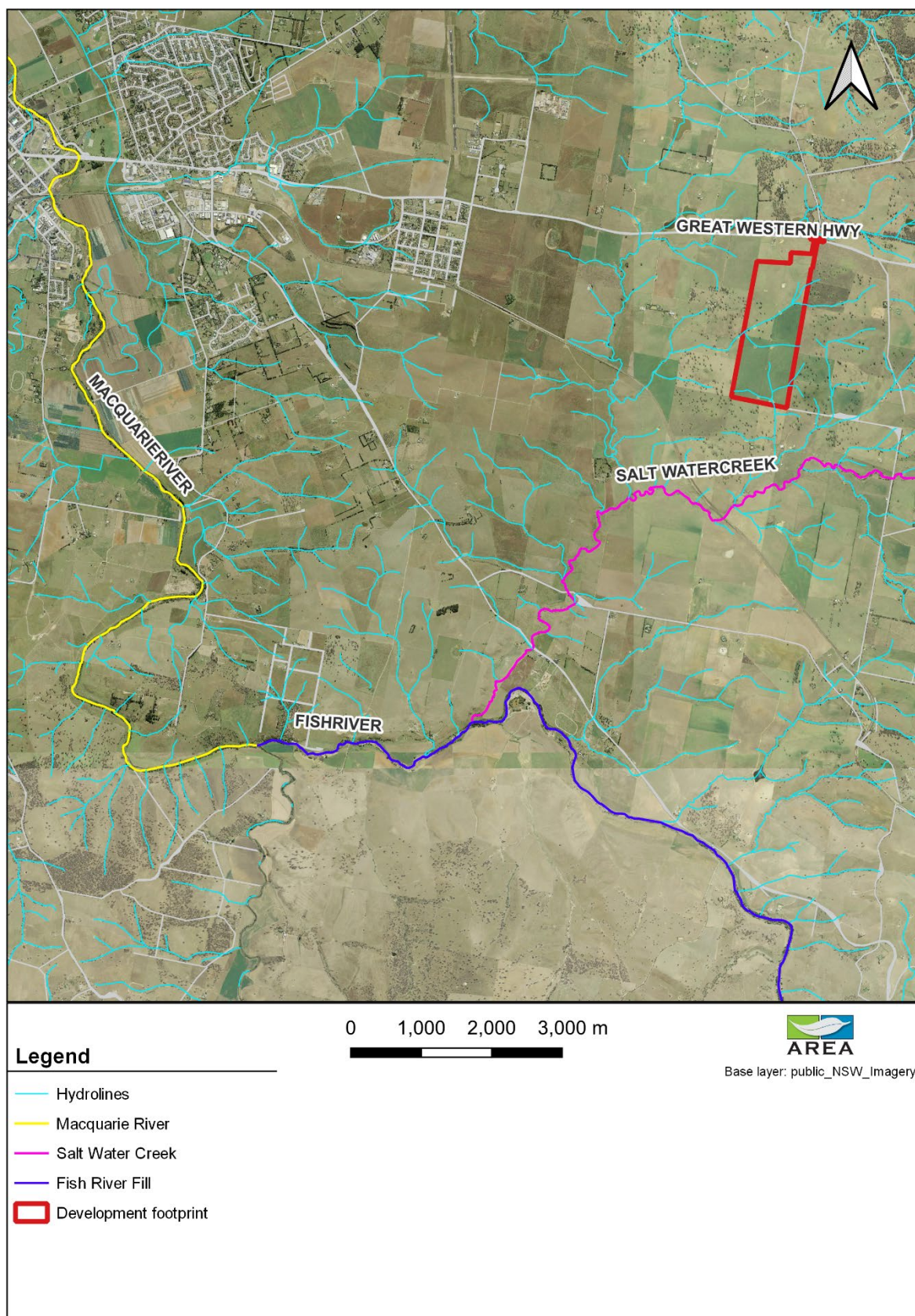
The South East Highlands Bioregion is dominated by a temperate climate with the Development footprint sitting at high elevations as subject to a montane climate (NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service, 2003). Climate data from the Bathurst Airport AWS, located approximately 4km from the Development footprint, indicated at that site experiences milder summers and cold winters. Rainfall is consistent throughout the year with slightly higher rainfall through the summer months (Table 3-1).

**Table 3-1: Summary climate data (red maximum, blue minimum values)**

Statistics	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual	Years
Temperature														
<u>Mean maximum temperature (°C)</u>	28.9	27.5	24.7	20.9	16.3	12.7	12.1	13.8	17.2	20.6	23.8	26.8	20.4	31 1991 2022
<u>Mean minimum temperature (°C)</u>	14.0	13.5	10.8	6.5	3.1	1.8	0.8	1.1	3.6	6.3	9.4	11.8	6.9	31 1991 2022
Rainfall														
<u>Mean rainfall (mm)</u>	65.0	56.8	62.1	33.1	33.4	39.0	43.3	41.4	47.8	52.0	68.5	71.3	616.4	27 1994 2022
<u>Decile 5 (median) rainfall (mm)</u>	57.6	52.5	54.3	18.6	32.3	35.4	36.6	35.7	45.5	51.5	57.8	58.6	614.4	28 1994 2022
<u>Mean number of days of rain ≥ 1 mm</u>	6.3	5.5	5.5	3.7	4.6	6.2	6.6	6.1	5.3	6.5	7.4	6.9	70.6	27 1994 2022



Figure 3-1: Watercourse near the Development footprint



## 4 Archaeological context

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### 4.1 Aboriginal cultural heritage

#### 4.1.1 Regional cultural and archaeological context

Aboriginal people have been present in Australia for approximately 60,000 years. The archaeological record provides evidence of a dynamic culture coupled with a long occupation of the land. While the boundaries of language groups, as defined by people like Tindale (1974) should be taken as indicative (Attenbrow, 2010), the Development footprint is within the traditional lands of the Wiradjuri peoples (Tindale, 1974). The Wiradjuri are the people of the three rivers, inhabiting a widespread area which extended from the Great Dividing Range, west to the Macquarie-Wambuul, Lachlan (*Kalare*) and the Murrumbidgee (*Murrumbidjeri*) rivers (Coe, 1989, Bamblett, 2013).

The Wiradjuri is one of the largest language groups in Australia with an estimation of between 12,000 and 100,000 people at the time of European arrival (Bamblett, 2013). Wiradjuri people maintained connections across the long distances, through ceremonial cycles which moved around the tribal area (Tindale, 1974). The name Wiradjuri is an antonym derived from *wirraay* meaning 'no' and *-thuurray* or *tyuuray* meaning 'having' (Donaldson, 1984). Differences in dialect have been recorded amongst the Wiradjuri, and notably one has been recorded around the Bathurst region (Tindale, 1974).

