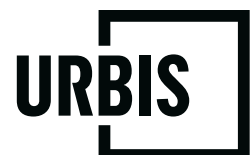




WEST NYANGAY SOLAR FARM

Scoping Engagement
Outcomes Report

Prepared for
AUSTRALIAN SOLAR FARMS
28 June 2024



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Report Number	Final v1

Urbis acknowledges the important contribution that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people make in creating a strong and vibrant Australian society.

We acknowledge, in each of our offices, the Traditional Owners on whose land we stand.

All information supplied to Urbis in order to conduct this research has been treated in the strictest confidence. It shall only be used in this context and shall not be made available to third parties without client authorisation. Confidential information has been stored securely and data provided by respondents, as well as their identity, has been treated in the strictest confidence and all assurance given to respondents have been and shall be fulfilled.

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1. INTRODUCTION

This Engagement Outcomes Report (Report) has been prepared by Urbis Ltd (Urbis) for Australian Solar Farms (ASF) to support a request for the Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARs) for a solar farm and Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) (the Project) at a site located in the Edward River Council Local Government Area (LGA). The site is approximately south of the nearest town of Hay, 70 km north of Deniliquin and 95 km north-east of the Victorian border.

ASF has engaged Urbis Planning to assist with the development of a Scoping Report and manage other technical specialists as part of that process.

1.1. PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND OVERVIEW

Australian Solar Farms is preparing to lodge a request for SEARs from the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (DPHI) to develop a solar farm and Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) near Boorooban.

The proposal, known as West Nyangay Solar Farm, directly supports Australia's 2030 emission reduction targets, NSW's transition to net-zero emissions by 2050 and aligns with the NSW Large-Scale Solar Energy Guideline as well as objectives in the Riverina Murray Regional Plan (2041) and the Edward River Council Local Strategic Planning Statement.

The site sits within the South-West Renewable Energy Zone (REZ), which is expected to generate up to \$2.8 billion in private investment and support more than 2,000 construction jobs across the region.

The proposal will contribute to the stability and reliability of the electricity network in the region. It will store energy during periods of low demand, including those from intermittent renewable sources. It will also dispatch energy during periods of peak demand.

Detailed plans for the site will be developed with respect to all physical and environmental considerations and the outcomes of community consultation.

Once operational, the proposal is expected to deliver a solar farm with approximately 800 MWac capacity of solar photovoltaic (PV) and a BESS with a capacity of 500 MWac. It will provide clean and safe electricity and provide the community with positive social infrastructure that benefits future generations.

Features of the proposed solar farm include:

- Around 1,500,000 solar panels, ground mounted on single axis tracking systems.
- 166 inverter/transformer stations across the site.
- An on-site 330 kV substation connected to the solar farm.
- The solar farm will export energy into the grid via the existing Darlington Point to Balranald transmission line which runs through the site.

1.2. THE SITE

The proposed West Nyangay Solar Farm is located along the Cobb Highway in Boorooban, NSW, and is approximately 5,500 hectares set across 41 lots.

The site is located within the South-West Renewable Energy Zone (REZ). It was strategically selected due to the 220 kV transmission line that intersects the site in a general north-east to south-west alignment through the northwest of the site.

The site is mostly grassland and is currently used for agricultural activities, particularly sheep grazing.

1.2.1. The surrounding locality

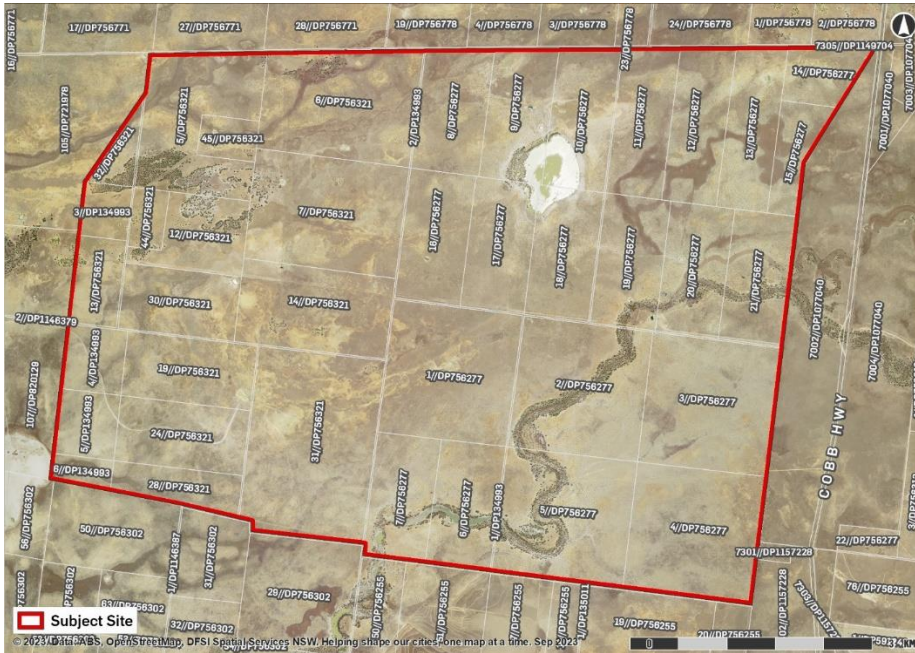
The surrounding properties and land use is described below:

- **North:** Pastures for grazing. The town of Hay is located approximately 40 km to the north of the site.

