

Social Impact Assessment (SIA) Worksheet

Project name: West Nyangay Solar Farm

Date: 25-07-2024

CATEGORIES OF SOCIAL IMPACTS	POTENTIAL IMPACTS ON PEOPLE		PREVIOUS INVESTIGATION OF IMPACT	CUMULATIVE IMPACTS	ELEMENTS OF IMPACTS - Based on preliminary investigation						ASSESSMENT LEVEL FOR EACH IMPACT	PROJECT REFINEMENT			MITIGATION / ENHANCEMENT MEASURES			
	What impacts are likely, and what concerns/aspirations have people expressed about the impact? Summarise how each relevant stakeholder group might experience the impact. NB. Where there are multiple stakeholder groups affected differently by an impact, or more than one impact from the activity, please add an additional row.	Is the impact expected to be positive or negative?	Has this impact previously been investigated (on this or other project/s)?		If "yes - this project," briefly describe the previous investigation. If "yes - other project," identify the other project and investigation.	Will this impact combine with others from this project (think about when and where), and/or with impacts from other projects (cumulative)?	If yes, identify which other impacts and/or projects.	Will the project activity (without mitigation or enhancement) cause a material social impact in terms of its: <small>You can also consider the various magnitudes of these characteristics</small>					Level of assessment for each social impact	What methods and data sources will be used to investigate this impact?			Has the project been refined in response to preliminary impact evaluation or stakeholder feedback?	
								extent (i.e. number of people potentially affected)?	duration of expected impacts? (i.e. construction vs operational phase)	intensity of expected impacts (i.e. scale or degree of change)?	sensitivity or vulnerability of people potentially affected?	level of concern/interest of people potentially affected?		Secondary data		Primary Data - Consultation		Primary Data - Research
community	Changes to the visual landscape and character, including glint and glare impacts.	Negative	Yes - other project	Plains Solar Farm SIA, Romani Solar Farm Scoping SIA, Saltbush Wind Farm Scoping SIA	Yes	Plains Renewable Energy Park, Romani Solar Farm, Saltbush Wind Farm, Pottinger Wind Farm	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Unknown	Detailed	Required - Visual Impact Assessment, Glint and Glare Assessment	SIA Consultation	Targeted research	No	Ongoing Engagement with local community and adjacent stakeholders, no preliminary concerns raised. Significant landscaping any impacted areas as modelled by the Visual Impact Assessment.	
livelihoods	Difficulty for ongoing agricultural practices due to the presence of extensive PV arrays.	Negative	Yes - other project	Plains Solar Farm EIS, Romani Solar Farm Scoping Report, Saltbush Wind Farm Scoping Report	No	Plains Renewable Energy Park, Romani Solar Farm, Saltbush Wind Farm, Pottinger Wind Farm	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Unknown	Detailed	Required - Agricultural Impact Assessment	SIA Consultation	Targeted research	Yes	Landowner reasonably compensated for the loss of land. Agricultural activities proposed to remain onsite (sheep grazing) due to compatibility with solar panels.	
surroundings	Impacts on soil properties during construction and operation, which may limit water and nutrient availability for agricultural practices.	Negative	Yes - other project	Plains Solar Farm EIS, Romani Solar Farm Scoping Report, Saltbush Wind Farm Scoping Report	Yes	Plains Renewable Energy Park, Romani Solar Farm, Saltbush Wind Farm, Pottinger Wind Farm	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Unknown	Standard	Required - Agricultural Impact Assessment	EIS Consultation	Targeted research	No	The agricultural impact assessment will consider erosion and soil loss risk as part of the scope for the EIS. It will also include an assessment of loss of economic value and opportunities for mitigation.	
surroundings	Plant propagules may be carried by vehicles during construction, which will introduce or exacerbate weed growth in the area. Weed propagation could lead to loss of significant biodiversity and agricultural value in the area if unmanaged.	Negative	Yes - this project	Cumberland Ecology Preliminary Biodiversity Constraints Assessment	Yes	Plains Renewable Energy Park, Romani Solar Farm, Saltbush Wind Farm, Pottinger Wind Farm	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Detailed	Required - BDAR	EIS Consultation	Targeted research	No	A weed risk assessment will be completed and provided prior construction as part of a Construction Environmental Management Plan and measures to control weed propagation will be implemented during construction and operation.	