Aboriginal occupation of the Darling Basin (the Wiradjuri occupy the portion of the basin to the west) has been dated to c. 40,000 years BP (Bowler et al., 2003). Within the region, the period of occupation of several sites have been dated to c. 7,000 years BP. These Aboriginal sites are Granites 2 shelter near Manildra (Pearson, 1981) and the skeletal remains of a male individual near Cowra (Pardoe and Webb, 1986). To the east of the Development footprint in the Blue Mountains a number of sites have dated from the Last Glacial Maximum (LGM) including the Kings Table site at Wentworth Falls which dated to c. 25,000 years BP (Stockton and Holland, 1974)

Pearson (1981) conducted a comprehensive study of the upper Macquarie region in relation to his PhD dissertation. Through excavation and extensive research, he determined that the Wiradjuri functioned primarily in small groups of variable size, dependent on the season. These groups were comprised of immediate relations, the smallest being the basic family unit. During feasting and ceremonies these family groups gathered in numbers possibly between 80-150 people. Pearson (1981) also developed a pattern of Aboriginal occupation through the analysis of site location attributes in relation to just over 40 recorded open campsites within four sample areas in the region. His findings indicated that archaeological sites can be grouped into two main types, occupation sites, and non-occupation sites. Non-occupation sites can include scarred or carved trees, ceremonial sites, grinding grooves and burial sites. Through analysis of the location of these sites he proposed the following model for the prediction of site location (Pearson, 1981):

- The distance of sites from water ranged from 10 to 500m. However larger sites were generally located nearer to water (Pearson's average distance from water being 90m).
- Both good soil drainage and views over watercourses were important site location factors.
- Level ground, shelter from prevailing winds, and elevation above cold air (Pearson's average elevation being 9.1m) also influenced site location.
- The majority of sites were situated in places that would originally have been comprised of open woodlands in order to source adequate fuel.

- Burial sites and grinding grooves were located as close to habitation as possible. However, grinding grooves occur only where there is suitable outcropping sandstone, and burial sites are generally found in areas where soils are of sufficient depth and penetrability for the purposes of interment.
- Ceremonial sites such as earth rings were situated away from campsites, with stone arrangements were also located away from campsites, in isolated places, and were more likely to be located on small hills or knolls, although they can also occur on flat land.
- Scarred or carved trees were distributed with no obvious patterning other than their proximity to watercourses, and in areas more frequently used for camps.
- Quarry sites were located where known outcrops of serviceable stone were reasonably accessible.

Pearson suggests that Aboriginal campsites were rarely used for longer than three nights, and that sites with evidence of extensive archaeological deposit probably represent accumulations of material over a series of short visits.

#### 4.1.2 Local archaeological context

Databases were searched to locate previous archaeological studies and Aboriginal sites within 5km of the Development footprint. The results of these searches are summarised in Table 4-1. An extensive search for the Aboriginal Heritage Information Management Systems (AHIMS) was conducted on the 11 July 2022 (Client ID: 699200). The AHIMS search provides archaeological context for the area and identifies whether any previously recorded Aboriginal sites are located within or near the Development footprint.

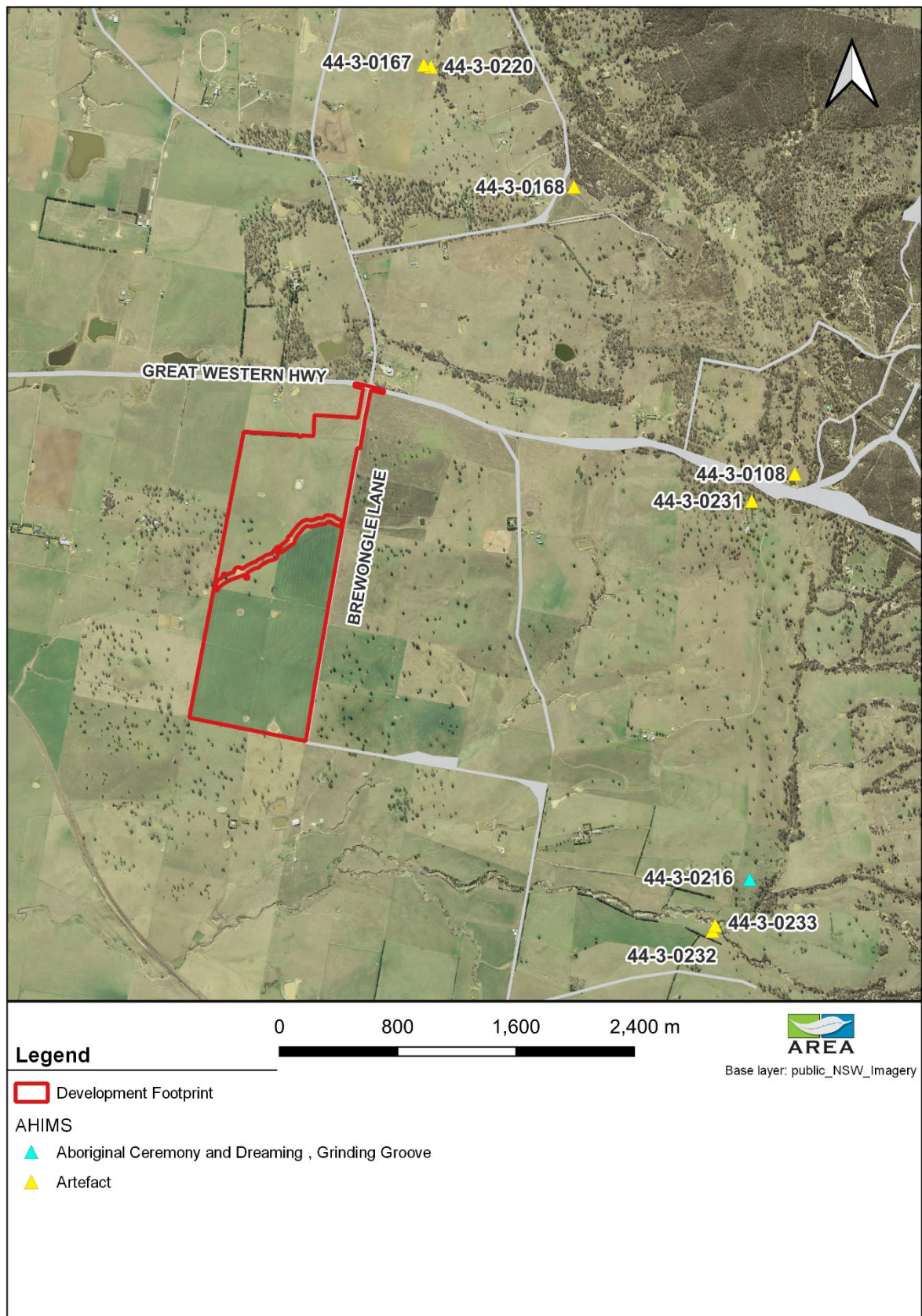
A total of eight Aboriginal sites were recorded on the AHIMS database within the search area. Of these sites, seven were open artefact scatters and one contained grinding grooves and an Aboriginal ceremonial site. No Aboriginal sites were recorded within the Development footprint. The distribution of recorded AHIMS sites is shown in Figure 4-1 and presented in Appendix A.