- **East:** The Cobb Highway is to the east of the site and runs in a north-south direction. The Woodland Nature Reserve sits approximately 13 km southeast of the site.
- **South:** Land used for grazing, with some irrigated pastures and croplands. The rural settlement of Booroorban sits approximately 3km south from the site. The town of Deniliquin sits approximately 70km south of the subject site.
- **West:** Predominantly grazing farmlands.

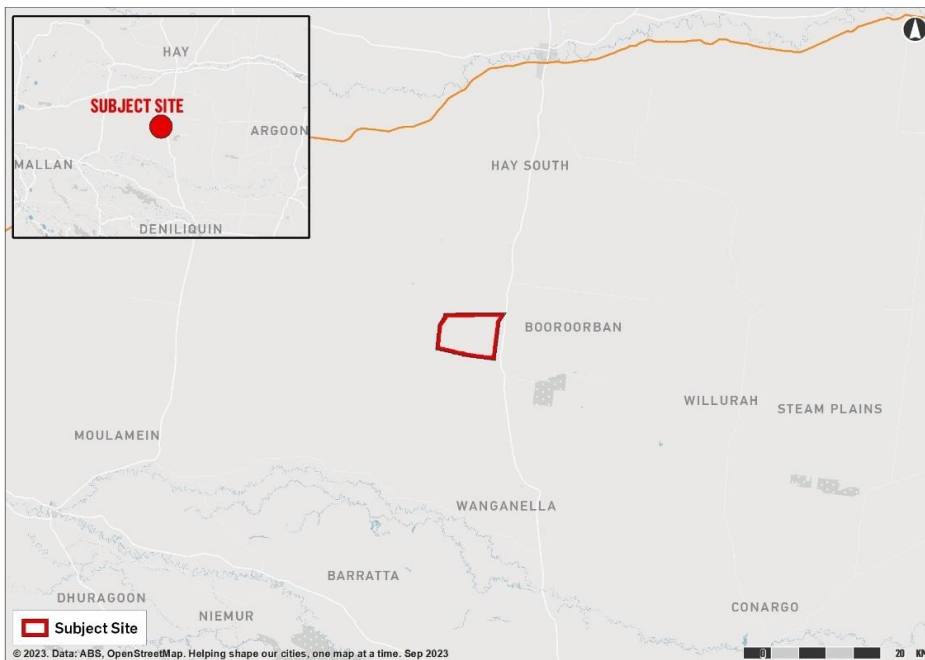
A desktop review of aerial photography has identified no dwellings in close proximity to the site.

Figure 1 Site aerial



Source: Urbis

Figure 2 Site location



Source: Urbis

1.2.2. Renewable energy developments in the region

There are at least 5 other renewable energy projects within the suburbs of Booroorban and Hay. These include:

- The Paraway Pastoral Company Mungadal Station Wind Farm – neighbouring the site.
- The Plains Solar Farm – approximately 4km from site
- The Plains Wind Farm – approximately 11km from site
- The Saltbush Wind Farm – approximately 13km from the site.
- Pottinger Energy Park – approximately 35km from site
- Hay Solar Farm – approximately 35km from site

2. COMMUNITY AND STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY

This section outlines the engagement activities delivered from May to June 2024.

The purpose of engagement is to raise community and stakeholder awareness of, and invite feedback on, the Project. This engagement methodology and its outcomes have been informed and are consistent with the NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (DPHI's) *State Significant Development Guidelines – Preparing a Scoping Report* and the *Undertaking Engagement Guidelines for State Significant Projects*.

The approach to consultation with community stakeholders was informed by Urbis Engagement's previous experience on solar farm projects and feedback from the site's landowner.

In addition, we note there are 5 solar farm projects within a 35km radius of the site, as outlined in 1.2.2.

To manage the potential risk of consultation fatigue especially for the small communities of Booroorban and Hay, the engagement approach included:

- Prioritising close neighbours to ensure that those most impacted or interested in the Project received access to information through a number of communication channels.
- Leveraging locally known and valued communication channels to bring awareness to the project.
- Proactively communicating information about the planning pathway and opportunities to provide feedback via phone, email and local newspapers.
- Responding to enquiries in a timely manner through ongoing management of project enquiry lines (phone and email).

2.1. ENGAGEMENT APPROACH

The engagement approach was adapted from the International Association of Public Participation's (IAP2) Public Participation spectrum. The spectrum (Figure 2) describes goals for public participation and the corresponding promise to the public.

For this Report, the engagement objective aligned to the goal of informing and consulting with stakeholders and the community. This means our objective was to obtain public feedback on the proposal.

Figure 2 IAP2 Public Participation spectrum

	INFORM	CONSULT	INVOLVE	COLLABORATE	EMPOWER
GOAL	To provide the public with balanced and objective information to assist them in understanding the problem, alternatives, opportunities and/or solutions	To obtain public feedback on analysis alternatives and/or decisions	To work directly with the public throughout the process to ensure that public concerns and aspirations are consistently understood and considered.	To partner with the public in each aspect of the decision including the development of alternatives and the identification of the preferred solution.	To place final decision-making in the hands of the public.
PROMISE	We will keep you informed.	We will keep you informed, listen to and acknowledge concerns and aspirations, and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision.	We will work with you to ensure that your concerns and aspirations are directly reflected in the alternatives developed and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision.	We will look to you for advice and innovation in formulating solutions and incorporate your advice and recommendations into the decisions to the maximum extent possible.	We will implement what you decide.