surroundings	Land clearing may be needed during the installation of ancillary infrastructure and solar panels. Although impacts may not be total during the installation of PV arrays, they are considered as such under current legal frameworks.	Negative	Yes - this project	Cumberland Ecology Preliminary Biodiversity Constraints Assessment	Yes	Plains Renewable Energy Park, Romani Solar Farm, Saltbush Wind Farm, Pottinger Wind Farm	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Detailed	Required - BDAR	EIS Consultation	Targeted research	Yes	Significant avoidance of threatened ecological communities and important habitat for threatened species have been provided. The BDAR will inform measures to provide further avoidance, minimisation, mitigation and offset to ensure intergenerational natural equity.	
health and wellbeing	BESS and Inverters will generate noise during operation that may impact on the amenity of potential sensitive receivers.	Negative	Yes - other project	Plains Solar Farm EIS, Romani Solar Farm Scoping Report, Saltbush Wind Farm Scoping Report	No	-	No	No	No	No	No	Minor	Required - Noise Impact Assessment	EIS Consultation	Targeted research	Yes	The BESS has been located further west, away from potential sensitive receivers. The closest dwelling is located more than 4 kilometres away, therefore considered unlikely to be significantly impacted. Notwithstanding, noise considerations will be included as part of the SIA if community concerns are raised during engagement.	
health and wellbeing	Construction vehicles may generate dust from movement and required earthworks on unsealed roads.	Negative	Yes - other project	Plains Solar Farm EIS	No	-	No	No	No	No	No	Minor	Required	EIS Consultation	Targeted research	No	Due to significant distances involved and relatively low impact of the associated activity, it is unlikely that particulate matter could become an environmental and social issue for the community. Notwithstanding, air quality considerations will be included as part of the SIA if community concerns are raised during engagement.	
livelihoods	Employment constraints due to shortage of labour.	Negative	Yes - other project	Plains Solar Farm EIS, Yanco Delta Wind Farm EIS	Yes	At least 13 proposed large-scale renewable energy projects within 80 kilometres of the subject site. See Section 2.3 of the Scoping Report.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Detailed	Required	SIA Consultation	Targeted research	Yes	Subject to detail design and feasibility study, a workforce accommodation camp would be provided as part of the project, alongside a workforce accommodation plan detailing employment constraints.	
community	Community disagreements due to proximity to the project.	Negative	Yes - other project	Plains Solar Farm EIS, Yanco Delta Wind Farm EIS	Yes	At least 13 proposed large-scale renewable energy projects within 80 kilometres of the subject site. See Section 2.3 of the Scoping Report.	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Detailed	Required	SIA Consultation	Targeted research	No	Ongoing Engagement with local community to ensure all concerns are addressed and recorded. Implementation of a First Nations participation plan. Support for community events via development contributions.	
access	Higher traffic volume of heavy vehicles along the Cobb Highway.	Negative	Yes - other project	Plains Solar Farm EIS, Romani Solar Farm Scoping Report, Saltbush Wind Farm Scoping Report	Yes	At least 13 proposed large-scale renewable energy projects within 80 kilometres of the subject site. See Section 2.3 of the Scoping Report.	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Unknown	Detailed	Required	SIA Consultation	Targeted research	No	A traffic management plan will be provided prior to construction with measures to reduce vehicle movements as feasible as possible on public roads.	
livelihoods	Loss of land value due to visual or other unmitigated environmental impacts.	Negative	Yes - other project	Plains Solar Farm EIS, Yanco Delta Wind Farm EIS	Yes	At least 13 proposed large-scale renewable energy projects within 80 kilometres of the subject site. See Section 2.3 of the Scoping Report.	Yes	No	No	No	Unknown	Standard	Required	EIS Consultation	Targeted research	No	Neighbour agreements reached as mitigation/offset if deemed impact. Ongoing engagement with nearby landowners to address raised concerns.	