**Table 4-1: Summary of database searches for Aboriginal heritage**

Database	Date of Search	Parameters	Results
Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System (AHIMS)	11/07/2022	GDA, Zone: 55, 746148 – 756148 mE 6292029 – 6302029 mN	8 sites recorded with the search parameters and 0 are located within the Development footprint.
Bathurst LEP 2014	24/06/2022	Schedule 5 Environmental heritage	No Sites of Aboriginal Heritage are on the database nearby to the Development footprint.
Native Title Vision <a href="https://nntt.maps.arcgis.com/">https://nntt.maps.arcgis.com/</a>	24/06/2022	NSW	There are no native title claims or determinations within the Development footprint
State Heritage Register <a href="http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/heritageapp/heritagesearch.aspx">http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/heritageapp/heritagesearch.aspx</a>	24/06/2022	Bathurst LGA	No items relating to Aboriginal heritage are recorded on the State heritage register within the Development footprint



**Figure 4-1: Result of the extensive AHIMS search within 5km of the Development footprint**



#### 4.1.3 Previous archaeological studies

There is a growing body of archaeological investigations in the Bathurst area. There have been some compliance-based heritage assessments adding to the archaeological record. While no studies have been conducted within the Development footprint a summary of several archaeological reports conducted within the surrounding area is presented below.

##### **Aboriginal and historic due diligence assessment: Line 948 and 94X (OzArk, 2019)**

OzArch were commissioned to complete an archaeological assessment for the upgrade of the Transgrid line 948 and 94X between Wallerawang and North Orange. Within five km of the Development footprint three sites were recorded as part of this survey. These sites were all artefact scatters, consisting of an open site (Salt Water Creek OS-1(AHIMS ID 44-3-0233)) and two isolated finds (Salt Water Creek IF-1(AHIMS ID 44-3-0232) and Salt Water Creek IF-2(AHIMS ID 44-3-0231) containing quartz flakes and a core.

##### **Wallerawang to Orange 132 kV Transmission Line Reconstruction Project: Cultural Heritage Assessment (Navin Officer Heritage Consultants, 2013)**

Navin Officer Heritage Consultants were commissioned to complete an archaeological assessment for the upgrade of the Transgrid line 948 between Wallerawang and North Orange. Within five km of the Development footprint two sites were recorded as part of this survey. These sites were all artefact scatters, consisting of an open site (W2O A9(AHIMS ID 44-3-0617) and an isolated find (W2O A10(AHIMS ID 44-3-0168). These sites contain flakes made from quartz and a core made on a volcanic stone, possibly granite. Site W2O A9 was impacted by this development and was reburied at a nearby located (AHIMS ID 44-3-0220).

##### **Bathurst Regional Local Government Area Aboriginal Heritage Study (Extent Heritage, 2017)**

Extent Heritage was commissioned to complete a cultural heritage study of the Bathurst Regional LGA with the aim of establishing a coherent picture of the Aboriginal cultural heritage values in the Bathurst Region. While only a desktop study this report does consult other compliance reports from the Bathurst region that were not readily accessible. The review found of the 222 sites reviewed artefact scatters were by far the most frequently observed site type observed (n=102), followed by Isolated finds (n=20), stone arrangements (n=17), modified trees (n=16) and carved trees (n=11). The predictive model outline by Pearson (1981) was supported in the results from these reports, with the highest density of open sites located on undulating topography while larger sites were found on elevated spurs and terraces adjacent to high order streams and rivers with few sites found at locations distant from water sources. This report used these data to generate a GIS predictive archaeological model to identify areas of archaeological probability. Based on this predictive model the Development footprint falls into a zone of low to moderate archaeological sensitivity.

##### **An Archaeological Survey of the Foreshores of Ben Chifley Dam, Near Bathurst, NSW (Williams and Barber, 1994)**

The survey was conducted around sections of Ben Chifley dam they were likely to be inundated under a proposal to raise the dam wall by 5-5.5m. Pedestrian survey of the area identified five sites all were artefact scatters containing a mixture of quartz, volcanic stone artefacts as well as hammerstones and potentially an anvil stone. Glass artefacts and cores were also recorded at one site suggestive of a 'European contact era' site. Quartz pebbles were recorded in the vicinity of these many of these sites, in addition, pebble beds from nearby rivers and streams have been interpreted as the source for most stone raw material.



## **Aboriginal Sites on the Crown-timber Lands of the Bathurst Management Area, New South Wales (Gollan and Bowdler, 1983)**

This report conducted a survey across representative areas of the State Forests and Crown-timber lands in the Bathurst Management Area. The results found that artefact scatters were generally located in close proximity to water sources, on level ridges or hillslopes. Quartz stone was the most common raw material type followed by 'red stone', possibly a granite or chert.

### **4.1.4 Predictive model**

A predictive model combines the archaeological context for the Development footprint with landscape information to propose likely site types, distributions, and intactness within the area.

Areas of archaeological potential are regarded as any sensitive landform with a reasonable level of intactness (i.e., little to no disturbance or minor ground surface disturbance only and in areas not on self-mulching soils). The definition of disturbance used here follows that of the *National Parks and Wildlife Regulation 2009* (Clause 80B, Subclause 4). Sensitive landforms follow the definitions supplied in the *Due Diligence Code of Practice for the Protection of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales* (NSW Department of Environment Climate Change and Water (DECCW), 2010c):

- within 200m of waters
- located within a sand dune system
- located on a ridge top, ridge line or headland
- located within 200m below or above a cliff face
- within 20m of or in a cave, rock shelter, or a cave mouth.

A total of 8 sites of Aboriginal heritage have been recorded within five kilometres of the Development footprint on the AHIMS database. The broader archaeological context indicates that sites are very unlikely to occur unless there are landscape features that are at least able to hold water for short periods of time following heavy inundation.

If present, site types are most likely to be stone artefact sites based on the regional archaeological context. The geology of the Development footprint indicates that stone for artefacts would need to be brought into the area rather than locally manufactured. However, many tools and other objects were made from wood, bone and shell which do not survive into the archaeological record as well as stone (Clarke, 2011).

Culturally modified trees can occur anywhere on old growth trees to produce suitable bark to create carrying dishes (commonly known as *coolamons*), canoes and other items. Trees may also be modified as markers or other types of communication (Long, 2005).