Source: IAP2

To achieve these objectives, the engagement approach involved:

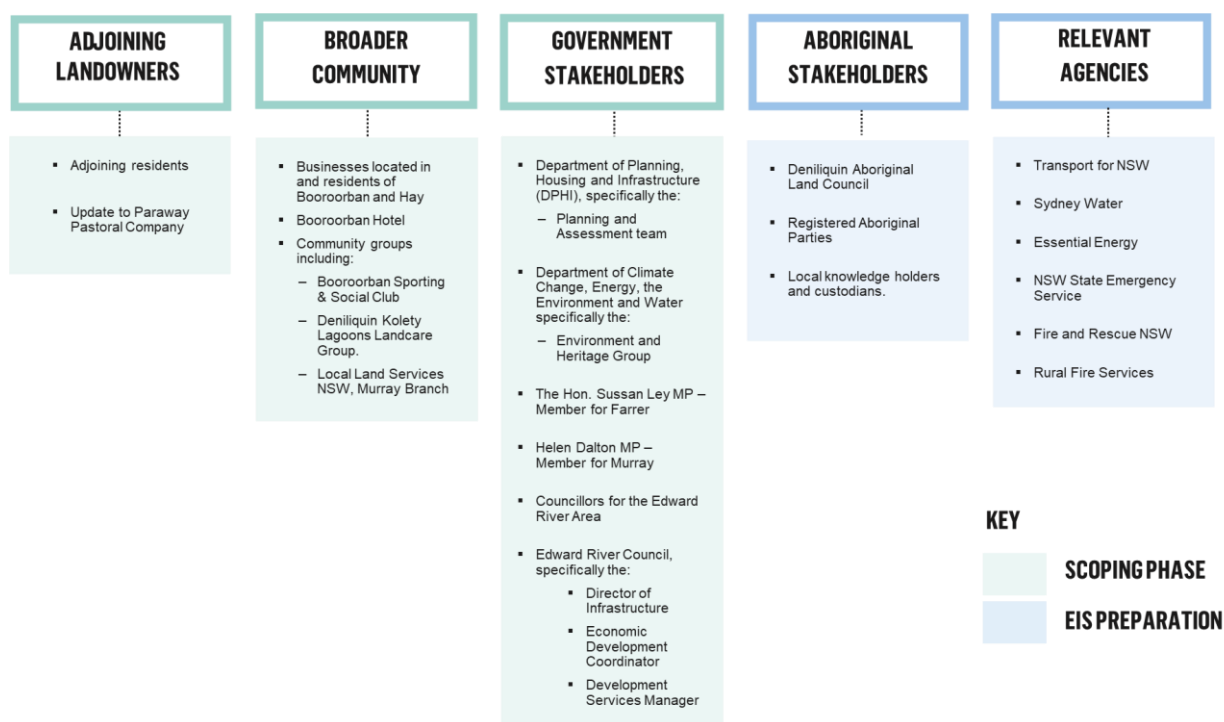
- Providing consistent, relevant, jargon-free and up-to-date information on the proposal, impacts, benefits, and the planning report process through accessible, tailored open lines of communication.
- Providing methods for monitoring and opportunities for the community to give feedback to help inform the planning process.
- Responding appropriately and in a timely manner to concerns or questions raised by the community and stakeholders throughout the lifecycle of the project.
- Facilitating information flow to the project team by establishing working relationships to ensure stakeholder and community views and local knowledge are appropriately incorporated into the design of the project.
- Managing expectations by closing the feedback loop through sharing how stakeholder and community views influenced the proposal.

2.2. STAKEHOLDERS

As outlined in the *Undertaking Engagement Guidelines for State Significant Projects*, DPHI defines stakeholders as community, relevant agencies, landowners, land users and stakeholders involved in prospective resource developments.

Based on levels of impact and/or interest, we have separated stakeholders into four categories as shown in the figure below.

Figure 3 Stakeholder categorisation



2.2.1. NSW DPHI

Urbis Planning and ASF held a scoping meeting with NSW DPHI on 8 July 2024.

2.2.2. Edward River Council

Urbis Planning and ASF were responsible for consultation with Edward River Council.

The focus of the consultation was determining the site's suitability for a solar farm development, Council's preferred options for the community benefit sharing scheme, and any other considerations that may need to be addressed by the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

2.2.3. Publicly elected officials

Urbis Engagement was responsible for consultation with publicly elected officials at the local, state and federal levels.

This category includes councillors for the Edward River area, the State MP for the Murray electorate, Helen Dalton MP, and the Federal MP for the Murray electorate, The Hon. Syssan Ley MP.

The focus of the consultation was providing summary information about the project, seeking feedback and bringing awareness to potential community enquiries that they may receive.

2.2.4. Community

Urbis Engagement was responsible for engagement with near neighbours of the site and the broader community in the Hay and Edward River areas. The approach to consultation with community stakeholders was informed by Urbis Engagement's previous experience on solar farm projects and feedback from the site's landowner.