livelihoods	Increased consumption and utilisation of services by the construction workers, which could lead to an increase of local prices or shortage of commodities.	Negative	Yes - other project	Plains Solar Farm EIS, Yanco Delta Wind Farm EIS	Yes	At least 13 proposed large-scale renewable energy projects within 80 kilometres of the subject site. See Section 2.3 of the Scoping Report.	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Detailed	Required - Economic Impact Assessment	SIA Consultation	Targeted research	Yes	Subject to detail design and feasibility study, a workforce accommodation camp would be provided as part of the project, alongside a workforce accommodation plan detailing employment constraints.	
livelihoods	Increased demand for long-term accommodation can conflict with the local tourism and real estate industries and cause a price shock if unmitigated.	Negative	Yes - other project	Plains Solar Farm EIS, Yanco Delta Wind Farm EIS	Yes	At least 13 proposed large-scale renewable energy projects within 80 kilometres of the subject site. See Section 2.3 of the Scoping Report.	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Detailed	Required - Workforce Accommodation Plan	SIA Consultation	Targeted research	Yes	Subject to detail design and feasibility study, a workforce accommodation camp would be provided as part of the project, alongside a workforce accommodation plan detailing employment constraints.	
culture	Disturbance during construction of potential Aboriginal artifacts and sites, especially where bulk earthworks are required.	Negative	Yes - this project	Urbis Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Desktop Assessment	Yes	Plains Renewable Energy Park, Romani Solar Farm, Saltbush Wind Farm, Pottinger Wind Farm	Unknown	No	Yes	Yes	Unknown	Detailed	Required - Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment	SIA Consultation	Targeted research	Yes	Identified high-sensitivity areas and AHIMS sites have been reviewed for avoidance of bulk earthworks and mitigation measures. The ACHA will evaluate potential risk and propose measures to avoid and minimise potential impacts, in consultation with Local Aboriginal Groups. Measures to minimise and mitigate potential impacts could include the excavation, salvage and preservation of important cultural heritage values, if necessary.	
community	Waste disposed during decommissioning and land rehabilitation is more uncertain since they occur several decades after the project is constructed.	Negative	Yes - other project	Plains Solar Farm EIS, Yanco Delta Wind Farm EIS	Yes	At least 13 proposed large-scale renewable energy projects within 80 kilometres of the subject site. See Section 2.3 of the Scoping Report.	Unknown	Yes	Yes	Yes	Unknown	Standard	Required	EIS Consultation	Targeted research	No	A Waste Management Plan will be undertaken during the EIS, which will include measures to mitigate impacts during decommissioning. Ongoing engagement with regulatory bodies will be conducted to ensure compliance with statutory requirements.	
community	Waste generated during construction could exhaust local waste cells or could be deemed unsuitable to be disposed of at local waste facilities.	Negative	Yes - other project	Plains Solar Farm EIS, Yanco Delta Wind Farm EIS	Yes	At least 13 proposed large-scale renewable energy projects within 80 kilometres of the subject site. See Section 2.3 of the Scoping Report.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Detailed	Required	SIA Consultation	Targeted research	No	A Waste Management Plan will be undertaken during the EIS, which will include measures to mitigate impacts during construction and operation. Measures to mitigate impacts on the local community could include the transportation of waste to further waste facilities, if necessary. Ongoing engagement with regulatory bodies will be conducted to ensure compliance with statutory requirements.	
surroundings	Electrical equipment can pose a risk (actual or perceived) to bushfire protection or even induce a fire in some situations.	Negative	Yes - other project	Plains Solar Farm EIS, Yanco Delta Wind Farm EIS	Yes	Plains Renewable Energy Park, Romani Solar Farm, Saltbush Wind Farm, Pottinger Wind Farm	Yes	No	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Detailed	Required	EIS Consultation	Targeted research	No	Subject to detailed design and investigation from a Bushfire Risk Assessment and a Preliminary Hazard Analysis, mitigation measures will be included within the project footprint to reduce any enhanced risk from the development. Measures will include the establishment of appropriate Asset Protection Zones (APZs), appropriate water tanks and equipment for decreased bushfire risk. Consultation with the relevant authorities (Rural Fire Service NSW, Fire and Rescue NSW) will be undertaken during the EIS phase and construction phases.	