Other site types may occur but within the landscape context of the Development footprint they are not likely to exist. Hearths are reasonably common but tend to deteriorate and be destroyed more easily. Quarries are possible where raw material is available. There are no outcroppings of bedrock or caves so grinding grooves, enhanced water sinks and rock art are not possible. Ochre quarries and stone arrangements are unlikely to occur.

## 5 Field methods

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### 5.1 Aboriginal cultural heritage assessment methodology

The field methods used to assess the Development footprint follow those described in the OEH's *Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales* (DECCW, 2010b). The archaeological survey was conducted from 12-13 July 2022 covering the proposed solar farm and associated roads. The archaeological survey was conducted by Kim Newman of AREA with Tina Scott and Tyson Sullivan of the Bathurst LALC.

#### 5.1.1 Field survey methods

The purpose of the field survey was to identify any previously undetected Aboriginal sites, places or areas with cultural heritage values and evaluate the possible need for further investigation (i.e., test-excavation). A GPS was used to ensure the survey covered the proposal area. It is important to note the tracks for the survey represent only one person from the survey team (AREA staff) (Figure 5-1). The survey was conducted by walking a series of transects at 20m apart across each survey unit in parallel lines at a pace that allowed opportunity to identify any features or objects. At the end of each transect the team would reposition along a new transect line at the same spacing and walk on the reverse compass bearing. It is important to note the GPS tracks recorded only represent only one person from the survey team or 33% of the survey effort.

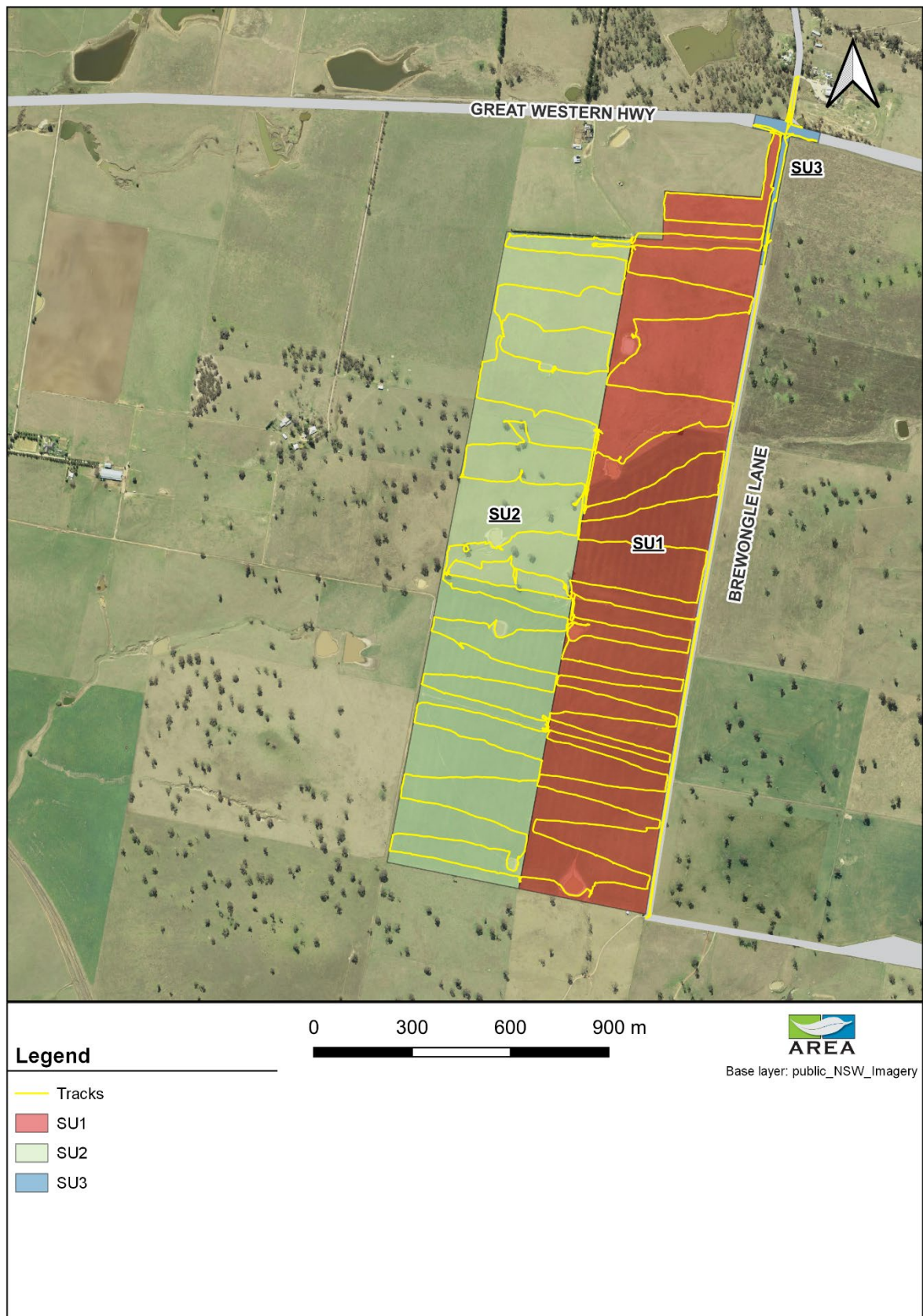
Photographic and written records were made of the landscape features relevant to archaeological potential. These features include disturbance levels, Ground Surface Visibility (GSV) and landforms of higher archaeological potential (see Section 4).

All ground exposures were examined for Aboriginal objects (stone artefacts, imported shell, or other traces of Aboriginal occupation). All Old growth trees were examined for signs of cultural scarring and marking. Aboriginal sites were recorded using AREA's criteria conforming with *Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales* (DECCW, 2010b).

#### 5.1.2 Constraints

When compared with Survey Unit 1, ground surface visibility was reduced in Survey Unit 2 due to thicker grass and vegetation cover. An average GSV of 30 % was observed throughout this unit which did not notably constrain in completing the field survey.

Figure 5-1: Survey units and survey transects (one person)





## 6 Fieldwork results

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### 6.1 Survey results

The Development footprint was divided into three survey units based on land use (Figure 6-26).