Adjoining landowners

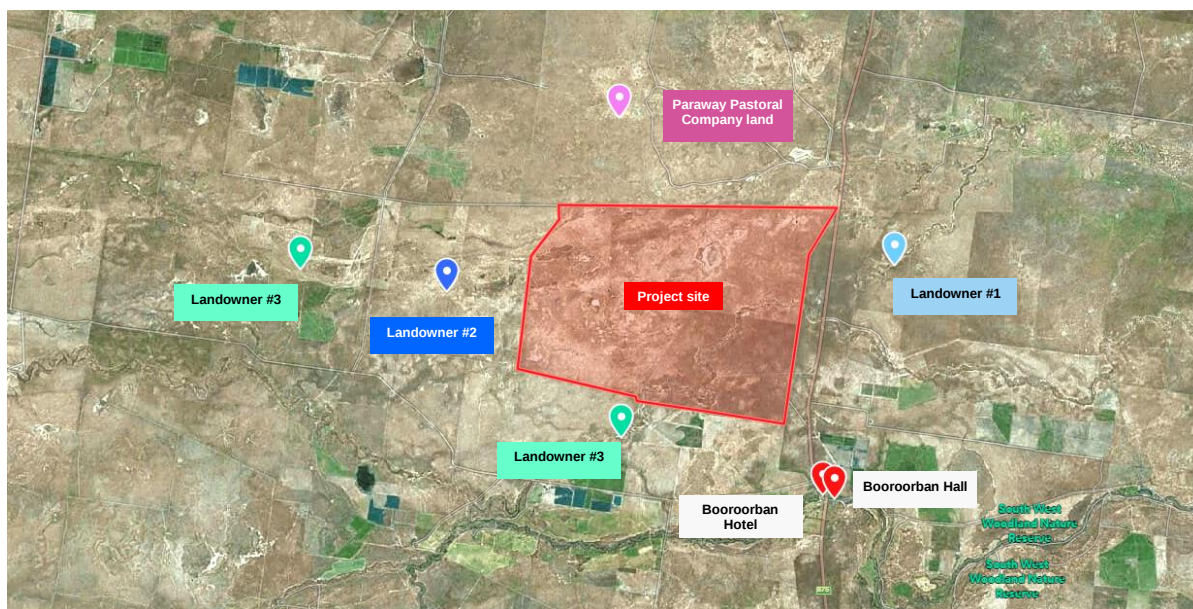
Adjoining landowners were identified with the landowner of the project site and based on likely impact or interest during construction and operation. These likely impacts and/or areas of interest were identified as:

- Increased traffic and impact on local road conditions (during construction)

- Visual impacts (including changes to visual amenity glint and glare).
- Environmental impacts (including weed/land management during operation).
- Construction impacts including noise, vibration and dust.
- Operational impacts, such as maintenance.

Land belonging to adjoining landowners is marked out in Figure 4 below.

Figure 4 Adjoining landowners



Community groups

Community groups were identified with the landowner and based on their proximity to the proposed solar farm or due to their existing interest in sustainable development in the region.

These groups included the Boooroban Sporting & Social Club, the Deniliquin Kolety Lagoons Landcare Group and the Murray Branch of Local Land Services NSW.

2.3. ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

Engagement activities across the community and key stakeholders throughout the planning process are included in the table below. Feedback from this consultation is included in Section 3 of this report. *The following engagement activities were undertaken in addition to the consultation to support the scoping report.*

Table 1 Summary of engagement activities

Engagement activity	Target stakeholder	Description and reach
Phone calls and letters to adjoining landowners (4) 	Adjoining landowners	On 3 June 2024, Urbis Engagement called adjoining landowners to notify them about the project and ask if they had any immediate questions or concerns. Urbis Engagement followed up with landowners who did not respond initially with another phone call on 5 June 2024.

Engagement activity	Target stakeholder	Description and reach
Adjoining landowner letter 	Adjoining landowners	A letter addressed to the adjoining landowners was shared via email on 3 June 2024. The letter provided summary information about the project and offered the opportunity to meet with the project team.
Distribution of project information via email 	Edward River Council – Councillors Publicly elected officials – State and Federal Member Community groups	On 6 June 2024, Urbis Engagement contacted Mayor Betts and all Councillors for Edward River Council via email to provide information about the project and provide the opportunity for these stakeholders to ask questions or provide feedback. This email also indicated future opportunities to provide feedback during preparation of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). On 6 June 2024, Urbis Engagement contacted the State Member for Farrer, Helen Dalton MP and the Federal Member for Murray, The Hon Sussan Ley MP to provide information about the proposal and provide the opportunity for these stakeholders to ask questions or provide feedback. This email also indicated future opportunities to provide feedback during preparation of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). On 12 June 2024, Urbis Engagement contacted the community groups outlined in Section 2.2 above to provide information about the proposal and provide the opportunity for these stakeholders to ask questions or provide feedback. This email also indicated future opportunities to provide feedback during preparation of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).
Local media advertisements 	Broader Hay and Deniliquin communities	Advertisements were placed in two (2) of local newspapers, the <i>Riverine Grazier</i> and the <i>Deniliquin Pastoral Times</i>. The advertisements highlighted the location of the project site, provided summary information about the project and invited feedback. The advertisements also indicated future opportunities to provide feedback during preparation of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).
Enquiry management through 1800 number and email address 	All stakeholders	Urbis Engagement received one (1) phone call and one (1) email through the project enquiry lines. Urbis Engagement will continue to maintain these enquiry lines whilst awaiting SEARs and during preparation of the EIS.

3. ISSUES RAISED

The following table outlines the issues raised by all stakeholders including Government authorities, relevant agencies and the community and the project response.

