

Our ref: OUT22/19551

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NSW Department of Planning and Environment

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9 November 2022

Subject: **New England Solar Farm Modification 2 (SSD-9255-Mod-2) - Modification Report**

Dear Mr Canon,

I refer to your request for advice sent on 27 October 2022 to the Department of Planning and Environment (DPE) Water about the above matter.

The modification proposal includes a number of changes such as amending the project boundary and development footprint; increasing the project's energy storage capacity; modifications to construction conditions and amendment of the schedule of land.

The following recommendations are provided by DPE Water.

Pre-Determination

The proponent should provide clarification on riparian buffers for the mapped watercourse within the additional areas.

Post Approval

Works within waterfront land need to show due consideration to the Guidelines for Controlled Activities on Waterfront Land.

It is unclear if the additional lots covered in this proposal will have vegetated riparian zones (VRZs) or will be entirely covered in solar arrays. Figure 2 shows these areas as solar arrays but Section 3.1.2 and Figure 3.2 indicate that there are setbacks for watercourses in accordance with the Guidelines for Controlled Activities on Waterfront Land – Riparian Corridors. Clarification is requested on the proposed use (and management, if required) of these areas.

Should you have any further queries in relation to this submission please do not hesitate to contact DPE Water Assessments water.assessments@dpie.nsw.gov.au or to the following coordinating officer within DPE Water:

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Yours sincerely

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