#### 6.1.1 Survey unit 1

Survey unit 1 (SU1) is comprised of the eastern portion of the Development footprint and measures 85 ha. The landscape within SU1 consists of undulating plains that gently slope to the south (Figure 6-1). SU1 contains 5 paddocks that have been utilised to graze livestock. Most native vegetation has been cleared from these paddocks with the exception for a mature Yellow Box tree with a large trauma scar (Figure 6-3). The ground cover in these paddocks comprises a sown fodder crop that has been grazed by sheep and cattle (Figure 6-4). Isolated poor quality quartz cobbles ( $<10\text{cm}^3$ ) were found in SU1 at very low densities ( $\sim 1$  per 20-50m<sup>2</sup>) throughout most of the survey unit though this density did increase in the southeastern portion of the Development footprint up to approximately 1 per 2 m<sup>2</sup> (Figure 6-4). The GSV was generally moderate (50%) across the survey unit (Figure 6-5), however a number of exposure locations in dam walls (Figure 6-7), vehicle and animal tracks (Figure 6-6) and in the eroded gully at the south (Figure 6-8) all contained high (100%) GSV. Disturbance within SU1 was moderate due to the historic clearing of vegetation and agricultural activities.

No Aboriginal objects or areas of archaeological deposits were observed in this survey unit.

**Figure 6-1: Overview of SU1 to the southeast across paddock A1**



**Figure 6-2: Example of rip lines and sown crop in SU1**





**Figure 6-3: Yellow Box tree with trauma scar**



**Figure 6-6: Example exposure from animal/vehicle tracks and erosion in SU1**



**Figure 6-4: Example of natural rose quartz cobble SU1**



**Figure 6-7: Example of exposure in dam wall**



**Figure 6-5: Example of GSV in SU1**



**Figure 6-8: Exposed soil profile in gully at south of SU1**



### **6.1.2 Survey unit 2**

Survey unit 2 (SU2) is comprised of the western portion of the Development footprint and measures approximately 79 ha. The landscape within SU2 consists of undulating plains that gently slope to the south (Figure 6-9). SU2 contains four paddocks that have been utilised to graze livestock (Figure 6-10). Most native vegetation has been cleared from these paddocks



with the exception of several mature Yellow Box tree scattered across the survey area, many with trauma scars (Figure 6-11). The ground cover in these paddocks comprises exotic species including Saffron Thistle. These paddocks also contain visible rip lines indicating ploughing in the recent past (Figure 6-13). Isolated poor quality quartz cobbles ( $<10\text{cm}^3$ ) were observed in SU2 at very low densities ( $\sim 1$  per  $20\text{-}50\text{m}^2$ ) throughout most of the survey unit (Figure 6-12). Despite all paddocks been grazed by sheep and cattle, GSV was generally moderate (30%) across the survey unit mainly because of dense patches of Saffron Thistle (Figure 6-14). However, there were exposures in dam walls and at the entrances to paddocks which provided high (100%) GSV (Figure 6-16). Disturbance within SU2 was moderate due to the historic clearing of vegetation and agricultural activities.

Two newly recorded Aboriginal sites were observed within SU2 during the survey.

**Figure 6-9: Overview of SU2 to the east across paddock B2**



**Figure 6-10: Overview of SU2 view to southeast across paddock D2**



**Figure 6-11: Yellow Box tree with trauma scar**



**Figure 6-12: Example of natural quartz cobble SU2**





**Figure 6-13: Example of rip marks in SU2**



**Figure 6-14: Example of exotics and thick Saffron Thistle groundcover in SU**



**Figure 6-15: Example of exposure in dam wall**



**Figure 6-16: Example of exposure at entrance to paddocks caused by stock SU1**



### 6.1.3 Survey unit 3

Survey unit 3 (SU3) is comprised of the road corridor into the Development footprint along the intersection between the Great Western Highway and Brewongle Lane (Figure 6-17 and Figure 6-18). SU3 measures 1.6 ha, and the landscape is part of the same undulating plains as the rest of the Development footprint. SU3 is cleared of all but one native tree and covered in exotic vegetation. GSV was very poor (<5%) due to dense grasses (Figure 6-20). SU3 contained a high-level of disturbance due to ground surface modifications associated with the construction of the road corridor (Figure 6-17, Figure 6-19, Figure 6-21).

No Aboriginal objects or areas of archaeological deposits were observed in this survey unit.



**Figure 6-17: Great Western Hwy and Brewongle Lane intersection southwest side**



**Figure 6-18: Great Western Hwy and Brewongle Lane intersection southeast side**



**Figure 6-19: Great Western Hwy and Brewongle Lane intersection northwest side**



**Figure 6-21: Great Western Hwy and Brewongle Ln intersection north east side**



**Figure 6-20: Example of GSV on Brewongle Lane verge.**



## 6.2 Survey coverage

A summary of survey coverage is provided in Table 6-1 and Table 6-2. Effective survey coverage was low.

**Table 6-1: Survey coverage summary – survey units**

Survey unit	Landform	Survey unit area (m <sup>2</sup> )	Visibility %	Exposure %	Effective survey coverage (m <sup>2</sup> )	Effective Survey Coverage (%)
1	Plain	850183	50	20%	85018	10%
2	Plain	787627	30	20%	47257	6%
3	Plain	15741	5	1%	7..8	0.05%

**Table 6-2: Survey coverage summary – landforms**

Landform	Landform area (m <sup>2</sup> )	Area effectively surveyed (m <sup>2</sup> )	% of landform surveyed	Number of sites
Plain	1653551	132282.8	7.9%	2

## 6.3 Recorded sites

The archaeological survey identified two sites (Figure 6-26); one isolated find and one culturally modified tree.

### 6.3.1 Glanmire Isolated find 01 (G-ISO-01)

**Site type:** Isolated stone artefact

**Centroid:** GDA 94 Zone 55 751057 mE, 6296769 mN

**Site length:** 1m

**Site width:** 1m

Glanmire ISO 01 (AHIMS ID Pending) is located in SU2 near the southeastern entrance to paddock B2. A milk quartz flake (Figure 6-23) was observed embedded in an exposure formed around the base of a plough (Figure 6-22). The exposure measured approximately 2x0.5 m with GSV 100% within the exposure. No unmodified stone was visible within the exposure. Additional exposures, located within 10m of G-ISO-01 were also inspected, no stone or other materials were observed in these exposures. Soils within G-ISO-01 were a sandy loam, non-calcic brown soils. The nearby drainage line contained no visible stone and while quartz cobbles were observed in isolated locations throughout the Development footprint this flake was of a different type (milk quartz rather than rose quartz).

**Figure 6-22: Location of G-ISO-01 in SU2 exposure next to Plough. View to west**



**Figure 6-23: Isolated find G-ISO-01, Quartz flake**





### 6.3.2 Glanmire Culturally Modified Tree 01 (G-CMT-01)

**Site type:** Culturally Modified Tree (scarred)

**Site centroid:** GDA 94 Zone 55 750698 mE, 6296810 mN

Glanmire CMT 01 is located in SU2 near the southwestern corner of paddock B2 (Figure 6-24). The tree is a Yellow Box with a single trunk of 1m diameter, containing two scars, one of which is culturally modified. The scar is located on the western side of the tree and measures 95 x33cm with 15cm of regrowth (Figure 6-25). The scar is 70cm above the ground level. While the scar is aligned parallel with the trunk of the tree and within 10m of the ephemeral drainage line, it is irregularly shaped at the top and bottom and shows signs of insect activities.