Table 2 Detailed feedback and project response

Stakeholder	How this group was consulted	Feedback	Project response
Government authorities			
DPHI, specifically the Planning and Assessment Team	Urbis' Planning team, ASF and the relevant technical consultants held a scoping meeting with DPHI on 8 July 2024.	Compliance with assessment requirements DPHI clarified that the EIS must meet the requirements of the Large-Scale Solar Farm Guidelines and appropriate assessment requirements.	Noted. The EIS will address the requirements of the Large-Scale Solar Farm Guidelines and appropriate assessment requirements.
		Crown lands DPHI noted that if the development is located close to Crown Roads, ASF may need to seek consent from Crown Lands, as there may be active Native Claims or Titles.	Noted. Based on the outcomes of the heritage investigations, ASF consent from Crown Lands if required.
		Traffic generation DPHI indicated that ASF should try to avoid causing any additional traffic or congestion on local roads.	Noted. A Traffic Impact Assessment (TIA) will be prepared for the project. The TIA will assess potential impacts on local roads and suggest mitigation measures.
		Potential biodiversity impacts	Noted. The solar farm will be designed to avoid serious and

Stakeholder	How this group was consulted	Feedback	Project response
		DPHI expressed general support for the location of the proposed solar farm but noted that it will need to be carefully designed to avoid serious and irreversible impacts on animal and plant populations.	irreversible impacts on animal and plant populations.
		Aboriginal heritage considerations DPHI noted that Aboriginal Heritage considerations and noise impacts are known to cause project delays for solar farms.	The EIS will include an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report (ACHAR) that assesses impacts on heritage items and proposes mitigation measures.
		Workforce accommodation DPHI noted that camp accommodation for workers may be the most feasible option.	Noted. ASF will explore temporary, camp-style accommodation for workers as planning progresses.
		Waste and water management DPHI noted that Council may be concerned about waste and water considerations.	The EIS will include an assessment of the solar farm’s water usage and waste generation.
Edward River Council			
Relevant Council staff, including: Simone Hughes – Coordinator Economic Development	Urbis’ Planning team and ASF met with the relevant Council staff from Edward River Council on 28 May 2024. Urbis provided Edward River Council with verbal and written information about the	Drainage and potential hydrology impacts Council indicated that the project site experiences poor water drainage and has the potential to	The EIS will address this constraint and a hydrology report will be considered.

Stakeholder	How this group was consulted	Feedback	Project response
- Mark Dalzell – Director of Infrastructure - Marie Sutton – Manager Development Services	project in the form of a brochure and sought early feedback on the preliminary plans.	become waterlogged when there is heavy rain.	The project design will respond to the flood-prone nature of the land.
		Community benefit sharing Council indicated that they would prefer to pursue benefit-sharing arrangements through a letter of intent rather than a Virtual Planning Agreement (VPA). Council also expressed a preference to receive an up-front payment as a developer contribution in addition to the community benefit sharing requirements of the tender. Possible contributions to retirement housing and/or an airport extension was also discussed.	Urbis Planning and EIS will continue to engage with Council on how best to meet their expectations and the requirements of the tender.
		General support Council expressed general support for the project and indicated that a solar farm in the area would aid in diversifying the grid.	Noted.
		Worker accommodation Council provided advice related to the options and availability of	Noted. Should the project be approved, ASF will re-engage with Council to discuss appropriate accommodation options

Stakeholder	How this group was consulted	Feedback	Project response
		accommodation for future construction workers.	
		Impact on agricultural land uses Council indicated that the land is currently used for sheep grazing, and expressed that the use of the site as a solar farm is compatible with continuing agricultural activity.	Noted.
		Waste management Council expressed their concerns about the disposal of the panels during the decommissioning phase as there is limited space in Council's waste management facilities.	Noted. ASF will include a Waste Impact Assessment in the EIS.
		Community engagement Council explained that renewable energy projects are not currently a priority for the community, but reinforced the importance of keeping the community appropriately informed throughout every project phase.	Noted. Urbis Engagement will continue to keep the community and key stakeholders informed throughout every project phase.

Stakeholder	How this group was consulted	Feedback	Project response
		Ecological impacts Council indicated that the site may be a habitat for the Plains-wanderer bird species.	Noted. A Biodiversity Assessment will be included in the EIS.
		Increased fire risk Council enquired about the sites fire protection and how it would protect the community and local farmers.	The solar farm will be designed to meet or exceed the relevant Fire Safety standards. A Bushfire Risk Assessment will be included in the EIS.
		Other Council advised that a freight railway from Melbourne could be an option for construction deliveries in the future.	Noted – ASF will explore this option if the project receives approval.
Publicly elected officials			
Mayor and Councillors for the Edward River Area	On 6 June 2024, Urbis contacted Mayor Betts and Councillors via email to provide an overview of the proposal, including an invitation to speak directly with the project team and details on how to reach out.	No response has been received from the Mayor or Councillors to date.	Urbis Engagement will continue to keep the Mayor and Councillors for the Edward River Area informed if there are any updates or changes to the proposal.
State MP – Helen Dalton, Member for Murray	On 6 June 2024, Urbis contacted Helen Dalton, State Member for Murray via email to provide an overview of the proposal, including an invitation to speak directly with	No response has been received from the State Member for Murray to date.	Urbis Engagement will continue to consult with the State Member for Murray throughout each stage of the project.

