

Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (DPHI)
C/- Major Projects Portal

Attention: Michael Dimitrakopoulos, michael.dimitrakopoulos@dpie.nsw.gov.au.

Sunny Corner Wind Farm Draft SEARs SSD-80027992

Dear Sir,

I refer to your request of 14 February 2025 for advice on the draft SEARs for the above project.

Agriculture plays a vital role in supporting state, regional and local economies, and strengthening the social bonds and character of rural communities. The NSW Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development, Agriculture and Biosecurity (the Department) collaborates and partners with our stakeholders to protect and enhance the productive and sustainable use and resilience of agricultural resources and the environment.

The Department has reviewed the Scoping Report prepared by RPS dated 10 February 2025 and draft SEARs and note the EIS is to undertake an agricultural assessment, soil survey, cumulative impact assessment and land use conflict risk assessment (LUCRA) for the project specific to agriculture. The Scoping Report has little information on any adjoining agricultural land uses, and it is noted there is potential for new private landholders to be added to the project as the EIS is prepared.

We understand biosecurity will be addressed as part of the Agricultural and Soils Assessment. We regard this to be an important aspect of the project given the predominant exotic forestry land use over 10,000ha. Any assessment of biosecurity should address the potential for exacerbation of any existing impacts on neighbouring private land due to the forestry activities of the FCNSW estate. Any mitigation actions should also be identified in the LUCRA.

To ensure all agricultural issues are addressed, the issued SEARs should therefore include the following matters in addition to the matters contained in the draft:

- **Biosecurity** (weeds, pests, emergency animal diseases) management during and post construction and operation to be assessed and protocols developed in relation to potential **agricultural impacts**. It is suggested the Biosecurity Risk Management in Land Use Planning and Development Guide¹ be referred for further information and resources.
- Any subdivision of land below the MLS should not result in extra dwelling eligibilities.

¹ https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0018/1271241/managing-biosecurity-risks-in-land-use-planning-and-development-guide.pdf

Should you require clarification of any of the information contained in this response, please do not hesitate to contact me on 0487023845 or by email at landuse.ag@dpird.nsw.gov.au

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Nita Scott'.

Nita Scott
Agriculture & Biosecurity
Central West and Orana Region

19 February 2025