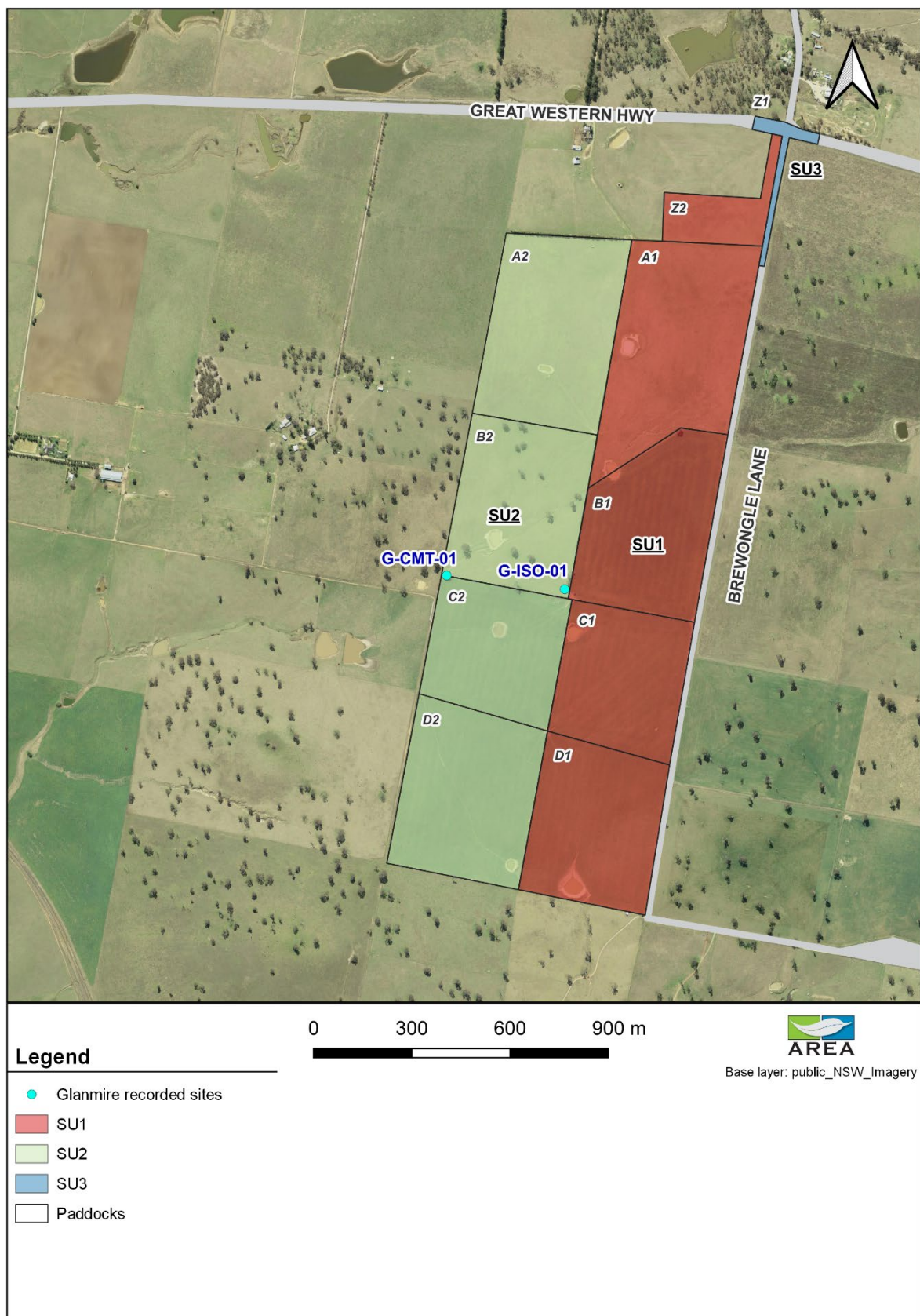
**Figure 6-24: G-CMT-01 overview to east**



**Figure 6-25: Detail of G-CMT-01 scar**



Figure 6-26: Location of newly recorded Aboriginal sites with survey units and paddock labels





## 6.4 Discussion

The results of the archaeological survey are consistent with the predictive model formulated in Section 4.1.4. The presence of Aboriginal sites was not unexpected, despite the existing disturbance levels. Small and isolated stone artefact scatters are common in the local archaeological context as are culturally modified trees.

The background research identified eight previously recorded Aboriginal sites within 5km of the Development footprint. No previous Aboriginal sites had been recorded within the Development footprint as a result of the lack of any previous assessments. The archaeological survey identified two new Aboriginal sites, in close proximity to the ephemeral drainage line running diagonally through the Development footprint. While the drainage line has likely gathered silt since the clearing of native vegetation and regular ploughing, it is likely that it would have only held water during periods of heavy rains. In conversation with the Aboriginal sites officers from Bathurst LALC it was speculated that the location of a dam to the west of the Development footprint may have originally been the location of a natural pond or pool. If this was the case, it may have drawn people to the Development footprint for longer periods of time. G-CMT-01 is located within 10m of the drainage line and less than 100m from the dam in the adjoining property. The position and age of this tree is consistent with the predictive model and context for cultural modified trees (carved or scarred) (Long, 2005).

Throughout the Development footprint natural stone was both limited and of poor knapping quality. Site G-ISO-01 contains the only stone artefact observed in the Development footprint, a milky white quartz flake. While isolated rose quartz cobbles were observed these were of poor quality and a different material to the observed flake. The Development footprint would not have been a destination for gathering stone resources. As a result, it is likely that all stone tools and stone raw materials were brought with any Aboriginal people visiting this site.

The development footprint contained sodic textured contrast soils that transition to clays. These soils are susceptible to sheet erosion and gullying. It would be expected that artefacts would be visible in these areas of deflation and erosion. G-ISO-01 was observed in one of these exposures, but despite this stone of any type was rare in most exposures. A soil profile in a gully at the southern end of the Development footprint showed no indication of sub-surface deposits. It is possible that sites, like cultural modified trees (carved or scarred), hearths or artefact scatters, have been destroyed by disturbances caused by the historic agricultural uses of the site. Given that there were few surface manifestations of Aboriginal occupation, moderate GSV throughout, and all mature trees were inspected for modification, it is unlikely that more remains would be present below the surface. The necessary environmental features were not present for other Aboriginal site types.