Stakeholder	How this group was consulted	Feedback	Project response
	the project team and details on how to reach out.		
Federal MP – Sussan Ley, Member for Farrer	On 6 June 2024, Urbis contacted Sussan Ley, Member for Farrer via email to provide an overview of the proposal, including an invitation to speak directly with the project team and details on how to reach out	No response has been received from the Federal Member for Farrer to date.	Urbis Engagement will continue to consult with the Federal Member for Farrer throughout each stage of the project.
Community			
Near neighbours (including the Paraway Pastoral Company)	On 3 June 2024, Urbis contacted each of the site's neighbours via phone to provide summary information about the project and invite them to attend a meeting with the project team. None of the neighbours were available via phone on 3 June. Urbis Engagement also emailed neighbours on 3 June 2024, providing an overview of the proposal and inviting them to attend a meeting with the project team. A letter providing additional detail about the proposal was attached to the email. Urbis phoned each neighbour again on 5 June 2024 and successfully spoke with three of the four neighbours. No email responses from the sites' near neighbours have been received to date.	Each of the neighbours reached via phone on 5 June 2024 indicated that they will consider the need for a meeting with the project team.	Urbis Engagement will continue to consult with near neighbours at each stage of the project.

Stakeholder	How this group was consulted	Feedback	Project response
Broader Hay and Edward River communities	Urbis Engagement placed advertisements about the project in two (2) of the local papers, the <i>Riverine Grazier</i> and the <i>Deniliquin Pastoral Times</i> on Wednesday June 5 and Friday 7 June respectively. The advertisements highlighted the location of the project site, provided summary information about the project and invited feedback. The advertisements also indicated future opportunities to provide feedback during preparation of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).	On 7 June 2024, a member of the community contacted Urbis Engagement via email to confirm the total development footprint and confirm whether an EIS had been prepared.	On 7 June 2024, Urbis Engagement responded to this email, indicating that 2,000 hectares of the 5,000-hectare site will be developed. The email indicated that Australian Solar Farms will prepare an EIS once the SEARs are received. The project team also clarified that the proposal was for a solar farm not a wind farm. The community member confirmed receipt of Urbis’ reply on 8 June.
		On 15 June 2024, Urbis received a phone call from a community member enquiring as to whether ASF is hiring construction workers.	Urbis Engagement explained that the project is still at an early stage and construction would only commence once the project has been approved. Urbis Engagement shared this community member’s contact details with ASF.
Community groups			
Boooroorban Sporting & Social Club	On 12 June 2024, Urbis contacted Boooroorban Sporting & Social Club via email to provide an overview of the proposal, including an invitation to speak	No response has been received from Boooroorban Sporting & Social Club to date.	Urbis Engagement will continue to keep the Boooroorban Sporting & Social Club informed as plans for the West Nyangay solar farm progress.

Stakeholder	How this group was consulted	Feedback	Project response
	directly with the project team and details on how to contact the relevant people.		
Deniliquin Kolety Lagoons Landcare Group	On 12 June 2024, Urbis contacted Deniliquin Kolety Lagoons Landcare Group via email to provide an overview of the proposal, including an invitation to speak directly with the project team and details on how contact the relevant people.	No response has been received from Deniliquin Kolety Lagoons Landcare Group to date.	Urbis Engagement will continue to keep the Deniliquin Kolety Lagoons Landcare Group informed as plans for the West Nyangay solar farm progress.
NSW Local Land Services, Murray Branch	On 12 June 2024, Urbis contacted Local Land Services via email to provide an overview of the proposal, including an invitation to speak directly with the project team and details on how to reach out.	No response has been received from Local Land Services to date.	Urbis Engagement will continue to keep Local Land Services informed as plans for the West Nyangay solar farm progress.

4. FUTURE COMMUNITY AND STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

Australian Solar Farms continues to welcome feedback on the proposal and will continue to be available to answer community questions as the project processes. Australian Solar Farms will continue to keep stakeholders and the community informed of the project approval process through the exhibition and determination phases by:

- Continuing to engage with the community about the project, its impacts, and the approval process. This has been enabled through public communication via the ASF website about the project.
- Enabling the community to seek clarification about the project through the two-way communication channels (phone and email).
- Undertaking further community engagement once the SEARs have been formally received, including establishing a project website.

Should the proposal be approved by DPPI, Australian Solar Farms will continue to consult with the community and stakeholders as this approach is developed to ensure any community concerns or feedback in relation to workforce accommodation and travel is addressed as part of the Strategy and project development.

DISCLAIMER

This report is dated 28 June 2024 and incorporates information and events up to that date only and excludes any information arising, or event occurring, after that date which may affect the validity of Urbis Ltd (**Urbis**) opinion in this report. Urbis prepared this report on the instructions, and for the benefit only, of Australian Solar Farms (**Instructing Party**) for the purpose of Engagement Outcomes Report (**Purpose**) and not for any other purpose or use. To the extent permitted by applicable law, Urbis expressly disclaims all liability, whether direct or indirect, to the Instructing Party which relies or purports to rely on this report for any purpose other than the Purpose, and to any other person which relies or purports to rely on this report for any purpose whatsoever (including the Purpose).

In preparing this report, Urbis was required to make judgements which may be affected by unforeseen future events, the likelihood and effects of which are not capable of precise assessment.

All surveys, forecasts, projections and recommendations contained in or associated with this report are made in good faith and on the basis of information supplied to Urbis at the date of this report, and upon which Urbis relied. Achievement of the projections and budgets set out in this report will depend, among other things, on the actions of others over which Urbis has no control.

In preparing this report, Urbis may rely on or refer to documents in a language other than English, which Urbis may arrange to be translated. Urbis is not responsible for the accuracy or completeness of such translations and disclaims any liability for any statement or opinion made in this report being inaccurate or incomplete arising from such translations.

Whilst Urbis has made all reasonable inquiries it believes necessary in preparing this report, it is not responsible for determining the completeness or accuracy of information provided to it. Urbis (including its officers and personnel) is not liable for any errors or omissions, including in information provided by the Instructing Party or another person or upon which Urbis relies, provided that such errors or omissions are not made by Urbis recklessly or in bad faith.

