



DOC22/951116-6

17 June 2023

Nestor Tsambos  
Department of Planning and Environment  
(via Major Projects Portal)

Dear Nestor,

**Tallawang Solar Farm (SSD-23700028)**  
**EPA comment on Amendment Report and Response to Submissions**

I refer to your invitation to the NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA) to provide comment on the Tallawang Solar Farm Amendment Report and Response to Submissions. The request relates to the construction, operation, and decommissioning of a 500MW solar farm with a 200MW Battery Energy Storage System and associated infrastructure.

The information provided indicates that the onsite proposal does not constitute a Scheduled Activity under Schedule 1 of the Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997 (POEO Act) and therefore will not require an Environment Protection Licence (EPL) under the POEO Act.

The project is situated within the Central West Orana Renewable Energy Zone (REZ). The EPA has recently been involved in discussions with the Department of Planning, the Premier's department and Infrastructure NSW relating to waste from REZ sites. The EPA has identified that there needs to be an overarching waste management strategy to manage the waste, which will require coordination with the affected Mid-Western Regional Council and nearby Dubbo Regional Council and Warrumbungle Shire Council. As part of this strategy, the EPA proposes conditions in **Attachment A** are added to the consent, which requires the proponent to develop a Waste and Resource Recovery Management Plan to manage the waste.

Additionally, the EPA would like to remind the proponent that a dangerous goods driver licence and a dangerous goods vehicle licence is required to transport higher risk wastes (classification of waste batteries should be applied in accordance with EPA's waste classification guidelines) and waste tracking requirements also apply. Additionally, compliance with relevant dangerous goods transport legislation is required when transporting batteries considered as dangerous goods (as per the *Dangerous Goods (Road and Rail Transport) Act 2008*).

The EPA recommends that you consult with Mid-Western Regional Council who will be the appropriate regulatory authority for the proposed development under the POEO Act if approved.

Based on the information provided, the EPA will require no further consultation.

If you have any further questions about this issue, please contact Gabby Sutherland on (02) 6640 2508 or at [environmentprotection.planning@epa.nsw.gov.au](mailto:environmentprotection.planning@epa.nsw.gov.au).

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gabby Sutherland', written in a cursive style.

**Unit Head – Environment Protection Planning**  
**NSW Environment Protection Authority**

**Attachment A – EPA recommended conditions:**

1. Waste generated during construction, operation, upgrading and decommissioning must be dealt with in accordance with the following priorities:
  - a. waste generation must be avoided and where avoidance is not reasonably practicable, waste generation must be reduced;
  - b. where avoiding or reducing waste is not possible, waste must be re-used, recycled, or recovered; and
  - c. where re-using, recycling or recovering waste is not possible, waste must be treated or disposed of.
2. The importation of waste and storage, treatment, processing, reprocessing or disposal of such waste must comply with the *Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997*, the *Protection of the Environment Operations (Waste) Regulation 2014*, and orders or exemptions under the regulation.
3. Waste must only be exported to a site licensed by the EPA for the storage, treatment, processing, reprocessing or disposal of the subject waste, or in accordance with a Resource Recovery Exemption or Order issued under the *Protection of the Environment Operations (Waste) Regulation 2014*, or to any other place that can lawfully accept such waste.
4. All waste that is removed from site must be classified in accordance with the EPA's *Waste Classification Guidelines*, with appropriate records and disposal dockets retained for audit purposes.
5. The Proponent shall prepare and implement a Waste and Resource Recovery Management Plan for the project to the satisfaction of the Secretary, prior to the commencement of operation. This program must:
  - a. be prepared in consultation with Mid-Western Regional Council, Dubbo Regional Council and Warrumbungle Shire Council;
  - b. be approved by the Secretary prior to commencement of operation; and include in the plan:
    - details of the quantity, type and source of waste received;
    - details of the quantity, type and quality of the waste produced and their intended fate;
    - details of the intended fates of all other waste and materials received/produced on site which are not suitable for re-use;
    - details of any materials produced which will require a specific Resource Recovery Order;
    - details of any materials produced under a Resource Recovery Order, and the controls/procedures in place for meeting the conditions of that order;
    - details of any testing/monitoring procedures;
    - details of how materials segregation will be achieved, particularly the segregation of contaminated soils and resource recovery materials.
    - The capability of the waste management facilities in Dubbo, Mid-western and Warrumbungle LGA's to accept the volumes of waste predicted to be deposited and any associated approvals required to create and/or expand waste storage or disposal facilities;
    - Any infrastructure that may be required at any waste facilities that are proposed to be created and/or expanded to receive additional volumes of waste from the project.