## 6.5 Significance

Significance forms the basis for the management of Aboriginal cultural heritage. There are four main criteria for assessing the significance of Aboriginal cultural heritage sites listed in the *Guide to investigating, assessing, and reporting on Aboriginal cultural heritage in NSW* (NSW Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH), 2011). These are Social or Cultural significance, Aesthetic significance, Historic significance, and Scientific significance.

Each criteria of significance are rated low, moderate, or high. The following questions can be asked to help guide this rating (OEH, 2011):

- **Research potential:** does the evidence suggest any potential to contribute to an understanding of the area and/or region and/or state's natural and cultural history?
- **Representativeness:** how much variability (outside and/or inside the subject area) exists, what is already conserved, how much connectivity is there?
- **Rarity:** is the subject area important in demonstrating a distinctive way of life, custom, process, land-use, function or design no longer practised? Is it in danger of being lost or of exceptional interest?
- **Education potential:** does the subject area contain teaching sites or sites that might have teaching potential?

The level of significance of each site is summarised in Table 6-3.

**Table 6-3: Summary of significance for sites recorded**

Development footprint / Site ID	Social Significance	Aesthetic Significance	Historic Significance	Scientific Significance
Glanmire-ISO-01	Low	Low	Low	Low
Glanmire-CMT-01	Moderate	Moderate	Low	Low

### Social or cultural significance

Social or cultural value refers to the spiritual, traditional, historical, or contemporary associations and attachments the place or area has for Aboriginal people (OEH, 2011). It relates to a contemporary connection that Aboriginal people have with events that have taken place in that location or general area.

In general, presence of Aboriginal sites provides evidence of connection to country and therefore is likely to be considered as important and significant regardless of its condition or representativeness. In consultation with the Bathurst LALC the site was considered to generally have **low** cultural significance as it offered limited resource opportunities as a camping or resource gathering location (pers com. Tina Scott). The Development footprint was likely traversed or used for hunting possibly accounting for G-ISO-01. Additionally, the cultural modified trees (carved or scarred) attests to the use of the site in the past.

### Aesthetic significance

This refers to the sensory, scenic, architectural, and creative aspects of the place. It is often closely linked with the social values. It may consider form, scale, colour, texture and material of the fabric or landscape, and the smell and sounds associated with the place and its use (Australia ICOMOS, 2013, OEH, 2011).

The isolated artefacts have **low** aesthetic value.

Culturally modified trees inherently have some aesthetic value. Mature trees have some level of aesthetic appeal, and the cultural scars provide a clear link to the Aboriginal use of the area. These sites have **moderate** aesthetic significance.

### Historic significance

Historic value refers to the associations of a place with a historically important person, event, phase, or activity in an Aboriginal community. Historic places do not always have physical evidence of their historical importance (OEH, 2011).

There are no known historical associations between the Development footprint and the local Aboriginal community. Therefore, there is **low** historic significance of the Development footprint and sites within them.

### Scientific significance



This refers to the importance of a landscape, area, place or object because of its rarity, representativeness, and the extent to which it may contribute to further understanding and information (Australia ICOMOS, 2013, OEH, 2011).

The scientific significance of artefact scatters is dependent on the research potential of the site. This includes both the level of preservation of the site and how representative the site is of these site types in the area. The limited number of sites and high level of disturbance, means these sites have **low** scientific significance.

## 7 Impact and management

### 7.1 Aboriginal cultural heritage

Cultural heritage values require management for any proposal where they have been identified. Whether an impact is direct, indirect, or possible, Aboriginal sites will require some level of intervention to avoid harm where possible.

#### 7.1.1 Impacts to Aboriginal cultural heritage

A total of two Aboriginal sites have been recorded during the archaeological survey. According to the infrastructure layout Glanmire-CMT01 is located within a riparian corridor and will be avoided by the development footprints disturbance areas. Glanmire-ISO-01 will be impacted by the Solar farm development footprint.

Further management is required to ensure no impact occurs to Aboriginal sites which are avoided and to minimise the potential for inadvertent or to any unrecorded sites.

**Table 7-1: Summary of impacts to Aboriginal heritage under the current form of the proposal**

Development footprint / Site ID	Impact Unless Managed	Effect of proposal on Significance	Actual impact with implementation of the mitigation measures
Glanmire-ISO-01	Direct	Total	Partial loss of value
Glanmire-CMT-01	Indirect	None	No loss of value

#### 7.1.2 Management and mitigation options

As a general principal, avoidance of impact to sites of Aboriginal cultural heritage is the preferred method of management. This is advocated in the Burra Charter as well as various other guidelines and codes of practice (Section 2.1). Total avoidance of all sites of heritage value is not always feasible. In the case avoidance presents a proponent with considerable difficulties, they may apply to damage or destroy a site.

The following measures are recommended:

- The Aboriginal sites G-ISO-01 will be impacted by the Development footprint. To protect the site the following suggestions are made:
  - a) G-ISO-01 (AHIMS ID Pending) should be relocated by an agreed upon person (RAP) to the base of G-CMT-01 in accordance with the Code of Practice of archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in NSW (DECCW, 2010b).
    - Kim Newman contacted Tina from Bathurst LALC who has no objections to the above proposed mitigation measures.
  - b) The work crew should be made aware of the locations of the sites and the protection afforded to them under the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2003*.
- While G-CMT-01 (AHIMS ID Pending) will be avoided, it should be protected against inadvertent impact during the construction of the proposal.:
  - e) A high-visibility temporary fence should be erected around the tree with a minimum two-metre buffer from the dripline of the tree.
  - f) The work crew should be made aware of the locations of the sites and the protection afforded to them under the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2003*.

Should the removal of any Aboriginal objects be required (pending approval), the following mitigation measures are recommended:

- The Registered Aboriginal Parties identified during the consultation process should be continued where Registered Aboriginal Parties are consulted in determining the management of Aboriginal objects.
- Removal includes salvage/surface collection and relocation of Aboriginal objects to a suitable location in accordance with the *Code of Practice of archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in NSW*
- Any conditions of consent for the removal of Aboriginal objects must be followed.
- Any sites of Aboriginal cultural heritage avoided by the proposal still require management measures.
- The locations of the cultural heritage sites be provided to the relevant supervisors responsible for the construction and operation of the proposal and be indicated on Development footprint maps and documents such that it is clear where Aboriginal sites are located and they are to remain unharmed by work . They should be informed that cultural heritage sites are protected under the NPW Act and no harm is to come to them. The presence of the cultural heritage sites should be made clear to the workforce as part of an induction.

## 8 Recommendations

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### 8.1 Overview

Cultural heritage values require management for any proposal where they have been identified. Whether an impact is direct, indirect, or possible, Aboriginal sites will require some level of intervention to avoid harm where possible.