This report has been prepared with due care and diligence by Urbis and the statements and opinions given by Urbis in this report are given in good faith and in the reasonable belief that they are correct and not misleading, subject to the limitations above.

APPENDIX A PROJECT BROCHURE

PROPOSED WEST NYANGAY SOLAR FARM

June 2024



Australian Solar Farms is an emerging renewable energy developer that specialises in solar and battery development.

Australian Solar Farms is proposing to develop land along the Cobb Highway in Booroorban into a large-scale solar farm, currently anticipated to generate around 800 MWac of electricity. If approved, the project will also consist of a large Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) for energy storage on site.

The energy generated from the solar farm will be exported into the grid via an existing transmission line that runs through the site.

Australian Solar Farms has commissioned Urbis to prepare a scoping report, which will provide summary information about the proposal and will describe the main site challenges that will need to be addressed during the planning process. It is anticipated that the scoping report will be lodged with the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (DPHI) in late June 2024.

Australian Solar Farms is consulting with close neighbours, the community and Edward River Shire Council to ensure stakeholder feedback is addressed at every step of the planning process.

LOCATION OF THE WEST NYANGAY SOLAR FARM

The proposed West Nyangay Solar Farm is located along the Cobb Highway in Booroorban, NSW. The site is approximately 5,500 hectares, but development will only occur on 2,000 hectares of land.

Australian Solar Farms has been strategic in choosing this location, because it is within the South-West Renewable

Energy Zone (REZ) and is serviced by a 220 kV transmission line that intersects the site.

It is currently used for sheep grazing and associated agricultural activities, and it will continue to be used for this purpose if the solar farm is approved. The site benefits from high solar irradiance and is relatively flat and clear of vegetation.



BENEFITS OF A SOLAR FARM



Creates clean, renewable electricity, contributing to the NSW Government's renewable energy targets.



Faster to install than any other renewable energy options.



Reduces local and national Carbon Dioxide (CO2) emissions.



Facilitates agricultural activity to continue as sheep can graze between panels.



Ensures land use can re-adapt to grazing purposes if and when the solar farm is disassembled.

OUR COMMITMENTS

By engaging with stakeholders throughout the entirety of the planning process, we aim to achieve a positive balance of social, environmental, and economic outcomes in planning for the West Nyangay Solar Farm. Australian Solar Farms is committed to minimising impacts on the community through:

RESPECTING OUR COMMUNITY



Benefit sharing is best practice for renewable energy projects in NSW and around Australia. Australian Solar Farms is actively looking at opportunities to share the benefits of the project with the wider community.

CARING FOR OUR SURROUNDS



We will assess impacts on the natural environment and determine preservation measures. Environmental assessments will include bushfire, archaeology, visual impact, glint and glare, acoustics, biodiversity, traffic and landscaping.

PROTECTING EXISTING WILDLIFE AND VEGETATION



We will design the solar farm to ensure panels are positioned in the best possible way to minimise impacts on existing wildlife and vegetation. This would include protecting high-value trees, waterways and archaeological items.

MANAGING FIRE RISK

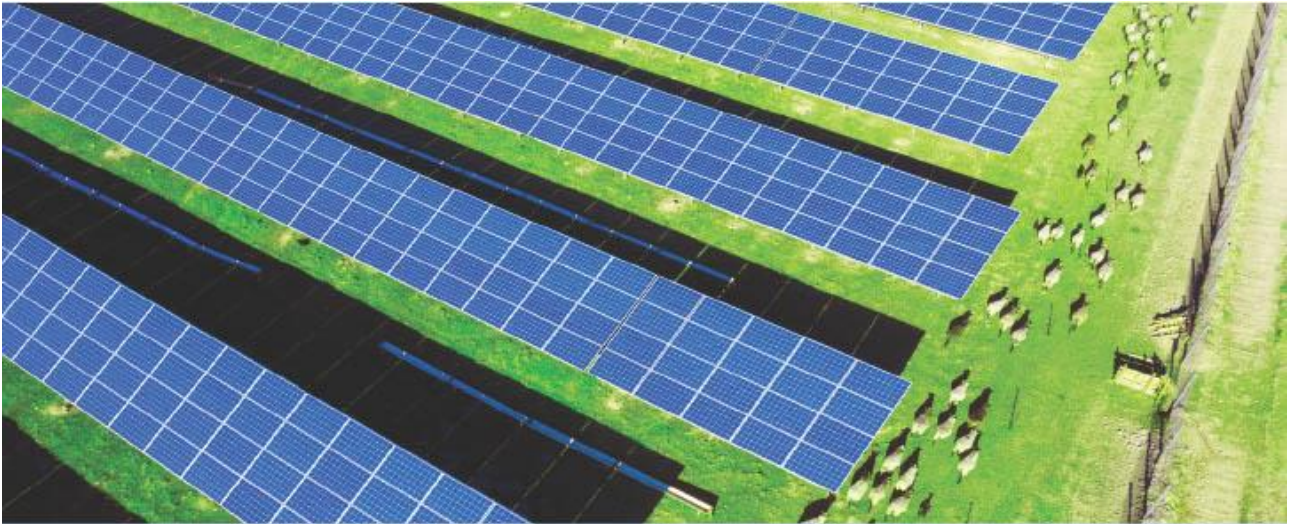


The solar farm will be designed to the highest fire safety standard possible, following Fire and Rescue NSW design guidelines. Measures to reduce fire risk include requiring cleared vegetation zones, including fire breaks between panel arrays, and strict vegetation management plans.

