



Ms Elle Donnelley
Planner
Resource Assessments
Department of Planning & Environment
23-33 Bridge Street | GPO Box 39 SYDNEY NSW 2001

Dear Ms Donnelley

Riverina Solar Farm Project (SSD 7482) – EIS Exhibition

I refer to your email of 8 March 2016 requesting comments on the Environmental Property Services (Aust) Pty Ltd's Riverina Solar Farm Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) currently on exhibition.

NSW Department of Industry, Division of Resources & Energy (the Division) has reviewed the *Riverina Solar Farm EIS* dated 19 February 2016 and provides the following comments within its area of responsibility.

The proposal is located about 4 km southeast of Griffith. There are no known coal, mineral or extractive resources within or adjacent to the project area.

The Riverina Solar Farm is one of eight NSW solar farm projects that have been shortlisted for up to \$30 million of funding per project under the Australian Renewable Energy Agency's (ARENA).

The Division supports the Riverina Solar Farm as it aligns with Government policy to increase renewable energy generation, jobs and investment in the State. The solar farm project has an estimated capital investment value of \$62 million and is expected to inject considerable funds into the local community of Griffith and support up to 100 direct jobs and a further 350 indirect jobs.

Should you have any enquires regarding this matter please contact Steve Cozens, Senior Project Officer, Royalty & Advisory Services on 9842 8573.

Yours sincerely

Bryan Whitlock

A/Manager

Royalties & Advisory Services