Recommendations are based with consideration of:

- the requirements of the *Due Diligence Code of Practice for the Protection of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales* (DECCW, 2010c)
- the results of the background research and fieldwork
- the likely impacts of the proposed Glanmire Solar Farm Project.

A total of two Aboriginal sites have been recorded during the archaeological survey. One (Glanmire-CMT-01) within the riparian buffer of the Development footprint (which can be avoided), and one (Glanmire-ISO-01) isolated Quartz flake within the Development footprint. In order to avoid inadvertent impact to Aboriginal sites, the following measures are recommended:

- The locations of the cultural heritage sites should be provided to the supervisors responsible for the construction and operation of the Development footprint. They should be informed that cultural heritage sites are protected under the NPW Act and no harm is to come to them. The presence of the cultural heritage sites should be made clear to the workforce as part of an induction.
- The Aboriginal sites G-ISO-01 will be impacted by the Development footprint. To protect the site the following suggestions are made:
  - c) G-ISO-01 (AHIMS ID Pending) should be relocated by an agreed upon person (RAP) to the base of G-CMT-01 in accordance with the Code of Practice of archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in NSW (DECCW, 2010b).
    - Kim Newman contacted Tina from Bathurst LALC who has no objections to the above proposed mitigation measures.
  - d) The work crew should be made aware of the locations of the sites and the protection afforded to them under the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2003*.
- While G-CMT-01 (AHIMS ID Pending) will be avoided, it should be protected against inadvertent impact during the construction of the proposal.
  - g) A high-visibility temporary fence should be erected around the tree with a minimum two-metre buffer from the dripline of the tree.
  - h) The work crew should be made aware of the locations of the sites and the protection afforded to them under the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2003*.
- If changes are made to the proposed works which could impact locations outside of the proposed Development footprint disturbance area, further archaeological investigation may be required
- If any objects of suspected Aboriginal heritage origin are encountered during the proposed works, work in the area of the find should cease and the unexpected finds protocols (Appendix C) should be implemented.



- If suspected human remains are located during any stage of the proposed works, work must stop immediately, and the NSW police must be notified.

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## Appendix A: Database search results

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## AHIMS 5 Kilometer Buffer Search Result



### AHIMS Web Services (AWS) Extensive search - Site list report

Your Ref/PO Number : Glanmire\_5km\_KN2

Client Service ID : 699200

SiteID	SiteName	Datum	Zone	Easting	Northing	Context	Site Status **	SiteFeatures	SiteTypes	Reports
44-3-0108	BH-OS-1; Browns Hill Napoleon Reets; <a href="#">Contact</a>	AGD	55	754500	6297400	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -	Open Camp Site	
		<a href="#">Recorders</a>	Central West Archaeological and Heritage Services Pty Ltd							<a href="#">Permits</a>
44-3-0231	Salt Water Creek IF-2 <a href="#">Contact</a>	GDA	55	754321	6294548	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -		104280
		<a href="#">Recorders</a>	OzArk Environmental and Heritage Management - Dubbo, Doctor. Alyce Cameron							<a href="#">Permits</a>
44-3-0220	W20 A9 & W20 A13 - Artefact Relocation <a href="#">Contact</a>	GDA	55	752151	6300337	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -		
		<a href="#">Recorders</a>	OzArk Environmental and Heritage Management - Dubbo, Miss. Philippa Sokol							<a href="#">Permits</a>
44-3-0232	Salt Water Creek IF-1 <a href="#">Contact</a>	GDA	55	754055	6294493	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -		104280
		<a href="#">Recorders</a>	OzArk Environmental and Heritage Management - Dubbo, Doctor. Alyce Cameron							<a href="#">Permits</a>
44-3-0167	W20 A9 <a href="#">Contact</a>	GDA	55	752101	6300348	Open site	Destroyed	Artefact : 1		104298
		<a href="#">Recorders</a>	Navin Officer Heritage Consultants Pty Ltd, OzArk Environmental and Heritage Man							<a href="#">Permits</a> 3764
44-3-0233	Salt Water Creek OS-1 <a href="#">Contact</a>	GDA	55	754073	6294530	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -		104280
		<a href="#">Recorders</a>	OzArk Environmental and Heritage Management - Dubbo, Doctor. Alyce Cameron							<a href="#">Permits</a>
44-3-0168	W20 A10 <a href="#">Contact</a>	GDA	55	753118	6299525	Open site	Valid	Artefact : 1		
		<a href="#">Recorders</a>	Navin Officer Heritage Consultants Pty Ltd							<a href="#">Permits</a> 3764
44-3-0216	Stone fire pit Penrise <a href="#">Contact</a>	GDA	55	754307	6294842	Closed site	Valid	Aboriginal Ceremony and Dreaming : -, Grinding Groove : -		
		<a href="#">Recorders</a>	Mr. Jade Flynn, Wiradyuri Traditional Owners Central West (WTOCWAC)							<a href="#">Permits</a>

#### \*\* Site Status

**Valid** - The site has been recorded and accepted onto the system as valid.

**Destroyed** - The site has been completely impacted or harmed usually as consequence of permit activity but sometimes also after natural events. There is nothing left of the site on the ground but proponents should proceed with caution.

**Partially Destroyed** - The site has been only partially impacted or harmed usually as consequence of permit activity but sometimes also after natural events. There might be parts or sections of the original site still present on the ground.

**Not a site** - The site has been originally entered and accepted onto AHIMS as a valid site but after further investigations it was decided it is NOT an aboriginal site. Impact of this type of site does not require permit but Heritage NSW should be notified.

Report generated by AHIMS Web Service on 11/07/2022 for Anna Darby for the following area at Datum : GDA, Zone : 55, Eastings : 746148.0 - 756148.0, Northings : 6292029.0 - 6302029.0 with a Buffer of 0 meters.. Number of Aboriginal sites and Aboriginal objects found is 8

This information is not guaranteed to be free from error omission. Heritage NSW and its employees disclaim liability for any act done or omission made on the information and consequences of such acts or omission.

Page 1 of 1

## **Appendix B: Unanticipated Finds Protocol**

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### **Unanticipated Finds Protocol**

The protocol to be followed in the event previously unrecorded or unanticipated Aboriginal object(s) are encountered during the proposed works is as follows:

- All ground surface disturbance in the area of the finds should cease immediately the finds are uncovered.
- If the finds are of human remains, contact the police.
- Seek verification of the finds from a suitably qualified person, such as a heritage consultant.
- If the finds are verified or very likely to be Aboriginal in origin notify Heritage NSW and the relevant local Aboriginal community representatives.
- All finds should be professionally recorded and registered on appropriate databases.
- A management strategy will be required according to best practice and consultation with the local Aboriginal community. All management will require approval from the relevant determining authority.