surroundings	Water quantity and water quality could be affected during construction or operation if unmitigated.	Negative	Yes - other project	Plains Solar Farm EIS, Yanco Delta Wind Farm EIS	Yes	Plains Renewable Energy Park, Romani Solar Farm, Saltbush Wind Farm, Pottinger Wind Farm	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Detailed - Hydrology Assessment	Required	EIS Consultation	Targeted research	No	A Hydrology Assessment will be undertaken to ensure there are no significant impact on water quality, quantity or flood risk from the development. The Assessment will include detailed measures to avoid or mitigate any impacts, if deemed necessary. Consultation with the community will be undertaken to ensure there is no loss of agricultural land or productivity as a result of these actions.	

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decision-making systems	Edward River Council has expressed a shortage of resources to address the number of projects proposed within the LGA.	Negative	Yes - this project	Scoping Consultation	Yes	At least 13 proposed large-scale renewable energy projects within 80 kilometres of the subject site. See Section 2.3 of the Scoping Report.	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Detailed	Required	SIA Consultation	Targeted research	No	Consultation will be appropriately timed and alternative communication channels will be open to leverage the time spent during ongoing assessment.		
livelihoods	Local employment, including First Nations people, will be prioritised if possible. This will help diversify the economy, provide a long-term income stream for the community and enhance the development of skilled workers.	Positive	Yes - other project	Plains Solar Farm EIS, Yanco Delta Wind Farm EIS	Yes	At least 13 proposed large-scale renewable energy projects within 80 kilometres of the subject site. See Section 2.3 of the Scoping Report.	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Detailed	Required	SIA Consultation	Targeted research	No	Several communication channels will be open and advertised to the local community to ensure hiring opportunities are open and appropriately managed.		
livelihoods	Local economy will be more resilient to financial stressors during the construction and operational phases.	Positive	Yes - other project	Plains Solar Farm EIS, Yanco Delta Wind Farm EIS	Yes	At least 13 proposed large-scale renewable energy projects within 80 kilometres of the subject site. See Section 2.3 of the Scoping Report.	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Detailed	Required	SIA Consultation	Targeted research	No	Where possible, local employment will be prioritised to ensure that the benefits of the development are trickling down into the community.		
surroundings	The development will help addressing the national climate targets, reducing greenhouse emissions and ensure an increased resilience against climate change.	Positive	Yes - this project	Scoping Report	Yes	At least 13 proposed large-scale renewable energy projects within 80 kilometres of the subject site. See Section 2.3 of the Scoping Report.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Detailed	Required	SIA Consultation	Targeted research	No	Appropriate measures will be implemented during construction and operation to ensure that Net-Zero or, optimistically, negative emissions will be achieved as part of the construction and operation of the development.		
livelihoods	The development will assist in the transition away from fossil fuels and the decentralisation of the energy grid, which will inherently increase the network's resilience against blackouts, price shocks and supply chain dependencies.	Positive	Yes - this project	Scoping Report	Yes	At least 13 proposed large-scale renewable energy projects within 80 kilometres of the subject site. See Section 2.3 of the Scoping Report.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Detailed	Required	SIA Consultation	Targeted research	No	Appropriate grid connection will be sought for the proposed point of interconnection. Ongoing engagement with Transgrid and EnergyCo will be undertaken to address any raised concerns during construction and testing.		
livelihoods	The development will provide funding to Council for community projects and enhanced community services.	Positive	Yes - this project	Scoping Report	Yes	At least 13 proposed large-scale renewable energy projects within 80 kilometres of the subject site. See Section 2.3 of the Scoping Report.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Detailed	Required	SIA Consultation	Targeted research	No	Ongoing consultation with Edward River Council will be undertaken to ensure funding is directed to the most needed community amenities and groups.		

INSERT NEW ROWS ABOVE THIS ROW