WORKING WITH THE TRADITIONAL OWNERS



We will be working with the Traditional Owners to prepare a Cultural Heritage Management Plan to mitigate any impacts of the development on tangible and non-tangible Aboriginal cultural heritage elements of the site.



THE PLANNING PATHWAY AND NEXT STEPS

THE PLANNING PATHWAY

-  Australian Solar Farms has engaged Urbis to prepare a scoping report for the project, which will be submitted to DPHI as part of their request for the Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARs).
-  **WE ARE HERE**
 Before requesting SEARs, we are engaging with key stakeholders including Council, the community, and publicly elected officials.
-  Feedback received from stakeholders will be collated in a Consultation Outcomes Report and will be included in the request for SEARs.
-  Once the SEARs have been issued, further consultation will be undertaken as part of the State Significant Development Application process.
-  We expect a formal application will be lodged at the end of 2024. DPHI will then publicly exhibit the proposal.
-  We are expecting a determination within 6-9 months of lodging the SSDA.



WORKING WITH THE LOCAL COMMUNITY

Australian Solar Farms is taking the first steps in a long-term planning process. However, we understand that the community will be interested to understand the timeframes for construction.

Australian Solar Farms is planning to construct the solar farm in four stages. Each stage will take approximately 12 months.

If the project is approved, we will prepare a detailed construction management plan that outlines measures to mitigate impacts on the surrounding community. This includes managing traffic, noise and dust. A traffic impact assessment will also be prepared, which will suggest measures to minimise the impact of construction on the local road network.

DURING OPERATION

Visual impact and glint and glare will be carefully managed through landscaping around the site so that visibility of the proposed solar farm is limited for the site's neighbours.

Australian Solar Farms will work with neighbours on a suitable approach once it begins preparing its proposed design.

CONTACT THE TEAM

Incorporating local views and knowledge into the design of the West Nyangay Solar Farm is a priority for Australian Solar Farms.

Australian Solar Farms has commissioned Urbis Engagement to collect feedback and manage enquiries. You can contact the team on:

You can reach the team on:

 1800 244 863

 engagement@urbis.com.au



APPENDIX B PROJECT ADVERTISEMENT – RIVERINE GRAZIER

PROPOSED NEW SOLAR FARM IN BOOROORBAN

Australian Solar Farms, an emerging renewable energy developer, is proposing to develop land along the Cobb Highway in Booroorban into a new large-scale solar farm. This solar farm will be known as the West Nyangay Solar Farm.

If approved, the project will include arrays of ground-mounted solar panels in rows across the site, and the installation of a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS), which will store the energy generated by the solar panels. This energy will be exported into the grid via a transmission line that runs through the site.



Australian Solar Farms has strategically chosen this location because it is within the South-West Renewable Energy Zone (REZ) and is serviced by a 220 kV transmission line. They are currently undertaking the relevant studies to assess the site's suitability for this kind of development, and are consulting with close neighbours, the community and Edward River Shire Council to ensure early feedback is considered through the planning process.

The project is still in the very early stages of development, and over the next several years, there will be ongoing community engagement throughout the assessment process.

Australian Solar Farms has commissioned Urbis Engagement to collect feedback from the community. You can contact Urbis Engagement by phone or email:

- 1800 244 863
- engagement@urbis.com.au

About Australian Solar Farms: Australian Solar Farms consists of a group of investors that specialise in solar and battery development. Working with the community, Australian Solar Farms wants to contribute to a sustainable future and a positive social impact.

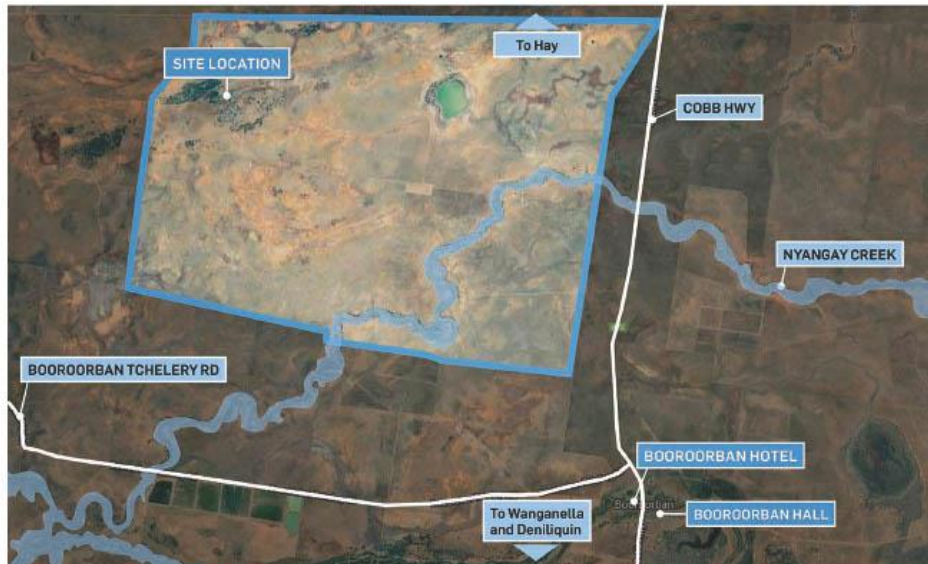
APPENDIX C PROJECT ADVERTISEMENT – DENILIQUN PASTORAL TIMES

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